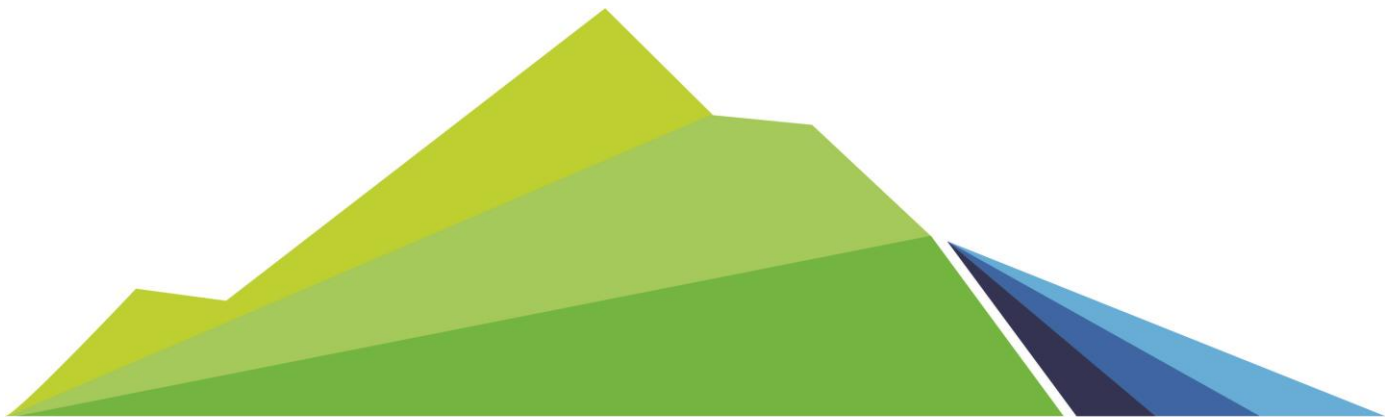




# Wicklow County Council Chief Executive's Monthly Report



W I C K L O W

---

ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES



Table of Contents

**HOUSING AND COMMUNITY .....6**

**1. Housing .....6**

Social Housing Support ..... 6

Allocation of Social Housing..... 6

Social Housing Stock..... 6

Housing Supply – Programme of Delivery ..... 6

Home Improvement/Adaptation ..... 9

Traveller accommodation ..... 14

Energy Efficiency ..... 14

Ukrainian Response..... 15

**2. Community ..... 16**

Wicklow Arts Office ..... 16

Library Service..... 17

Slaintecare Healthy Communities Programme ..... 21

Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP):..... 21

Public Participation Network (PPN): ..... 22

LECP ..... 22

Blessington eGreenway..... 23

ORIS APPLICATIONS ..... 24

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PLANNING AND INFRASTRUCTURE .....26**

**1. Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) (Economic) .....26**

Retail..... 26

Town Teams..... 27

Tourism..... 29

Rural and Urban Regeneration Development Fund Grant Applications..... 31

URDF: Urban Regeneration Development Fund..... 32



Maritime .....	33
Food and Beverage Strategy .....	34
<b>2. Local Enterprise Office.....</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>2. Planning and Development.....</b>	<b>39</b>
County Development Plan.....	39
Development Management.....	40
Planning Enforcement.....	43
<b>3. Environmental Services.....</b>	<b>45</b>
Waste Management .....	45
Whitestown Remediation Project.....	45
Climate Action.....	46
Environmental Awareness.....	48
Harbours and Ports.....	49
<b>5. Transportation, Water &amp; Emergency Services.....</b>	<b>53</b>
Public lighting .....	53
Transportation Statistics (General) .....	54
Fire Services.....	58
Parking Income.....	65
<b>ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND FINANCIAL MATTERS .....</b>	<b>66</b>
<b>1. HR and Corporate Services.....</b>	<b>66</b>
Recruitment .....	66
Access to Information .....	67
Register of Electors.....	67
Customer Service Hub .....	67
<b>2. I.C.T.....</b>	<b>69</b>
Blended Working.....	69
IT Helpdesk.....	69



Implementation of ePlanning .....	69
GIS & Systems Analysis .....	69
Business Systems/Applications Development.....	69
Customer Service Delivery.....	69
eServices.....	69
<b>3. Financial .....</b>	<b>71</b>
Revenue Account .....	71
Cashflow/Overdraft.....	71
Capital Account.....	72
Commercial Rates, Rents and Loan Collections .....	72
General Municipal Allocation and Discretionary Fund 2022 .....	72
Capital Investment Programme 2022-2024.....	73
Capital Funded Projects .....	74



## **This month:**

### **Kiltegan Village wins at All-Ireland Community Awards**

Kiltegan Village has won a prestigious Pride of Place community award. The village claimed a special award in the Population 0-300 category, with judges drawing attention to years of hard work by local volunteers.

