



W I C K L O W

ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES

Wicklow County Council

Annual Report 2025

Wicklow County Council

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VISION STATEMENT AND CORE VALUES: Wicklow County Council's Corporate Plan sets out the core values within which the organisation operates.

VISION – WICKLOW A COUNTY OF ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

To actively protect the PLANET, promoting inclusion wellbeing and quality of life for all PEOPLE, and to make Wicklow the best PLACE to live, work, visit and grow older.

Strategic Theme 1 - PLACE

To strengthen and sustain Wicklow as a vibrant County, by delivering key infrastructure, supporting economic growth and innovation, shaping our towns and villages through proper planning and sustainable development. To create quality public realm that is accessible and contributes to people's health, happiness and wellbeing.

Strategic Theme 2 - PLANET

To deliver climate resilient and regenerative biodiversity actions and maximise renewable energy opportunities in the County. Incorporate the sustainable development goals into our business strategies and support communities and business to deliver on climate change targets in a fair and equitable way thereby protecting our environment now and for future generations.

Strategic Theme 3 – PEOPLE

To develop and strengthen communities by promoting an inclusive, accessible, creative, welcoming and safe natural sustainable environment. To improve the health and quality of life for everyone in County Wicklow by leading, guiding and developing recreational facilities to promote social, health and economic benefit meeting the changing needs of the people of County Wicklow

Organisational Development

To strengthen and develop staff to effectively respond to the changing needs of our organisation and the evolving environment in which we operate to deliver the most accessible and best possible service in the most efficient manner.

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As Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council I am delighted to introduce the Annual Report for the year 2025. This report outlines the very many and varied activities of Wicklow County Council across all services. Wicklow County Council provides and funds a broad range of services including housing, roads, playgrounds, libraries, fire stations, sports facilities, arts centres, recycling centres, as well as serving as a platform for local democracy.

Some of the highlights included the purchase of 21 acres of land at Magheramore Beach, guaranteeing continued access to the beach for all. The Great Sugarloaf restoration project and launch of the Wicklow Trails app, promoting the outdoor activities available throughout the County and the delivery of the Pump Track at the Murrough, Wicklow Town, the largest facility of its kind in Ireland.

I would like to pay tribute to my fellow Elected Members and to thank them for their co-operation and assistance during the year, particularly the members of the Corporate Policy Group and each of the Strategic Policy Groups who were instrumental in contributing to the policy and decision-making forum affecting the entire Council.

I would also like to take the opportunity to record my appreciation to Chief Executive, Emer O’Gorman and to the entire staff of Wicklow County Council for the assistance they gave me in the performance of my role as Cathaoirleach.

**COUNCILLOR MELANIE CORRIGAN
CATHAOIRLEACH
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL**



It gives me great pleasure as Chief Executive of Wicklow County Council to welcome the publication of the 2025 Annual Report.

In particular I am proud of the high level of social housing delivery throughout the County, including the allocation of social homes in Doire Dúbh, Tinahely, Cois Droichead, Greystones and Tinakilly Park, Rathnew.

In 2025 Wicklow County Council achieved Engineers Ireland accreditation which demonstrates the Council’s commitment to maintaining high professional standards and supporting the development of our engineering and technical staff.

I commend the Members of the Strategic Policy Committees, the Corporate Policy Group, and the LCDC and also acknowledge all the work that is conducted at Municipal District Level and by the various other hardworking committees.

I would especially like to thank the Cathaoirleach, Councillor Paul O’Brien for his commitment and co-operation in the delivery of the Council’s high-level goals in 2025. I would like to thank the entire staff of Wicklow County Council for their continued hard work and contribution to the delivery of high-quality services to the public during 2025.

I am confident that the work of the Council and the progress achieved will enhance the quality of life for the people of Wicklow.

**EMER O’GORMAN
CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

PARTY, NAME & ADDRESS, CONTACT DETAILS

ARKLOW ELECTORAL AREA



FF Cllr. Pat Fitzgerald
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IND Cllr. Gerry O'Neill
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FG Cllr. Ned Whelan
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Co-opted: 12th May 2025

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LAB Cllr. Paul O'Brien
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SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM



Ms. Emer O'Gorman
Chief Executive



Ms. Leonora Earls
Director of Services, Planning, Economic & Rural Development to August 2025.
Director of Services, Organisational Development (H.R. & Corporate) from September 2025.



Mr. Michael Nicholson
Director of Services, Social Development (Housing & Community).



Mr. Joe Lane
Director of Services,
Transportation & Infrastructure Delivery.



Mr. Brian Gleeson
Director of Services, Finance, Water & Information Systems.



Ms. Theresa O'Brien
T/Director of Services, Climate, Environment, Recreation & Amenity.



Ms. Lorraine Gallagher
Director of Services, Organisational Development (H.R. & Corporate)
Retired: May 2025



Mr. Marc Devereux
T/Director of Services, Emergency Response to August 2025.



Ms. Dorothy Kennedy
Law Agent.



Ms. Emer O'Donovan
Head of Information Systems



Ms. Helen Dennehy
Director of Services, Planning, Economic & Rural Development from September 2025.



Ms. Jackie Carroll
Director of Services, Emergency Response from September 2025.

CLIMATE, ENVIRONMENT, RECREATION & AMENITY

Climate Action, Biodiversity, Environment, Energy, Marine, Recreation & Amenity (CABEEMRA) Strategic Policy Committee (SPC)

The CABEEMRA SPC met six times during the year 2025.

- 14th February 2025
- 7th March 2025
- 9th May 2025
- 11th July 2025
- 26th September 2025
- 14th November 2025

Meeting Date 2025	Themes/Policy Issues Addressed
14 th February 2025	Wicklow County Outdoor Recreation Plan Update
	Litter Management Plan Update
	Biodiversity Action Plan Update
	Consideration of Draft Sustainable Drainage System Plan
	Consideration of the Climate Action Delivery Report
7 th March 2025	Review of WCC Draft Sustainable Drainage System Policy
9 th May 2025	Presentation on implementation and formulation of Biodiversity Action Plan
	Climate Action Updates Presentation
11 th July 2025	Approval of Draft Biodiversity Plan
	Review of Litter Management Plan: Chief Executive Report
	Presentation & Review of Waste Bye Laws
	Presentation on WCC Decarbonisation
	LAWPRO Presentation
26 th September 2025	Presentation on County Wicklow Libraries
	Presentation on current Casual Trading Bye Laws
	Update on Draft Wicklow County Outdoor Recreation Plan
	Update on Draft Biodiversity Action Plan
14 th November 2025	Presentation on Fish Barriers
	Presentation on WCC Sports Action Plan
	WCC Biodiversity Action Plan for approval

Chair - Cllr. Erika Doyle

Wicklow County Council members

Cllr. Dermot O'Brien

Cllr. Peir Leonard

Cllr. Lourda Scott

Cllr. Jason Mulhall
Cllr. Danny Alvey

Sectoral Members

Environment and Conservation – East Wicklow - Justin Ivory
Environment and Conservation – West Wicklow – Emma Smith
Agriculture/Farming Community - Tom Byrne
Business/ Commercial – Anthony Ardee
An Comhairle Na n’Og – Kate Dolan
Community/Voluntary – Austin Baines
Construction Industry Federation – Michael Storan

T/Director of Services - Theresa O’Brien
Senior Executive Officer - Sarah McCullough
Senior Engineer - Mary Cahill

Other functions in the section are:

- Climate & Biodiversity Action Environmental Awareness
- Waste Management
- Pollution Control
- Harbours & Ports
- Water Safety
- Control of Animals
- Caravan Parks
- Burial Grounds
- Casual Trading
- Wicklow Sports Partnership
- Outdoor Recreation
- Wicklow County Arts Office
- County Wicklow Libraries
- Archives & Genealogy

Goal

“To protect and enhance the natural environment of County Wicklow in accordance with the principles of sustainable and balanced development, in partnership with all sections of the community, having regard to national and EU policies and programmes.

Community, Environmental Awareness and Climate

CLIMATE ACTION PLAN REPORTS & POLICIES

135 CLIMATE ACTIONS GOALS IN WCC

41 Completed **84 In Progress**

23 Goals in Arklow Decarbonation Zone

3 Climate Action Plan Reports and Policies

Sustainable Drainage Systems Policy

Development Guidance document for nature-based rainwater management

Climate Action Progress Report for 2024



Biodiversity Action Plan 2026–2031 was finalised and adopted



Litter Management Plan 2026–2029 was adopted in November



Development and approval of **County Wicklow Outdoor Recreation Plan 2025–2030**

Community Climate Action Programme and Climate Action Week



PHASE 1 FUNDING
€646,000
20 Groups Received Funding



PHASE 2 FUNDING
€2.3 Million
49 Applications Received



32 EVENTS



250+ STUDENTS ATTENDED Wicklow Biodiversity Youth Conference hosted by Student Environment Council from Blessington Community College

32 EVENTS Climate Action Week aligned with Ireland's forth SDG (Sustainable Development Goals) Week which took place from 20 – 28th September



250+ STUDENTS Attended 3rd Youth Climate Conference hosted in November with Educate Together Secondary School in Partnership with Codling Wind Farm and WCC where students from Greystones and Wicklow Town attended



55 Active Green Schools in Wicklow

22 Schools in Wicklow were awarded green flags



70 Sustainable Development Awards: Awards presented to schools, Tidy Towns and various community groups

A key goal of the Youth Conferences is to amplify the voices of young people in Wicklow, empowering them to speak out about the climate and biodiversity emergency


800 Tree saplings were distributed to groups & schools for National Tree Week

31 Tree Planting grants awarded and implemented 

Circular Economy workshops - focusing on food and textile waste



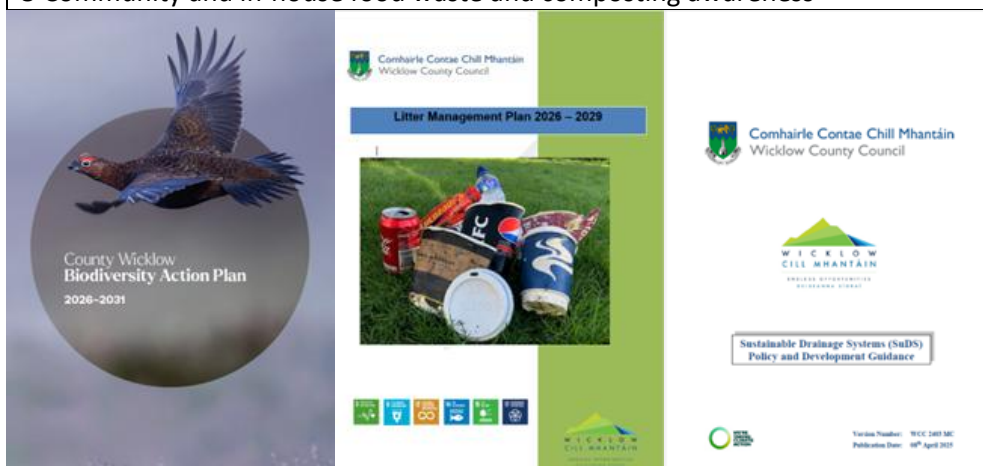
12 Textile upcycling and clothes swaps



5 Community and in-house food waste and composting awareness

Climate Action Plan Reports and Policies	
84 in Progress / 41 Completed	135 <u>Climate Action Goals</u> in WCC / 23 Goals in Arklow Decarbonation Zone
3	Climate Action Plan Reports and Policies: Sustainable Drainage Systems Policy, Development Guidance document for nature-based rainwater management and Climate Action Progress Report for 2024
1	Biodiversity Action Plan 2026–2031 was finalised and adopted
1	Litter Management Plan 2026-2029 was adopted in November
1	Development and approval of County Wicklow Outdoor Recreation Plan 2025-2030

Community Climate Action Programme and Climate Action Week	
20	Groups that received funding - amounting to €646,000 in Phase 1
49	Applications received - value of €2.3million in Phase 2
70	Sustainable Development Awards: Awards presented to schools, Tidy Towns and various community groups
250 +	Wicklow Biodiversity Youth Conference hosted by the Student Environment Council from Blessington Community College where secondary school students attended from Baltinglass Municipal District.
250+	Attended 3rd Youth Climate Conference hosted in November - Educate Together Secondary School in Partnership with Codling Wind Farm and WCC where students from Greystones and Wicklow Town attended
* A key goal of the Youth Conferences is to amplify the voices of young people in Wicklow, empowering them to speak out about the climate and biodiversity emergency	
32	Climate Action Week aligned with Ireland's forth SDG (Sustainable Development Goals) Week which took place from 20 – 28th September
55	Active Green Schools in Wicklow
22	Schools in Wicklow were awarded green flags
800	Tree saplings were distributed to groups & schools for National Tree Week
31	Tree Planting grants awarded and implemented
<p><i>Circular Economy workshops - focusing on food and textile waste.</i></p> <p>12 Textile upcycling and clothes swaps</p> <p>5 Community and in-house food waste and composting awareness</p>	



Spongeworks EU horizon programme: Community based project, funding of €93,300 to work on the Aughrim River catchment to develop strategy for the use of *nature-based solutions* to reduce flood

E-Bike Shared Mobility Scheme and Reducing emissions from operations

- 3 new 100% electric Mean Green mowers in the Greystones, Bray and Baltinglass to reduce our carbon footprint from our operations.
- 250 E-Bikes with MOBY in Bray (March), Greystones (May) and Wicklow/Rathnew (June).

Coastal Erosion

East Coast Railway Infrastructure Protection Project (ECRIPP): Working group established in conjunction with Irish Rail, WCC, Dublin City Council, Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council and Jacobs to respond to the effects of coastal erosion. Public consultation was held in September to help finalise the preferred scheme. The scheme covers from Bray to Wicklow town.

Harbours and Ports - Wicklow Harbour Statistics

Month / Year	Ships	Single (Import & Export)	Double (Import & Export)	Transactions	Imports	Exports
Year 2025	74	73	1	75	42	33
Cargo Breakdowns						
Category	Imports	Exports	Total	SIZE OF VESSELS BREAKDOWN		
Forestry Product	76,091	17,974	93,993	Gross Tonnes - 174,924 Containers - 74		
Metals		35,493	35,493			

Harbours projects

- Upgrade of CCTV and Access Control - Wicklow and Arklow Harbours
- Underwater concrete repairs to fill voids in the East Pier at Wicklow Harbour.
- Upgrade to Harbour security gates / entrance - Wicklow and Arklow Harbours.
- Allocation of Fisher Huts - Arklow and Wicklow Harbours
- Delivery of Welfare facilities - Arklow and Wicklow Harbour

Blue Flag: Wicklow retained their three blue flags for 2025 for Greystones South, Brittas Bay North and Brittas Bay South beaches. The awards were presented by Mr. James Browne TD – Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage at the presentation ceremony held in the Ravenport Resort in Curracloe, Co. Wexford in May 2025.

Water Safety: A total of 35 lifeguards were employed during the Bathing Season to provide supervision of activities at 7 beaches in County Wicklow in order to prevent drowning accidents and to provide emergency rescue service in the case of accidents.

In December 2025 WCC received sanction from DHLGH to appoint a full-time Waster Safety Officer from 2026 onwards.



Presentation of Blue Flag

Bathing Water - Bathing Water Quality continues to be Excellent with two beaches improving from Good to Excellent, and Silverstrand declining from Good to Sufficient

Pollution Control



1 POLLUTION CONTROL

Licensed Wastewater Discharges

78 Licensed Discharges

66 samples taken to check compliance

52% showed corrective actions Required

SEPTIC TANK INSPECTIONS

57 INSPECTIONS

38% of systems required corrective action

Most non-compliances resolved within the year




PRIVATE WELL IMPROVEMENT GRANT

326 Inspections to progress private well improvement grants



44 Samples from streams flowing onto beaches help identify pollution sources in 7 river catchments.



188 Planning applications were reviewed and conditions recommended where necessary to protect water, air and biodiversity.



16 Compliance checks were carried out on existing planning permissions to protect the environment.



NOISE COMPLAINTS

41 INVESTIGATED, 40 RESOLVED



AIR QUALITY COMPLAINTS

11 INVESTIGATED, 11 RESOLVED





WATER COMPLAINTS

85 INVESTIGATED  **92 CLOSED (FROM PREVIOUS YEAR)**




2 LABORATORY SERVICES

Approved laboratory for numerous parameters under the EPA Intercalibration Programme. Samples taken & analysed in-house

66 Wastewater Samples

5 Wells Sampled

305 River samples above and below municipal wastewater discharge

60 Investigative samples to trace pollution sources

3 AIR/NOISE

4 Dry cleaners inspected to ensure solvent emissions to air were compliant

92 Solid Fuel Retailers Inspections

12 Follow-up inspections carried out

48 Required actions to comply with the smokeless fuel regulations

40 Petrol Station Inspections Petrol Vapour Recovery Systems Checked

15 Car Sprayers Inspected Checking products & Practices Comply with Solvent Regulations

20 Paint Retailers Inspected Check products compliance with Solvent Regulations







4 AGRICULTURE

79 Farm inspections completed, 33 recommendations for remedial action

1 Inspection on an Industry licenced premises to emit emissions to air



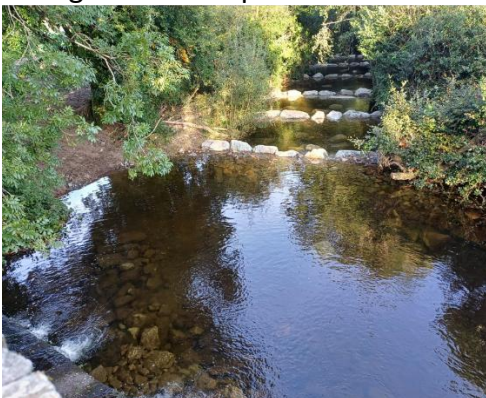

78	Licensed Wastewater discharges in Wicklow – with 66 samples taken to check compliance. 52% of samples showed corrective actions were required.
57	Septic Tank Inspections. 38% of systems required corrective action. Most non-compliances resolved within the year.
85	Water Complaints investigated – 92 Closed (some closed from previous year)
326	Inspections to progress private well improvement grants
44	Samples from streams flowing onto beaches help identify pollution sources in 7 river catchments.
41	Noise complaints investigated. 40 resolved.
11	Air Quality complaints investigated. 11 resolved.
188	Planning applications were reviewed and conditions recommended where necessary to protect water, air and biodiversity.
16	Compliance checks were carried out on existing planning permissions to protect the environment.

LABORATORY SERVICES	
Approved laboratory for numerous parameters under the EPA intercalibration Programme. Samples taken and analysed in-house	
66	Wastewater
305	River samples above and below municipal wastewater discharge
5	Wells
60	Investigative samples to trace pollution sources

AIR / NOISE	
4	Dry cleaners inspected to ensure solvent emissions to air were compliant.
20	Paint retailers inspected to check products comply with Solvent Regulations.
15	Car sprayers inspected to ensure products and practices comply with Solvent Regulations
40	Inspections of Petrol Stations to check petrol vapour recovery systems
92	Inspections of Solid Fuel retailers, 48 required actions to comply with the smokeless fuel regulations. 12 Follow-up inspections carried out.
1	Inspection on an Industry licenced premises to emit emissions to air

AGRICULTURE	
79	Farm inspections completed, 33 recommendations for remedial action

Fish Barrier Removal Project: Ballinglen Bridge Fish Barrier Removal Project completed in 2025 with IFI and EWRT funding support, a series of rock pools were installed to raise the water level high enough for fish to pass over the base the bridge.



Fish Barriers Project

Water Quality & Natural Waters – In 2025 69% of Wicklow’s waterbodies were at Good or High Status. This includes Rivers, Lakes, Estuaries, Coastal Waters and Groundwaters. This is well above the national average of 52%

Waste Management / Waste Enforcement / Litter



1380
WASTE COMPLAINTS



19
Construction & Demolition Waste Complaints



108
Litter Complaints Received 2025



40
Waste Management Files were opened

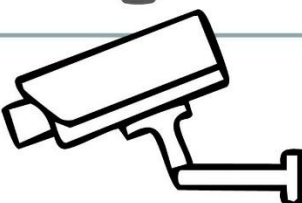
FINE



154
Litter Fines were issued for breaches of the Litter Pollution Act, 1997



168 Abandoned Vehicle Notices were issued



56
Litter fines arose from the re-introduction of CCTV at litter black spots



842
Validations, Inspections & Waste Surveys



25 Litter prosecutions were sent to court during the year
26 Cases sent to court

122 Section 14 Direction Notices were issued

In 2025, Wicklow County Council's Waste Management Section conducted over 2,800 planned inspections and investigated over 1,500 complaints from the public, WCC focused on critical areas like illegal dumping, construction waste, and brown bins to meet national waste priorities and support the transition to a circular economy.

Waste Management / Waste Enforcement / Litter	
108	Litter Complaints Received 2025
1380	Waste Complaints
19	Construction & Demolition Waste Complaints
2025	National Waste Priorities - Inspections
842	Validations, Inspections & Waste Surveys
154	Litter Fines were issued for breaches of the Litter Pollution Act, 1997
56	Litter fines arose from the re-introduction of CCTV at litter black spots

25	Litter prosecutions were sent to court during the year
40	Waste Management Files were opened
122	Section 14 Direction Notices were issued
168	Abandoned Vehicle Notices were issued.
26	Cases were sent to court

PURE (Protecting Uplands & Rural Environments)

Wicklow County Council continued its role as the Lead Local Authority for the PURE (Protecting Uplands & Rural Environments) Project, working with South Dublin County Council, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, Coillte, Wicklow Uplands Council and the NPWS - Ireland's only multi-stakeholder initiative dedicated to large-scale upland waste management.

PURE - Protecting Uplands & Rural Environments <i>Source: Pure Mile Newsletters</i>	
4100 + tonnes	Total Waste Removed (150 tonne increase from previous year)
15,700	Total No of illegal Dumping Records (+900 increase from previous year)
16,900	Total Number of Reports/ Complaints (+1000 increase from previous year)

Recycling Facilities

WCC continued to provide recycling infrastructure through five Civic Amenity Sites (recycling centres) and a network of 41 standalone bottle bank locations. These facilities serve as the primary collection points for a diverse range of domestic waste streams, including glass, metals, chemicals, and electrical goods.

Recycling Tonnage



**TOTAL BOTTLE BANKS
2,444,31 TONNES**

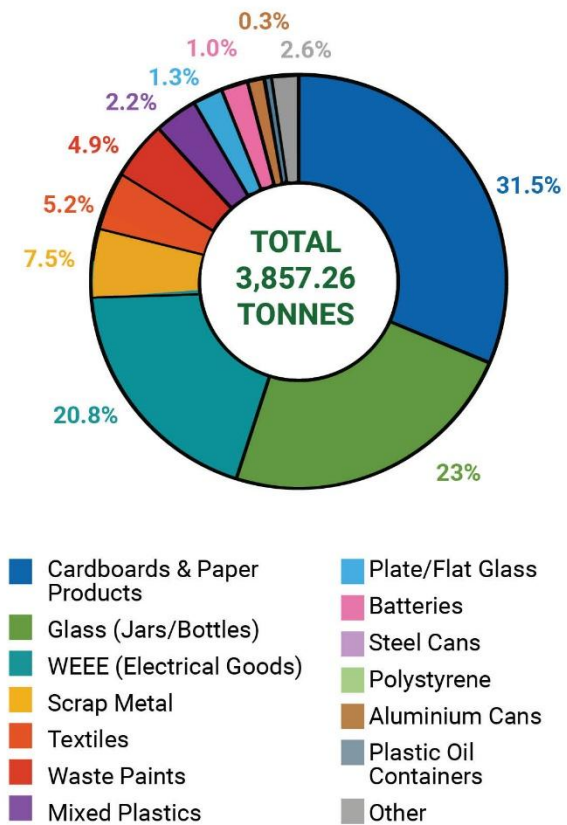
Material Description	Civic Amenity Sites (Tonnes)	Bottle Banks (Tonnes)	Grand Total (Tonnes)
Aluminum Cans	12.93		12.93
Steel Cans	36.03		36.03
Scrap Metal	290.18		290.18
Glass (Jars/Bottles)	906.55	2,374.31	3,280.86
Plate / Flat Glass	49.82		49.82
Polystyrene	14.51		14.51
Cardboard & Paper Products	1,216.85		1,216.85
Mixed Plastics ¹	85.58		85.58
WEEE (Electrical Goods)	803.33		803.33
Batteries (All Types)	37.57		37.57
Waste Paints	190.66		190.66
Plastic Oil Containers	10		10
FL Tube Lights	3.22		3.22
Waste Aerosols	0.04		0.04
Textiles ²	200	70	270
TOTAL		2,444,31	



**TOTAL LIQUID WASTE
39.02
THOUSAND LITRES (1,000L)**

LIQUID WASTE COLLECTION		
Description	Civic Amenity Sites (1,000L)	% of Total
Waste Oils (Hydraulic, Engine, etc.)	29.61	75.9%
Waste Cookign Oil	9.41	24.1%
TOTAL LIQUIDS	39.02	100%

SOLID MATERIALS BREAKDOWN



The following table summarizes the tonnages collected across the county's infrastructure for the current reporting period.

Material Description	Civic Amenity Sites (Tonnes)	Bottle Banks (Tonnes)	Grand Total (Tonnes)
Aluminum Cans	12.93		12.93
Steel Cans	36.03		36.03
Scrap Metal	290.18		290.18

Glass (Jars/Bottles)	906.55	2,374.31	3,280.86
Plate / Flat Glass	49.82		49.82
Polystyrene	14.51		14.51
Cardboard & Paper Products	1,216.85		1,216.85
Mixed Plastics ¹	85.58		85.58
WEEE (Electrical Goods)	803.33		803.33
Batteries (All Types)	37.57		37.57
Waste Paints	190.66		190.66
Plastic Oil Containers	10		10
FL Tube Lights	3.22		3.22
Waste Aerosols	0.04		0.04
Textiles ²	200	70	270
Total Solid Material	3,857.26	2,444.31	6,301.57
Liquid Waste Collection for 2025			
Description	Civic	Amenity	Sites
	(1,000L)		Grand Total (1,000L)
Waste Oils (Hydraulic, Engine, etc.)	29.61		29.61
Waste Cooking Oils	9.41		9.41
Total Liquids	39.02		39.02

Whitestown Remediation Project: In 2025 Wicklow County Council entered into a contract with Priority Construction Ltd. (PCL) for the excavation and haulage of 350,000 Tonnes of material, from the Whitestown site, over a three-year period. PCL mobilised in January 2026 and have commenced some additional site investigation. Bulk excavation is expected to commence in May 2026.

