

CANDIDATE INFORMATION BOOKLET

(Please read carefully)

EXECUTIVE LIBRARIAN BLESSINGTON LIBRARY

Ref: 25/2025

Closing Date for receipt of application:

Thursday 18th September 2025 - 12 noon sharp



Human Resources Department, Wicklow County Council wccrecruitment@wicklowcoco.ie | (0404) 20159 | www.wicklow.ie

Contents

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL	3
THE POSITION	4
QUALIFICATIONS	4
1. Character	4
2. Health	4
3. Education, Training, Experience etc	4
DRIVING LICENCE / TRAVEL	5
DESIRABLE SKILLS & EXPERIENCE	5
DUTIES	5
PRINCIPAL CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT	6
Duties	6
Probation	6
Salary	7
Hours of Work	7
Garda Vetting	7
Citizenship	7
Work Permit	7
Health	7
Residence	8
Annual Leave	8
Retirement Age	8
Superannuation	8
APPLICATION PROCESS	9
Application form	9
Competencies for the post	9
Selection Process	10
Short-Listing	10
Interview Stage	11
Pre-Employment Checks	12
Panel	
Terms and Conditions	12
ERECHENTLY VCKED UNESTIONS	1.0

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

County Wicklow is located in the province of Leinster, and has a population of 155,485, 9.2% growth persons as stated in the preliminary 2022 census figures on the CSO website https://www.cso.ie/en/csolatestnews/presspages/2022/censusofpopulation2022-preliminaryresults/

Wicklow shares its border with four other counties and has a total land area of 2,027 km². The topography of Wicklow is largely mountainous, with the Wicklow Mountains being the largest continuous upland region in Ireland. Wicklow is the 13th largest of the Republic of Ireland's 26 Counties and is the 14th largest Local Authority area in terms of population.

Wicklow County Council is the Local Government Authority for County Wicklow and is responsible for the delivery of the full range of services. Wicklow County Council seeks to enhance the county's attraction as a place in which to invest, work, and live, and takes the lead role in shaping the strategic vision of the county. It provides a diverse, multi-layered and evolving range of services to both citizens and visitors to County Wicklow, which include the provision of housing, planning, development, environmental, roads and traffic, leisure and community services. It also has an enhanced role in leading out economic and community development in the County. The Council works in partnership with other state, public and private bodies in the delivery of critical infrastructure and shared services.

Wicklow County Council has an elected body comprising of 32 elected members and employs a workforce in excess of 800 employees, currently covering 5 Municipal Districts – Bray, Greystones, Wicklow, Arklow and Baltinglass. Our employees work in a dynamic and progressive local authority which promotes training and development of our employees who are our most valuable resource.

The 2025 annual revenue budget for the local authority is approximately €168 million. The Council also continues to invest in the infrastructure of the county and through its Capital Investment Programme.

The day to day running of the Council is the responsibility of the Chief Executive and the Management Team.

Executive Librarian Ref: 25/2025

THE POSITION

The Council is seeking applications from suitably qualified candidates with relevant experience for the position of **Executive Librarian**, Blessington Library.

The Executive Librarian is a professional middle management position in Wicklow County Council and is assigned responsibility for the management of a public library or section within Wicklow County Council Library Service. The post holder will be responsible for the management and development of library services, staff, resources and buildings and will report to the County Librarian and/or library management team. The Executive Librarian may be called to deputise for the Senior Executive Librarian and will represent the Senior Executive Librarian and the organisation as required.

It is proposed to form a panel of qualified candidates from which vacancies will be filled during the lifetime of the panel.

QUALIFICATIONS

1. Character

Each candidate must be of good character

2. Health

Candidates must be in a state of health such as would indicate a reasonable prospect of ability to render regular and efficient service.