The Pride of Place competition was initiated 19 years ago through a Co-operation Ireland programme to acknowledge the invaluable work undertaken by volunteers and those involved in local community development. Over the years it has grown into the largest competition recognising community development achievements on the island of Ireland.

### **Wicklow Library & Archives Shortlisted for Prestigious Awards**

Wicklow town's new library and archives have made the final shortlisting for two national awards.

In the Irish Construction Awards, the library and archives have been shortlisted under the 'Public Building' category for the contractors Byrne & Byrne Construction Ltd.

The Irish Construction Awards are the original and premier recognition of performance excellence for the contracting sector in Ireland. The awards are an opportunity for the construction industry to highlight best performance across the full range of construction disciplines and project categories.

Separately, the architects on the project, O Connell Mahon Architects, have been shortlisted for their work on the library and archives in the 'Building and Architect of the Year Awards 2022' under the category 'Building refurbishment for a single building or development.

### **Arklow 'Open for Business' Initiative**

Wicklow County Council in collaboration with Arklow Town Team is running a business campaign to show that the town is open for business as usual.

Arklow is currently a transformation with large infrastructural schemes underway which will enhance the town for its residents and visitors alike. It is important that businesses are supported for the duration of the works in the town.

Wicklow County Council has invited businesses to submit a post relating to their business for social media distribution. The campaign focuses on promoting businesses in the town to show that Arklow is 'Open for Business' during the current works.

Businesses are encouraged to submit a post if they wish to be included in the campaign to promote what they can offer their customers.

Wicklow County Council will continue to expand the initiative to support local businesses.

The 'Open for Business' campaign will run for the summer months on social media to help spotlight local businesses in the town and encourage people to shop local.



## HOUSING AND COMMUNITY

### 1. Housing

#### Social Housing Support

	April 2022	April 2021
No. on list for Social Housing Support – (includes RAS & HAP)*	4525	4478
No. availing of Rental Assistance Scheme (RAS)	230	274
No. availing of Housing Assistance Payment	2548	2266
No. in Long Term Leasing Accommodation	21	16
No. in Short Term Leasing Accommodation	31	29

#### Allocation of Social Housing

	April 2022	April 2021
Wicklow County Council	72	20
Approved Housing Bodies	10	02

#### Social Housing Stock

	April 2022	April 2021
Tenancies occupied	4,711	4,570
Total weekly rental accrual	307,594.36	300,519.49
Arrears	2,752,775.26	2,994,968.48

#### Housing Supply – Programme of Delivery

SCHEMES COMPLETED	UNITS	CURRENT STATUS
O'Byrne Road, Bray	1	Completed and allocated
Old Library Arklow	7	Completed and allocated
Avondale Heights Rathdrum	20	Completed and allocated
Delany Park, Arklow (Phase 1)	17	Completed and allocated
16A Oak Drive, Blessington	1	Completed and allocated

Druids Brook, Kilcoole	2	Completed and allocated
Whitehall, Baltinglass	34	Completed and allocated
Farrenkelly Greystones Phase 2	24	Completed and allocated
Convent Lands	51	Completed and allocated
Urban Villas (FCA Hall), Wicklow Town	8	Completed and allocated
Jameson Heights, Kilmacanogue	20	Completed and allocated
Kilmantan Place, Bray	4	Completed and allocated
Carnew Rapid Build	30	Completed and allocated
Rathnew RAPID BUILD	47	Completed and allocated
Kilbride Court (Bray)	42	Completed and allocated
Ard na Greine, Bray	31	Completed and allocated
Delany Park Arklow (Phase 2 + 3)	47	Completed and allocated
Hawkstown Park (Ashtown Lane), Wicklow Design & Build	40	Completion and being allocated
<b>Schemes on Site</b>	<b>units</b>	<b>CURRENT STATUS</b>
Mountainview, NTMK Design & Build	22	Completion anticipated Quarter 2 2022
Greenhill Road Wicklow Design & Build	36	Completion anticipated Q4 2022
Sheehan Court Design & Build	7	Completion anticipated Q3 2022
Avondale Phase 2 Design & Build	20	Completion anticipated Q4 2022
Cedar Court Bray Design & Build	14	Completion anticipated Q3 2023
<b>Pipeline Schemes</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>Current Status</b>
Lugduff Tinahely	20	Part 8 complete
Three Trouts Greystones Design & Build	41	Site start anticipated Q3 2022
Merrymeeting, Rathnew, Phase 2	21	Site start anticipated Q3 2022
Ballard Shillelagh	20	Site start anticipated Q3 2022
Fassaroe, Bray	15	Stage 2 approval awaited.
Ballynerrin, Wicklow	10	Approval received from department. – preparing part V111
Burgage More Blessington	106	Part of PPP bundle 3 with NDFA. Part 8 approved.
Lott Lane, Kilcoole	75	Stage 1 approval received, stage 2 pending
Rehills, Bray	80	PPP bundle 5