Avoca Mines Remediation Project: In 2025, Wicklow County continued its strategic partnership with the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC) to execute critical safety and remediation works at the historic Avoca Mines. Operating under a dedicated grant agreement, the Council prioritised public safety and the integrity of environmental monitoring infrastructure.

Avoca Mines Remediation Project - Works completed in 2025
1,160 Meters of high-security perimeter fencing competed to protect the public.
R752 Roadside Adit: Completion of integrated safety fencing and the installation of a dedicated monitoring platform.
22ft Adit: Full structural safety works and sealing to prevent collapses or unauthorized access.
Continuous Maintenance & Inspection: Continued to carry out regular inspections and respond to essential repairs across the entire site throughout 2025.



New perimeter fencing at Avoca Mines East

Arklow Flood Relief Scheme

Site investigation works & Archaeological Investigations works were undertaken in throughout the Riverwalk & South Quay area in Arklow, a series of surveys & investigations were also carried out within the Arklow Marsh area, to inform a process on how to manage archaeology throughout the dredging works such as the removing old shipwrecks from the riverbed.

Burial Grounds: Wicklow County Council oversees 34 active local authority burial grounds through a mixed model of direct management and appointed part-time Burial Registrars.

144	Historically recorded burial ground sites in County Wicklow
34	Active Local Authority Burial Grounds (Env remit)
2	Burial Grounds with Columbarium Walls
3	Burial Grounds used as film locations in 2025
1	Green Flag Award – Glendalough Cemetery
565	2025 interments in Local Authority Burial Grounds

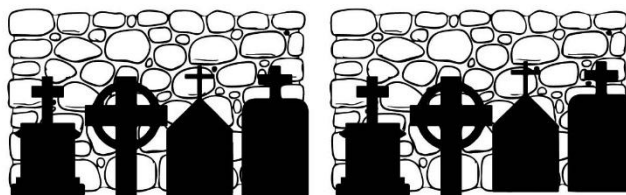
2025 Burial Grounds



3
Burial Grounds
used as film
locations in 2025



144
Historically recorded
burial ground sites in
County Wicklow

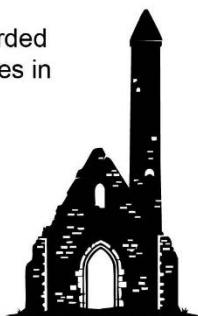


2

Burial Grounds with Columbarium Walls



565
2025 interments
in Local Authority
Burial Grounds



1

Green Flag Award
Glendalough
Cemetery



34

Active Local Authority Burial
Grounds (Env remit)

Animal Control

Dog Control: In 2025 the Council continued its Service Level Agreement with the ISPCA for the operation of the pound and implementation of the Control of Dogs legislation at a cost of €218,404.00. **Horses:** The total cost of running this service was €34,045.30 (inclusive of payments from Department of Agriculture, Food & The Marine).

Dogs - 6067 Dog Licenses Issued					
2	Surrendered	160	Stray	69	Reclaimed by owner
34	Rehomed	4	PTS	12	Report on livestock worrying

52	Transferred to animal welfare groups	20	On the spot fines	58	Report of aggressive behaviors by dog
Horses - 15 Horses seized					
3	Horses Returned to owners	4	Remained in Horse pound	8	Rehomed

Wicklow Sports & Recreation Partnership

Wicklow Sports Partnership is part of a network of 29 Local Sports Partnerships (LSPs) who are passionate about getting Ireland physically active, involved in sport and ensuring everyone in the community has the chance to be included.

Training & Education – 2025 Activities	No. of Courses Delivered	No. of Participants
Safeguarding Courses	19	212
Sports First Aid Courses	5	51
Autism in Sport	5	57
Sport Inclusion Disability	2	20
Participation Events		
Bike Week	36	1562
HER Outdoor Week	30	778
Summer Camps		
Direct Provision Centres	9	199
Youth Projects	1	21
Disability Inclusion Camps	14	114
Interventions		
Youth Groups & Traveller Community		120
Disability Inclusion		
Learn 2 Cycle Programmes	20	144
Inclusive Swim Schools Programmes	11	88
Other Inclusive Programmes (Tennis/ Gym /Horse Riding)	6	66
Physical Activity for Health Programmes		
Community programmes	34	350
Leisure Centres – Coral Leisure and Shoreline Leisure		
626,155 Coral Leisure 601,400 Shoreline	Total number of visits to Bray, Greystone, Wicklow and Arklow Leisure centres inclusive of pool, gyms, classes, schools, lessons, pitches, tracks, courts	

1

Training and Education 2025 Activities

Safeguarding Course



19 Courses Delivered
212 Participants

Sports First Aid



5 Courses Delivered
51 Participants

Autism in Sport



5 Courses Delivered
57 Participants

Sports Inclusion Disability



2 Courses Delivered
20 Participants

2

Participation Events



BIKE WEEK

36 Courses Delivered
1562 Participants



HER OUTDOOR WEEK

30 Courses Delivered
778 Participants

SUMMER CAMPS	No. of Courses Delivered	No. of Participants
Direct Provision Centres	9	199
Youth Projects	1	21
Disability Inclusion Camps	14	114

3

Inclusive Programmes & Interventions



120

Youth Groups
&
Traveller
Community



COMMUNITY PROGRAMMES

Physical Activity for Health
Programme

34 events

350 participants



LEARN 2 CYCLE PROGRAMME

20 events

144 participants



Other Inclusive Programmes
(Tennis/ Gym /Horse Riding)

6 events

66 participants

Disability Inclusion

Inclusive Swim
Schools Programmes



11 Courses Delivered
88 Participants

Community
Programmes



34 Courses Delivered
350 Participants

4

Leisure Centres

Total number of visits to Bray, Greystones, Wicklow and Arklow Leisure centres
inclusive of pool, gyms, classes, schools, lessons, pitches, tracks, courts



601,400 VISITS
Shoreline Leisure



626,155 VISITS
Coral Leisure

Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS)

Key Deliverables 2025

Roundwood Recreation Project – Provision of a recreational area with natural wooden play structures and a cycling circuit for children, with upgraded trails and parking facilities.

The Sugarloaf Repair Scheme – Path upgrade with drainage works, stone pitching at upper trail, native tree planting and upgraded signage and parking facilities.



Recreation project

Sugarloaf repair project

Archives and Genealogy

Wicklow County Archives is the official repository for Wicklow County Council records and those of predecessor Wicklow local government bodies such as the Grand Jury, Boards of Guardians and Town Commissioners. Dating from the 17th century, the archives document the administration of the county and the people's interaction with these administrations and include private collections of family, estate and business records.

Genealogy Service - The County Archives offers a genealogy research service, researching and advising those with Wicklow roots, and promoting County Wicklow as a key destination to those on the “roots trail”. The County Archives is a member of the Irish Family History Foundation and www.rootsireland.ie.

8207	Page views for Wicklow.ie Archives
5	Events/ Outreach: John Tate’s Charity exhibition. Our Wicklow Women exhibition. Heritage Week: Archives Open Evening, exhibitions in library branches & talk on Wicklow Borough Corporation records. Michael Dwyer 200 event: Member of organising committee Wicklow Archives articles in History Ireland and Roots Ireland magazines.
4	Special projects: (1) Arklow Street Preachers publication with Wordwell Publishers (2) Re-issue of 1798 Rebellion in County Wicklow education pack. (3) Wicklow Historic Towns Atlas project. (4) New pages added Wicklow.ie featuring special projects
2	External Funding, Heritage Stewardship Grant: Shillelagh Board of Guardians project. Commemorations (DCCS): Laborers Cottages & District Council project
200	Genealogy research enquiries - County Archives parish records database on www.rootsireland.ie
4	Cataloguing on Axiell Collections platform & online. Business Archives, Grand Jury, Estate papers, Wicklow County Council collections
4	New Acquisitions: School records: Our Lady’s NS, Rathdrum; Ballyconnell N.S., Rental registers of Thomas O’Reilly, Bray Registers of Prague Maternity Nursing Home Wicklow

2	Records Management: Implementation of LGMA Records Retention schedules ongoing, Data Protection Oversight Committee
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Wicklow Library Service - Across 13 branches and the Mobile Library, WCC Libraries continued to provide essential civic space for meetings, consultations and community groups, strengthening their role as key local infrastructure. Community partnership and collaboration further strengthened the reach of the service. Libraries worked closely with schools, Youthreach, KWETB, community organisations, local authors and cultural groups to deliver responsive and locally relevant programming.

42,015	Active Members
607,388	Visits to the Library
3,070	Summer Stars
475,716	Items Borrowed
40,466	eBooks read
106,635	eAudio Books
307,412	Newspapers and Magazines
2,265	Comics read
Literacy & Reading	
1,217	Book bags were distributed for My Little Library initiative (1,086 English; 131 Irish) to children starting primary school
3,070	Children participated in the 2025 Summer Stars program
Countywide delivery	Spring into Storytime, Children's Book Festival, Family Time at Your Library events and Seachtain na Gaeilge events & programmes
	Irish conversation groups were expanded or re-established in Greystones, Arklow, Bray and Wicklow libraries
Health, Wellbeing & Lifelong Learning	
Workshops / events, - Throughout 2025	Healthy Ireland at Your Library
	<i>Skills for Life</i> launched - provision of digital literacy, financial literacy, media literacy, employment skills and sustainability skills
	<i>DigiLit</i> digital skills programmes offered Age Action IT classes and practical digital skills workshops were
	<i>Library of Things</i> initiative continued to expand - also includes radon monitors, C-Pens, Blood Pressure Monitors and Acorn tablets,
	An introduction of tablets for people aged 60+ through the Hi Digital program was rolled out
Community Integration & Community Outreach	
Mobile Library	attended Shelton Abbey Community Open Day, and introduced summer routes to more areas
Secured €4,317 funding	Green Thread project -collaboration between WCC Library Service, CWP and the HSE - brought together members of the Ukrainian community and adults aged 55+,
Culture & Heritage	
	<i>Road to the Fleadh</i> series brought traditional Irish music performances to branches and rural communities
	<i>Culture Night</i> featured an extensive countywide programme of performances
	<i>Cruinniú na nÓg</i> delivered a vibrant programme of creative workshops for children and young people

	Wicklow Local Studies Service delivered research support service, characterised by strong public engagement, educational outreach, and sustained use of both physical and digital collections
350+	Research queries in local history and genealogy
40	Student research projects on Wicklow's history and global cultural connections exhibited at <i>The Past in My Place</i> , lead through partnership with the Local Studies Department, Coláiste Chill Mhantáin Wicklow's history and global cultural connections
	The digitisation of the Ordnance Survey Name Books (c.1838) for County Wicklow was completed
6	Monthly illustrated lectures delivered the Autumn/Winter Local History Talks Programme

Infrastructure & Service Sustainability in Libraries

Capital Projects: conservation roof works completed at Bray Carnegie Library and Dunlavin Library. These works safeguard heritage assets while ensuring safe, modern facilities for staff and users.

Wicklow County Arts Office

Award Schemes - Successful Applicants – total value €119,060.00	
11	Individual Artist Awards - €50,310
8	Arts Festival Awards - €56,000
3	Artist & Community Collaborations - €12,750
16%	Increase in Arts funding to a total of 22 individuals
10%	Annual increase in number of individuals & organisations funded
€441k	Awarded to Organisations, including the Mermaid Arts Centre, Music Generation Wicklow, The Courthouse Arts Centre Tinahely and Bray Jazz Festival
9	Applicants awarded Strategic Project Award funding to benefit artists and targeted communities or networks
€1.5m	Identified for Per Cent for Art Schemes being delivered in 2026-2027
2 yr	Extension granted to the Creative Places Baltinglass programme, benefiting from an additional €170,000 investment
2	Artists attending the Performing Arts National Forum Conference through the Professional Development Programme
1	Writer received support from Words Ireland National Mentoring Programme
3	Coaching sessions provided for thirteen artists through the Arts Office Coaching scheme
4	Development Day workshops provided for Artists by Wicklow Artist Salon

TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE DELIVERY

Strategic Policy Committee

Membership of the Transportation, Infrastructure Delivery & Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee consists of six Elected Members along with six members from sectoral interest groups. The Strategic Policy Committee holds quarterly meetings throughout the year at which both national and local policy are discussed.

In 2025 the SPC received presentations from Iarnród Éireann (Irish Rail) and the National Transport Authority (NTA). The focus of these presentations and discussions was on the provision of improved bus and rail services for Co. Wicklow.

The Committee also participated in the preparation of a Road Safety Plan for County Wicklow.

Other topics discussed by the Committee during 2025 included: -

Fire Service - provision of two new stations at Dunlavin and Baltinglass

Weather related events

Transport Studies

Parking Bye Laws

Bus stop/shelter programme

Greenways

Annual Roads programme

Cathaoirleach: Councillor Stephen Stokes

Wicklow County Council: Cllr. Pat Fitzgerald

Cllr. Joe Behan

Cllr. Shane Langrell

Cllr. Orla Finn

Cllr. Danny Alvey

Outside Agencies

Trade Unions: Ian McGahon

Environment/Conservation/PPN: Éanna Gallagher

Agriculture/Farming Community: Mary Catherine Murphy

Development/Construction: Tomás Peare

Business Commercial: Matthew Hudson

Social Inclusion: Deirdre McCormack

Director of Services: Joe Lane - Transportation & Infrastructure Delivery.

Jackie Carroll – Emergency Services

Senior Executive Officer: Linda Healy

Senior Engineers; Michael Flynn

John Bowes

Health and Safety

The Directorate is committed to ensuring adherence to the principles of Safety, Health and Welfare at work. In this regard, plans and policies have been and are continuing to be developed and updated to improve our health and safety procedures. Extensive training programmes are provided for staff continually to ensure compliance with construction and safety regulations. Ancillary & Local Safety Statements are reviewed and updated on a regular basis. The implementation of good health and safety practices across Transportation & Infrastructure Delivery Services remains a priority to the health and safety of our employees.

Road Safety Promotion and Education

The County Wicklow Road Safety Together Committee consists of members of the Gardaí, Fire Service, Road Safety Authority, Transport Infrastructure Ireland, Department of Transport and officials of Wicklow County Council. Four meetings are held each year. The District Engineer from each Municipal District attends on a rotation basis.

During 2025 the committee approved the County Wicklow Road Safety Plan 2023 -2030 in accordance with the RSA's National Strategy and completed a review and evaluation of the activities for the previous year 2024.

The main objective of the Road Safety Plan is to reduce the number of casualties on County Wicklow's roads and to provide focus on making Wicklow a safer county for both motorists and pedestrians through Education, Enforcement, Engineering and Evaluation.

During 2025 road safety campaigns arranged by the Road Safety Working Together Group included:-

- 'Just 1 Life' aimed at TY students and will be held four times during the academic year.
- Vulnerable Road Users Awareness campaign
- Motorcyclist Campaign
- 'Gift a Lift' Christmas Campaign
- Regular use of SM Channels to highlight and promote road safety awareness campaigns

NATIONAL PRIMARY ROADS - N11/M11

M11/N11 Junction 4 to Junction 14 Improvement Scheme

Phases 1 – 4 of the project commenced in November 2018 in accordance with the Transport Infrastructure Ireland Project Management Guidelines.

The N11/M11 Scheme aims to improve safety, accessibility, and journey time reliability along this strategic route. The primary objective of the project is to deliver enhanced multimodal transport links for the southeast corridor. The Option Selection report was published on the project website www.n11m11.ie in December 2021. The publication followed the review of submissions received during public display in 2021. Phase 3 Design and Environmental Evaluation was due to commence in Q1 2022. However, the scheme remains suspended pending the provision of funding.

N11 Bus Priority Interim Scheme

The Bus Priority Interim Scheme seeks to achieve the early delivery of bus priority measures between Loughlinstown Roundabout and Junction 9 (Glenview) in advance of the Junction 4 to Junction 14 scheme. The Phase 2 Options Selection Report was published on 10th April 2025. A tender competition was published in May 2025 to appoint Technical Consultants to progress the scheme through Phase 3 and 4 of the TII Project Management Guidelines. Information is available to view on the Bus Priority Interim Scheme project website www.n11m11bpis.ie. This website will provide up to date information on the progress of the scheme.

N11/M11 Strategic Bus Based Park & Ride

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 is 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.

NATIONAL SECONDARY ROADS - N81

N81 “The Four Studies” – Irishtown West, Whitestown Lower, Hangman’s Bend and Tuckmill Lower

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 are currently progressing the Phase 3 Design and Environmental Evaluation. Further information is available on the project website www.N81whitestownandtuckmill.ie.

N81 Hollywood Cross

A rural traffic calming and road safety improvement scheme is being progressed for the N81 at Hollywood Cross. The provision of bus stops is included as part of this scheme. Construction works commenced in July 2025 and is expected to be completed in Q1 2026.

GREENWAYS

Arklow to Shillelagh Greenway

The Phase 2 Preferred Route for the Arklow Shillelagh Greenway was published in December 2025. The preferred options will be brought forward to the Phase 3 design and environmental evaluation, commencing in 2026.

Wicklow Greystones Greenway

Wicklow to Greystones Greenway progressed at Phase 2, the options selection phase of TII's Project Management Guidelines. A Public consultation on the emerging preferred corridors was held in April and May 2024. Route options within those corridors were then developed and assessed. A public consultation on the emerging preferred option is planned in in Q1 of 2026.

TII FUNDED ACTIVE TRAVEL SCHEMES

Kilmacanogue to Bray Southern Cross Active Travel Scheme

The scheme recommenced is September 2025 at Phase 3, the design and environmental evaluation phase of TII's Project Management Guidelines.

ROAD PROJECTS

Chapel Road Pedestrian and Cycle Infrastructure Improvement Scheme

Construction work commenced on Section 1 in April 2025 and was reopened to traffic in October 2025. A full road closure for Section 2 was then implemented in November 2025. The completion of the full scheme is expected in 2026.

Non-National Road Maintenance and Improvement

Maintenance works on Non-National Roads in 2025 were carried out by both direct labour units of the five Municipal Districts and by roads contractors.

Surface Dressing Programme

Wicklow County Council crews carried out surface dressing works at 52 locations on approx. 90 kms of regional and local roads.



Surface dressing at Derrylossary, Roundwood.

Restoration Improvement Overlays

Municipal Districts planned, procured, and carried out works at 66 regional and local roads. These covered 255,00 m² or 50 km of roads.

Former national Roads

Surfacing work was completed by contract at the old N11 north and south of Newtownmountkennedy. The project was over 3km in length and covered approx. 28,500 m².

Invasive Species treatment

The register of locations continued to be updated and monitored. No treatment works were undertaken in 2025.

Specific Improvement Grant

Works at Rockey Road, M11 to Wicklow Town were completed by our direct labour crew. In total, approx. 1.5km of road was upgraded. The project opened in mid-2025.

Community Involvement Schemes

4 CIS roads projects were completed in 2025. The total length of the schemes is approx. 2.6km.

Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience

5 CCAR roads projects were completed in 2025. The total cost of the schemes is over €5 million.

Drainage projects

17 drainage projects were completed in 2025. The total length of the schemes is approx. 5km.

Bridge Rehabilitation Programme

The Bridges crew worked on 14 bridges in 2025. There were varying degrees of work undertaken. Most work was repairing damaged parapets and installation of rubbing strips. However, significant rebuilding of 3 bridges, including arches, floors, and walls took place. WCC staff inspected approximately 100 bridges during the year and recorded these on the Bridges AMS app.



George's Bridge, Ballintruer More

Machinery Yard

Repairs and maintenance on all vehicles continued for operational and RSA requirements. 3 of 5 new trucks were delivered and are currently in service in various departments.

Orders were placed for several new machines for surface dressing and winter maintenance operations. These are being delivered in the coming weeks.

Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project (PLEEP)

KLS ASD Joint venture are the works contractor for the PLEEP contract. Initial Surveys of the existing public lighting network have been completed. A total of 2,503 lights are due for upgrades to energy efficient LEDs, of which 1,520 lights have been upgraded.

Public Lighting Maintenance

A new maintenance contractor, Killaree Lighting Services, was appointed following a tendering process in late 2024. A total of 2,421 faults were attended in 2025.

Speed Limits

New default limits for rural local roads were enacted by the Government in February 2025. The changes necessitated an amendment to the Speed Limit Byelaws of 2023. Following a public consultation period the amendment was passed with a commencement date of 1st December. The statutory change in the rural local road default speed limit commenced 7th February 2025.

National Transport Authority

Each Year, Wicklow County Council receives funding from the National Transport Authority. In 2025 €8.65 m was allocated to Wicklow County Council for capital projects. The Active Travel team received €8 mill for 26 projects within the County with the remaining funds being allocated between the below projects:

- Fassaroe Strategic Bus Based Park and Ride
- Bus Stop Enhancement Scheme
- Arklow Local Transport
- Greystones Local Transport Plan.

All Travel projects will aim to improve transport options for those choosing alternatives to the private car, with the creation and development of segregated cycle lanes and widened footpaths, public realm improvements and new pedestrian crossings.

Some of the Active Travel Project which received funding from the National Transport Authority in 2025 include:

- Active Travel Bridge (Wicklow to Train Station to Port Access Route) Pathfinder
- Bray Bridge Footbridges and Tie -ins
- Delgany Village to Mill Road Active Travel Elements
- Active Travel Pathfinder – Wicklow Town
- Blessington Main Street to Deepark
- Greystones Active Travel Pathfinder phase 1 – Charlesland Roundabouts upgrades
- Convent Road Active Travel Scheme
- Arklow South Active Travel Improvements

- Killincarrig Village Enhancement Scheme – Cofund
- Safe Routes to Schools Programme Round 2 – Kilmacanogue NS
- Baltinglass Active Travel River Crossing Study
- Greystones Active Travel Pathfinder Phase 2 – Traffic Management upgrades Church Road
- Greystones Active Travel Pathfinder Phase 3 – Greystones Seafront to Charlesland
- Safe Routes to School Programme Round 3 – Scoil Mhuire Realt na Mara, Brittas Bay
- Safe Routes to School Programme Round 3 – Scoil Mhuire na na-Ard, Shillelagh
- Scalp Road Footpath, Enniskerry
- Aughrim Road Pedestrian Crossing Tinahely
- Kiltegan Road Pedestrian Crossing, Baltinglass
- Vale Road Pedestrian Improvement Scheme. Arklow.

During this period The Active Travel Team completed various projects all of which received NTA funding in 2025

Bray Transport Interchange

The launch for this transformative project which delivered a high-quality transport interchange was held on the 17th September 2025 in the presence of Minister for State at the Department of Transport, Seán Canney TD



Bray Transport Interchange 17/09/2025

- Kilcoole Road Foot path Scheme
- Ballyguilemore Foot path Scheme

Safe Routes to School Programme Round 2 – Gaelscoil na gCloch Liath, Greystones Educate together & Temple Carrig School. This combined project will help children get to and from school in a safer environment. Funding was also received from LAWPRO for NB SUDS for this scheme.



Official openings were also held in 2025 for 2 of our completed safe Routes to Schools schemes – St Kevins NS Greystones & Scoil Níoclais Naofa, Dunlavin.

Housing Supply – Programme of Delivery

Wicklow County Council continued to deliver under its Housing Delivery Programme in 2025. In all, 161 units of social housing were delivered in 2025, our housing delivery target in 2026 is 253, we would be confident we will reach this target as our own build target in 2026 is 109 units. In 2025 we constructed Tinahely social housing scheme (20 units), and Avondale Group Housing scheme (3 units). In 2025, a number of schemes commenced on site including, Lott Lane 75 units, and an additional 26 affordable units, Merrymeetings Phase 3 -7 units, Carrigoona, Bray 11 units, 4 age friendly units at Mill Rd, Greystones and Ballinahinch, Ashford 19 units. A significant number of large schemes are planned for a construction start in 2026 including Burgage, Blessington 106 units, originally a PPP scheme, which we only received back in September and have redesigned the tender package and advertised it for tender by January 2026.

Other large schemes include Rockbrae, Bray 53 units (social and affordable), Tinahask, Arklow 74 units, Hawkstown Phase 2, Wicklow Town 54 units. These schemes will be advertised for tender Q1 2026.



Lott Lane



Avondale Group Housing Scheme

Carrigoona, Bray

Affordable Housing

Rathnew-St Ernans 44 1,2,3 and 4 bed affordable scheme was completely sold in 2025. Aldborough Manor Baltinglass – 22 Houses
All 11 units completed and sold in 2025.



Aldborough Manor

Future affordable schemes;

- 26 Affordable houses at Lott Lane are currently being constructed. Likely to be advertised in Summer 2026.
- An application has been approved by the Dept for 9 affordable houses at Rockbrae, Bray.

The Vacant Homes Office

During 2025 the Vacant Homes Office of Wicklow County Council continued to tackle vacancy and dereliction in the County.

The Vacant Homes office administered all schemes under Croí Cónaithe including the Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant, Ready to Build Scheme and CPO Activation Programme.

Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant: the VPRG is a grant that is available to owners of properties which have been vacant for a period in excess of 2 years subject to adherence with certain criterion. The VPRG is available up to €70k.

- 115 applications were received in 2025.
- 48 properties were returned to use through the scheme.
- Enhancements to the scheme in 2026 through expansion to include “Over the Shop” properties.

Ready to Build Scheme

In 2025 5 serviced sites in Kilcommon, Tinahely, Co. Wicklow were prepared for sale under the Ready to build Scheme. This scheme will launch in March 2026.