3. Education, Training, Experience etc.

Each candidate must, on the latest date for receipt of completed application forms

- (i) hold a degree (level 8 on the National Framework of Qualifications) in the area of Library and Information Studies,
- (ii) have satisfactory experience of library work

Non Irish Qualifications must be accompanied by a determination from Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) to establish their comparability against the Irish National Framework of Qualifications. Overseas qualifications must also be accompanied by a translation document. Failure to do so will deem your application inadmissible

The onus is on the candidate to ensure that the relevant qualification is listed on their application form.

In the event that an offer of employment is made, the candidate will be required to submit all relevant Educational Qualifications in order to meet the requirements above.



DRIVING LICENCE / TRAVEL

The holder of the office **will be required** to hold a valid Irish/EU full driving licence for class B vehicles or a licence acceptable to NDLS for exchange, free from endorsement and disqualification. They must be a competent driver and shall drive a motor car in the course of his/her duties and for this purpose, provide and maintain a car to the satisfaction of the Local Authority. The Local Authority must be indemnified on their insurance.

https://www.ndls.ie/help/faq.html#exchange-of-foreign-driving-licence

DESIRABLE SKILLS & EXPERIENCE

- (a) Experience and skills in leadership and management.
- (b) Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- (c) People management skills
- (d) Good decision making and strong analytical skills
- (e) Knowledge of current issues & future direction of Libraries and Local Government
- (f) Satisfactory IT skills including knowledge and understanding of relevant technical ICT packages

DUTIES

Persons appointed shall carry out such duties relating to the management and administration of the library services of the local authority as may be assigned to them, and the duty of deputising for the Co. Librarian and other employees of the local authority, when required, and such duties as may be required in relation to the area of any other local authority.

The Executive Librarian, **if assigned to Library Headquarters**, Bray, will implement the work flow for the county and with the following responsibilities:

- Supervision of Library H.Q. operations
- Overseeing cataloguing and classification standards
- Supervision and support to the Mobile Library Service and a number of part time branch libraries.
- Stock budget management and selection for the Mobile Library Service and a number of part time branch libraries, programming events and activities as required for same.
- Responsibility for Library H.Q. and other staff as appropriate through PMDS structure

The Executive Librarian, **if based at a full time branch library**, may also have responsibility for developing the service in one or more part-time branch library. Duties will include the following:

- Responsibility for library service at branch/branches in question
- Staff management under the PMDS structure
- Physical building and conditions
- Day to day Finance
- Managing book fund
- Developing an outreach programme, within the framework of local and national programmes



- Working with relevant Senior Executive Librarian / County Librarian re:
 - Promotion and marketing of services
 - Outreach and social inclusion
 - Health & Safety
 - Library Access
 - Staff training and development
 - Stock purchase
 - Energy saving

PRINCIPAL CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

A panel may be formed from which future Assistant Planner positions may be filled. The position will be fulltime and pensionable.

The successful candidate(s) may be assigned as required to any of the Municipal Districts/Directorates under the Chief Executive's control or to any premises/location in use by the Council now or in the future.

Duties

The duties of the office are to give to the local authority and

- to such other local authorities or bodies for which the Chief Executive, for the purposes of the Local Government Acts 2001 2014, is Chief Executive, and
- (b) to any other local authority or body with which an agreement has been made by the local authority or by any of the authorities or bodies mentioned in sub- paragraph (a) of this paragraph.

Under the general direction and control of the Chief Executive or of such other officer as the Chief Executive may from time to time determine, such appropriate professional/technical and ancillary services of an advisory, supervisory or executive nature as may be required by any local authority or body hereinbefore mentioned in the exercise and performance of any of its powers, functions and duties, including the duty of servicing all committees that may be established by any such local authority or body. The holder of the office will, if required, act for an officer of a higher level.

Probation

Where persons who are not already permanent officers of a Local Authority are appointed, the following provisions shall apply;

- a) there shall be a period after such appointments take effect, during which such persons shall hold office on probation;
- b) such period shall be 6 months, this period may be extended at the Chief Executive discretion;
- c) such persons shall cease to hold such office at the end of the period of probation, unless during such period, the Chief Executive has certified that the service of such persons in satisfactory.