Public Private Partnership.



Following a request from the Department of Housing, the following sites have been submitted for consideration for inclusion in future bundles:

- Burnaby, Greystones
- Rehills, Bray.
- Tinahask, Arklow.

## Part V

Location	No. of Units	Due for Delivery	Method
Bray	20	Scheduled phased Q2-Q4 2022	CALF
Rathnew	6	3 Delivered Q1 2022 , 3 Scheduled Q2 2022	WCC
Wicklow Town	4	Scheduled Q3 2022	WCC
Delgany	3	Scheduled Q3 2022	WCC
Rathdrum	3	Scheduled Q1 2022	WCC
Kilcoole	3	Scheduled Q4 2022	WCC
Enniskerry	2	Scheduled Q2 2022	WCC
Delgany	4	Scheduled Q2 2022	WCC
Delgany	1	Scheduled Q3 2022	WCC
Rathdrum	7	Scheduled Q4 2022	WCC

## Potential units

Wicklow County Council currently has agreements in place for 43 units in Delgany, Bray, Rathnew, Wicklow, Baltinglass, Dunlavin and Enniskerry with delivery ranging from 2021-2023. This includes the 53 units listed above. WCC is in negotiations in respect of over 100 further units with delivery dates yet to be confirmed.

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

## Turnkey

Location	No. of Units	Due for Delivery	Method
Arklow	10	Scheduled Q2 2022,3 Scheduled 2023	CALF
Rathnew	10	6 Scheduled Q2 2022	WCC
Bray	188	Scheduled Q2-Q4 2022	CALF
Rathdum	13	Scheduled Q4 2022	WCC
Rathdrum	30	Scheduled Q1 2023	CALF
Arklow	42	Scheduled Q2-Q4 2022	CALF

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





## Capital Advance Leasing Facility (CALF)

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

**Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)** Wicklow County Council is continuing to support acquisitions under the Capital Assistance Scheme with Dublin Simon, Circle Housing, Ark Housing and Peter McVerry Trust.

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

## Home Improvement/Adaptation

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

- › Grant funding for private house - €2,299,375 (2022 budget) (€xxxxxxx spent to date)
- › Grant funding for social house - €1,168,200 (2021 budget) (€111,855.24 spent to date)

### Private Houses

Open Applications 115 (some carried over from 2021, approvals not included in this figure)

Approved applications 162 (some carried over from 2021)

### 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 National Housing Strategy for Disable People 2022 – 2027 will be launched in mid January 2022

### Housing for Older People - Age Friendly Schemes

Millbank, Mill Road - Two 2 bed properties	Detailed design complete – tender documents finalised and advertised closing date 20 <sup>th</sup> June
Castle Villas - Two 2 bed properties	Detailed design complete – tender documents finalised and advertised closing date 20 <sup>th</sup> June
Carraig Eden - 14 age friendly 1 bed apartments	Part 8 complete commencement of design and build project to begin shortly
Kilcoole Health Centre 4 no 1 bed apartments	Finalising detailed design

### Vacant Homes Scheme

There are now 15 CPOs underway on long term vacant houses around the county.