CPO

10 CPO properties were returned to LA Housing stock in 2025.

Part V

Wicklow County Council liaised closely with Agents and Developers in respect of Part V requirements. Some Part V units are delivered through CALF in partnership with Approved Housing Bodies and some directly to the Council. 45 Part V units were delivered in 2025 through a combination of LA acquisition and CALF.

Turnkey

The Council continued to actively seek and encourage the provision of social housing via the mechanism of turnkey development. Wicklow County Council delivered 14 no. Local Authority Turnkey units and 76 CALF Turnkey units in 2025.

Traveller Accommodation

- Rathdrum: 3 houses Avondale Heights – works commenced on site in late 2023 and completed September 2025.
- Barndarrig: – A revised application has been approved by the Department for 3 group houses and 17 social houses.

PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Planning & Rural Development Strategic Policy Committee

Councillors

Chair: Cllr. Patsy Glennon
Members: Cllr. Sylvester Bourke
Cllr. Gail Dunne
Cllr. Malacháí Duddy
Cllr. Peter Stapleton
Cllr. Pat Mahon

Outside Agencies

Jim Wood – Development/Construction
Michael Byrne – Agriculture/Farming Community
Tessa Stewart – Environment Conservation
Conor McCarthy – Business/Commercial
Paul Armstrong – Community/Voluntary

The Planning & Rural Development Strategic Policy Committee of Wicklow County Council provides strategic advice and guidance to elected members on planning and rural development matters. Its role includes assisting in the development and review of key policies such as the County Development Plan and Local Area Plans, offering input on national and regional policy changes, and guiding initiatives related to rural regeneration and town centre improvement. The committee brings together representatives from local communities, business, and other sectors to ensure policies reflect local needs.

The Committee met four times in 2025 and received several presentations to support their work, including contributions from the Biodiversity Officer, Town Regeneration Officer, Senior Planner, and Director of Services.

Forward Planning

Wicklow County Development Plan 2022- 2028

The Wicklow County Development Plan (WCDP) 2022-2028 was adopted on 12 September 2022 and came into effect on 23 October 2022. Healthy Place-making, Climate Action and Economic Opportunity are the three overarching cross-cutting themes that inform and shape all aspects of the plan. The plan also includes the Core Strategy and the Settlement Strategy for the County. The plan also includes the Town Plans for the following settlements: - Baltinglass, Newtownmountkennedy, Rathdrum, Ashford, Aughrim, Carnew, Dunlavin, Tinahely, Avoca, Donard, Newcastle, Roundwood, Shillelagh and Laragh-Glendalough.

Variations to the County Development Plan

There were two variations adopted to the WCDP during 2025 - Variation No. 2 (including the Wicklow Town - Rathnew Local Area Plan), Variation No. 3 (including the Blessington Local Area Plan).

There were three further variations proposed to the WCDP in 2025 - Proposed Variation No. 4 (including the Greystones-Delgany & Kilcoole Local Planning Framework), Proposed Variation No. 5 (including the Arklow Local Planning Framework) and Proposed Variation No. 6 (related to the NPF Implementation: Housing Growth Requirements' - Guidelines for Planning Authorities, issued under Section 28 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) in July 2025.

The proposed variations will go before the elected Members in 2026.

In late 2025, Wicklow County Council initiated a "Call for Sites" consultation inviting landowners, homebuilders and other interested parties (including members of the public) to make a submission, identifying possible sites that they suggest could be considered for zoning for new housing development. An evaluation of any submission made will be carried out in early 2026.

Residential Zoned Land Tax

The aim of the tax is to activate and bring forward the development of housing on lands which are suitably zoned and serviced, as indicated on maps that are published by the local authority. The Final RZLT Maps for 2025 were published on 31 January 2025.

Wicklow County Council published and invited submissions on the Annual Draft RZLT Maps for 2026 on 1st February 2025 as provided for under Sections 653C and 653D of Part 22A of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997 (as introduced by the Finance Act 2021 and as amended by Finance (No. 2) Act 2023).

As provided for by Section 653E of Part 22A of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997 (as introduced by the Finance Act 2021 and as amended by Finance (No. 2) Act 2023), Wicklow County Council assessed any submissions received and arrived at a determination in each case. Said determinations specify where lands, or parts of lands, should be included or excluded from the final RZLT map as defined by Section 653K of Part 22A of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997 (as introduced by the Finance Act 2021 and as amended by Finance (No. 2) Act 2023) and the reasons thereto. The Final RZLT 2026 Maps were published on 31 January 2026.

Development Management

Development Management is the term used to describe the functions associated with processing planning applications, including any appeals to An Coimisiún Pleanála. In 2025, a total of 1,254 planning applications were received and processed, representing an increase from 1,064 applications in 2024.

The ePlanning system went live on 17 April 2023, and online submissions were adopted almost immediately. In 2025, 70% of all applications were received online.

Other functions carried out by the Development Management section include handling large-scale residential developments, pre-planning consultations, third-party submissions, compliance matters, appeals, collection of development contributions, Section 5 referrals, and the taking in charge of estates.

Heritage

County Heritage Plan Review - The review of the County Heritage Plan was completed, and the final County Wicklow Heritage Plan 2025–2030 was adopted by members of Wicklow County Council in March, with an official launch event held in July. Four meetings of the Wicklow Heritage Forum (February, May, September, and November) were coordinated to oversee the delivery of the annual action programme.

County Heritage Plan (CHP) Programme - A total budget of €62,000 was received from The Heritage Council to deliver a range of actions, comprising €42,000 from the CHP fund and €20,000 under the Community Archaeology Project Fund. Key initiatives included the one-year, part-time Wicklow Community Archaeology Service (WCAS), the Glendalough Community Excavations, the Wicklow Minor Placenames Project, and the development of a Wicklow Heritage Youth-Based Heritage Guide. Heritage Week was successfully delivered with 83 events held across County Wicklow from 16–24 August. The Michael Dwyer 200 Programme, which included a seminar, bus tour, re-enactment, publications, videos, a podcast, and commemorative artwork, was completed and was shortlisted in the National Heritage Week Awards.

Historic Town Initiative (HTI) Funding - Funding of €50,000 was secured from The Heritage Council under the Stream 1 project for the ‘Retracing Greystones’ Heritage-Led Regeneration study, delivered in collaboration with Wicklow County Council (WCC) and the Greystones Town Team.

Built Heritage Funds (Architecture) 2025 - The Development section coordinated the annual Built Heritage Investment Scheme (BHIS) and Historic Structure Fund (HSF) grant schemes. BHIS 2025 allocations of €171,000 were awarded to 16 projects across County Wicklow. One successful HSF allocation of €160,000 was secured for Russborough House, while the HSF 2024 allocation for Clermont was carried forward, totalling €171,000. Advertisement and assessment of BHIS and HSF 2026 schemes were undertaken in the fourth quarter of the year.

Built Heritage Funds (Archaeology) - Under the Community Monuments Fund (CMF) 2025, €357,499 was secured from the National Monuments Service for three projects: Mullinacuff Medieval Church (€67,500, WCC-owned), Kilmacanogue Old Church (€89,000, WCC-owned), and Drumgoff Barracks (€130,000). The 2026 CMF scheme was advertised in December, with coordination of applications ongoing.

Wicklow Creative Ireland (CI) Programme - A traditional skills weekend was held from 19–21 September at Greenan Museum and Maze, supported through the heritage allocation under CI. The Heritage Officer worked closely with the CI Team to deliver the 2025 work programme.

Irish Community Archive Network (iCAN) - The Heritage Officer coordinated *Our Wicklow Heritage*, the county-wide online community heritage archive, and supported a network of 11 local groups in partnership with WCC archives and library services, the National Museum of Ireland, and the Heritage Council. An in-person Wicklow group meeting was held in Blessington in April, followed by a national event in Claregalway in May, alongside four online meetings throughout the year. Two Wicklow groups, Blessington and Tinahely, were awarded iCAN grants to support equipment and activities.

Biodiversity Working Group and Climate Action Teams - The Heritage Officer contributed to internal working groups, including the Biodiversity Working Group and Climate Action Teams, to support the preparation of the County Biodiversity Plan and the implementation of actions outlined in the Climate Action Plan.

Town Regeneration Office & Capital Delivery Team

The Town Regeneration Office was established in February 2023. It is currently staffed by a Town Regeneration Officer (TRO) with administrative and technical support from the Capital Delivery Team. The office's primary responsibility is to implement the Town Centre First Policy.

Blessington Masterplan

Blessington is a pathfinder town and is the first in the county to receive funding for a Town Centre First Masterplan. The masterplan, issued in November 2023, is providing Blessington with a clear framework to positively develop the town now and into the future.

Wicklow County Council is working closely with local community groups, retailers, and the Blessington Town Team to deliver the objectives of the Masterplan. In 2025, a key objective commenced following the award of funding under the Town Centre First Measure 3 Suite of Supports. This funding is supported the development of a plan to create a high-quality public space in Market Square.

Following three public consultations, a draft plan has now been prepared. The project will proceed to a Part VIII planning application in 2026, with the intention of securing future funding opportunities to deliver the project.

Newtownmountkennedy Masterplan

Newtownmountkennedy is one of 26 towns selected nationally under Phase 2 of the Town Centre First Plan initiative. Funding was provided under the Town Centre First Measure 2 Suite of Supports to appoint consultants to support the preparation of the Plan.

Following the establishment of the Newtownmountkennedy Town Team in November 2024, the Town Regeneration Officer (TRO), in collaboration with the Town Team and the appointed consultants, successfully prepared and published the Newtownmountkennedy Town Centre First Plan. The TRO Office will now actively engage with the Town Team to identify funding opportunities to deliver the projects outlined in the Plan.

Town Teams

Town Teams have been operating in County Wicklow since 2016, with established teams in Wicklow, Arklow, Greystones, and Blessington.

The establishment of a Town Team in Newtownmountkennedy in 2024, followed by the formation of teams in Baltinglass, Carnew, and Rathdrum in 2025, brings the total number of Town Teams in

County Wicklow to eight. These teams organise events and develop projects aimed at enhancing town centres and improving the quality of life for residents, workers, and visitors.

In 2026, the Town Regeneration Officer (TRO) aims to support the establishment of a further three Town Teams.

Funding Streams & Projects

Under Measure 1 of the Town Centre First Town Team Support Fund, the towns of Baltinglass, Rathdrum, and Kilcoole were each awarded €10,000. This funding was used to prepare Town Health Checks for each location, establishing a baseline to inform and guide the future development of their town centres. Local community members and business owners were invited to share their experiences and perspectives, helping to shape town centres that are more attractive places to live, work, and visit.

Two projects were approved for funding under the Town Centre First Measure 3 Suite of Supports. The first is the Blessington Market Square project referenced previously. The second is the Black Castle Enhancement Project, which engaged consultants to prepare a comprehensive design plan for the improvement of public lands surrounding the Black Castle in Wicklow Town, together with an assessment of the structure and condition of the castle ruins. This project will proceed to a Part VIII planning application in 2026, with the intention of securing future funding opportunities to deliver the proposed works.

Wicklow County Council was awarded €725,000 from the Department of Rural and Community Development under Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2023 for the following three projects;

- a) Kirikee - Renovation of the community centre, including roof, windows, ceilings, and walls.
- b) Lacken - Renovation of the old schoolhouse to serve as a community centre with a café, community shop, and small heritage section.
- c) Wicklow Town - Development of a best-in-class pump track at Murrough for all ages and abilities

The pump track was completed in November 2025 and has since become a popular destination, attracting enthusiasts from both the local area and further afield. The Kirikee and Lacken projects are scheduled for completion in Quarter 1 2026.

Work continued on implementing projects funded under the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF). For the Bray Harbour Improvements, approval was secured from the Department to proceed to tender for engineering consultancy services, including detailed designs, environmental reports, and an application to An Coimisiún Pleanála. The URDF Bray Public Transport Bridge project remains under review.

URDF Call 3 is supporting the tackling of long-term vacant and derelict properties. Wicklow County Council will receive €2.5 million to address long-term vacancy and dereliction. A review of over 20 properties has been completed, with notices served under the derelict sites legislation.

Under the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF), work on the Baltinglass Town Centre Regeneration project, which was awarded €2.7 million, continued throughout 2025. Although the

project faced significant challenges, plans are in place to appoint a contractor and begin public realm works in 2026.

Wicklow County Council was also awarded just over €1 million in RRDF funding for Blessington and has been liaising with the Department regarding the allocation of these funds. A summary of proposals has been submitted outlining plans for the refurbishment of the HSE building in the town, and feedback from the Department is currently awaited.

Economic Development and Enterprise Support Strategic Policy Committee

Councillors

Chair: Cllr. Tom Fortune

Members : Cllr. Louise Fenelon Gaskin

Cllr. Avril Cronin

Cllr. Ian Neary

Cllr. Peir Leonard

Cllr. Ned Whelan replaced Cllr. Aoife Flynn Kennedy after 17th February 2025

Outside Agencies

Mr. Huw O'Toole, Environment/Conservation

Mr. Chris Fox, Agriculture/Farming Community

Mr. T.J. Foley, Development Construction

Mr. Gerry Ginty, Business Commercial (until 28th July 2025)

Ms. Margaret Coughlan, Trade Union

Mr. Killian McGreal, Business West Wicklow

Ms. Jean Ryan Kinsella, Social Inclusion

The Economic Development and Enterprise Support SPC met six times in 2025 to discuss economic policy development in County Wicklow. A number of presentations were received by the SPC to support their work, including from Fáilte Ireland, the Regional Enterprise Programme Manager, County Wicklow Partnership, Made in Wicklow, the IDA, and the Town Regeneration Officer.

The SPC began working in late 2025 on producing a Multi-Annual Work Plan (MAWP) which will link into the Council's Corporate Plan. Climate Action and climate impacts will form part of the work programme and will align with the LECP and the Regional Enterprise Plan.

Economic Development

The Economic Development team is responsible for the promotion and marketing of County Wicklow and its towns as a location for enterprise and job creation.

The Wicklow Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) 2024 – 2029 sets out, for a six-year period, the objectives and actions needed to promote and support the economic development and the local and community development of County Wicklow, both directly and in partnership with other economic and community development stakeholders. The LECP is due a mid-term review in 2026.

Development of Enterprise Hubs

The Council in partnership with national and local development agencies and in conjunction with local Chambers of Commerce works with existing enterprise hubs in County Wicklow including Wicklow Enterprise Centre/Business Park and Arklow Business and Enterprise Centre.

The GRID in Greystones, wholly owned by Wicklow County Council, provides high quality enterprise space in Greystones for new and expanding local businesses, allowing them to scale without leaving the community.

Sites for Enterprise/Employment/Amenity uses

The Economic Development unit is engaging with businesses that have expressed an interest in locating to the Avondale Business Park, and the Council will continue to progress plans for the development of the site. The Council has varying size landbanks at a number of other locations throughout the County and will work with all relevant stakeholders to develop these lands in a strategic and sustainable manner.

Networking & Collaboration with Other Agencies

During 2025 the Economic Development Unit held regular meetings with representatives of Fáilte Ireland, Enterprise Ireland, the IDA, along with other agencies engaged in economic development. Formal and informal networking continues with the local businesses, Chambers of Commerce and Town Teams to promote and develop business and develop job opportunities in County Wicklow.

The Council support a number of business networks in Wicklow including the East Coast Offshore Renewable Energy Network and Wicklow Naturally, as well as organised a number of events such as the Tourism Networking and Workshop event, the ORE Network Skills event, and October Feast.

Strategies

Wicklow food producers are being supported through Wicklow Naturally and the Wicklow Food Strategy and Made in Wicklow were set up and is supported by the Council to showcase Wicklow crafts.

The Wicklow Skills Strategy is being implemented under the guidance of the Skills Taskforce, to advance skills building in the Film, Food, Renewable Energy, and Tourism sectors, as well.

The Mid-East Regional Enterprise Plan is a comprehensive strategy which aims to drive economic growth and innovation across Kildare, Meath, and Wicklow through strategic initiatives and targeted collaboration among stakeholders. Guidelines on the preparation of a new plan are expected in early 2026 and the Economic Development team will play a key role in the formulation of the new plan, in conjunction with the REP Programme Manager.

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

Work continues on the implementation of recommendations contained in the 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, to engage with the local community, and to look at priority actions for the lifetime of the plan. Wicklow County Council activated temporary traffic management measures during the summer months which were widely welcomed as an improvement to both visitors and local residents.

Tourism Initiatives

Almost one thousand Wicklow Passports were sold online in 2025, and new versions of the passport were created including a mini passport, a Wicklow Town Passport Trail, and a Wicklow Way version.

Various social media channels for Visit Wicklow achieved extensive growth in overall reach, engagement and followers and also won a prestigious award from the Institute of Designers in Ireland for 'Design for Social' in the 'Experience Design' category.

Eco Trail Wicklow, run on 26th of September, is now Ireland's premier trail running event with over 1,550 finishers across five distances.

Wicklow Gaol

Wicklow Gaol is one of Wicklow's top attractions and a key asset for Wicklow Town and the county. Wicklow County Council commissioned a Strategic Management Plan and a comprehensive Conservation Management Plan in 2025. Following the natural end of the contract with Wicklow Historic Gaol CLG, Wicklow County Council tendered for a new operator for Wicklow Gaol. This change of management offered an opportunity to conduct essential repair and upgrade works.

Destination Experience Development Plan

The Tourism team welcomed Fáilte Ireland's decision to commence a Destination Experience Development Plan (DEDP) for County Wicklow.

The DEDP is a new ten-year strategy to sustainably grow the economic value of tourism in County Wicklow, comprising of two five-year action plans developed in collaboration with local stakeholders and outlines a series of strategic projects aimed at enhancing Wicklow's visitor offering and supporting long-term tourism growth. Some of the emerging actions identified through the consultation process are already underway.

Screen Wicklow

Screen Wicklow is part of the Planning, Enterprise & Rural Development Department of Wicklow County Council. It develops and promotes the screen industry in Wicklow and manages a permit system for filming in public places. 2025 was the busiest year on record for film production in Ireland, with an estimated 80% of this activity taking place either entirely or partly in Wicklow.

During 2025, Screen Wicklow awarded two Film Awards in partnership with the Arts Office, each worth €15,000. A total of 148 permit applications for filming in public places were processed, and the new screenwicklow.ie website was launched. The team provided ongoing locations advice and support for numerous productions, offered support for screening events and Wicklow-based talent, and developed partnerships and joint projects with organisations including 'Made in Wicklow', The

Mermaid Theatre, The Whale Theatre, Powerscourt Estate, Create School, and Clermont Screen Hub.

Wicklow County Campus

Wicklow County Campus is a 55-acre estate centred on the historic Clermont House in Rathew. The campus is home to the Local Enterprise Office, Clermont Screen Hub, Uisce Éireann, SETU, The Irish Costume Archive, Teagasc, and a range of other organisations and companies.

In 2025, over 180 bookings were managed for the use of campus facilities. Major works included the refurbishment of the roof of Clermont House, a protected structure, and the complete replacement of the roof of the courtyard buildings. Multiple biodiversity projects were undertaken, including the creation of wildflower meadows and the clearance of invasive species. Clermont Campus also served as both a base and a filming location for multiple screen productions throughout the year, including *Vikings*, *Wednesday*, *Shelter*, and the German production *Der Irland Krimi*.

Local Enterprise Office Wicklow 2025 Annual Report

Local Enterprise Offices Wicklow (LEO) is a small business support unit within the Planning, Enterprise and Rural Development section in Wicklow County Council, which aims to promote entrepreneurship, support business start-ups, and help develop existing micro and small businesses. Our mission is to drive job creation and provide accessible, high-quality supports for startup and established businesses, ensuring that local enterprises have the tools, guidance, and resources they need to grow and succeed.

LEO Wicklow acts as a first-stop shop for anyone starting or expanding a business, fostering innovation and strengthening local economies. LEO Wicklow is recognised as fundamental to local economic development providing accessible, high quality local supports for businesses.

The following goals are set out in the **LEO Wicklow Enterprise Development Plan:**

To promote entrepreneurship, foster business start-ups and develop existing micro & small businesses and to provide high quality supports for (new) business ideas in County Wicklow. Entrepreneurs and Businesses are supported to:

- To maintain existing jobs and create new ones.
- Increase exports and internationalise.
- Build resilience and competitiveness.
- Increase productivity.
- Drive decarbonisation and exploiting the accompanying opportunities.
- Enhance competitiveness through digitalisation and innovation.
- Drive and assist new business start-ups and entrepreneurs.
- Support the locally traded sector to thrive.
- Be managed by ambitious & capable individuals.
- Fuel regional growth through clustering and networks.

The above goals are achieved through the provision of a range of measures and supports while working in collaboration with other public and/or private organisations that support enterprise development.

LEO Wicklow has four key pillars of engagement with small businesses through which these supports are organised:

1. Enabling Entrepreneurship

In 2025 LEO Wicklow offered a large number of business skills and IT skills short training programme to over 1130 participants. Of these 156 took part in the Start Your Own Business Course while 117 owners / managers of established businesses took part in higher level management development programmes. One of these programmes was specific to the retail sector, while another focused on getting participating businesses export ready.

Through a variety of programmes and campaigns, LEOs foster a strong enterprise culture and promote entrepreneurial activity locally and nationally. This is achieved by several events throughout the year, which include:

- JTM Energy Solutions from Rathnew represented Wicklow at the National Enterprise Awards at the Mansion House.
- Local Enterprise Week took place the first week in March bringing together over 100 businesses at networking and training events.
- Over 1170 from 21 Secondary Schools learned all about entrepreneurship and how to set up a mini business at part of the LEO Student Enterprise Programme
- Over 80 female entrepreneurs joined our National Women's Enterprise Day networking event
- One local craft business exhibited at the Local Enterprise Village at the National Ploughing Championships
- 5 Craft clients exhibited at the LEO Hall at Showcase - Ireland's Creative Expo
- Partnership with the female entrepreneurship network, Network Ireland Wicklow

2. Offering Business Advice

One-to-one general business advice clinics were offered in person and online throughout the county to 480 business owners. In addition, another 100 business owners received free mentor sessions to assist them with experienced mentor support in areas such as HR, Finance, Digital Marketing, Marketing, Sales, IP, Tech validation etc.

3. Providing Enterprise Support

Twenty-seven small businesses were approved grant funding, to the value of €546,000, 8 to carry out a feasibility Study on a new idea, 2 startup business were approved a Priming Grant to help them invest and grow and another 14 to create employment and grow their business. Three businesses received grant supports towards attending international trade fairs abroad.

LEO Wicklow supported 159 portfolio clients in 2025 that employ 695 jobs and created over 115 jobs in 2025.

LEOs also offer grants to businesses to enhance their productivity and improve their competitiveness, as well as to assist businesses in addressing the challenges of doing business. These focus on the key areas of Green, Lean, and Digital.

The Green for Business supported 21 businesses with free access, to two days of intensive mentoring including a sustainability audit and action plan, designed to help green a business. This

programme offers advice and technical support on resource efficiency, how to better understand their carbon footprint and how to implement an environmental management system to reduce costs and lower greenhouse gas emissions.

The Energy Efficiency Grant is designed to support capital investment by businesses to reduce carbon emissions based on energy efficiency projects and was availed of by 9 companies.

Digital for Business is designed to help businesses prepare and implement a plan for the adoption of digital tools and techniques across the business. Thirty-four companies were provided with a free digital consultant who assist them in identifying where they are on their digital business journey, develop a digital adaptation plan based on their identified need, and implement their digital adaptation plan.

The Grow Digital Voucher assisted five more companies with the implementation of their Digital adaptation. Fifteen companies participated in the Lean for Business support thereby reducing waste in their business and reporting impressive time savings.

4. Supporting Local Economic Development

One of the key responsibilities of LEOs is their role in local economic development. LEO Wicklow contributes to business development and employment creation throughout the county through the implantation of the Local Economic Community Plan and the Mid-East Regional Enterprise Plan actions. This is an essential building block in economic development, thereby creating attractive, vibrant and resilient communities.

Activities that strengthen the local entrepreneurial ecosystem are central to this broader role, as are efforts to develop enterprise-enabling physical infrastructure. The offer of remote working spaces and a range of office solutions in both Clermont Enterprise Hub and the Greystones Regional Innovation District in Charlesland are an example of such actions.

In 2025 LEO Wicklow also acted as a catalyst for economic development by driving collaboration with the broader enterprise ecosystem such as collaborations with KWETB, The Chambers in Wicklow, Bray and Arklow, supporting business networks and hosting business support information events at the local level. Combined, this activity creates opportunities, provides a platform for growth, supports innovation, fosters knowledge transfer, and develops an attractive environment for investment and job creation

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT (HOUSING & COMMUNITY)

HOUSING SERVICES

Housing Strategic Policy Committee

Cathaoirleach: Cllr. Graham Richard

Wicklow County Council: Cllr. Mark Berry
Cllr. Paul O`Brien
Cllr. Gerry O`Neill
Cllr. Peter Stapleton
Cllr. Gail Dunne

Community/Voluntary: Cici Zheng
Environment Conservation: Sean O Callaghan
Development Construction (CIF): T.J. Foley
Director of Services: Michael Nicholson
Senior Executive Officer: Caroline Fox
Senior Engineer: David Reel

Outside Agencies

Trade Unions - John Douglas
Homeless Sector - Emma McMillen Simon Community
Social Inclusion - Kathleen Kelleher
Business/Commercial - Paddy Mordaunt

Housing Services

- Housing Management
- Social Inclusion
- Capital Delivery
- Integration

The Housing Strategic Policy Committee met on 4 occasions in 2025 and focused on a number of key areas including:

- Housing priorities and work programme for 2025 including future housing supply and management
- Maintenance and Management of housing stock
- Annual Housing Needs Assessment
- Affordable Housing Scheme
- Private Rented Inspections
- Traveller Accommodation
- Tenant in Situ Scheme

- Approved Housing Bodies collaboration
- Mid-East homeless Action Plan 2024 – 2026
- Differential Rent Scheme and Rent Review
- Housing For All Policy
- Policy on sale of Local Authority properties in need on significant refurbishment.
- Integration Programme
- Wicklow Resettlement Programme – Phase 3

Housing Stock Management

By the end of 2025 Wicklow County Council owned, managed and maintained 5,380 properties across the county. The management of these properties includes the delivery of energy efficiency retrofit upgrades, the relet/void programme, planned maintenance works and day-to-day response maintenance.