Salary: €57,322 - €70,030 per annum includes 2nd LSI E.L. 07/2025

The salary shall be fully inclusive and shall be as determined from time to time in line with national policy. The holder of the office shall pay to the local authority any fees or other monies (other than his/her inclusive salary) payable to and received by him/her by virtue of his/her office or in respect of services which he/she is required by or under any enactment to perform. Starting pay shall be determined in accordance with appropriate Departmental Circular letters. New Entrants will be placed on the minimum of salary scale.

Hours of Work

The current working hours are 35 hours per week. The post entails a wide range of duties which require maximum flexibility, involving regular evening and weekend attendance where necessary. The person appointed may be required to work outside of normal hours on occasion.

Garda Vetting

Candidates may be subject to Garda Vetting. Appointment(s) will be considered having regard to receipt of satisfactory Garda Vetting, particularly to determine suitability to work with children/vulnerable adults.

Citizenship

Candidates must, by the date of any job offer, be:

- a) A citizen of the European Economic Area (EEA). The EEA consists of the Member States of the European Union, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway; **or**
- b) A citizen of the United Kingdom (UK); or
- c) A citizen of Switzerland pursuant to the agreement between the EU and Switzerland on the free movement of persons; **or**
- d) A non-EEA citizen who is a spouse or child of an EEA or UK or Swiss citizen and has a stamp 4 visa: **or**
- e) A person awarded international protection under the International Protection Act 2015 or any family member entitled to remain in the State as a result of family reunification and has a stamp 4 visa or
- f) A non-EEA citizen who is a parent of a dependent child who is a citizen of, and resident in, an EEA member state or the UK or Switzerland and has a stamp 4 visa.

Work Permit

All non-EU/EEA citizens must hold a valid work permit prior to and for the duration of their contract. The work permit must allow you to work full time for Wicklow County Council. It is the responsibility of individual employees to ensure that you have a valid work permit. If at any stage during your contract you cease to hold a valid work permit you must immediately advise Wicklow County Council and your employment will cease with immediate effect.

Health

For the purposes of satisfying the requirements as to health it will be necessary for successful candidates, before they are appointed, to undergo at their expense a medical examination by a qualified medical practitioner to be nominated by the local authority. On taking up appointment the expense of the medical examination will be refunded to candidates.



Residence

Holders of the office shall reside in the district in which their duties are to be performed or within a reasonable distance thereof.

Annual Leave

Annual leave entitlement will be 30 days per annum exclusive of public holidays and Good Friday.

Retirement Age

There is no mandatory retirement age for new entrants to the Public Service as defined in the Public Services Superannuation (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2004.

Persons, who are NOT new entrants to the Public Service as defined in the Public Services Superannuation (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 2004 and the Public Service Superannuation (Age of Retirement) Act 2018, are subject to a compulsory retirement age of 70 years.

With effect from 1st January 2013, persons who are pensionable under the terms of the Single Public Service Pension Scheme will have a minimum retirement age of 66 years initially rising in line with the State Pension age changes. Members of the Single Public Service Pension Scheme have a compulsory retirement age of 70 years.

Superannuation

Persons who become pensionable public servants on or after 1st January 2013 will become members of the Single Public Service Pension Scheme and, as such, will be required to pay contributions of 3% of pensionable remuneration and 3.5% of net pensionable remuneration (i.e. pensionable remuneration less twice the annual rate of social insurance old age contributory pension payable at the maximum rate to a person with no adult dependant or qualified children).

Persons who become pensionable officers of a local authority who are liable to pay the Class A rate of PRSI contribution will be required in respect of their superannuation to contribute to the local authority at the rate of 1.5% of their pensionable remuneration plus 3.5% of the net pensionable remuneration (i.e. pensionable remuneration less twice the annual rate of social insurance old age contributory pension payable at the maximum rate to a person with no adult dependant or qualified children).