30 South Green, Arklow	Notice to Treat served. House now in possession of the Council and will be refurbished prior to allocation.
5 Priory Way, Delgany	Notice to Treat served. House now in possession of the Council and will be refurbished prior to allocation.
8 Sycamore Drive, Newtownmountkennedy	House purchased from START Mortgages by agreement . Nearing completion of refurbishment. Already allocated.
5 Ashwood, Roundwood	Confirmed CPO. House now purchased by agreement and will be refurbished prior to allocation.
108 Charnwood, Bray	Oral hearing held by An Bord Pleanála on 17 <sup>th</sup> August 2021 but no decision yet notified to parties.
10 Liam Mellows Avenue Arklow	CPO Confirmed. Purchase by agreement with Receiver in progress.
33 Connolly Street, Arklow	CPO Confirmed. Purchase by agreement with Receiver in progress.
6 Ashleigh, Ashford	Oral hearing of An Bord Pleanála still pending. In process of buying the house by agreement with Receiver.
114 Hillside, Greystones	CPO published. Objection lodged. Oral Hearing will follow.
18 Delgany Glen, Greystones	CPO published. Objection lodged. Oral Hearing will follow.
2 Lakeview Grove, Wicklow Town	CPO published. No objections lodged. Likely to be confirmed in April.
88 Wicklow Heights, Wicklow Town	CPO now confirmed by Chief Executive. Newspaper notice of same will be published 2 <sup>nd</sup> week in April in Wicklow Times. Next stage will be Notice to Treat.
100 Wicklow Heights, Wicklow Town	CPO published 1 <sup>st</sup> week in April.
53 South Green, Arklow	CPO published 1 <sup>st</sup> week in April.
53A South Green, Arklow	CPO published 1 <sup>st</sup> week in April.

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

Further reports relating to Co Wicklow on [www.vacanthomes.ie](http://www.vacanthomes.ie) were received in March. Most of these did not contain any information that could identify the property in question and the rest are already known to us and are being investigated.

## Infill Sites

- Blackhills - Two 3 bed semi-detached properties are currently being constructed



- Knockroe – a revised stage 2 application has been submitted to the department for 2 x 4 bedroomed fully accessible units

## Housing Maintenance - Heating Upgrade Programme

The 1st round of Gas & Oil heating offer letters for 2022 was sent out in January and 4th round offers have now been issued. The adopted budget for 2022 is €236,000. Gas & oil boiler maintenance contracts are due for renewal and have now been procured through [www.Supplygov.ie](http://www.Supplygov.ie). Emerging from the procurement process there have been significant increases in the cost of boiler servicing – in the range 12 to 23%, Similar increases will apply to boiler repair and replacement costs.

### . Rebuilding Ireland Home loans 2022

Received	Approved in principle
22	11

### 2016 Tenant (Incremental) Purchase Scheme

	To date	April 2022
Applications Received	358	3
Completed	89	1
Declined	244	5
Ongoing	25	25

### Homeless figures for April 2022

Addressing Homelessness			
	As at 30/04/2022	Year To Date	As at 30/04/2021
	30	104	47
<b>No of New Presentations</b>			
<b>No. of Repeat Presentations</b>	0	13	1
<b>No. of Families (Minimum 1 Adult + One Child)</b>	17	59	18
<b>No. of Individuals (Single Adult, no children)</b>	11	49	28
<b>No. Of Couples (2 Adults, no children)</b>	2	8	1
<b>No. of Children</b>	34	112	33
<b>NTQ/Asked to Leave/Landlord selling</b>	13	39	1



Family Circumstances	8	30	25
Leaving Prison/Hospital Care	0	1	1
Mental Health	1	3	0
Risk of Homelessness	0	11	8
Arrears/Loss of Income	0	3	4
Addiction Issues	0	3	3
DV/DA	5	15	1
Medical Issues	1	2	0
Overcrowding	1	3	2
Unsuitable/Voluntarily Left	2	13	3
ASB:	0	2	0
Rough Sleeping*	0	0	3
Sofa Surfing*	1	9	2
Staying with Family*	3	17	14
Staying with Friends*	1	8	1

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

Own Door Temporary Accommodation at 31/03/2022	
Families	20
Adults	37
Children	52
Single individual	1

Bed & Breakfast Accommodation - No. of Homeless Emergency Accommodation Placements & Duration @ 30/04/2022								
	No. of Households	No. of Adults	No. of Children	< 3 mths	3-6 mths	6-9 mths	9-12 mths	>12mths
Household breakdown	21	27	24	11	5	2	1	2
Bed & Breakfast Accommodation - No. of Homeless Emergency Accommodation Placements & Duration @ 30/04/2021								
	No. of Households	No. of Adults	No. of Children	< 3 mths	3-6 mths	6-9 mths	9-12 mths	>12mths
Household breakdown	14	16	15	3	7	2	1	1

**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, 392 households (291 families & 101 singles) have been assisted under the Homeless HAP Scheme in Wicklow County Council from the inception on 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2018 to 30<sup>th</sup>.April 2022. (170 homeless cases, 213 prevention cases to date and 9 direct provision). 118 properties were sourced by WCC.