Housing maintenance and repairs (response maintenance) is delivered through the Municipal Districts, the Housing Direct Labour team and contractors. Works delivered under this programme include plumbing, heating and electrical issues, roof repairs and minor works. The budget for 2025 under this programme was €2,941,094.

Radon testing and remediation works were delivered on a programmed basis, with a risk-based prioritization of testing locations.

Our planned maintenance, heating maintenance and upgrade, and associated works budget in 2025 was €2,079,353.

The Relets/Voids programme of work is delivered through the Municipal Districts and the Housing Direct Labour team. This is an opportunity to make improvements to our housing stock, based on resources. The 2025 budget for the Relet/Void programme was €5,382,418. The relet/void programme delivered 142 units in 2025.

Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme (EERP)

The energy efficiency retrofit programme (EERP) aims to retrofit local authority homes to a B2 Building Energy Rating (BER). The programme focuses on deep retrofits, including insulation, heat pumps, and windows and doors replacement to improve comfort, reduce energy bills, and lower carbon emissions. Works continued on the energy efficiency retrofit programme during 2025 with 102 properties delivered to a value of approximately €4.5 million including properties at Seamount Drive, Kilcoole.

The Maitland Street Senior Housing Energy Efficiency Scheme was developed to deliver significant improvements to 16 social housing units in Bray, in terms of energy efficiency, comfort and reduced heating costs. The works included improved insulation, new windows and doors, heat pumps, lighting and ventilation upgrades. The homes were upgraded from E2 to a minimum B2 BER rating.

Housing Allocations

Wicklow County Council allocates houses in accordance with the Scheme of Letting Priorities. Any person in need of housing and unable to obtain it from their own resources may be included on the Council's Housing Waiting List, subject to compliance with eligibility criteria. A Housing Needs Assessment is carried out annually to ascertain an accurate number of persons seeking housing in County Wicklow.

At 31st December 2025 there were a total of 4,303 persons on the Wicklow County Council's social housing waiting list.

A total of 396 allocations were made in 2025; 247 households were allocated local authority housing and a further 152 households nominated and housed with Approved Housing Bodies throughout the county.

House Purchases

A total of 3 house purchases closed in 2025.

Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS)

The total number of RAS properties at 31st December 2025 was 163, broken down as follows:

- 83 RAS properties
- 80 CAS/RAS properties (Capital Assistance Scheme)

Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)

A total of 1,320 households were availing of HAP rental support at 31st December 2025.

Mortgage to Rent

The Mortgage to Rent (MTR) scheme is a scheme to help homeowners who are at risk of losing their homes due to mortgage arrears. It lets homeowners in mortgage difficulty switch from owning their home to renting their home as social housing tenants. At 31st of December 2025 there are 108 families availing of the Mortgage to Rent Scheme.

Local Authority Home Loan

A total of 42 applications were received, and 11 applicants were given approval in principle in 2025.

Housing Grants

Wicklow County Council manages and administers grants under the terms of the Housing Adaption Grants (HAG), Mobility Aid Grant (MAG), and Housing Aid for Older People Grants (HOP).

In 2025, 494 grants were processed with approvals issued and grant funding totaling over €3.5 million for private houses (HAG, MAG, HOP).

Co. Wicklow Strategic Plan for Housing People with a Disability

The Housing and Disability Steering Group has prepared the new draft Co. Wicklow Strategic Plan for Housing People with Disability 2022-2027. The Implementation plan for Housing People with a disability was launched on 22nd June 2023.

During 2025, the Housing and Disability Steering Group met four times in County Buildings. Members of the committee include staff from Wicklow County Council and HSE staff, AHB representatives, staff from the Housing Agency and from the Disability Federation of Ireland. In the autumn of 2025, this group hosted four workshops across the County to reach out to individuals with a disability, to share housing supports information and to ascertain if there are any issues accessing these housing supports. This was an action under the Plan for 2022 – 2027.

Total number Age friendly design units in pipeline end of 2025.	On Site	Design Stage	Part V/ Turnkey 2026	Completed 2025
Age Friendly Housing Delivery	26	58	12	17
*Numbers Design Stage Subject to Change, numbers include Disability Units UD+				

Housing Regeneration

Wicklow County Council have initiated meetings with the DHLGH regarding the inclusion of Hillview Estate, Wicklow Town in the Housing Regeneration Programme. Hillview Estate, Wicklow Town 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 this project in 2026 and apply for funding when the DHLGH Regeneration Programme is open.

Private Rental Inspections

484 inspections were carried out in 2025, with 27 Improvement Notices and 18 Prohibition Notices served on non-compliant landlords. There are currently 3 properties where legal action has been initiated.

Stock Condition Surveys (SCS)

Wicklow County Council completed 350 stock condition surveys on local authority properties in 2025.

Tenant Purchase Scheme

During 2025, a further 25 tenants completed purchase under the Tenant Purchase Scheme.

Estate Development

Estate Development Grants were allocated through the Municipal Districts to Residents Associations within the districts.

Management - Tenant Liaison/Sustainment

There are four tenancy sustainment officers in the County (3 in Wicklow County and 1 in Bray MD area).

Housing Rents

As of 31st December 2025, there are 5,166 tenanted units.

As of 31st December 2025, there were arrears amounting to €2,588,293.39 outstanding.

Traveller Accommodation

Under the Traveller Accommodation Programme, 12 allocations were made to Traveller households in 2025.

Fire safety inspections are carried out by members of the Housing section and Wicklow fire service on Halting Sites throughout the county annually, and improvements are made as per recommendations.

Progress was made on the Capital Programme in 2025 as follows:

- Rathdrum: Three TAU houses in Avondale Heights, Rathdrum – The project was completed and houses allocated in September 2025.

The LTACC is integral to the consultation process regarding Traveller accommodation. It ensures accountability and facilitates communication with the Traveller community. It plays a key consultative role in the provision and management of Traveller accommodation within our County. At the LTACC meetings updates and progress reports on the TAP are provided to the committee. During 2025, this committee held four meetings in the County Buildings.

Homelessness

The prevention of homelessness continued to be a key focus in 2025.

- 257 new cases (families/individuals) presented as homeless during 2025.
- As at the 31st December 2025 - 16 families were in emergency accommodation.

Homeless HAP

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, 683 households (480 families & 203 singles) have been assisted under the Homeless HAP Scheme in Wicklow County Council from the inception on 1st October 2018 to 31st December 2025. (263 homeless cases, 373 prevention cases to date and 47 direct provision). 173 properties were sourced by WCC.

Social Housing Leasing

Properties are leased from the private sector and used to accommodate households from local authority waiting lists. Leased properties will be allocated schemes to tenants in accordance with the local authority's allocations.

Partnership Approach – working with Approved Housing Bodies

In order to target specific cohorts of vulnerable people at risk of or experiencing homelessness, and those who need supported accommodation, Wicklow County Council continued to work with a number of Approved Housing Bodies to deliver accommodation to individuals with support needs. This housing-led approach ensures a sustainable solution to homelessness in individuals who are initially hard to reach and ultimately have tenancy sustainment issues.

Homeless Supported Temporary Accommodation – Kilmantin Hill, Wicklow

In partnership with the Dublin Simon Community, the Council continued to provide a supported accommodation facility at Kilmantin Hill in Wicklow Town, for people experiencing homelessness. Eleven individuals are accommodated in medium support, transitional units at the facility. A number of move-ons to own door accommodation occurred in 2025.

Engagement with the persons in the facility continues on an ongoing basis with a view to providing support into more long term accommodation.

Other Homeless Supported Accommodation

Wicklow County Council own properties in Wicklow, Bray and Greystones and have them leased to AHBs, and are providing units of low to medium supported accommodation targeted to the particular support needs of the clients.

Housing First

Housing First recognises that a stable home provides the basis for recovery in other areas.

Peter McVerry Trust was appointed as the Housing First Programme Implementer for the Mid-East Region and Wicklow County Council continued to work with them to achieve the targets identified in the programme. At the end of 2025 a total of 15 housing first tenancies were managed by Peter Mc Verry Trust.

Homelessness and Mental Health

A Mental Health forum was established by Wicklow County Council with representatives from the HSE, Wicklow County Council and HAIL (AHB for Mental Health). Wicklow County Council co-fund a Tenancy Sustainment Officer to deal with clients at risk of homelessness due to enduring Mental

Health and this position was filled in 2020. A second sustainment officer was recruited in 2023. The initiative continued in 2024 with the tenancy sustain sustainment officer sitting on the Homeless Action Team and also meeting regularly with staff of the housing section. Regular meetings are held with senior housing staff and the mental health teams of both CHO6 – West Wicklow Region and CH07 Eastern Region.

Health and Safety

Wicklow County Council's Health and Safety Policy has been established to ensure that in so far as is reasonably practicable, everyone who works for or on behalf of Wicklow County Council does so in the safest and healthiest conditions possible. The Housing Directorate has embedded this Health and Safety Policy, as applicable, to all Wicklow County Council operations within the Housing Section. The organisation's policies and procedures for health and safety are reviewed in line with best practices, legislative changes, and national initiatives. The Wicklow County Council Safety Statement has recently been updated and is being rolled out across all Directorates.

Private Rental Inspections

Wicklow County Council are required to carry out Private Rental Inspections to ensure that private rental properties meet the required rental standards. The inspections include HAP, RAS, AHBs and other private rented properties. 484 inspections were carried out in 2025, with 27 Improvement Notices and 18 Prohibition Notices served on non-compliant landlords. There are currently 3 properties where legal action has been initiated.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Community & Social Development Strategic Policy Committee

January – December 2025

Cathaoirleach: Cllr Caroline Winstanley

Wicklow County Council: Cllr. Ned Whelan
Cllr. Melanie Corrigan
Cllr. Anne Ferris
Cllr. Miriam Murphy
Cllr. Gail Dunne

Outside Agencies

Business/Commercial: Irene Sweeney
Community/Voluntary: Mai Quaid
Community/Voluntary: Colm Moules
Social Inclusion: Niamh Wogan
Environment Conservation: Lynda Stopford

T/Senior Executive Officer: Máire Halvey

Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)

The purpose of this committee is to develop, co-ordinate and implement a coherent and integrated approach to local and community development.

Local Economic and Community Plan 2024 - 2029

The LECP is the framework for many operational and other plans in the County.

Cllr. Melanie Corrigan	Chair LCDC
Cllr. Tom Fortune	Chair Economic Development & Enterprise Strategic Policy Committee (SPC)
Cllr. Caroline Winstanley	Chair Community & Social Development Strategic Policy Committee (SPC)
Michael Nicholson	Director of Services, Social Development (Housing & Community)
Helena Dennehy	Director of Services, Planning, Economic & Rural Development
Vibeke Delahunt	Local Enterprise Office
Susan Nichols	SEO Economic Development & Enterprise
Máire Halvey	Chief Officer LCDC

The plan:

- Agrees priorities for the area.
- Agrees agency roles in addressing these priorities.
- Places onus on parent bodies of agencies at local level to enable them to respond to plan.

The five combined High-Level Goals of the LECP are

HG1. Climate Action
HG2. Enterprise, Innovation and Creativity
HG3. A Connected County
HG4. Equality, Diversity, Inclusion and Just Transition
HG5. Health, Resilience and Well Being

A number of programmes contribute to the achievement of these goals and a number of agencies are involved in the integration of these actions.

The LEADER and SICAP Programmes are central to building capacity of communities.

In addition, several development funding schemes were announced by the Department of Rural and Community Development:

- Town & Village Scheme
- CLÁR
- Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme
- Urban Regeneration & Development Fund
- Local Enhancement Programme

- Rural Regeneration & Development Fun

Funding Received 2025

Funding Schemes	Funding Received 2025
CLÁR	€408,658
Healthy Ireland Initiatives	€90,000.00
Sláintecare Healthy Communities	€75,000.00
Local Enhancement Programme	€199,044

2025 Highlights

- CLÁR – 8 projects were in receipt of funding.
- Healthy Ireland had two outcomes for 2025
 - (i) Increase in Individuals level of positive mental health as per the Energy and Vitality index
 - (ii) Decrease in percentage of those at risk of poverty and basic deprivation
- Local Enhancement Programme – funding for revenue and capital projects around County Wicklow.
- Community Recognition – 17 projects were awarded funding

Age Friendly Programme

Wicklow Age Friendly Programme

In line with our national commitment to the World Health Organization’s global Age Friendly Cities and Communities Programme, Wicklow County Council is committed to future proofing County Wicklow for the changing demographics of our aging population and making County Wicklow a great place to live and grow older.

The Age Friendly Programme provides a structure so that Local Authorities can take a lead on changing thinking about ageing and how services are planned and delivered.

Age Friendly Strategy 2023-2027

In 2025, Wicklow continued to implement the Age Friendly Strategy 2023–2027, building on the extensive 2022 stakeholder consultations that shaped over 70 actions aligned with the eight WHO themes. With all lead and support partners committed, the county focused on progressing these actions under the strategy formally launched by Minister Mary Butler in early 2023.

The OPC Executive Committee are a representative body for older people in Wicklow.

They met 9 times in 2025, plus additional meetings to prepare for the OPC AGM on the 5th September and the Age Friendly Expo event on the 30th October. The AGM of the wider OPC membership was held on 30th October 2025 in The Arklow Bay Hotel.

Age Friendly Ireland National Convention

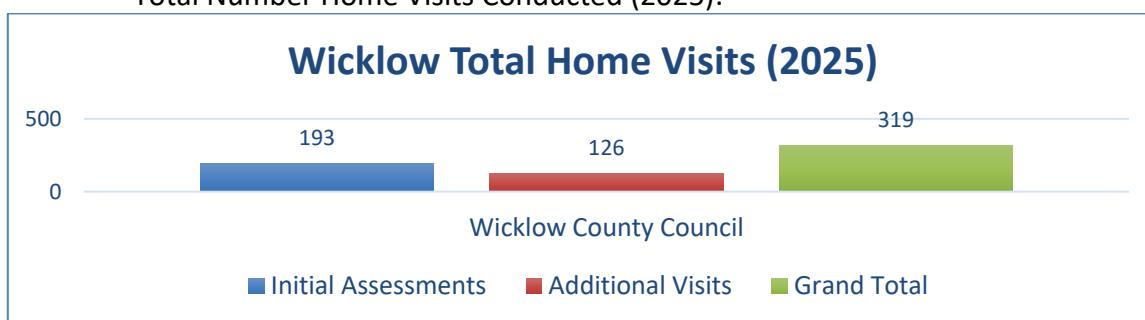
Wicklow’s Older People’s Council participated in the 2025 National OPC Convention in Tallaght, where over 200 delegates gathered to discuss the theme “*The Wisdom of Years – A Lifetime of Perspective.*” The event highlighted national priorities such as preventive healthcare, brain health and intergenerational solidarity, with Wicklow contributing its local local voice at this annual gathering

Healthy Age Friendly Homes Programme

The Healthy Age Friendly Homes Programme in Wicklow continues to support older people, over 65 years of age, to live in their home for as long as possible.

The Programme accepts referrals from a variety of sources including from: The older person themselves, Local Authority Staff, Family and friends, Public Health Nurses, GP’s and Occupational Therapists, Elected Representatives, Community Organisations.

Total Number Home Visits Conducted (2025):



Disability Inclusion Steering Committee (DISC)

Wicklow County Council’s Disability & Inclusion Steering Committee (DISC), established in 2020, brings together multiple departments, disabled people, carers and key community organisations to advance accessibility, inclusion and the implementation of the UNCRPD across all Council services. It works to ensure the voices of disabled people are heard and to influence both the Council and local communities to better understand and respond to the needs of people with disabilities.

Actions carried out in 2025 include:

- Installation of communication boards in public playgrounds across all local authorities.
- Promotion & sharing of Disability Resources on the shared network with all 800+ WCC staff in November 2025.
- Sunflower Lanyard Scheme - Lanyards are available to the public for free via all local authority buildings and customer service staff across MD buildings, libraries and leisure centres wear and display lanyards.
- Make Way Day 2025 in Wicklow was officially launched on the 24th September.

Comhairle na nÓg

Wicklow County Council is the host of Wicklow Comhairle na nÓg. Wicklow Comhairle na nÓg (CNN) members undertake projects to enable young people to have a voice on the services, policies, and issues that affect them in their local area. Caroline Winstanley started as the CNN Coordinator in January 2025.

Throughout the year, all schools and youth projects & clubs in the county were contacted to participate in the Comhairle na nÓg Youth Summit, which took place on November 4th 2025.

Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP) 2024-2028

SICAP is the national programme funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development & the Gaeltacht and the EU European Social Fund (ESF) to address the needs of marginalised groups and communities and to empower them to improve their life opportunities, outcomes and local environment. In 2025 the Programme continued to be delivered in Co. Wicklow by the local development companies of Bray & North Wicklow Area Partnership (BNWAP) and Co. Wicklow Partnership (CWP) under contract to Wicklow County Council/Wicklow Local Community Development Committee.

Healthy Ireland

A Healthy Ireland where everyone can enjoy physical and mental health and wellbeing to their full potential, where wellbeing is valued and supported at every level of society and is everyone's responsibility.

The two outcomes that were chosen for Wicklow as part of the Healthy Ireland Fund 2023 - 2025 were:

- Increase in individual's level of positive mental health as per the Energy and Vitality Index.
- Decrease in % of those at risk of poverty and basic deprivation.

A targeted approach was required to ensure a clear focus on supporting the health and wellbeing of disadvantaged groups and communities in Wicklow to address health inequalities. The Pobal HP Deprivation Index was used to identify areas of disadvantage to very disadvantaged across the County.

Social Farming

Social farming is an outcome focused, support placement for people, with a farmer, on a farm using the natural assets of the people, the place, the activities and the community to support a person achieve some of their own chosen goals. There are currently three Social Farms based in County Wicklow which are based near Tinahely Arklow and Aughrim.

Food Poverty

The Healthy Ireland allocation provides for the role as Countywide Community Food Coordinator with Bray Area Partnership hosting the position.

Period Poverty

Department of Health supports the continued delivery and expansion of this project. The funding provides free menstrual products through community organisations and services working with vulnerable individuals and families, ensuring sustained access to essential health supports. It also

supports the delivery of targeted menstrual health education workshops in disadvantaged communities promoting long-term wellbeing outcomes.

Sláintecare Healthy Communities

Genio Trust

Funding from Genio Trust in 2025 supported the appointment of a part-time Housing and Accommodation Officer within Bray Travellers Community Development Group (BTCDG). This role has strengthened preventative and early-intervention responses to the complex and overlapping challenges facing Traveller families, particularly young people, across Bray and North Wicklow.

Children's Wellbeing Hub – Bray

The Children's Wellbeing Hub entered a key phase of development during 2025, as the project moved into its first full year of Theraplay and family engagement delivery. This marks an important milestone in the implementation of a community-based, trauma-informed early-intervention model for children and families in Bray.

The project received SHC funding of 60,000 in 2025, enabling the delivery of relationship-based therapeutic supports focused on emotional regulation, attachment, and resilience. Alongside this, a structured Family Engagement approach has been introduced, recognising the critical role of caregivers and family systems in supporting children's wellbeing.

Public Participation Network

Wicklow PPN made a submission to Ireland's National Strategy for Improving Community Safety.

Governance Training – Ongoing project to support PPN member groups in good governance and protection measures. Recent session focused on the key challenges of running a successful not-for-profit group. Further sessions to follow.

Local Community Safety Partnership (LCSP)

The Policing, Security and Community Safety Act 2024 took effect on 2 April 2025, requiring all Local Authorities to establish Local Community Safety Partnerships (LCSPs). Under this legislation, LCSPs have replaced the former Joint Policing Committees in every Local Authority area. The Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration, Jim O'Callaghan, formally appointed the 26 nominated members of Wicklow's Local Community Safety Partnership in December 2025. The Wicklow Local Community Safety Partnership (LCSP) was formally launched on 4th December, with its inaugural meeting held in the Wicklow County Council Chamber. Cllr. Tom Fortune was elected as Chairperson and Selena McKenzie was elected as Vice-Chairperson. In addition, a working subgroup was established to commence work on developing a three-year Local Community Safety Plan for County Wicklow, which will set out tailored actions to address the specific needs of communities across the county.



Wicklow's Inaugural Meeting - 4th December 2025

ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (H.R. & CORPORATE)

Director of Services:	Leonora Earls
Senior Executive Officer:	Helen Purcell
H.R. Officer:	Joanne O’Dowd
Health & Safety Officer:	Aoife Cashman
Communications Officer:	Maura Campbell

Audit Committee

The Audit Committee presented its Annual Report for 2025 to the Wicklow County Council in February 2026. In the report the Committee welcomed the receipt of reports on the following assignments during the year:

- Audit of General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).
- Audit of Joiners, Movers and Leavers.
- SICAP - Bray Area Partnership – 2023.
- SICAP – County Wicklow Partnership – 2023.
- Public Spending Code Quality Assurance Report 2024.
- Motor Tax Officer stocktake.

There were also ad hoc reviews carried out during the year on:

- Cash count in Motor Tax Office.
- Prompt payment interest.

Human Resources

The core function of Wicklow County Council’s Human Resource (HR) department is to plan and deliver the organisational workforce requirements in a timely manner to support the delivery of services and our corporate goals.

In 2025 a new Strategic Workforce Plan was prepared. This sets out the staffing requirements for the period of the current corporate plan (2024 -2029). Workforce Management is a critical function carried out by the Human Resources Department; the objective of the Strategic Workforce Plan is to enable effective and efficient service delivery with adequate staffing resources within the financial resources available.

HR support and promote a positive working environment, through the implementation of council policies and procedures. HR recognise the importance of staff well-being and make provision for flexible work arrangements and deliver statutory and non-statutory leave arrangements which create a positive work environment to improve work life balance.

Flexible work schemes available include: The Shorter Working Year Scheme, Maternity Leave Scheme, Parental Leave Scheme, Paternity Leave, New Parent Leave, Work Sharing, Blended

working arrangements, Career Breaks, Carer's Leave, Exam leave and Travel Pass Schemes together with Force Majeure.

2025 Facts and Figures for infographics

- 61 recruitment competitions held.
- Total workforce 917
- 105 new staff commenced work in Wicklow County Council
- 59 internal promotions
- 57 staff transfers
- 115 staff left the organisation.

Elected Members Expenses

Cathaoirleach – Annual Allowance	€30,000
Leas-Cathaoirleach – Annual Allowance	€6,000
SPC Chairs – Annual Allowance	€30,000
Annual Salaries	€1,069,695.52
Councillors Annual Allowance	€229,485.27

Health & Safety

Wicklow County Council subscribes to a dynamic and interactive Health and Safety process. Accordingly the Health and Safety Office avails of every opportunity to reflect these principles in terms of consultation, training and the development of a comprehensive Health and Safety Management System.

184 safety inspections carried out
107 training courses with 487 staff trained

Register of Electors/Freedom of Information/GDPR

Modernising the Electoral Register

During 2025 work progressed in relation to the development of a shared national electoral registration system, building on the existing voter.ie which has been in use in the Dublin region since 2019. Local authorities will migrate to the new national system in a phased manner in 2026.

Number of electors on Wicklow register end of 2025 – 113,139.

Subject access requests for 2025 - 17

FOI Requests – 128

Ombudsman - 31

Training and Development

Wicklow County Council remains firmly committed to the learning and development of both its Elected Members and staff. Over the past year, the Council has continued to invest in targeted training programmes, leadership development initiatives, and digital up-skilling to meet evolving service demands and national policy priorities. A strong emphasis has been placed on fostering a culture of continuous improvement, encouraging staff to engage in lifelong learning and to apply newly acquired competencies in practical, community-focused ways.

In August 2025, Wicklow County Council achieved the Employer Accredited Standard with Engineers Ireland. This accreditation provides a recognised framework for excellence in professional development, enabling engineering teams to continuously upskill and adapt within a fast-evolving industry.

Customer Services Hub

In 2025, the Customer Service team delivered an exceptional level of service to the people of Wicklow, managing a significant volume of interactions across multiple channels. The team handled 98,000 incoming calls, welcomed 30,000 customers at the public counters, and responded to 24,620 emails, ensuring timely and effective support. They also processed 1,073 representations from Councillors, Deputy's and Senators, demonstrating strong engagement with elected representatives.

Financial transactions were equally substantial, with 18,780 revenue transactions totalling €5.4 million and 20,091 motor tax transactions amounting to €4.4 million. Overall, 2025 was a busy and highly productive year, reflecting the team's commitment to delivering efficient, responsive, and high-quality customer service to the Wicklow community.

Oifig Na Gaeilge

Oifig na Gaeilge works to support and promote the use of the Irish language in County Wicklow while ensuring that Wicklow County Council fulfils its statutory Irish language obligations. The office assists in the implementation of the Official Languages Acts and related legislation across the organisation. This includes raising staff awareness of language requirements, coordinating translation services, providing linguistic and placename guidance, and ensuring that key publications, digital content, forms, advertisements and other materials are available in both official languages.

2025 Highlights

Progress under Official Languages Act and Irish Language Legislation:

- Irish language advertising targets laid down in Section 10(A) of the Official Languages Act 2021 were achieved.
- Range of publications and content produced bilingually in line with the Official Languages Act and our Language Scheme.

- Compliance support provided by Oifig na Gaeilge to multiple areas across Wicklow County Council including Economic Development, Social and Cultural, Organisational Development, Communications and Municipal Districts.

Twining

The German Irish Society twinning with Wurzburg, Germany continued in 2025, with visits to and from Wurzburg by the Cathaoirleach, Elected Members, officials and members of the community.

A number of secondary schools and community groups from Wicklow also visited Wurzburg while a number of groups from Wurzburg were received in the County. Wicklow County Council also supported various twinning committees within the Municipal Districts.

The Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty

In accordance with Section 42 of the 2014 Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission Act ('the Act'), the Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty (referred to as 'the Duty') requires Public Bodies, such as Wicklow County Council, to have regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, promote equality of opportunity, and protect human rights, for employees, service users, elected members and policy beneficiaries, across all their function areas.

As provided in the Implementation Plan, Wicklow County Council took a values-led approach to implementing the Duty which is framed by our equality and human rights values statement.

Dignity, Diversity, Participation, Autonomy and Social Justice.

These five interlinked values motivate our ambitions for equality and human rights under the Duty.

Progress and achievements in the implementation of the duty include

- Housing and Disability Inclusion Steering group meetings held and actions delivered
- Youth Biodiversity Conference held
- Creative Wicklow Arts Scheme delivered
- Allocation of 12 traveller housing units
- Delivery of local studies school programme
- Inclusive sports club grants delivered
- Age Friendly – expo celebrating positive aging and older people annual meeting held
- Women's enterprise day
- Comhairle Na Nóg youth summit held
- Wicklow County Council and Disability Federation collaboration on disability inclusion
- Public Sector Duty incorporated into WCC Procurement Policy
- Website accessibility audit carried out and improvements made
- Human Resources Plans and Policies delivered, including domestic violence and abuse leave.

Progress on the related goals from the Corporate Plan are reported in the Annual Service Delivery Plan. Regard to the Public Sector Duty is also included in Corporate Management Systems such as PMDS.

Energy

Mid-East Energy Unit (MEEU)

MEEU is a partnership with Wicklow County Council (Lead Authority), Meath, Louth and Kildare, was established to deliver public sector decarbonisation and energy efficiency targets, in collaboration with SEAI and CODEMA.

2025 Progress Highlights:

- Regional multi-party framework established to deliver decarbonisation projects across the region
- District Heating Feasibility Studies completed in:
 - Naas
 - Drogheda / Duleek
 - Arklow Decarbonised Zone
 - Dundalk Decarbonised Zone
 - Maynooth Decarbonised Zone
- Decarbonisation project pipeline (2025–2030) progressing with SEAI Pathfinder support
- SEAI Pathfinder funding drawn down to support project delivery and regional energy advisory services

Energy Office (Wicklow County Council)

The Energy Office within Wicklow County Council advanced key energy projects and strengthened its energy management systems throughout 2025, supporting progress towards 2030 climate and energy targets.

2025 Progress Highlights

- ISO 50001 Energy Management System re-certified (September 2025) following external audit
- Working with MEEU and CODEMA to develop a project pipeline targeting major energy users across the Council's building stock
- Energy Elephant system being updated to include full building stock, public lighting and fleet
- Delivery of the Arklow Decarbonised Zone district heating study
- Cross-departmental collaboration with Leisure Centres, Fleet, Facilities, Libraries, Municipal Districts, Civil Defence and Fire Service to identify energy-saving and decarbonisation opportunities

Energy Performance

The SEAI Annual Report on Public Sector Energy Performance outlines the status of all public bodies' energy performance. The following graphs identify how Wicklow County Council is performing on their 2030 targets.

Fossil CO₂ Emissions (Transport & Thermal)

In 2024, fossil CO₂ was 14.4% below the baseline. To achieve the 2030 target of 51%, fossil CO₂ must reduce by another 37%

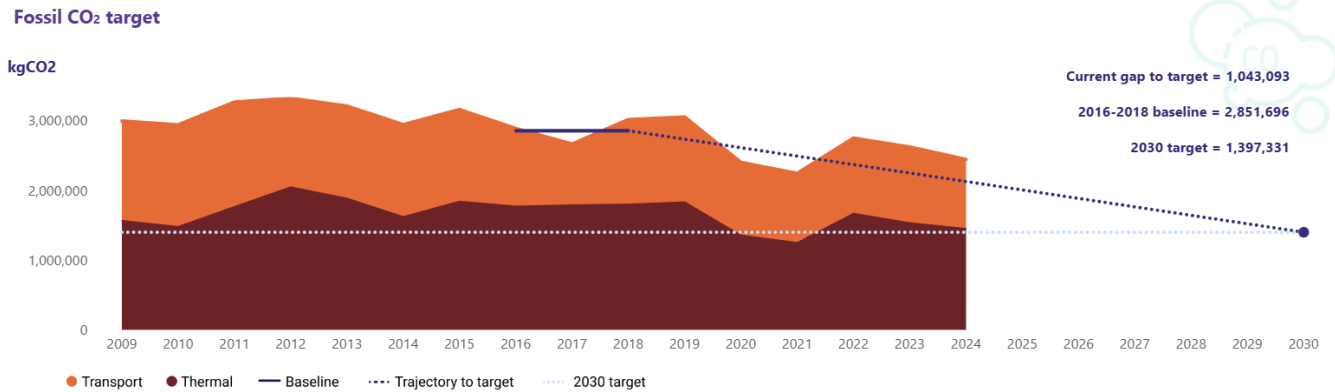


Figure 1: Fossil CO₂ (Transport and Thermal)

Total CO₂ (Electricity, Transport & Thermal)

In 2024 total CO₂ was 34.6% below the baseline. To achieve the 2030 target of 51%, total CO₂ must reduce by another 16.4%

Energy Efficiency

By 2024, energy performance had improved by 35.1% since the baseline. A 14.9% improvement is required between 2025 and 2030 to reach the 50% target.

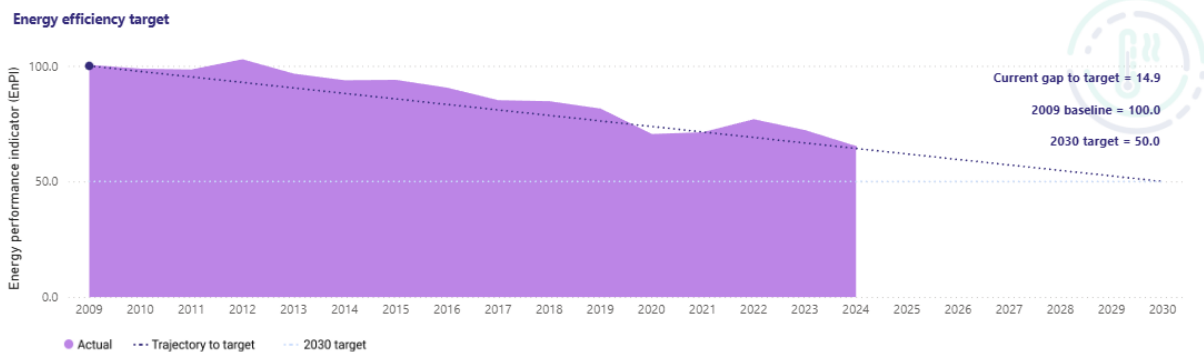
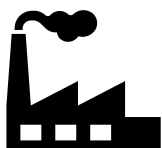


Figure 2: Energy Efficiency Targets

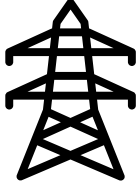
Sample infographics

Fossil CO₂ Emissions (Transport & Thermal)



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Energy Efficiency



Energy performance had improved by 35.1% since the baseline. A 14.9% improvement is required between 2025 and 2030 to reach the 50% target.

2025 COMMUNICATIONS AT A GLANCE

wicklow.ie
WEBSITE 794,675 visitors
 +36.9% visitors compared to 2024



- Top 5 pages visited:
1. Planning 173,005
 2. Homepage 107,984
 3. Job Vacancies 85,812
 4. Library 57,340
 5. Living 37,568



405,243
via Smartphone



355,705
via Desktop



256
PRESS
ADVERTS

POLICIES ISSUED



Social Media Policy

issued to all staff
April 2025



Staff Email Signature

issued to all staff
December 2025

73
 Interview
 Requests

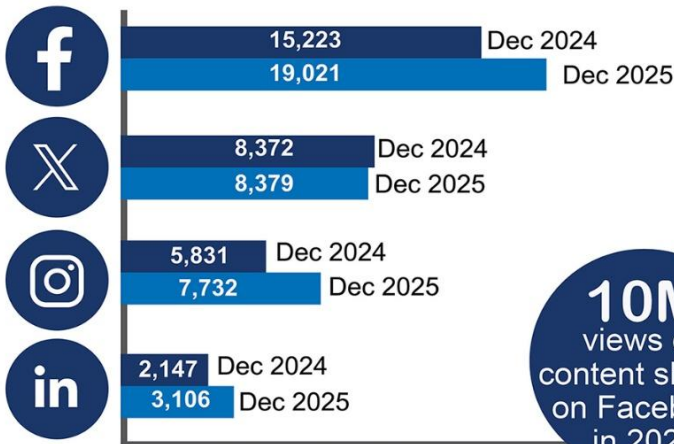
12
 Radio
 Campaigns



175
 Press
 Releases
 Issued

359
 Media
 Queries

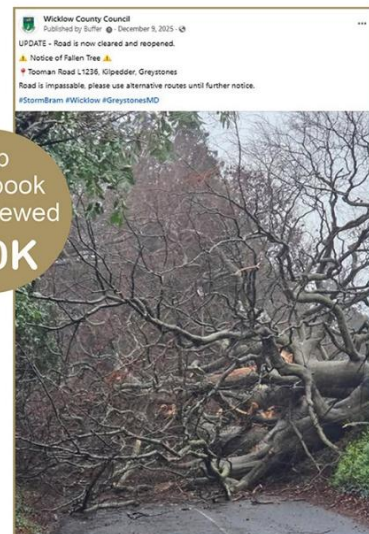
SOCIAL MEDIA



Social Media Followers

10M
 views on
 content shared
 on Facebook
 in 2025

Top
 Facebook
 Post Viewed
120K



EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Major Emergency Management

Wicklow County Council is part of the Eastern Region for Emergency Planning. A Major Emergency Management Committee is in place in Wicklow County Council and comprises of senior personnel from all sections of Wicklow County Council and the Municipal Districts. Two meetings of the committee took place in 2025 to maintain MEM preparedness.

EU MODEX - In 2023 Wicklow was chosen as the location for the first ever EU MODEX exercise in Ireland. Wicklow's key role identified by DG ECHO in Brussels for MODEX was defined as organising a major Wildfire exercise in Wicklow.



It is estimated that 293 participants including 31 Irish organisations were involved in MODEX on 26th March 2025. This included 70 EU representatives from 25 European countries.

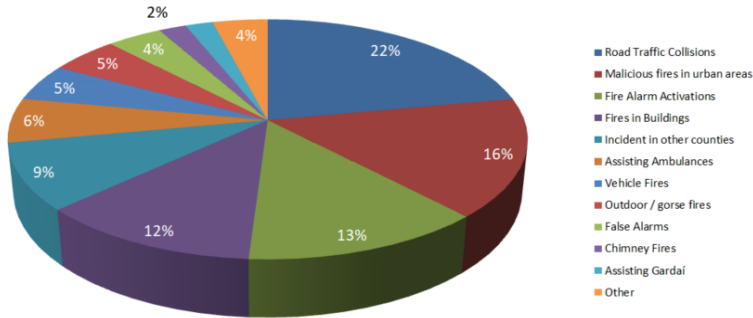
The EU report on Modex concluded that *“the exercise was conducted in a professional manner, setting a challenging environment for the EUCPT members, the preparation conducted by the Irish authorities, in both coaching the role players, but also providing the regional exercise to demonstrate how Ireland, in reality would respond to a wild land or Forest fire enhanced the exercise.”*

Fire Service Operations

Wicklow County Fire Service was involved in 1,385 incidents in 2025 of which 152 were in neighbouring counties. As more serious incidents result in the mobilization of more than one Fire Station, individual Fire Stations were mobilised on a total of 1,825 occasions.

Activity during the year increased over previous years. The following incident types accounted for the majority of mobilisations to operational incidents across the county in

Percentage of Incidents attended by Incident Type



2025:

Individual Fire Stations were mobilised the following number of times in 2025:

<i>Fire Station</i>	<i>Incidents in Station Area</i>	<i>Incidents in other Station areas or counties</i>	<i>Total Mobilisations</i>	<i>Increase / decrease compared to 2024</i>
Bray	380	56	426	+20
Greystones	314	92	406	+102
Wicklow Town	203	80	283	+17
Rathdrum	63	73	136	+18
Arklow	138	25	163	+26
Blessington	82	39	121	+2
Dunlavin	54	37	91	+11
Baltinglass	53	20	73	+14
Carnew	56	16	72	+18
Tinahely	42	12	54	0
	1,385	440	1,825	+228

In addition at the annual national long service awards ceremony 2 firefighters / officers received 30-year service awards and 3 firefighters / officers received 20-year service medals.



WRC Agreement

Wicklow County Council continued to progress the WRC agreement during 2025 with a recruitment drive, resulting in a 30% increase in staff

Capital projects

The following projects were commenced/progressed with grant aid funding from Central Government:

New Fire Station Baltinglass	€3 million	expected to go to tender for construction Q1 2026
New Fire Station Dunlavin	€3 million	expected to go to tender for construction Q1 2026
New Fire Engine	€550,000	under construction for Greystones fire station
2 x new Water Tankers	€400,000	in service in Greystones and Dunlavin
New jeeps and vans	€150,000	expected delivery Q3 2026

The primary focus of the annual training programme was to maintain / refresh necessary areas of competence and a total of 2,414 days of training were recorded across the fire service.

Fire Prevention Activities

A significant number of inspections and enforcements under Fire Services Acts 1981 and 2003 were carried throughout 2025

Community Safety

A Community Fire Safety Strategy for County Wicklow was developed to provide direction in relation to 40 annual hours of community fire safety activity for each firefighter included in the 2023 WRC agreement.

In 2025, Wicklow Fire Service visited 130 dwellings carrying out fire safety checks and installing over 900 smoke alarms and 250 carbon monoxide alarms in homes throughout Wicklow.

2025 saw increased involvement in Road Safety Campaigns, including the newly developed “Just One Life” campaign delivered to Transition Year students across the county. This was followed by four (4) live Road Traffic Collision Demonstrations provided at Secondary Schools by Wicklow County Fire Service.



Approximately 4,000 primary school pupils across Wicklow also benefited from the national Fire Safety Primary Schools Programme, delivered to 2nd and 3rd class students by local firefighters. This initiative provides essential fire safety education, equipping children with the knowledge and confidence to respond appropriately in the event of a fire.

Community Fire Safety initiatives also extended beyond traditional fire prevention activities to include vital life-saving training. In 2025, Wicklow Fire Service hosted four CPR training events across the county, offering practical, hands-on instruction and essential life-saving skills.

Building Control

The Building Control Section administers the building control system and carries out inspections of active construction sites. The priority of the Building Control Officer on site is to confirm compliance with fire safety requirements, structural stability, accessibility and conservation of fuel and energy. In 2025, there was continued activity to promote a culture of compliance with regulations.

Building Control Statistics	
Commencement Notices(CN) Submitted	381
Commencement Notices (CN) Revised Information Request %	69%
Commencement Notices Validated	287
Commencement Notice New Buildings Total	365
Commencement Notice New Extension Total	152
Certificate of Compliance on Completion (CCC) Submitted	220
CCC Revised Information Request %	70%
CCC Validated	253
CCC New Builds Completed	939
CCC New Apartments Completed	300
Section 11 Enforcement Compliance Requests Issued	42
No. of BER Certificates Requested	1,239
No. of inspections overall	409

In addition staff undertook further professional development by attending a range of training courses and conferences. Building Control continue to work closely with the National Building Control & Market Surveillance Office. In 2025 Building Control hosted the Eastern Region Building Control Meeting and carried out 2 days of joint inspections with NBC&MS Office.

Integration Services

Wicklow Integration Services is comprised of several distinct and synchronised teams delivering a range of functions to support the integration of International Protection Applicants, those with Status, refugees on the Irish Refugee Protection Programme, and Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection in County Wicklow.

The Integration Team incorporates its statutory obligations under Public Sector Duty to eliminate discrimination and promote equality and protect human rights under Section 42 of the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission Act 2014.

Community Integration Forum

The Community Integration Forum grew significantly in 2025 following a plan to re-engage stakeholders and agreed a number of themes to guide the collaborative work of its network and form the basis of a CIF strategy.

These themes are: Children / Young People; Education / Employment; English Language; Therapeutic / Mental Health; Family Support; Diversity and Inclusion; Legal Welfare / Human Rights; Health / Wellbeing; Emergency/Crisis Support (to be triggered as required); IRPP.

Measurement	
No. of meetings held	9
No. and range of stakeholders attending CIF meetings.	10 - 22
No. of issues escalated to DCEDIY jointly by the CIF members	1
No. of programmes, activities and initiatives delivered collaboratively by members of the CIF	2
No. of communication initiatives launched via the CIF	1

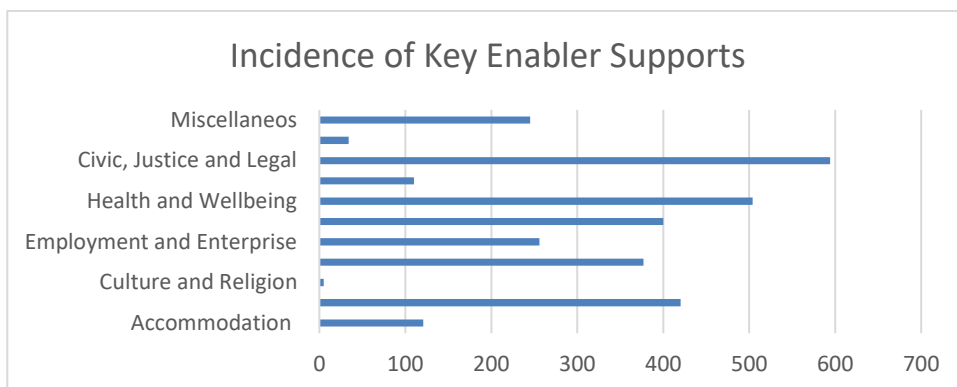


Local Authority Integration Team

The objective of the delivers support to the target cohorts via support clinics that take place in IPAS centres and other community venues, in addition to a range of programmes and events. All support activities aim to deliver outcomes related to key integration enablers as follows:

- Orientation to Ireland
- English language efficiency

- Employment
- Education/training
- Health and wellbeing
- Cultural, social and political participation
- Living with/overcoming identified vulnerabilities.



In collaboration with the CIF, the LAIT delivered a One Stop Shop event in Bray in 2025, which brought together over 20 public service providers, NGOs, and community organisations to support residents of International Protection Accommodation Service (IPAS) centres, BOTPs and other migrants living in County Wicklow.



Other collaborative initiatives resulted in delivery of a significant number of relevant training courses.

Measurement	
No. of clinics	117
No. of Programmes/Initiatives delivered	17
No. of face-to-face support sessions	887
No. of in-session interventions	1721
No. of follow up interventions	1345
No. of IPAs met	736
No. of people with status met	65
Updated Coordination Model	Complete
No of meetings with IPAS centre managers	20
No. of stakeholder events	1
No. of co-delivered clinics	10
Prioritisation assessment complete and up to date	Complete

No. of Information Emails sent	3585
Up to date deletion of data as per GDPR	Complete
No. of outcome reports sent to DOJHAM	4

Ukrainian Response - The 2025 Ukrainian response delivered by the Wicklow Integration Service primarily focused on provision of accommodation.

Offer a Home Programme - We continued to facilitate access to OAH in line with the Temporary Protection Directive and requirements of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. In 2025 we received 223 requests from BOTPs seeking accommodation via the programme, however only received a total of 8 new pledges from homeowners. One of these was withdrawn and one was assessed as unsuitable, leaving only 6 new licences created in the year.

The Offer a Home licences mediated by the service were as follows:

MD	Licences facilitated in 2025	No. of active licences by Y/end
Wicklow	3	15
Arklow	33	18
Baltinglass	57	14
Greystones	13	4
Bray	7	4
Total	145	55



FINANCE, WATER & INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Information Systems

The Information Systems Section is responsible for the maintenance and support of Wicklow County Council's Information and Communication Technology (ICT) infrastructure, including the Council's business systems, server infrastructure, data network and computing devices.

The Section is dedicated to ensuring the reliable and secure delivery of ICT services that support the Councils' operation. Over the past year, the Section has continued to enhance the Council's ICT infrastructure, supporting systems and security posture. The security of all ICT systems and infrastructure is of paramount importance and will remain a key priority in 2026.

Key achievements for 2025 include:

Provision of ICT Support for Staff and Elected Members

- The ICT service desk responded to over 10,000 ICT helpdesk tickets from staff and Elected Members.
- Support was provided for the provision and maintenance of laptops, PCs, mobile phones and tablets for staff and Elected Members.
- The IS Section facilitated and supported the delivery of Hybrid meetings throughout the year.

ICT Infrastructure

- Continued enhancement of the Council's core ICT Infrastructure to improve performance, reliability and security.
- Decommissioning of legacy data storage and networking solutions.
- Delivery of enhanced data security and protection policies and supporting processes.
- Enhanced network performance and protection from external and internal threats.
- Provision of upgraded network solutions for sites including Clermont, Arklow MD, Wicklow MD and County Buildings.

Applications

- Supported business critical applications across the Council.
- Supported a 'digital first' culture.
- Supported the testing and onboarding of a new National Planning System.
- Supported the upgrading and enhanced securing of the Housing Department's System, iHouse.
- Supported delivery of the initial stages of the National Finance Management System Modernisation Programme.
- Continued to support the Housing Department and Municipal Districts with the adoption of the Council's new enhanced Housing asset management project.
- Supported the testing and onboarding stages of the new National Register of Electors System.
- Completed a public tender process to identify suitable Microsoft Certified Partners to assist with the enhancement of the Council's Microsoft 365 environment and the delivery of secure Microsoft Modern Workplace solutions.
- Enhanced ICT asset management processes and supporting solutions.

- Continued engagement with, and support of, Regional & National ICT projects and initiatives.

Geographical Information Systems (GIS)

- Promoted innovation and transparency through the publication of Open Data.

Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT)

- Provided GIS and data management support for the implementation of the Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT) in line with national legislation and Departmental guidance. Supported the Planning Section in the identification, mapping, review and publication of lands subject to RZLT.
- Key work undertaken during 2025 included the preparation and maintenance of spatial datasets identifying lands potentially liable for RZLT, ensuring accuracy, consistency and legislative compliance. Statutory RZLT maps were prepared for public display and consultation and published through the Council’s online mapping platforms. Updates to mapping and datasets were managed in response to submissions, exclusions and zoning changes as the process evolved.
- Supported public engagement by providing clear and accessible online mapping to assist landowners and members of the public in understanding RZLT designations. Technical support was also provided in responding to queries during consultation periods.

Consultation Hub for Local Area Plans (LAPs)

- Played a key role in the setup, administration and ongoing support of the Council’s online Consultation Hub for Local Area Plans. This work supported statutory planning processes and enhanced public access to planning information.
- Consultation materials, including maps, reports and supporting documents, were published to the Consultation Hub for multiple LAPs during 2025. Interactive web maps were developed and maintained to support public understanding of zoning proposals, objectives and constraints.
- Technical support was provided to Planning and Communications teams throughout Draft and Final Plan consultation stages, ensuring that online engagement processes operated smoothly and in compliance with statutory requirements. The use of digital consultation tools reduced reliance on paper-based methods and improved accessibility and transparency for the public.

“Call for Sites” Engagement Hub

- Supported the delivery of “Call for Sites” processes through the Council’s online engagement platform, facilitating digital submission of sites by landowners, developers and other stakeholders.
- Engagement hubs were configured and published to allow users to identify site locations using interactive maps and submit site information in a structured and consistent format. Submitted spatial data was validated and integrated into internal GIS systems to support assessment and review by the Planning Section.
- Worked closely with Planning and IS colleagues to address technical issues, improve usability and ensure the engagement process was efficient, transparent and accessible to the public.

Wicklow County Food Environment Map

- Provided GIS and data support for the development of the Wicklow County Food Environment Map in cooperation with Bray and North Wicklow Area Partnership. This initiative supported the Council's role in addressing social inclusion, community wellbeing and evidence-based policy development.
- Work undertaken during 2025 included the compilation, management and spatial analysis of multiple datasets relating to food access and food environments across the county. This included mapping of food retail outlets, community food supports and relevant socio-economic indicators to identify areas of potential food access disadvantage.
- Interactive mapping outputs were developed to support internal analysis and cross-departmental collaboration, enabling services to better understand spatial patterns and inform decision-making. The project supported collaboration with relevant internal stakeholders and external partners by providing a clear spatial evidence base to inform policy, planning and targeted interventions.

Nutrient Management Plans

- Provided GIS and data support to assist in the preparation and assessment of Nutrient Management Plans, supporting environmental protection, agricultural sustainability and regulatory compliance.
- During 2025, spatial datasets were prepared and maintained to support the assessment of nutrient management proposals, including land parcel mapping and environmental constraints. Mapping outputs were used to support internal review processes and ensure consistency and accuracy in the interpretation of submitted plans. This work supported interdepartmental collaboration and contributed to informed decision-making in relation to water quality, land management and environmental protection objectives, in line with national regulations and best practice.

Broadband Officer/Digital Strategy

- Championed the use of technologies and innovation to ensure we are more agile in our use of technologies so that we deliver more customer-driven innovative services.
- Supported the implementation of the National Digital Strategy, Harnessing Digital and the Local Government Digital and ICT Strategy, *Digital Local Government: Working for Everyone*. Co-ordinated LGMA survey requests to assess the digital maturity of Wicklow County Council services. Held workshops within Wicklow County Council on the four pillars of LGMA's Local Government Digital and ICT Strategy 2030: Digital Communities, Digital Services, Digital Systems, Digital Workforce
- Acted as single point of contact for engagement with the Department and telecommunications operators in the delivery of telecommunications infrastructure, including the National Broadband Plan (NBP), in Wicklow.
- Attended all relevant Broadband related meetings as required by the Council and actively coordinated, supported and delivered on the requirements of the various Council substructures set up to assist in the delivery of the NBP.
- Analysed the operational impact of EU regulations and supported the Gigabit Infrastructure Act (GIA) and Digital Networks Act (DNA).