Persons who become pensionable officers of a local authority who are liable to pay the Class D rate of PRSI contribution will be required in respect of their superannuation to contribute to the local authority at the rate of 5% of their pensionable remuneration.

All persons who become pensionable officers of a local authority will be required in respect of the Local Government (Spouses and Children's Contributory Pension) Scheme, to contribute to the local authority at the rate of 1.5% of their pensionable remuneration in accordance with the terms of the scheme.



APPLICATION PROCESS

Application form

Application forms are available on our website. www.wicklow.ie

Completed applications forms must be submitted to wccrecruitment@wicklowcoco.ie and by post to Recruitment, Wicklow County Council, Station Road, Wicklow Town, County Wicklow, on or before the closing date of Thursday 18th September 2025 at 12 noon sharp. Late applications or any amendments to applications will not be accepted.

Competencies for the post

Key Competencies for the post include the following and candidates will be expected to **demonstrate sufficient evidence within their application form** of competence under each of these.

Please provide an example, giving consideration to the role and essential requirements outlined in the Candidate Information Booklet. **Responses should not exceed 600 words**. Please aim to provide your best evidence in this section, as the below information may be used for shortlisting and/or interview purposes.

Key Competencies for the post of Executive Librarian are set out as follows:

- Management & Change
- Delivering Results
- Performance through People
- Personal Effectiveness

COMPETENCY	BEHAVIOURS
Management & Change	 Develops and maintains positive, productive and beneficial working relationships; Understands the context and impact of decisions made. Delivers services, project and tasks on time, within budget and achieving expected performance standards. Develops operational and team plans in the library service having regard to corporate priorities, operational objectives and available resources. Organises the delivery of services to meet or exceed the required standard through collaborating with, instructing and motivating employees and by managing resources effectively and efficiently to deliver on operational plans.
	 Promotes the achievement of quality outcomes in delivering services, with a focus on continuous improvement. Identifies and implements improvements in core work processes and outcomes.
Delivering Results	 Delivers services, projects and tasks on time, within budget and achieving expected performance standards Organises the delivery of services to meet or exceed the required standard through collaborating with, instructing and motivating employees and by managing resources effectively.



Performance	
through	
People	

- Leads, motivates and engages employees to achieve quality results and to deliver on operational plans;
- Effectively manages performance using the PMDS process.
- Have good and effective written and verbal skills.
- Builds and leads positive, diverse and productive teams.
- Empowers and encourages people to delivery their part of the operation plan.

Personal Effectiveness

- Take initiative, learn from experiences and seek opportunities to exceed goals.
- Successfully manage a range of different projects and work activities at the same time
- Maintain a positive, constructive and enthusiastic attitude to their role.
- Respond positively to the challenge of the role by offering solutions to address problems
- Demonstrate and encourage innovation and new thinking
- Use previous knowledge and experience in order to guide decisions
- Take account of broader issues, agendas and related implications when making decisions
- Act as an effective link between staff and senior management

Selection Process

Selection shall be by means of a competition based on interview. A panel may be formed on the basis of such interviews, from which permanent and temporary vacancies may be filled.

The Selection Process may include the following:

- Short-listing of candidates on the basis of the information contained in their application;
- Preliminary interview, which may also include a presentation;
- Completion of an online questionnaire;
- Competitive interview, which may also include a presentation;
- Work sample/role play/media exercise, and any other tests or exercises that may be deemed appropriate.

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* Please note that Wicklow County Council reserves the right to hold any part of the selection process by way of remote/video-call platform or other appropriate methodology.

Before proceeding with this phase of the selection process you should satisfy yourself that you meet the minimum qualification criteria for the post as set out above. This will prevent you from incurring unnecessary expense in progressing in the competition.