### **Addressing Homelessness in partnership with Approved Housing Bodies**

#### **Homeless Supported Temporary Accommodation – Kilmantin Hill, Wicklow**

There are 11 clients supported in the Kilmantin Hill facility, operated by Dublin Simon, with continuing transition by the clients to suitable, alternative accommodation.

#### **Homeless Family Service – Fitzwilliam Road, Wicklow**

Dublin Simon have been engaged by Wicklow County Council to operate and manage the facility at Fitzwilliam Road, Wicklow as a Family Homeless Service. The building comprises of 3 x 1 bed units 2 x 2 bed units and 2 x 3 bed units - Refurbishment works and snagging are now complete.

The first 4 families have now been accommodated and assessments are underway to fill the remaining apartments in the hub.

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

#### **Homeless Supported Temporary Accommodation – San Remo, Bray**

A key focus of Wicklow County Council in addressing homelessness was to identify and provide a high supported, temporary accommodation unit in Bray/North Wicklow to address the accommodation and support needs of a particular homeless cohort. This cohort was identified from the presenting population and those currently known to and accessing homeless services in Bray/North Wicklow.

San Remo opened to clients in October 2020. The facility, operated by Dublin Simon, incorporates a service model where there are a number of emergency/cold weather Beds (restricted during Covid) and Supported Temporary Accommodation Beds (STA). There is on site key working support linking in with clients.

The Neighbourhood Liaison Committee is now operational and meets monthly.

#### **Homeless Supported Accommodation - Carraig Eden, Greystones**

The Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government (DHPCLG) approved funding to upgrade the building to provide 35 ensuite bedrooms within the existing building, with associated kitchens and common areas, as well as the upgrade of Fire Protection.



The facility is fully operational. Wicklow County Council are making arrangements with the AHB to run an in-reach service with the clients in the service to support them as they continue their journey into more permanent accommodation.

## Other Homeless Supported Accommodation

Wicklow County Council owned properties in Wicklow, Bray and Arklow, leased to AHBs, provide 12 units of low to medium supported accommodation targeted to the particular support needs of the clients. There continues to be a number of move ons from these properties, signalling the success of this model.

## Housing First

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

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

Wicklow County Council has, to date, successfully accommodated 9 clients under Housing First. Other clients proposed for Housing First have been assessed by the team and are availing of key support work pending finalisation of sourcing of accommodation – the main issue facing this programme is the availability of one bed units in suitable locations with easy access to services etc.

## Traveller accommodation

### Capital Programme

<b>Ballintreskin – 3 houses</b>	All residents who were on the proposed site have been rehoused. Still awaiting final full approval from the department
<b>Avondale Heights, Rathdrum – 4 houses</b>	Approval received for funding from Department, – Part V111 approved detailed design underway
<b>Barndarrig Group Housing scheme for 2 houses</b>	Stage 2 approval received. Part V111 to be commenced.
<b>Ballintreskin,</b>	Detailed design completed for extension – discussions underway with tenant regarding decanting of Bay during works

Fire safety on Halting sites were completed by members of the Housing section in October 2021 and further inspections will be carried out in 2022.

## Energy Efficiency

### Energy Efficiency Fabric Upgrade Phase 2

Works completed on 57 properties in West Wicklow and Rathdrum and snagging underway

Additional BERs and suitability inspections being carried out on properties listed as being down for fabric upgrades in 2022. Framework for fabric upgrade works is completed.

71 [properties given approval for energy efficiency fabric upgrade works in 2022.