- Facilitated the software, hardware and backhaul upgrades for the Broadband Connection Points (BCPs) in County Wicklow.
- Supported better mobile and fixed line broadband coverage by unlocking broadband delivery issues and by working with fixed and mobile network operators
- Encouraged the take-up of fibre based broadband and the migration from legacy copper-based connections in preparation for copper switch off and diminishing support for products like ISDN.

ARKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

District Members:

Cathaoirleach:	Cllr. Miriam Murphy (Ind)
Leas-Cathaoirleach:	Cllr. Sylvester Bourke (FG)
Members:	Cllr. Pat Fitzgerald (FF)
	Cllr. Pat Kennedy (FF)
	Cllr. Peir Leonard (IND)
	Cllr. Warren O'Toole (SF)

Arklow Municipal District (AMD) covers 26% of roads in County Wicklow (598 KM) being the second highest District in the County. AMD includes Arklow town, Aughrim, Rathdrum, Avoca, Redcross, Ballinaclash, Glenmalure and Annacurra.

District Meetings

The Members of Arklow Municipal District hold their District Meetings in “The McElheron Chamber” on the second Wednesday of each month at 3.30pm, with the exception of August when there is no meeting. The schedule of meetings is approved at each Annual Meeting.

Restoration Improvement

- R-754 Avoca Village
- L-29013 Laffin's Lane
- L-6147 Ballymorris Lower
- L-29013 Castlepark
- L-7137 Ballymanus-Reddenagh
- L-2143 Aughrim-Ballinglen
- L-6644 Ballinaclash-Ballard
- L-5665 Kilmacrea Pass
- L-5163 Templelyon

Restoration Maintenance

- R-753 Aughrim to Ballinaclash.
- L-97532-0 Tinakilly to Three Wells.
- L-97531-0 Tinakilly Lower to R-753.
- L-97533-5 Tinakilly to Cloneen.
- L-2140-0 Ballyshane to Greenane.
- L-7136-0 Cappagh-Coolballintaggart.
- L-97552-0 Knockrath.
- L-2120-0 Garryduff to Rathdrum.
- L-2116-0 Drumdangan – Barnbawn.
- L-5118-0 Drumdangan-Kilcandra.
- L-6117-0 Ballinakill-Bahana.
- L-2190 Coolgreany Road to Curranstown.

- L-6187 Moneylane to Kish.

Local Improvement Schemes/Community Involvement Schemes

Eight Local Improvement scheme were completed in the District in 2025
One Community Involvement Scheme completed.

Other projects within Arklow Municipal District

- Abbey Cemetery – Trees assessed and maintained, railings cleaned and painted,
- Cathaoirleach Awards – John Keenan, Referee received an award for his contribution to Sport in the district.
- Twinning Visit with exchange students from Wurzburg Students and Arklow Schools
- Collaboration with Arklow Christmas Festival Committee
- New Heritage Signage installed Towns and Villages
- Seaview Avenue - Mini Driving School installed
- Communication Boards – installed in playgrounds throughout district
- Seaview Avenue Masterplan –development of plan in progress
- Rathdrum Part 8 – advertised and currently being reviewed
- St. Marys Park – Repairs and upgrade to bandstand and fountain
- Castlemacadam Graveyard – resurfacing works to car park
- Footpath renewals including Croghan View, Main Street Arklow and
- Public Realm furniture replaced and upgraded throughout the district

Community Sector

- Number of Press Releases issued 2025 = 3
- Estate Development Grants were awarded to 14 successful Residents Associations
- Awarding of Festival Funding to 11 Festival Committees.
- Number of Roundabouts in Sponsorship Agreements = 8
- Arklow Community CCTV – 35 requests received.

Michael Dwyer 200

The Michael Dwyer 200 programme was a year-long programme, culminating in a two-day weekend event for Heritage Week on 23rd- 25th August featuring a seminar, re-enactment and heritage tour. Several legacy outputs from the programme include a podcast, printed and digital education pack, new map guide, commemorative artwork and poetry, videos and special edition library card. In keeping with the aims of the County Wicklow Heritage Plan to use heritage as a catalyst to embed community engagement and cohesion, the aim of this programme was to highlight the unique cultural heritage associated with Dwyer, and to engage local communities in celebrating this heritage to increase awareness, place making and pride of place.

Arklow Municipal District worked in partnership with Wicklow Heritage Officer and Archivist to set up a steering group to plan and deliver an ambitious and inclusive commemoration of Michael Dwyer, the 'Wicklow Chief' to mark the bicentenary of his death in Australia in 1825.

Town Team Initiatives

The mission of Arklow Town Team is to contribute to the improvement in the quality of life for people living in Arklow and enhance the attractiveness of the Town as a place in which to live, work, visit and invest.

- The Flower Basket Scheme continued in 2025. A total number of 125 baskets were purchased. Local businesses and Arklow MD kindly sponsored the flower baskets this year. The scheme enhances and improves the image of the Main Street.
- Little Christmas – Ladies lunch in Woodenbridge, proceeds of raffle went to Wicklow Hospice
- Application made for TVRS for upgrade and development of St. Mary's Park
- Community Recognition fund – Replacement and enhancement to St. Peter's Playground
- As Darragh Did – installation of sensory friendly playground equipment.
- A very successful Halloween Festival event which took place in Arklow Library.

Tidy Towns Committees

There are 5 active Tidy Town Committees in Arklow MD – Arklow, Aughrim, Rathdrum, Avoca. Arklow Municipal District acknowledges that the great effort by teams of volunteers around the District who work hand in hand with Council staff. This effort is reflected in the continued successes achieved in the IBAL and the Tidy Towns competitions.

BALTINGLASS MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

District Members

- Cathaoirleach:** Cllr. Avril Cronin (FG)
- Leas-Cathaoirleach:** Cllr. Jason Mulhall (IND)
- Members:** Cllr. Gerry O’Neill (IND)
Cllr. Peter Stapleton (FG)
Cllr. Pat Mahon (FG)
Cllr. Patsy Glennon (FF)

Municipal District Staff

- District Manager:** Theresa O’Brien
- District Engineer:** Patrick Byrne
- Tinahely Area Engineer:** Dermot Graham
- District Administrator:** Liam Cullen

Patrick Burke (Blessington Area Office)

District Meetings

Monthly Meetings are held at 10.30 a.m. on the fourth Monday of each month (third Monday if the fourth Monday is a public holiday) at 10.30 a.m. – no meeting in August. Meetings are usually held in Civic Offices in Blessington. The schedule of meetings is approved at each Annual Meeting.

General

Baltinglass Municipal District includes the towns of Baltinglass, Blessington, Carnew and the villages of Coolboy, Dunlavin, Donard, Knockananna, Tinahely, Manor Kilbride and Shillelagh. The population of the Municipal District is 25,267 (18%). Baltinglass Municipal District covers 45% (352 square miles) of the area of Wicklow and 40% (943 km) of the county’s roads.

Baltinglass Municipal District has two Area Offices in Blessington and Tinahely – Public Counters are open to the Public from 9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. and from 2.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m., Monday to Friday. The Motor Tax Office is open in Blessington Civic Offices on Tuesdays from 9.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and from 2.00 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. and provides a valuable service to the local area.

The regular functions that the District provided included local authority housing maintenance and repair, road maintenance and improvement, street cleaning, outdoor maintenance and grass cutting, drain clearing, maintenance of burial grounds, school traffic warden services, public convenience maintenance and maintenance of playgrounds.

Members of staff continued to work with Tidy Towns groups in the District. The efforts of the many volunteers whose hard work and dedication was reflected in the success of local villages and towns in the Irish Business Against Litter (IBAL) and the Wicklow County Council Tidy Towns, Estates and Environmental Awards.

Estate Development Grants were awarded to nineteen successful Residents Associations to help in the upkeep of the green areas of the various Wicklow County Council housing estates throughout the District.

The Elected Members of Baltinglass Municipal District provided Discretionary Funding to various projects:

Municipal District Housing Functions

Baltinglass MD carried out works to 24 re-let properties, with 19 completed during 2025 and the remaining properties on track for completion by early February 2026. The Housing Section adopted a targeted approach, permitting works only on priority properties in order to reduce the number of empty voids across the County. In 2025, a total of 18 Disabled Persons Grants (DPGs) were completed by the end of September. In addition, Baltinglass MD delivered some big planned maintenance works, including the installation of new fascia, soffits, and gutters, to housing estates in Beechwood Drive, Tinahely, and Ballyconnell.

Christmas Lights

Contributory funding of 7k for Christmas Lights was provided to sixteen community groups around the Baltinglass Municipal District.

Festival Funding

Contributory funding of 13k for festivals held within the District was provided to fourteen community groups around the Baltinglass Municipal District. The aim of the funding is to support groups holding social and cultural events within their local communities.

Twinning

Baltinglass Municipal District continued its support for the Coollattin Canadian Connection, the O'Neill City Nebraska twinning project and Castel Maggiore

Community Recognition Fund

Baltinglass MD received funding from the Government's Community Recognition Fund. Projects funded included

- Development of a multi-use games area in Dunlavin €144,00
- Upgrade works in Imaal Hall, Dunlavin €60,800
- Resurfacing of the greenway trail from the AVON to Russelstown Car Park €140,000

Other Projects completed in 2025

- Baltinglass Town Park
- Refurbishment of Picnic area at Kilcavan Gap, Carnew
- Ballygobban Road Wet Mix Road Recycling
- Curravanish Culvert Replacement on the R747

- Ballyknockan Village flood Relief Scheme
- N81 Hollywood Bus stop facilities and traffic calming
- Blessington Inner Relief Road (BIRR) Northern Section

BRAY MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

District Members

Cathaoirleach: Cllr. Dermot O'Brien (until June 2025)
Cllr. Erika Doyle (from June 2025)

Leas-Cathaoirleach: Cllr. Erika Doyle (until June 2025)
Cllr. Melanie Corrigan (from June 2025)

Members: Cllr. Joe Behan (IND)
Cllr. Melanie Corrigan (FG)
Cllr. Erika Doyle (GP)
Cllr. Ned Whealan (FG)
Cllr. Ian Neary (II)
Cllr. Dermot O'Brien (SF)
Cllr. Caroline Winstanley (SD)
Cllr. Malachi Duddy (IND)

Municipal District Staff:

District Manager: Jackie Carroll
District Administrator: Brian Wildes
A/District Engineer: Stephen Fox

Population: 32,600

Bray Municipal District covers 180km of roads in County Wicklow.

The offices of the Municipal District are situated on Bray Main Street, Civic Centre.

District Meetings

The members of Bray Municipal District hold their district meetings on the first Tuesday of each month (unless there is a Bank Holiday when it is the 2nd Tuesday) at 6.30pm with the exception of August when there is no meeting. The schedule of meetings is approved at each Annual Meeting.

Bagatelle Bench

Local Band Bagatelle was honoured in Bray with the launch of 'Bagatelle Bench' September 2025. The bench was supported by local councillors discretionary funding and there was a great turn out

on the day from the public, friends of Bagatelle and local councillors.



Bog Meadow Playground

Works continued on the playground at Bog Meadow, Enniskerry with the sod turning taking place in March 2024. These works were substantially completed in 2025 and the playground will officially open in 2026.



Refurbishment of Town Hall

The Town Hall/Council Chamber, where Bray MD hosts monthly MD meetings, Civic Receptions and other events, underwent a total refurbishment. This included a repaint, new radiators being installed and new carpets.



Bray's town twinning programme is designed to encourage friendship, cultural understanding, and shared growth across borders while also promoting tourism and trade. Bray enhances its role as a welcoming, globally connected community through these partnerships.

Bray is twinned with the towns of Bègles in France (its first European Twinning Partnership), Dublin California and Würzburg in Germany.

Bègles In August 2025 Bray was delighted to welcome a delegation from Begles in France who were here to honour the 30th year of their partnership with Bray Municipal District.



Dublin California, USA

A delegation from Dublin California travelled to Bray in September 2025 to visit the town and were hosted by Bray MD members as a welcome to Bray.

Events

Bray Municipal District continues to support events such as the Bray Air Show, St Patrick's Festival and Christmas in Bray.



GREYSTONES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

Cathaoirleach:	Cllr. Lourda Scott (GP)
Leas-Cathaoirleach:	Cllr. Mark Barry (SD)
Members:	Cllr. Louise Fenelon Gaskin (FG)
	Cllr. Orla Finn (IND)
	Cllr. Tom Fortune (IND)
	Cllr. Stephen Stokes (IND)

District Manager:	Helena Dennehy – Director of Services		
District Engineer:	Graham Cullen		
District Administrator:	Tawnia Kearns		
Executive Engineer	John McGee	Technician:	Neil Kiernan

Greystones Municipal District covers the following areas: Greystones, Delgany, Kilcoole, Newcastle and Killadreenan-NTMK. Greystones Municipal District covers 6.5% of roads in Co. Wicklow (64,840 KM). The number of social housing units within the district is, in excess of 700.

Council Meetings are held at the Civic Office, on the last Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm, except during the month of August when there is no meeting.

Received presentations from: Greystones Town Team, Sporting Greystones, WCC Public Lighting Team, Newcastle Community Forum, WCC Active Travel Team, St Anthony's Football Club, UN Veterans Association, Whale Theatre Group.

The work of the district is wide and varied and includes the following:

- Social housing maintenance requests and re-lets Road maintenance requests.
- Road, footpath and cycle lane improvement schemes.
- Maintenance of outdoor recreational areas such as parks and playgrounds.
- Street cleaning and waste management.

Projects at different stages of progress funded by the Department of Transport

National Transport Authority - Active Travel Projects

- Greystones Local Transport Plan
- Delgany Village Accessibility Scheme
- Greystones Active Travel - Pathfinder Project – Lr Church Road completed in 2025
- Greystones Active Travel Pathfinder Scheme – Section 5 Charlesland Dual Carriageway
- Lr Kindlestown Road Cycle Scheme
- Convent Road Active Travel Scheme
- Kilcoole Road Pedestrian & Cyclist Improvements
- Safe Routes to School Scheme: Blacklion School Campus completed

Footpath Renewal Works

Bellevue Hill footpath provided and infrastructure put in place for public lighting. (Extra funding to install public lighting has been approved by the NTA).

Restoration Improvement Scheme Works completed in 2025

- Windgates Greystones
- Newcastle Road North, which included additional road markings
- Newcastle Road South, which included drainage works
- Main Street Kilcoole
- Hillside Road Greystones
- Kindlestown Upper Road North

Local Improvement Schemes

- Downhill, Kilpeddar
- Leabeg Lane, Newcastle
- Crowe Abbey, Greystones

Restoration Maintenance

- Kilquade Road
- Ballyronan Road
- Sea Road, Newcastle

Road Safety Improvement Works

Improvement of the junction of the L-1028 Windgates Road/Templecarrig Road with the L-5028 Templecarrig Lower Road. Improved vehicle passing space and sightlines.

Local Property Tax funded schemes

Bayview Close Kilcoole – footpath renewal scheme.

Kenmare Heights Greystones - footpath renewal at location prone to flooding.

Greystones Municipal District Supported the following events during 2025

- Christmas Lights contributions were made to Delgany, Kilcoole, Newcastle and Greystones.
- Tidy Towns contributions were made to Delgany, Greystones, Kilcoole, Killincarrig & Newcastle
- Kilcoole Music Festival & Wicklow Pride Festival.
- St Patricks Day Parade and a prize giving ceremony in Greystones Civic Office.
- Contribution made towards the production of a calendar through the Sustainable Development Goals.

Other Achievements

- South Beach Greystones retained its Blue Flag status in 2025. Additional temporary toilet units were provided for the bathing season from June to September.
- Supported the retail and business sector by approving two free parking in Greystones on the four Saturdays in the run up to Christmas.
- Reception to host to our twinning town Holyhead, Wales in the Civic Office, held in November 2025 and included councillors, council officials, the Holyhead Voice Choir & Southstack Lighthouse members
- Estate Development grants totalling €10,000 were distributed to estates throughout the district
- Rollout of ebikes scheme in Greystones

Community Recognition Fund (DRCG)

€160,000 awarded to Greystones MD for upgrade works to the Newcastle Playground

Capital Grant Funding Scheme for Play and Recreation 2025 scheme (DCDE)

€18,442.00 awarded Greystones MD with match funding of €4,605.50 (25%) for a total budget of €23,047.50 for the replacement and reinstallation of key inclusive and accessible play equipment at the South Beach Playground

Response to severe weather events

Greystones MD responded to severe weather events, deploying sandbags to residents at risk of flooding, clearing gullies, clearing fallen trees and repairing damage sustained to the road network.

Other works carried out in the district

- Repair of footpaths in Kilquade Hill estate and Hillside estate.
- Construction of a new zebra crossing on Sea Road in Kilcoole.
- Upgrade of path between Darcy's Field and the start of the Cliff Walk.

St Patrick's Day Winners Awards: Greystones Civic Office, March 2025



Twinning Reception: Greystones Civic Office, November 2025



Before and after photos of the path upgrade between Darcy's Field and the start of the Cliff Walk



Construction of new zebra crossing on Sea Road in Kilcoole



Before and after photos of the Kenmare Heights footpath renewal scheme at location prone to flooding

WICKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



Cathaoirleach: Cllr. Graham Richmond (FG)

Leas-Cathaoirleach: Cllr. Paul O'Brien (LAB)

Elected Members: Cllr. John Snell (IND)

Cllr. Gail Dunne (FF)

Cllr. Shane Langrell (FG)

Cllr. Danny Alvey (SD)

MD Staff: District Manager - Brian Gleeson

T/District Engineer - William Halligan

District Administrator - Georgina Franey

Wicklow Municipal District covers an area of 43,240 hectares which includes the County Town of Wicklow, Rathnew, Ashford, Roundwood, Glenealy, Laragh, Glendalough and Newtownmountkennedy.

The regular functions that Wicklow Municipal District provides include local authority house maintenance, road maintenance and improvement, street cleaning, maintenance of parks and open spaces, operation & maintenance of Brittas Bay North & South Beaches and car parks, drain clearing, maintenance of burial grounds, public convenience maintenance and maintenance of playgrounds. The District has responsibility for over 500 kilometres of road and the repair and the maintenance of almost 1,200 local authority houses in the district. 900 housing repairs were completed in the year.

The population of Wicklow Town census 2022 was 12,957 and the overall population of the Municipal District is 32,537 which accounts for more than 21% of the population of the County.

The Members of Wicklow Municipal District hold their meetings on the fourth Monday of each month (third Monday if the fourth Monday is a public holiday) at 3:00 p.m. with the exception of August when there is no meeting held.

Projects completed by Wicklow Municipal District in 2025

- New footpath at Merrymeeting Hill, Rathnew completed.
- Further defibrillators were purchased from the Elected Members Discretionary fund and distributed to housing estates across the District.
- Footpath linking St Ernan's and St Brigid's Terrace on the R772 completed.
- Wicklow Seafront Toilets – refurbishment completed and new automatic doors installed.
- Extensive repairs to the Handball Alley completed.
- The Part 8 in respect of the proposed development of the Murrough Waterfront Park, Wicklow Town was approved by the Elected Members.
- The Murrough Pumpbike track, Ireland's largest pumpbike track was completed.
- Additional carparking provided at Wicklow Heights.
- Paved Parking Area and Pedestrian Crossing installed at Roundwood Playground.
- Annual Roads Programme completed through restoration improvement works, restoration maintenance works, drainage and climate adaption works.
- L5099 Rockey Road Specific Improvement Project completed.
- Vehicle activated signage erected at various locations.
- Installation of safety barriers at numerous locations across the District.
- Footpath works and road marking carried out.
- New Eco toilets installed at Derrybawn, Magheramore & Vartry Trails carparks.
- Purchase of lands at Magheramore Beach to secure continued public access.
- Pedestrian crossing completed at the Friary, Wicklow Town.
- New running trail opened at the Hawkstown Road site.

Twining

Members of Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann travelled to Montigny-le-Bretonneux, France in May 2025, following an invitation from Le Maire, Lorrain Merkaert, to perform in concert to celebrate European Culture Day.

The Wicklow Male Voice Choir travelled to Eichenzell, Germany in June 2025 to participate in a concert to celebrate the anniversary of the Eichenzell Choirs. The group were accompanied by a small delegation from Wicklow Municipal District and the Twining Committee.

Both events received funding from the elected members.

The Wicklow Municipal District Members continued to support the Tidy Towns committees, the Town Teams, filming productions and a large variety of festivals across the district. The Municipal District also administer the Estate Development grants for the Wicklow District.



Handball Alley refurbishment



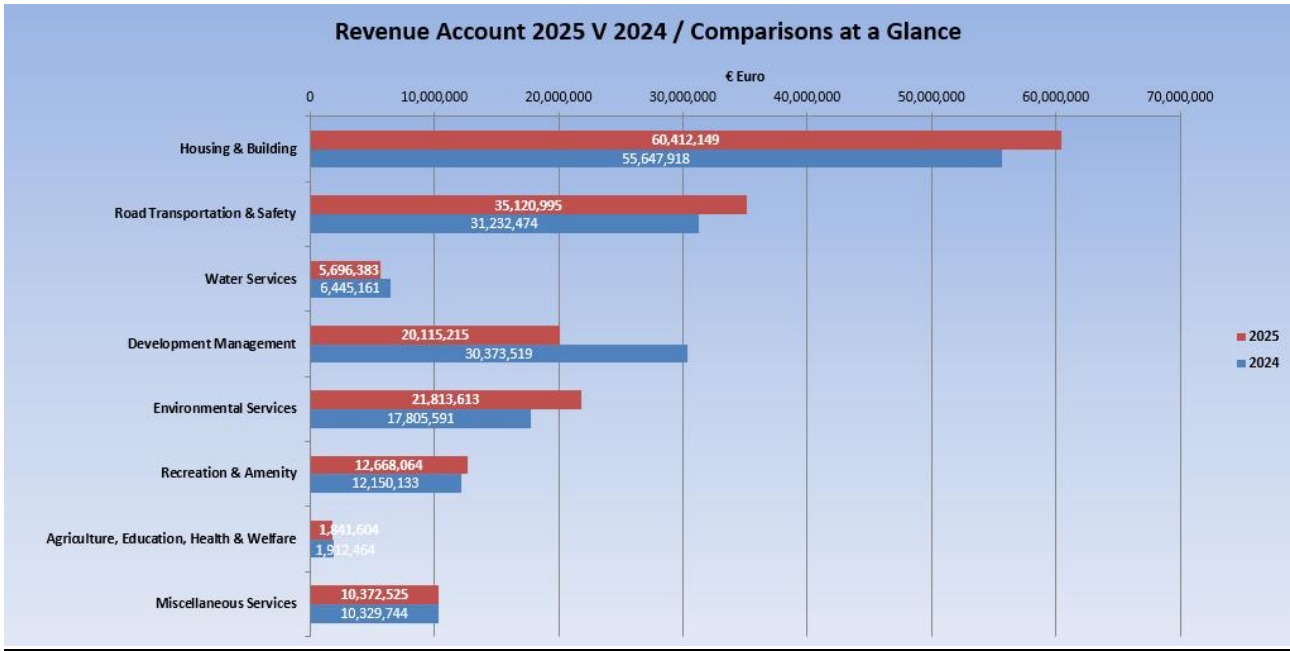
Male Voice Choir visit to Eichenzell



Rocky Road opening

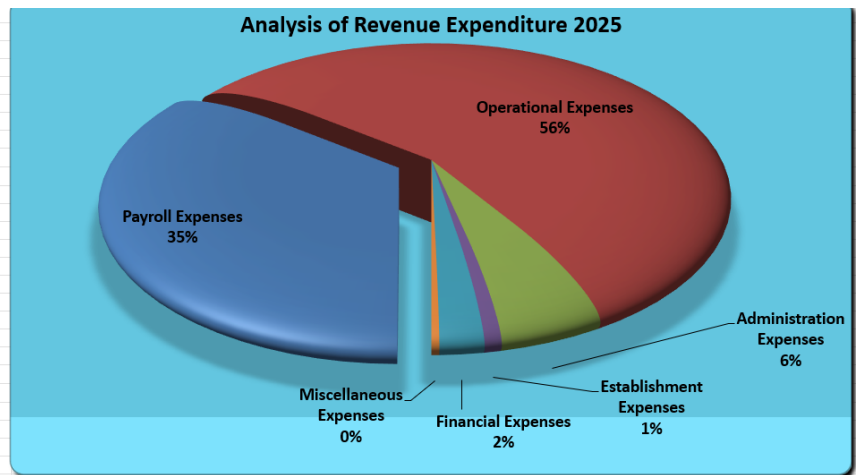
FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Financial Statement				
The Income and Expenditure Statement summarises all revenue related receipts and expenditure. It shows the surplus/deficit for the year.				
Income And Expenditure Account Statement For The Year Ended 31st December 2025				
Expenditure By Division	Gross Expenditure 2025	Income 2025	Net Expenditure 2025	Net Expenditure 2024
	€	€	€	€
Housing & Building	60,412,149	59,667,425	744,724	1,597,799
Road Transportation & Safety	35,120,995	22,505,361	12,615,634	11,136,237
Water Services	5,696,383	5,319,904	376,479	435,957
Development Management	20,115,215	10,666,894	9,448,321	8,039,569
Environmental Services	21,813,613	5,605,943	16,207,670	13,677,427
Recreation & Amenity	12,668,064	1,587,924	11,080,140	10,749,891
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	1,841,604	777,423	1,064,181	906,622
Miscellaneous Services	10,372,525	16,150,911	(5,778,386)	(3,414,315)
Total Expenditure/Income	168,040,548	122,281,785		
Net Cost Of Divisions to be funded from Rates and Local Government Fund			45,758,763	43,129,187
Rates			32,979,018	31,390,927
Local Property Tax			17,200,470	16,880,701
Surplus/(Deficit) for year before Transfers			4,420,725	5,142,441
Transfers From/(To) Reserves			(4,373,866)	(4,541,770)
Overall Surplus/(Deficit) for Year			46,858	600,671
General Reserve @ 1st January			2,782	(597,890)
General Reserve @ 31st December			49,640	2,782
Capital Account Statement of Balances				
			2025	2024
			€	€
Housing & Building			(12,487,427)	(12,210,356)
Road Transportation & Safety			24,249,158	36,985,832
Water Services			6,335,116	6,760,795
Development Incentives & Control			64,738,651	58,018,087
Environmental Protection			(4,635,816)	(4,260,881)
Recreation & Amenity			(3,302,756)	(1,466,601)
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare			2,225,465	2,069,769
Miscellaneous			6,311,917	10,918,102
Total			83,434,307	96,814,747
Balance Sheet For The Year Ended 31st December 2025				
			2025	2024
			€	€
Fixed Assets				
Operational			1,378,551,251	1,321,655,595
Infrastructural			1,556,388,313	1,547,729,354
Community			23,161,701	22,609,760
Non-Operational			220,010	220,010
			2,958,321,274	2,892,214,719
Work In Progress And Preliminary Expenses			65,422,089	84,027,607
Long Term Debtors			159,954,786	141,746,824
Current Assets				
Stock				
Trade Debtors And Prepayments			41,842,508	52,188,826
Bank Investments			65,001,838	87,346,313
Cash at Bank			42,466,981	13,906,642
Cash in Transit			400	400
			149,311,727	153,442,181
Current Liabilities				
Bank Overdraft				
Creditors & Accruals			38,006,981	33,509,982
Finance Leases				
			38,006,981	33,509,982
Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)			111,304,746	119,932,199
Creditors (Amounts greater than one year)				
Loans Payable			53,196,855	55,353,006
Finance Leases			-	-
Refundable Deposits			32,110,655	27,491,097
Other			126,261,624	107,762,692
			211,569,134	190,606,795
Net Assets / (Liabilities)			3,083,433,762	3,047,314,554
Represented By				
Capitalisation			2,958,321,274	2,892,214,719
Income WIP			71,035,021	79,365,155
General Revenue Reserve			49,640	2,782
Other Specific Reserves				
Other Balances			54,027,827	75,731,899
Total Reserves			3,083,433,762	3,047,314,555