Short-Listing

Wicklow County Council reserves the right to shortlist applications. The shortlisting process may take the form of either a desktop shortlisting process based on the information contained in the application forms or a shortlisting interview.

The information you supply in the application form will play a central part of the shortlisting process. Wicklow County Council's decision to include you on the shortlist of candidates going forward to the next stage of the process may be determined based on this information.



Where, by reason of the number of persons seeking admission to the competition and the standard of knowledge, training or experience in general of such persons, Wicklow County Council considers that it would be reasonable not to admit all the persons to the competition, Wicklow County Council may admit to the competition only persons who appear likely to it to attain in the competition a standard sufficient for selection and recommendation for appointment.

You will be contacted in relation to any interview dates and times. You may also be contacted in relation to the requirement to complete an online questionnaire should this be included in the selection process. The onus is on you to attend for interview on the dates and times allocated. Alternative dates and times cannot be facilitated. When attending for interview you must produce photographic identification when registering your attendance at the Human Resources Department.

Wicklow County Council reserves the right to shortlist candidates in the manner it deems most appropriate. Shortlisting may be on the basis of information supplied on the application form and the likely number of vacancies to be filled. It is therefore in your own interest to provide a detailed and accurate account of your qualifications/experience on the application form. The candidates shortlisted will be invited to attend for interview.

The Council will not be responsible for any expenses incurred by candidates in attending for interview.

Interview Stage

The interview is your opportunity to give evidence of your knowledge, skills and experience and the Local Authority's opportunity to assess your suitability for the role as advertised.

The admission of a person to a competition, or invitation to attend an interview, is not to be taken as implying that Wicklow County Council is satisfied that such person fulfils the requirements of the Regulations or is not disqualified by law from holding the position and does not carry a guarantee that your application will receive further consideration. It is important therefore for you to note, the onus is on you to ensure that you meet the eligibility requirements for the competition before attending for interview. If you do not meet these essential entry requirements but nevertheless attend for interview you will be putting yourself to unnecessary expense, as Wicklow County Council will not be responsible for refunding any expenses incurred.

Wicklow County Council may at its discretion require candidates to attend a preliminary interview in which case admission to the competitive interview would be conditional on candidates reaching such a standard as Wicklow County Council considered appropriate in the preliminary interview.

Interviews shall be conducted by Board(s) set up by Wicklow County Council. The Board(s) will assess the merits of candidates (except insofar as they are assessed otherwise) in respect of matters referred to in the prescribed Qualifications and any other relevant matters. Only candidates who reach such a standard as Wicklow County Council considers satisfactory in the competitive interview shall be considered for selection and placed on a panel. The onus is on all applicants to make themselves available for interview.



Pre-Employment Checks

Before contracts of employment are entered into, various checks are undertaken. These include medicals, references and may include Garda Vetting. The Council will invite those successful candidates who accept an offer to fill a vacancy to attend a medical assessment. References for successful candidates will also be checked and Garda Vetting, if necessary, will be completed at this point.

Panel

Candidates whose names are on a Panel and who satisfy the local authority that they possess the qualifications declared for the office and that they are otherwise suitable for appointment may, within the life of the Panel, be appointed as appropriate vacancies arise.

The life of the Panel will be for one year from the date it is formed, it may be extended at the discretion of the Chief Executive.

Terms and Conditions

Wicklow County Council will require the person to whom appointment is offered to take up the appointment within a period of not more than **one month** and if the person fails to take up the appointment within such period or such longer period as Wicklow County Council in its absolute discretion may determine, Wicklow County Council will not appoint him/her.

Employment may be terminated by either side by giving at least one calendar months' notice. In the event that employment is terminated prior to the completion of any particular contract, the appointee shall co-operate with the Council in ensuring that all files/records are up-to-date and present in an acceptable manner.