## Ukrainian Response

- As of 24<sup>th</sup> May the numbers of Ukrainians Displaced Persons in emergency type accommodation is **782** (although we know that they are over 1200 approx in the County)

This number is broken down as follows -

- Arklow MD                      94 No.
  - Baltinglass MD                65 No.
  - Bray MD                         399 No.
  - Greystones MD                74 No.
  - Wicklow MD                    150 No.
- 
- WCC are currently assessing all Displaced Ukrainians in the County in order to identify their accommodation needs as well linking them in with all the relevant services and supports within the community.
  - WCC are working through a list of pledged properties within the County and matching families accordingly. Larger buildings and vacant units are also being identified and explored as potential options for medium to long term accommodation.
  - Arklow Rest Centre – is currently open and fully operational. The purpose of the rest centre is to provide emergency bed spaces for displaced Ukrainians until such time as more suitable accommodation can be sourced.
  - The Community Response Forum continues to meet on a weekly basis



## 2. Community

### Wicklow Arts Office

#### **Cruinniú na nÓg 2022**

On Saturday 11th June, children and young people across County Wicklow are invited to get creative and take part in Cruinniú na nÓg 2022.

Wicklow County Arts Office has put together an exciting and engaging programme of activities for Cruinniú na nÓg 2022, which will give families the opportunity to try something new and celebrate creativity. Some of the highlights planned for this year include:

In collaboration with the Historic Houses of Ireland, Killruddery House is providing a weekend of art, culture and heritage for children. 'I See You' will see workshops by Aduantas Aerial, Me & The Moon and circus performers Ben Carpenter, Bróna Howard and Stephen McGinley.

'Garageland Galaxy' featuring young musicians aged 12 – 18, will take place in Arklow as part of Wicklow's Cruinniú na nÓg events on the 11<sup>th</sup> June.

In partnership with Youth Theatre Ireland, Mr Sands Youth Theatre and Making Waves Youth Theatre are both providing taster workshops where aspiring young actors and performers can get to meet existing members, see the things they've made, and play drama games.

Wicklow Libraries will host a range of fun fill activities and workshops including junk workshops, traditional singing, smart phone film making puppet shows, and more.

Finally, Wicklow County Arts Office has created a special West Wicklow programme with candle making workshops, forest school, juggling, movie making and cooking demonstration by Catherine Fulvio to name but a few.

All events are free of charge.

#### **Outdoor Public Spaces Scheme**

A Design Team has been allocated to the Outdoor Spaces Scheme on the Bray Seafront project.

#### **Arts Funding Schemes**

Letters of Agreement were issued to recipients of three Art funding schemes: Arts Festival Grants, Artist Awards Scheme and the Artist and Community Collaboration Awards Scheme. Payment of awards is in process.

#### **Music Programmes for Older Persons**

On foot of a successful application to Creative Ireland, we are in line to receive approximately €70,000 funding under the 'Older Persons Programme for Nursing Home Care Projects' and 'Music Learning Programme for Older Persons'.

#### **Art Packs for children at the Arklow Rest Centre**

The Arts Office put together and delivered a large selection of art, creativity and activity packs to the children at the Rest Centre in Arklow.





## Community Activities Fund under the Community Enhancement Programme 2021

The Community Activities Fund (CAF) provides funding to support community groups across Ireland. The amount of funding allocated to County Wicklow is €282,686.

The Community Activities Fund will support groups, particularly in disadvantaged areas with their non-pay running costs for example utility bills (electricity costs, refuse charges, heating charges) or other non-pay operating costs for example rental/lease costs, insurance bills. Groups will also be able to use the funding to carry out necessary repairs and improvements to their facilities, purchase equipment for example tables and chairs, tools and signage, laptops and printers, lawnmowers, canopies and training equipment etc.

It is administered by Local Community Development Committees (LCDC) in each Local Authority area. The applications have been provisionally approved at the April meeting of the LCDC and have been forwarded to the DRCD for final approval. It is anticipated that details of the successful applications will be announced directly by the DRCD from mid-May onwards.

## Community Awards Scheme 2022

Wicklow County Council operates this scheme as part of its commitment to supporting local community development and is available as grant aid to successful community groups and local organisations wishing to undertake community projects in their area. The maximum grant amount is €500 per organisation to assist with small projects and group running costs. The closing date for receipt of applications was Friday 29th April. The applications are currently being assessed and it is anticipated that grant recipients will be notified in late May/early June.

## Library Service

A major exhibition on The Treaty of 1921 is running in Wicklow Town Library & Archives until the middle of May.



Marking the centenary of the signing of the Anglo-Irish Treaty, the exhibition – ‘The Treaty 1921: Records from the Archives’ - has had a hugely successful three-months run at Dublin Castle where the Treaty went on public display for the first time. The exhibition is presented by the National Archives in association with Wicklow County Council.