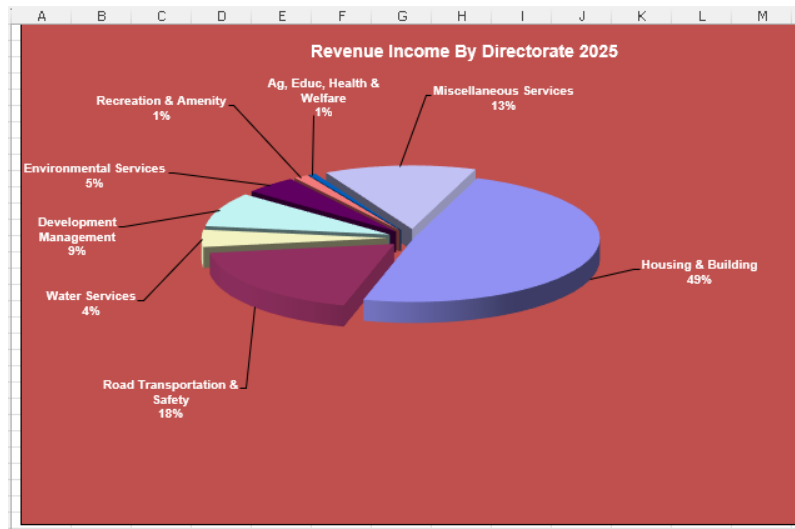
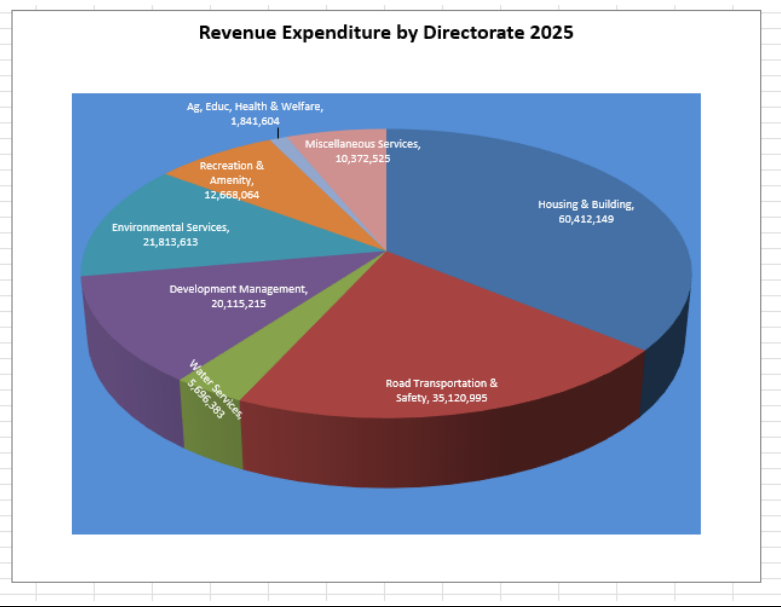


	2024	2025
Miscellaneous Services	10,329,744	10,372,525
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	1,912,464	1,841,604
Recreation & Amenity	12,150,133	12,668,064
Environmental Services	17,805,591	21,813,613
Development Management	30,373,519	20,115,215
Water Services	6,445,161	5,696,383
Road Transportation & Safety	31,232,474	35,120,995
Housing & Building	55,647,918	60,412,149
Total Expenditure	165.897.003	168.040.548

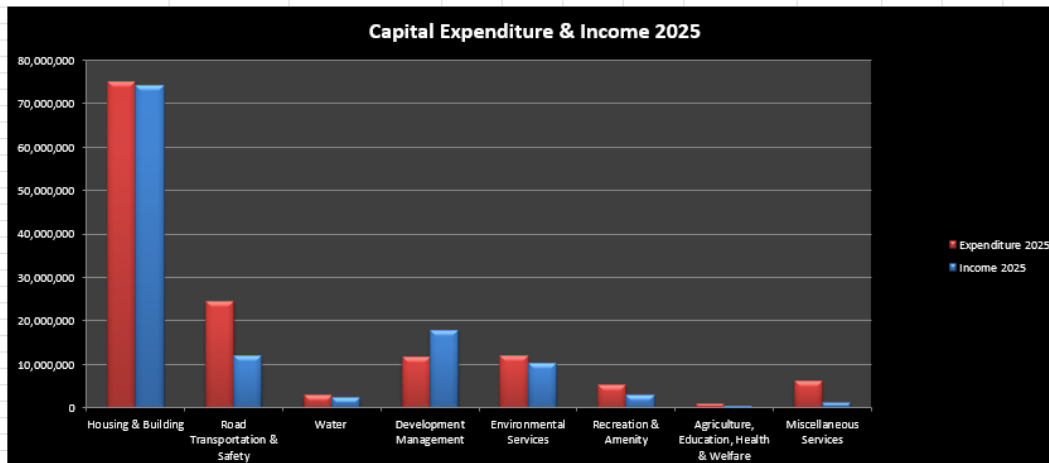
Revenue Income		2025
Analysis of Revenue Income		€
State Grants & Subsidies		81,290,326
Contributions from other LA's		4,320,440
Goods & Services		36,671,018
Local Property Tax		17,200,470
Rates		32,979,018
Total Revenue Income		172,461,272
Revenue Expenditure		2025
Analysis of Revenue Expenditure		€
Payroll Expenses		59,582,402
Operational Expenses		93,230,472
Administration Expenses		9,212,475
Establishment Expenses		1,479,512
Financial Expenses		3,855,173
Miscellaneous Expenses		680,513
Total Revenue Expenditure		168,040,548



Rev Expenditure	2025	
Housing & Building	60,412,149	
Road Transportation & Safety	35,120,995	
Water Services	5,696,383	
Development Management	20,115,215	
Environmental Services	21,813,613	
Recreation & Amenity	12,668,064	
Ag, Educ, Health & Welfare	1,841,604	
Miscellaneous Services	10,372,525	
		168,040,548
Rev Income		
Housing & Building	59,667,425	
Road Transportation & Safety	22,505,361	
Water Services	5,319,904	
Development Management	10,666,894	
Environmental Services	5,605,943	
Recreation & Amenity	1,587,924	
Ag, Educ, Health & Welfare	777,423	
Miscellaneous Services	16,150,911	
		122,281,785



	Expenditure 2025	Income 2025		Expenditure 2024	Income 2024
Housing & Building	75,098,376	74,106,159		Housing	53,971,864
Road Transportation & Safety	24,404,028	11,944,325		Road Tr.	19,188,957
Water	2,956,816	2,351,138		Water	2,018,511
Development Management	11,807,772	17,926,738		Develop	16,077,843
Environmental Services	12,061,227	10,366,163		Environr	12,429,275
Recreation & Amenity	5,221,609	2,889,552		Recreat	6,979,431
Agriculture, Education, Health & Wellf	979,360	528,757		Agricult	388,013
Miscellaneous Services	6,225,664	1,122,352		Miscella	1,361,526
Total Expenditure	138,754,852	121,235,184		Total Ex	112,415,420



WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL STATEMENT OF INTERNAL FINANCIAL CONTROL (SIFC)

Introduction

I, Emer O’Gorman, Chief Executive (CE) of Wicklow County Council am responsible for the annual financial statement (AFS), prepared by the Director of Finance, in accordance with the accounting code of practice issued by the Minister under section 107 of the Local Government Act, 2001.

I certify that the unaudited financial statements of Wicklow County Council for the year ended 31 December 2025, are in agreement with the books of account and have been prepared in accordance with the accounting requirements of the Minister of Housing Local Government and Heritage.

The AFS is subject to external audit, by an auditor of the Local Government Audit Service, whose purpose is to form an independent opinion of the accounts and state whether the annual financial statement presents *fairly the financial position* of the local authority and of its income and expenditure for the period in question, and whether the transactions of the local authority under which they purport to have been carried out.

The AFS reports on the day-to-day activity of Wicklow County Council in the form of the Statement of Comprehensive Income & Expenditure, summarised by Division. The Statement of Financial Position outlines the Wicklow County Council overall financial position as of the 31st of December 2025.

The *Statement of Comprehensive Income* represents expenditure and income on the day-to-day running of the Wicklow County Council.

The key sources of income for Wicklow County Council are as follows:

	Current Year	Previous Year
	€	€
Goods & Services	36,671,018	35,154,309
Contributions from other LAs	4,320,440	3,379,291
Grants & Subsidies	81,290,326	84,234,216
Rates	32,979,018	31,390,927
Local Property Tax	17,200,470	16,880,701

Activity on the Income and Expenditure account for 2025 is as follows:

Income in 2025 has increased by c.€1.4m versus prior year.

	Current Year	Previous Year
	€	€
Income	172,461,272	171,039,445
Expenditure	(168,040,548)	(165,897,003)
Transfers to Capital	(4,373,866)	(4,541,770)
Surplus/(Deficit) for	46,858	660,671
Opening Revenue Reserve	2,782	(597,890)
Closing Revenue Reserve	49,640	2,782

The outturn in the revenue account for 2025 shows a surplus of €47k including transfers to reserves. The Revenue Account reserve now has a closing surplus of €49,640.

The *Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet)* represents the closing financial position of the council at year-end, together with comparative year figures as appropriate.

The statement includes assets and liabilities as follows:

- Assets both recently constructed/purchased and historical assets
- Work in progress and preliminary schemes- mainly roads and housing
- Long Term Debtors – housing loans
- Current Assets- including Stock, Debtors, Cash at bank
- Current and long term liabilities- mortgage and non-mortgage loan borrowings
- Various Reserves/Balances

The Net Assets Wicklow County Council at the end of 2025 total €3,083m and are as follows:

	Current Year	Previous Year
	€	€
Fixed Assets	2,958,321,274	2,892,214,719

Works in Progress	65,422,089	84,027,607
Long Term debtors	159,954,786	141,746,824
Current Assets	149,311,727	153,442,181
Current Liabilities	38,006,981	33,509,982
Net Current Assets/ (Liabilities)	111,304,746	119,932,199
Creditors (Amounts greater than 1 year)	211,569,134	190,606,795
Net Assets/(Liabilities)	3,083,433,762	3,047,314,554

A *Statement of Funds Flow* was introduced as part of AFS 2011. While the guidance of International Accounting Standard 7 Statement of Cash Flows has been followed, the business of local authorities is substantially different to most private sector organisations and therefore some minor changes to the format have been agreed to ensure the data displayed is meaningful and useful within the local government sector.

System of Internal Financial Controls

As CE of Wicklow County Council, I acknowledge my responsibility for ensuring that an effective system of internal financial control is maintained and operated by the Wicklow County Council. This responsibility is exercised in the context of the resources available to Wicklow County Council. Also, any system of internal financial control can provide only reasonable and not absolute assurance that assets are safeguarded, transactions authorised and properly recorded, and that material errors or irregularities are either prevented or would be detected in a timely manner. Maintaining the system of internal financial controls is a continuous process and the system and its effectiveness are kept under ongoing review.

Financial control environment

As CE of Wicklow County Council, I confirm that a financial control environment containing the following elements is in place:

- Financial responsibilities have been assigned at management level with corresponding accountability.
- Reporting arrangements have been established at all levels where responsibility for financial management has been assigned.
- Formal procedures have been established for reporting significant control failures and ensuring appropriate corrective action.
- There is an Audit Committee which as part of its work programme regularly review the internal financial control system.
- Procedures for key business processes have been documented.
- There are systems in place to safeguard the assets.

Administrative Controls and Management Reporting

As CE of Wicklow County Council, I confirm that a framework of administrative procedures and regular management reporting is in place including segregation of duties and a system of delegation and accountability and, in particular, that:

- procedures for key business processes have been documented
- there are systems aimed at ensuring the security of the ICT systems
- there are systems in place to safeguard the assets of the local authority and
- there are appropriate capital investment control guidelines and formal project management disciplines in operation.

Procurement compliance

Wicklow County Council ensures that there is an appropriate and ongoing focus on good practice in tendering and purchasing and that procedures are in place to ensure compliance with all relevant procurement guidelines.

Internal audit and Audit Committee

As Chief Executive, I can confirm that Wicklow County Council has an internal audit function with appropriately trained personnel, which operates in accordance with a written charter. Its work is informed by analysis of the financial risks to which Wicklow County Council is exposed and its annual internal audit plans are based on this analysis. I am satisfied that there are procedures in place to ensure that the reports of the internal audit function are followed up.

I can confirm that Wicklow County Council has an effective audit committee which carries out an annual effectiveness review of their activities. I can also confirm that an Audit Committee is in place in accordance with the requirements of Section 122 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended).

The statutory functions of audit committees as set out in section 59 and 60 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 are as follows:

- I. to review financial and budgetary reporting practices and procedures within the local authority that has established it;
- II. to foster the development of best practice in the performance by the local authority of its internal audit function;
- III. to review any audited financial statement, auditor's report or auditor's special report in relation to the local authority and assess any actions taken within that authority by its chief executive in response to such a statement or report and to report to that authority on its findings;
- IV. to assess and promote efficiency and value for money with respect to the local authority's performance of its functions; and
- V. to review systems that are operated by the local authority for the management of risks.

I recognise that the audit committee plays a crucial role in the governance framework of local authorities, particularly in the context of increased public sector accountability. They have an independent role in advising the Council on financial reporting processes, internal control, risk management and audit matters as part of the systematic review of the control environment and governance procedures of the local authority.

I acknowledge the Audit Committee's role in the risk management process and in the continuing review of the control environment and governance procedures in Wicklow County Council.

Risk and control framework

Wicklow County Council has implemented a risk management system which identifies and reports key risks and the management actions being taken to address and, to the extent possible, mitigate those risks.

A corporate risk register is in place which identifies the key risks and evaluates and grades them according to their significance. The register is reviewed and updated by the Management Team on a regular basis. There is also a risk register in place for each service division and these are also reviewed and updated on a regular basis.

The outcome of these assessments is used to plan and allocate resources to ensure risks are managed to an acceptable level. The risk register details the controls and actions needed to mitigate risks and responsibilities for the operation of controls are assigned to specific staff.

As Chief Executive, I confirm that key risks and related controls have been identified and processes have been put in place to monitor the operation of those key controls and report any identified deficiencies.



Dated: 03 June 2026

Chief Executive

Wicklow County Council Governance Statement

Purpose

The purpose of this governance statement is to provide relevant information on the governance structures and governance arrangements within the local authority including on council, committees, senior management and related areas. It demonstrates our commitment to effective governance, recognises key legislative and good governance requirements and affirms the Council's compliance with the Local Government Code of Governance obligations.

Good Governance

Fundamentally, good governance in the local government sector and wider public sector is about delivering priorities, achieving objectives, behaving with integrity and acting in the public interest, in ways that are consistent with legal, regulatory and government policy obligations. Governance refers to the framework of rules, relationships, systems and processes by which the local authority is directed, controlled and held to account and whereby authority within an organisation is exercised and maintained. It encompasses authority, accountability, stewardship and leadership, direction and control.

Good Governance Principles

CORE PRINCIPLE 1 - Good governance means focusing on the purpose of the authority, on outcomes that deliver sustainable economic, community and wider societal benefits and on implementing a vision for the local authority.

CORE PRINCIPLE 2 - Good governance means promoting and demonstrating public service values through upholding high standards of conduct and behaviour.

CORE PRINCIPLE 3 - Good governance means members and officials working together to achieve a common purpose within a framework of clearly defined functions and roles.

CORE PRINCIPLE 4 - Good governance means developing the organisational capacity and the leadership capability and competencies of members and officials to operate effectively and fulfil the purpose of the organization.

CORE PRINCIPLE 5 - Good governance means taking well-informed and transparent decisions and managing risks and performance.

CORE PRINCIPLE 6 - Good governance means engaging openly and comprehensively with local people, citizens and other stakeholders to ensure robust public accountability.

CORE PRINCIPLE 7 - Good governance means actively contributing to the furtherance and achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals by delivering on the priorities and actions within the Climate Action Plan and the provisions of the Climate Act.

Our Commitment to Good Governance

As the Cathaoirleach/Mayor and Chief Executive of the council, and on behalf of the elected members, management and staff we confirm that;

1. We apply the governance principles as the fundamental bedrock and philosophy on how we operate as a governing body and as an executive.
2. The Local Government Code of Governance is being implemented and the extent to which the Council is in compliance with the Code is being reviewed and assessed.
3. The Statement of Internal Financial Control is submitted by the Chief Executive to the Elected Members and to the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee reviews the SIFC and provides an assurance on an annual basis to the Elected Members. Mechanisms are available to the Audit Committee to notify the Elected Members of any issues that arise outside of the normal annual reporting.
4. Compliance with legal and regulatory obligations are acknowledged and adhered to.
5. There is clarity of roles and responsibilities based on the reserved and executive functions and based on committee terms of reference.
6. Codes of Conduct and ethics declarations for members and employees are in place.
7. Procedures are in place for the making of protected disclosures in accordance with section 21(1) of the Protected Disclosures Act 2014 and confirmation that the annual report required under section 22(1) of the Act has been published.
8. The Council and Committees review their own performance on a periodic basis.
9. We have instituted appropriate governance oversight arrangements in respect of subsidiary, associated and related companies.
10. As part of our commitment to effective oversight and accountability, we have developed and continue to enhance our overall assurance framework utilising external and internal assurance sources to ensure good performance as part of our governance culture.

Cathaoirleach

Date: 3rd June 2026

Ener Oroma

Chief Executive

Date: 3rd June 2026

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Performance Indicators

01/01/2025 - 31/12/2025 (Annual)

Wicklow County Council

Status: Complete

Topic	Indicator	Value	Comment
Housing: H1, H2 & H4 Approved	H1A. Number of dwellings in the ownership of the local authority at 01/01/2025	5321	
	H1B. Number of dwellings added to the local authority owned stock during 2025 (whether constructed or acquired)	76	
	H1C. Number of local authority owned dwellings sold in 2025	13	
	H1D. Number of local authority owned dwellings demolished in 2025	0	
	H1E. Number of dwellings in the ownership of the local authority at 31/12/2025	5384	
	H1F. Number of local authority owned dwellings planned for demolition under a DHLGH approved scheme at 31/12/2025	0	
	H2A. The percentage of the total number of local authority owned dwellings that were vacant on 31/12/2025	1.86 %	
	The number of dwellings within their overall stock that were not tenanted on 31/12/2025	100	
	H4A. Expenditure during 2025 on the maintenance of local authority housing compiled from 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025, divided by the no. of dwellings in the local authority stock at 31/12/2025, i.e. the H1E less H1F indicator figure	€1611.71	

	Expenditure on maintenance of local authority stock compiled from 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025, including planned maintenance and expenditure that qualified for grants, such as Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) grants for energy efficient retro-fitting works but excluding expenditure on vacant properties and expenditure under approved major refurbishment schemes (i.e. approved Regeneration or under the Remedial Works Schemes).	€8677468.09	
	PI 2024: H1E. Number of Dwellings In Ownership at 31/12/2024 (2024 Dataset)	5321	
	Cross-Check H1A with PI 2024 H1E	H1A Matches 2024 H1E	
Housing: H3 & H5 Approved	H3A. The time taken from the date of vacation of a dwelling to the date in 2025 when the dwelling is re-tenanted, averaged across all dwellings re-let during 2025	44.02 wk	
	H3B. The cost expended on getting the dwellings re-tenanted in 2025, averaged across all dwellings re-let in 2025	€42275.62	
	(H3) The number of dwellings that were re-tenanted on any date in 2025 (but excluding all those that had been vacant due to an estate-wide refurbishment scheme)	120	
	(H3) The number of weeks from the date of vacation to the date the dwelling is re-tenanted	5282.57 wk	
	(H3) Total expenditure on works necessary to enable re-letting of the dwellings, using direct cost calculations	€5073074.81	

	H5A. Total number of registered tenancies in the LA area at 31 December 2025 (External Dataset) (External Dataset)	6259	
	H5B. Number of rented dwellings inspected in 2025 (External Dataset)	438	
	H5C. Percentage of inspected dwellings in 2025 not compliant with the Standards Regulations on first inspection (External Dataset)	97.03 %	
	H5D. Number of dwellings deemed compliant in 2025 (including those originally deemed non-compliant) (External Dataset)	163	
	H5E. The number of inspections (including reinspections) undertaken by the local authority in 2025 (External Dataset)	484	
Housing: H6 Approved	A. Number of adult individuals in emergency accommodation that are long-term (i.e. 6 months or more within the previous year) homeless as a percentage of the total number of homeless adult individuals in emergency accommodation at the end of 2025	71.43 %	
	The number of adult individuals classified as homeless and in emergency accommodation on the night of 31 December 2025 as recorded on the PASS system	98	An increase in homeless presenting.
	The number out of those individuals who, on 31/12/2025, had been in emergency accommodation for 6 months continuously, or for 6 months cumulatively within the previous 12 months	70	Lack of suitable accommodation available.