It should be noted that the terms of Paragraph 13 of Circular Letter EL 02/09 - Incentivised Scheme of Early Retirement may need to be considered in some instances. It is a condition of this scheme as set out in the Department of Finance Circular 12/2009 that retirees, under that Scheme, are debarred from applying for another position in the same employment or the same sector.

Furthermore, persons who have availed of a Redundancy Payment Scheme should know that is a condition of the Collective Agreement that persons availing of the Scheme will not be eligible for reemployment in the public service by any public service body (as defined by the Financial Emergency Measures in the Public Interest Acts 2009 – 2011) for a period of 2 years from termination of the employment. Thereafter the consent of the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform will be required prior to re-employment. Applicants will be required to declare whether they have previously availed of either of the above schemes.

Examples of some of the current Employee Benefits include:

- Wicklow County Council's Blended Working Policy
- A range of Family Friendly Policies
- Availability of a Cycle to Work Scheme
- A range of Learning and Developmental Opportunities
- Paid Maternity and Paternity Leave
- Automatically entered into a pension scheme
- Access to the services provided under Wicklow County Council's Employee Assistance Programme – Spectrum Health



WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL RESERVES THE RIGHT TO SHORTLIST CANDIDATES IN THE MANNER IT DEEMS MOST APPROPRIATE.

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNTIES EMPLOYER

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Who can I contact if I have a query in relation the Recruitment Campaign?

If you are unclear in relation to any aspect of the recruitment and selection process, please read the briefing document and frequently asked questions carefully before contacting Wicklow County Council's Human Resources Department. If you still need to contact the Human Resources Department please send your query via email in the first instance to wccrecruitment@wicklowcoco.ie.

2. What happens if I cannot attend a particular stage of the competition?

The onus is on you to attend for all stages of the recruitment competition at the locations, dates and times notified. Wicklow County Council cannot change dates and times of any particular stage of the process.

3. I have submitted my Application form, what happens next?

Wicklow County Council will carry out an eligibility check on all applications to ensure that they meet the minimum qualifications for the post. You do not need to contact the HR Department. If you do not meet the minimum eligibility requirements for the post <u>based on the information submitted on your application form</u>, you will not be invited to interview.

Depending on the number of candidates remaining at this stage of the competition it may be necessary to hold a shortlisting process. The shortlisting process may take the form of either a desktop shortlisting process based on the information contained in the application forms or a shortlisting interview/assessment. The information you supply in the application form will play a central part of the qualifying and shortlisting process.

You may be contacted by email or letter in relation to any interview dates and times. The onus is on you to attend for interview on the dates and times allocated. Alternative dates and times cannot be facilitated. When attending for interview you must produce photographic identification when registering your attendance at the Human Resources Department.

4. What happens on completion of the shortlisting process?

Wicklow County Council will contact all applicants advising them of the results of the shortlisting process. If you have been successful at this stage you will be invited for a final interview.

5. What happens after undertaking the final interview?

If you qualify at final interview stage you will be placed on a panel and ranked in order of merit. Vacancies may be filled from this panel as they arise and in order of merit. Please note that being placed on a panel is not a guarantee that you will be appointed to the position.



6. How will Wicklow County Council communicate with me throughout the Recruitment and Selection Campaign?

Wicklow County Council will contact you when necessary at each stage of the competition either by email or by post. It is strongly recommended that you do not change your email address in the course of this recruitment campaign, as any email will be sent to the email address originally supplied with your application form. It is important to note that the email address you provide when submitting your application form must be one that you can access at all times.

The onus is on the applicant to inform the Human Resources Department of any change in postal address, email address or mobile telephone number throughout the recruitment and selection campaign. This can be done by emailing wccrecruitment@wicklowcoco.ie

The onus is on each applicant to ensure that s/he is in receipt of all communication from Wicklow County Council. Wicklow County Council accepts no responsibility for communication not accessed or received by an applicant.



www.wicklow.ie

wcccrecruitment@wicklowcoco.ie



@wicklowcoco



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