Housing: H7 Approved	A. (1) Total number of houses retrofitted between 01/01/2025 and 31/12/2025 under the Social Housing Retrofit Programme (External Dataset)	101	
	A. (2) Number of houses that achieved a BER rating of B2 or above between 01/01/2025 and 31/12/2025 under the Social Housing Retrofit Programme (External Dataset)	101	
	A. (3) Number of heat pumps installed in those houses between 01/01/2025 and 31/12/2025 under the Social Housing Retrofit Programme (External Dataset)	100	
	B. Total annual energy savings in MWh from houses retrofitted between 01/01/2025 and 31/12/2025 under the Social Housing Retrofit Programme (External Dataset)	1442.7 MWh	
	C. Total carbon emission reduction tCo2 from houses retrofitted between 01/01/2025 and 31/12/2025 under the Social Housing Retrofit Programme (External Dataset)	412.2	
	Roads: R1, R2 & R4 Approved		
R1A (a) The percentage of Regional roads that received a PSCI rating in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2025 (External Dataset)	99.78 %		
R1A (b) The percentage of Local Primary roads that received a PSCI rating in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2025 (External Dataset)	98.02 %		
R1A (c) The percentage of Local Secondary roads that received a PSCI rating in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2025 (External Dataset)	97.42 %		

	R1A (d) The percentage of Local Tertiary roads that received a PSCI rating in the 60 month period prior to 31/12/2025 (External Dataset)	87.42 %	
	R1B (a.1) The percentage length of Regional roads that received a PSCI rating of 1-4 in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2025 (External Dataset)	6.67 %	
	R1B (a.2) The percentage length of Regional roads that received a PSCI rating of 5-6 in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2025 (External Dataset)	9.30 %	
	R1B (a.3) The percentage length of Regional roads that received a PSCI rating of 7-8 in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2025 (External Dataset)	33.49 %	
	R1B (a.4) The percentage length of Regional roads that received a PSCI rating of 9-10 in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2025 (External Dataset)	50.32 %	
	R1B (b.1) The percentage length of Local Primary roads that received a PSCI rating of 1-4 in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2025 (External Dataset)	0.15 %	
	R1B (b.2) The percentage length of Local Primary roads that received a PSCI rating of 5-6 in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2025 (External Dataset)	11.94 %	
	R1B (b.3) The percentage length of Local Primary roads that received a PSCI rating of 7-8 in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2025 (External Dataset)	50.18 %	
	R1B (b.4) The percentage length of Local Primary roads that received a PSCI rating of 9-10 in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2025 (External Dataset)	35.74 %	

	R1B (c.1) The percentage length of Local Secondary roads that received a PSCI rating of 1-4 in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2025 (External Dataset)	1.34 %	
	R1B (c.2) The percentage length of Local Secondary roads that received a PSCI rating of 5-6 in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2025 (External Dataset)	18.71 %	
	R1B (c.3) The percentage length of Local Secondary roads that received a PSCI rating of 7-8 in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2025 (External Dataset)	37.86 %	
	R1B (c.4) The percentage length of Local Secondary roads that received a PSCI rating of 9-10 in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2025 (External Dataset)	39.51 %	
	R1B (d.1) The percentage length of Local Tertiary roads that received a PSCI rating of 1-4 in the 60 month period prior to 31/12/2025 (External Dataset)	3.01 %	
	R1B (d.2) The percentage length of Local Tertiary roads that received a PSCI rating of 5-6 in the 60 month period prior to 31/12/2025 (External Dataset)	12.54 %	
	R1B (d.3) The percentage length of Local Tertiary roads that received a PSCI rating of 7-8 in the 60 month period prior to 31/12/2025 (External Dataset)	42.34 %	
	R1B (d.4) The percentage length of Local Tertiary roads that received a PSCI rating of 9-10 in the 60 month period prior to 31/12/2025 (External Dataset)	29.53 %	
	R2A (1) Kilometres of regional road strengthened during 2025 (External Dataset)	13.3 km	
	R2A (2) The amount expended on regional roads strengthening	€3492229.43	

work during 2025 (External Dataset)		
R2A (3) The average unit cost of regional road strengthening works per square metre (€/m ²) (External Dataset)	€36.15	
R2B (1) Kilometres of regional road resealed during 2025 (External Dataset)	23.7 km	
R2B (2) The amount expended on regional road resealing work during 2025 (External Dataset)	€832610.45	
R2B (3) The average unit cost of regional road resealing works per square metre (€/m ²) (External Dataset)	€5.43	
R2C (1) Kilometres of local road strengthened during 2025 (External Dataset)	43.9 km	
R2C (2) The amount expended on local road strengthening work during 2025 (External Dataset)	€7257093.19	
R2C (3) The average unit cost of local road strengthening works per square metre (€/m ²) (External Dataset)	€35.12	
R2D (1) Kilometres of local road resealed during 2025 (External Dataset)	66.2 km	
R2D (2) The amount expended on local road resealing work during 2025 (External Dataset)	€1284874.53	
R2D (3) The average unit cost of local road resealing works per square metre (€/m ²) (External Dataset)	€4.24	
R4A. Total number of T2, T2 ¹ , T3, T4s issued by the local authority between 01/01/2025 and 31/12/2025 (External Dataset)	1165	
R4B. Total number of T5 notifications received from licence holders between	1250	

	01/01/2025 and 31/12/2025 (External Dataset)		
	R4C. Percentage of licences that have been reviewed by the local authority prior to entering the Guarantee Period (External Dataset)	83.00 %	
	R4D. Percentage of licences that have been subject of an inspection prior to entering the Guarantee Period (External Dataset)	9.00 %	
Motor Tax: R3 Approved	A. The percentage of motor tax transactions which were dealt with online (i.e. transaction is processed and the tax disc is issued) in 2025 (External Dataset)	88.34 %	
Water: W1 & W2 Approved	W1. Percentage of drinking water in private schemes in compliance with statutory requirements (External Dataset)		
	W2. The number of registered schemes monitored by each local authority as a percentage of total schemes registered	99.16 %	
	(W2) How many local authority registered schemes were monitored in 2025	118	1 scheme closed during 2025
	(W2) Total number of registered schemes in 2025	119	
Waste: E1 Approved	A. The number of households which availed of a 3-bin service offered by a licensed operator at 31/12/2025 (External Dataset)	50761	
	B. The percentage of households within the local authority that the number at A represents (External Dataset)	93.90 %	

Environmental Complaints: E2 Approved	A. The opening number of environmental complaints carried forward from year end 2024 (External Dataset)	534	
	B. Total number of environmental complaints of all types (e.g. air/noise/water/waste pollution) made through any medium and whether initiated by the public or by the local authority itself from 01/01/2025 to 31/12/2025 (External Dataset)	1600	
	C. Total number of environmental complaints of all types which were closed during 2025 (regardless of when the case commenced) (External Dataset)	1626	
	D. Total number of environmental complaints of all types that were not closed at 31/12/2025 (External Dataset)	508	
Litter Pollution: E3 Approved	A (1). The percentage of the area within the local authority that when surveyed in 2025 was unpolluted or litter free (External Dataset)		
	A (2). The percentage of the area within the local authority that when surveyed in 2025 was slightly polluted (External Dataset)		
	A (3). The percentage of the area within the local authority that when surveyed in 2025 was moderately polluted (External Dataset)		
	A (4). The percentage of the area within the local authority that when surveyed in 2025 was significantly polluted (External Dataset)		

	A (5). The percentage of the area within the local authority that when surveyed in 2025 was grossly polluted (External Dataset)		
Green Flag Status: E4 Approved	A. The percentage of schools that have been awarded/renewed green flag status in the two years to 31 December 2025 (External Dataset)	35.19 %	
	Schools which attained a Green Flag for the first time in 2025 (External Dataset)	1	
	Schools which renewed their Green Flag in 2025 (External Dataset)	16	
	Schools which held a Green Flag from 2024 and therefore do not require renewal until 2026 (External Dataset)	21	
Energy Efficiency: E5 Approved	A. The cumulative percentage of energy savings achieved by 31/12/2025 relative to baseline year (2009) (External Dataset)		
Public Lighting: E6 Approved	A. Total annual consumption of the public lighting system (External Dataset)	3764.44 MWh	
	B. Average wattage of each public light (External Dataset)	61.92 W	
	C. Percentage of the total system that LED lights represent (External Dataset)	78.98 %	
	Number of LED lights in the public lighting system (External Dataset)	12653	
	Number of non-LED lights in the public lighting system (External Dataset)	3368	

Climate Change: E7 Approved	1 a) Does the local authority have a designated FTE Climate Action Coordinator? (External Dataset)	YES	
	1 b) Does the local authority have a designated FTE Climate Action Officer? (External Dataset)	YES	
	2. Does the local authority have a climate action team? (External Dataset)	YES	
Planning: P1 Approved	A. Buildings inspected as a percentage of new buildings notified to the local authority	19.45 %	
	Total number of new buildings notified to the local authority i.e. buildings where a valid Commencement Notice was served in the period 01/01/2025 to 31/12/2025 by a builder or developer to the local authority, in accordance with section 6(2)(k) of the Building Control Act 1990 and Part II of the Building Control Regulations 1997 (S.I. No. 496 of 1997), as amended by the Building Control (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I. no. 85 of 2004) and the Building Control (Amendment) Regulations 2009 (S.I. No. 351 of 2009).	365	Reduction in new proposed dwellings in 2025 following both lifting of the Planning Contribution Waiver and Water Connection Waiver schemes.
	Number of new buildings notified to the local authority in 2025 that were the subject of at least one on-site inspection during 2025, undertaken by the local authority under section 11 of the Building Control Act 1990.	71	Only inspections on new developments notified for commencement in 2025 can be used in this figure. All inspections of developments notified for commencement in the previous year are not included.

Planning: P2 & P3 Approved	P2A. Number of local authority planning decisions which were the subject of an appeal to An Coimisiún Pleanála that were determined by the Board on any date in 2025	87
	P2B. Percentage of the determinations at A which confirmed (either with or without variation of the plan) the decision made by the local authority	73.56 %
	(P2) Number of An Coimisiún Pleanála determinations confirming the local authority's decision (either with or without variation)	64
	P3A. Total number of planning cases referred to or initiated by the local authority in the period 01/01/2025 to 31/12/2025 that were investigated	82
	P3B. Total number of investigated cases that were closed during 2025	107
	P3C. Percentage of the cases at B that were dismissed as trivial, minor or without foundation or were closed because statute barred or an exempted development	27.10 %
	P3D. Percentage of the cases at B that were resolved to the local authority's satisfaction through negotiations	9.35 %
	P3E. Percentage of the cases at B that were closed due to enforcement proceedings (i.e. remedied in response to a warning letter issued under section 152 of the Act, or to an enforcement notice issued under section 154 of the Act, or where a prosecution was brought under section 157 or an injunction was	63.55 %

	sought under section 160 of the Act)		
	P3F. Total number of planning cases being investigated as at 31/12/2025	409	
	(P3) Number of cases at B that were dismissed as trivial, minor or without foundation or were closed because statute barred or an exempted development	29	
	(P3) Number of cases at B that were resolved to the local authority's satisfaction through negotiations	10	
	(P3) Number of cases at B that were closed due to enforcement proceedings	68	
Planning: P4 & P5 Approved	P4A. The 2025 Annual Financial Statement (AFS) Programme D data divided by the population of the local authority area per the 2022 Census	€41.70	
	(P4) AFS Programme D data consisting of D01 - Forward Planning, D02 - Development Management, D03 - Enforcement (inclusive of the relevant Programme D proportion of the central management charge) for 2025	€6499104	
	P5A. The percentage of applications for fire safety certificates received in 2025 that were decided (granted or refused) within two months of their receipt	48.91 %	
	P5B. The percentage of applications for fire safety certificates received in 2025 that were decided (granted or refused) within an extended period agreed with the applicant	36.96 %	
	(P5) The total number of applications for fire safety	92	

	certificates received in 2025 that were not withdrawn by the applicant		
	(P5) The number of applications for fire safety certificates received in 2025 that were decided (granted or refused) within two months of the date of receipt of the application	45	
	(P5) The number of applications for fire safety certificates received in 2025 that were decided (granted or refused) within an agreed extended time period	34	
Fire Service: F1 Approved	A. The Annual Financial Statement (AFS) Programme E expenditure data for 2025 divided by the population of the local authority area per the 2022 Census figures for the population served by the fire authority as per the Risk Based Approach Phase One reports	€64.63	
	AFS Programme E expenditure data consisting of E11 - Operation of Fire Service and E12 - Operation of Fire Service and E12 - Fire Prevention (inclusive of the relevant Programme E proportion of the central management charge) for 2025.	€10072624	
Fire Service: F2 & F3 Approved	F2A. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Full-Time Stations in respect of fire	0 min	N/a no full time fire service
	F2B. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Part-Time Stations (retained fire service) in respect of fire	5.36 min	
	F2C. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire	0 min	N/a no full time fire service

	brigades in Full-Time Stations in respect of all other (non-fire) emergency incidents		
	F2D. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Part-Time Stations (retained fire service) in respect of all other (non-fire) emergency incidents	5.35 min	
	F3A. Percentage of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance at scene is within 10 minutes	37.20 %	
	F3B. Percentage of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance at the scene is after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	52.03 %	
	F3C. Percentage of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance at the scene is after 20 minutes	10.77 %	
	F3D. Percentage of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance at the scene is within 10 minutes	29.84 %	
	F3E. Percentage of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance at the scene is after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	58.28 %	
	F3F. Percentage of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance at the scene is after 20 minutes	11.89 %	
	Total number of call-outs in respect of fires from 01/01/2025 to 31/12/2025	715	
	Number of these fire cases where first fire tender attendance at the scene is within 10 minutes	266	

	Number of these fire cases in which first fire tender attendance at the scene is after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	372	
	Number of these fire cases in which first fire tender attendance at the scene is after 20 minutes	77	
	Total number of call-outs in respect of all other emergency incidents (i.e. not including fire) from 01/01/2025 to 31/12/2025	429	
	Number of these non-fire cases in which first fire tender attendance at the scene is within 10 minutes	128	
	Number of these non-fire cases in which first fire tender attendance at the scene is after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	250	
	Number of these non-fire cases in which first fire tender attendance at the scene is after 20 minutes	51	
Library Service: L1 Approved	A. Number of visits to libraries per head of population for the local authority area per the 2022 Census	3.90	
	B. Number of items issued to library borrowers in the year	811969	Increase in issues due to availability of Irish Newspapers on BorrowBox in 2025
	C. Library active members per head of population (External Dataset)	0.25	
	D. Number of registered library members in the year	31616	This number is always a snapshot on a particular day only.
	Number of visits to its libraries from 01/01/2025 to 31/12/2025 per automatic counters if used	607388	Bray library closed for use as polling station twice during the year,

			Blessington Library closed for a number of Saturdays from September until end of December 2025. Tinahely and Aughrim libraries both had reduced opening hours for Quarter 4 in 2025.
Library Service: L2 Approved	A. The Annual Financial Statement (AFS) Programme F data for 2025 divided by the population of the local authority area per the 2022 Census		€38.67
	B. The annual per capita expenditure on collections over the period 01/01/2025 to 31/12/2025		€1.56
	AFS Programme F data consisting of F02 - Operation of Library and Archival Service (inclusive of the relevant proportion of the central management charge for Programme F) for 2025		€6026038
	The annual expenditure on new stock acquired by the library in the year		€242772.06
Youth and Community: Y1 & Y2 Approved	Y1A. Percentage of local schools involved in the local Youth Council/Comhairle na nÓg scheme		52.00 %
	Total number of second level schools in the local authority area at 31/12/2025	25	Comhairle na nÓg coordinator appointed in 2025
	Number of second level schools in the local authority area from which representatives attended the local Comhairle na nÓg AGM held in 2025	13	
	Y2A. The number of organisations included in the		17.59

	County Register at 31/12/2025 and the proportion of those organisations that opted to be part of the Social Inclusion College within the PPN		
	Total number of organisations included in the County Register (maintained in accordance with section 128 of the Local Government Act 2001) for the local authority area as at 31/12/2025	523	
	Total number of those organisations that registered for the first time in 2025	44	
	Number of organisations that opted to join the Social Inclusion Electoral College on whatever date they registered for the PPN	92	
Corporate: C1, C2, C4 & C5 Approved	C1A. The wholetime equivalent staffing number as at 31 December 2025 (External Dataset)	758.13	
	C2A. Percentage of paid working days lost to sickness absence through medically certified leave in 2025	3.51 %	
	C2B. Percentage of paid working days lost to sickness absence through self-certified leave in 2025	0.37 %	
	Total number of working days lost to sickness absence through medically certified leave in 2025	7337.44 day	
	Total number of working days lost to sickness absence through self-certified leave in 2025	663.95 day	
	Number of unpaid working days lost to sickness absence included within the total of self-certified sick leave days in 2025	21.5 day	
	Number of unpaid working days lost to sickness absence included	1305.14 day	

	within the total of medically certified sick leave days in 2025		
	If any staff are on long-term sick leave (i.e. a continuous period of more than 4 weeks), include a text note of the number of staff on long-term sick leave	A marked increase in long term sick leave (83 instances of 4 weeks+). A notable amount of those 83 instances relate to employees that were absent for a full year if not the majority of same.	
	C4A. All ICT expenditure in the period from 01/01/2025 to 31/12/2025, divided by the WTE no.	€5156.00	
	Total ICT expenditure in 2025	€3908919.77	
	C5A. All ICT expenditure calculated in C4 as a proportion of Revenue expenditure	2.33	
	Total Revenue expenditure from 01/01/2025 to 31/12/2025 before transfers to or from reserves	168040548	
Corporate: C3 Approved	A. The per capita total page views of the local authority's websites in 2025	16.75	
	B. The per capita total number of followers at end 2025 of the local authority's social media accounts (if any)	0.89	
	The cumulative total page views of all websites operated by the local authority for the period from 01/01/2025 to 31/12/2025 obtained from a page tagging on-site web analytics service or equivalent	2611095	
	The total number of social media users who, at 31/12/2025, were following the local authority on any social media sites	139090	

	The number of social media accounts operated by the local authority	33	
	Indicate if there was a change to the cookie policies on the local authority sites and the date this came into effect	2025 includes a full year of statistics for our main website www.wicklow.ie, return also includes an additional 2 websites. 10 Social media pages closed down during 2025. No change to cookie policy	
Finance: M1 to M4 Approved	M1A. Cumulative surplus/deficit balance at 31/12/2021 in the Revenue Account from the Income & Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS (External Dataset)	€-1288068	
	M1B. Cumulative surplus/deficit balance at 31/12/2022 in the Revenue Account from the Income & Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS (External Dataset)	€-938828	
	M1C. Cumulative surplus/deficit balance at 31/12/2023 in the Revenue Account from the Income & Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS (External Dataset)	€-597890	
	M1D. Cumulative surplus/deficit balance at 31/12/2024 in the Revenue Account from the Income & Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS (External Dataset)	€2782	
	M1E. Cumulative surplus/deficit balance at 31/12/2025 in the Revenue Account from the Income & Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS	€49640	
	M1F. Cumulative surplus or deficit at 31/12/2025 as a	0.03 %	

percentage of Total Income in 2025 from the Income and Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS		
M1G. Revenue expenditure per capita in 2025	€1078.21	
M1H. Revenue expenditure per capita in 2025 excluding significant out of county/shared service expenditure		
The 2025 Total Income figure from the Income and Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS	€172461272	
The 2025 Total Expenditure figure from the Income and Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS	€168040548	
The 2025 Revenue expenditure excluding county/shared service expenditure for the service providers of HAP, MyPay, DRHE and Dublin Fire Services and is only applicable to Dublin City, Laois and Limerick		
M2A. (a) Collection level of Rates in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2021 (External Dataset)	83.0 %	
M2A. (b) Collection level of Rent & Annuities in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2021 (External Dataset)	85.0 %	
M2A. (c) Collection level of Housing Loans in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2021 (External Dataset)	83.0 %	
M2B. (a) Collection level of Rates in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2022 (External Dataset)	88.0 %	
M2B. (b) Collection level of Rent & Annuities in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2022 (External Dataset)	84.0 %	
M2B. c) Collection level of Housing Loans in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2022 (External Dataset)	84.0 %	

M2C. a) Collection level of Rates in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2023 (External Dataset)	91.0 %	
M2C. b) Collection level of Rent & Annuities in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2023 (External Dataset)	83.0 %	
M2C. (c) Collection level of Housing Loans in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2023 (External Dataset)	90.0 %	
M2D. (a) Collection level of Rates in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2024 (External Dataset)	93.0 %	
M2D. (b) Collection level of Rent & Annuities in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2024 (External Dataset)	84.0 %	
M2D. (c) Collection level of Housing Loans in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2024 (External Dataset)	80.0 %	
M2E. (a) Collection level of Rates in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2025	93 %	
M2E. (b) Collection level of Rent & Annuities in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2025	87 %	
M2E. (c) Collection level of Housing Loans in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2025	85 %	
M2E. (d) Collection level of HAP SSC for 2025		
M3A. Per capita total cost of settled claims for 2025	€5.51	
IPB Insurance: Number of notified claims for 2025 (External Dataset)	141	
IPB Insurance: Number of settled claims for 2025 (External Dataset)	92	
IPB Insurance: Total cost of settled claims for 2025 (External Dataset)	€858842.82	
Total cost of claims settled under excess for 2025		n/a

	Self-insured: Number of notified claims for 2025		
	Self-insured: Number of settled claims for 2025		
	Self-insured: Total cost of settled claims for 2025		
	M4A. Overall central management charge as a percentage of total expenditure on revenue account	15.30 %	
	M4B. Total payroll costs as a percentage of revenue expenditure	35.46 %	
	Overall central management charge from the Local Authority FMS and defined in the Annual Budget	€25716722	
	Total payroll costs from Appendix 1 of the AFS for 2025 (including Salaries, Wages and Pensions)	€59582402	
Economic Development: J1 to J5 Approved	J1A. The number of jobs created with assistance from the Local Enterprise Office during the period 01/01/2025 to 31/12/2025 per 100,000 of population (External Dataset)	32.08	
	The number of jobs created with assistance from the Local Enterprise Office during the period 01/01/2025 to 31/12/2025 (External Dataset)	50.0	
	J2A. The number of trading online voucher applications approved by the Local Enterprise Office in 2025 per 100,000 of population (External Dataset)	3.21	
	J2B. The number of trading online vouchers that were drawn down in 2025 per 100,000 of population (External Dataset)	3.21	
	The number of trading online voucher applications approved	5	

by the Local Enterprise Office in 2025 (External Dataset)		
The number of those trading online vouchers that were drawn down in 2025 (External Dataset)	5	
J3A. The number of participants who received mentoring during the period 01/01/2025 to 31/12/2025 per 100,000 of population (External Dataset)	349.05	
The number of participants who received mentoring during the period 01/01/2025 to 31/12/2025 (External Dataset)	544	
J4A. Does the local authority have a current tourism strategy?	Yes	
J4B. Does the local authority have a designated Tourism Officer?	Yes	
J5. The spend on local economic development by the local authority in 2025 per head of population	€126.63	
The spend on local economic development by the local authority in 2025	€19734693	

Conferences attended by Wicklow County Council Elected Members in 2025

January - December 2025								
	Circular LG 07/2023							
	Name	Conference Name	Date	Venue	Conference Cost	Travel/Subs	Total Paid	Total per Councillor to December 2025
1	Cllr. Warren O'Toole	AILG Spring conference	2nd to 4th April 2025	Strand Hotel, Limerick	€175.00	584.61	€759.61	
		AILG Autumn Seminar	17th & 18th September 2025	Westport Woods Hotel	€175.00	699.65	€874.65	€1,634.26
2	Cllr. Joe Behan							
3	Cllr. Sylvester Bourke							
4	Cllr. Gail Dunne							
5	Cllr. Pat Fitzgerald							
6	Cllr. Tom Fortune							
7	Cllr. Shane Langrell	LAMA Spring Conference	31st Jan to 1st Feb. 2025	Kilford Arms, Kilkenny	245.00	473.71	718.71	
		AILG training module	21st June 2025	Hillgrove Hotel, Monaghan	90.00	373.87	463.87	
		AILG Autumn Seminar	17th & 18th September 2025	Westport Woods Hotel	175.00	670.63	845.63	
		Celtic Conference	10th & 11th October 2025	Carlingford, Co. Louth	130.00	525.06	655.06	2683.27
		AILG training module	22nd February 2025	New Park Hotel, Kilkenny	90.00	91.72	181.72	
8	Cllr. Pat Kennedy	ailg Module 2	22nd March 2025	Clayton Hotel, Galway	90.00	445.97	535.97	
		AILG Annual Conference	3rd & 4th April 2025	Strand Hotel, Limerick	175.00	369.30	544.30	
		AILG - Module 3	22nd May 2025	Radisson Blu hotel, Sligo	90.00	461.57	551.57	
		AILG Autumn Seminar	17th & 18th September 2025	Westport Woods Hotel	175.00	726.7	901.70	2,715.26
9	Cllr. Orla Finn							
10	Cllr. Miriam Murphy							
11	Cllr. Dermot O'Brien							
12	Cllr. Gerry O'Neill							
13	Cllr. John Snell							
14	Cllr. Danny Alvey							
15	Cllr. Melanie Corrigan							
16	Cllr. Mark Barry							
17	Cllr. Avril Cronin	AILG Training	22nd March 2025	Clayton Hotel, Galway	90.00	404.51	494.51	494.51
18	Cllr. Aoife Flynn Kennedy							
19	Cllr. Patsy Glennon	AILG Module 2	22nd March 2025	Clayton Hotel, Galway	€90.00	€407.63	€497.63	
		AILG Annual conference	3rd & 4th April 2025	Strand Hotel, Limerick City	€175.00	€541.08	€716.08	
		AILG Chair Training Workshop	2nd September 2025	Midlands Park Hotel, Portlaoise	€90.00	€55.97	€145.97	
		AILG Autumn Seminar	17th & 18th September 2025	Westport Woods Hotel	€175.00	€422.61	€597.61	€2,451.58
20	Cllr. Peir Leonard							
21	Cllr. Malachai Duddy							
22	Cllr. Peter Stapleton							
23	Cllr. Paul O'Brien	Celtic Conference - Corporate Governance	7th to 9th February 2025	O'Donovan's Hotel, Clonakilty	€130.00	€657.57	€787.57	
		AILG Module 1	20th & 21st February 2025	Fairways Hotel, Dundalk	€90.00	€306.93	€396.93	
		AILG Spring Conference	2nd to 4th April 2025	Strand Hotel, Limerick City	€175.00	€721.26	€896.26	
		AILG Module 4	21st June 2025	The Hillgrove Hotel, Monaghan	€90.00	€483.99	€573.99	€1,867.18
24	Cllr. Ian Neary							
25	Cllr. Lourda Scott							
26	Cllr. Stephen Stokes							
27	Cllr. Erika Doyle							
28	Cllr. Jason Mulhall							
29	Cllr. Louise Fenelon Gaskin							
30	Cllr. Caroline Winstanley							
31	Cllr. Pat Mahon							
32	Cllr. Ned Whelan	AILG Training	29th May 2025	Athlone Springs Hotel	90.00	150.80	240.80	240.80
33	Cllr. Graham Richmond	AILG Conference	20th February 2025	Fairways Hotel, Dundalk	90.00	275.68	365.68	365.68
	Total				2,715.00	9,424.34	12,139.34	11,846.06

Wicklow County Council Elected Members appointed to committees and other bodies 2025

Committee/ Other Body	Name	Amount Paid 31 st December 2025
Eastern and Midlands Regional Authority	Cllr. Gerry O'Neill	
	Cllr. Avril Cronin	€222.93
	Cllr. P. Glennon	
Regional Health Forum (Dublin – Mid Leinster)	Cllr. Caroline Winstanley	Nil
	Cllr. Gerry O'Neill	
	Cllr. Patsy Glennon	
	Cllr. Joe Behan	€523.73
Local Authority Members Association	Cllr. Shane Langrell	€2,494.08
Association of Irish Local Government (AILG)	Cllr. A. Cronin	
	Cllr. Joe Behan	€159.94
	Cllr. P. Kennedy	€1,803.95
Bray Area Partnership	Cllr. Aoife Flynn Kennedy	
	Cllr. Orla Finn	Nil
	Cllr. Caroline Winstanley	Nil
Board of Wicklow Enterprise Park CLG	Cllr. Gail Dunne	Nil
	Cllr. Graham Richmond	Nil
Board of Mermaid, County Wicklow Arts Centre	Cllr. Aoife Flynn Kennedy	
	Cllr. Melanie Corrigan	
	Cllr. Mark Barry	
Arklow Business Enterprise Park (ABEC) CLG	Cathaoirleach of Arklow MD Ex Officio Cllr. Pat Kennedy	
Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurance Ltd.	Cllr. Gerry O'Neill	
Kildare Wicklow Education Training Board	Cllr. Aoife Flynn Kennedy	
	Cllr. Tom Fortune	
	Cllr. Paul O'Brien	€728.84
	Cllr. John Snell	
	Cllr. Louise Fenelon Gaskin	
East Coast Regional Drugs Task Force	Cllr. Peir Leonard	Nil
	Cllr. Louise Fenelon Gaskin	