‘The Treaty, 1921: Records from the Archives’ has been developed in partnership with the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, Royal Irish Academy, the National Library of Ireland with records from the collections of the Military Archives and University College Dublin Archives.’

The exhibition in Wicklow Library & Archives, which runs until May 17th, was formally opened on Monday (April 25th) by the Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council, Cllr Shay Cullen, along with Cllr Gail Dunne, Wicklow Municipal District; Chief Executive, Brian Gleeson and Director of the National Archives, Orlaith McBride.

The papers of Wicklow's Robert Childers Barton, who was one of the plenipotentiaries of the Treaty, will also feature in the exhibition, as well as other local records from the Wicklow County Archives collections. The Military Archives has also kindly loaned items from their collections for the Wicklow exhibition.



To mark the exhibition coming to Wicklow, a series of public talks will take place in County Buildings, commencing with a talk by Dublin City Historian-in-Residence, Dr Cormac Moore on the Anglo-Irish Treaty.

### **Teenage Ukulele Lessons and sessions in Blessington Library**

Blessington Library has hosted a 6-week ukulele course for teens through April and May.

The course was fully booked and hugely successful. In fact such was the success; the library is hoping to set up a regular ukulele session for all ages and abilities.

Long may the strumming last!

### **Greystones Library attends Expo**

The Community and Voluntary Expo took place on Sunday 8 May 2022 in Temple Carrig School, Greystones.

Greystones Town Team promoted each community and voluntary group throughout the day and posted on social media.

Greystones Librarians, Catherine and Fiona set out the library stall at the recent Expo Information Fair in Temple Carrig school. They enjoyed this excellent opportunity to connect with wonderful voluntary and community organisations, while showcasing their own library services on offer from Wicklow County Council Library Service, such as Borrowbox, Libby and Transparent Languages which has a special feature for our Ukrainian friends learning English.

The event is part of celebrations following Greystones' win of the prestigious International Liveable Communities award in 2021. It is organised by Greystones Town Team with the support of the Greystones Municipal District.

### **Art Exhibition - Blessington Library**

Blessington Library is hosting an art exhibition "Stitched Moments and Dimensions" featuring artist Jacinta O'Reilly and photographer Rüdiger Wolf.

The exhibition was launched on Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> April to a full house and is on display until Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> May.

## Introduction to the library for Arklow Babies



Fun at 'Tummy Time' in Arklow Library with lots of chatting, gurgling and giggling under the Magic Table! 17 babies along with their mums, dads and carers came along. This new event takes place every Thursday at 11am and is a valuable and much appreciated opportunity to meet up, make friends, and share experiences, whilst making use of the library and all it offers.

## and Greystones libraries

## Felt Workshops – Bealtaine in Blessington

Felting artist, Miriam Brady is facilitating two Bealtaine workshops for Wicklow County Council Library service during the month of May. Participants will learn the basics of felting and create a piece of work worthy of being framed and displayed in the participants' homes.

## An Evening with Oscar Wilde, Bealtaine performance of Oscar Wilde at Wicklow Library

In celebration of Bealtaine, Wicklow Town library is hosting Richard Lynch's "An evening with Oscar Wilde", on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May at 7.00 p.m. Take a trip back to Victorian Society, meet the aristocracy and share Wilde's sparkling humour and wit, and witness his tragic downfall. Featuring 'The Picture of Dorian Grey', 'The Importance of Being Ernest' and 'The Ballad of Reading Gaol'

## Friendship Books for all Early learning service providers in County Wicklow

All early learning and care settings in the county are to receive a book on the theme of friendship and a booklet from Barnardos called 'Supporting Friendships in Early Learning and Care'. Libraries will be in touch with their local pre-schools and after school services to let them know when their friendship-themed book is ready to collect.

## Public Talks to mark the Anglo-Irish Treaty Exhibition in Wicklow



A series of public talks was held in the Council Chamber to mark the coming of the National Archives Treaty Exhibition to Wicklow Library & Archives. Historian and author Cormac Moore presented a highly informative talk on the events around the Anglo-Irish Treaty and a lively discussion followed. Sean Murphy, historian, author and genealogist gave a fascinating insight into Wicklow's own Robert Childers Barton, his role as plenipotentiary at the Treaty negotiations in Downing Street and his path to republicanism. Lastly, we had a very interesting talk by Lisa Dolan of the Military Archives on the Wicklow sources relating to the revolutionary period in this incredible archives.

## Anglo-Irish Treaty Exhibition launched in Wicklow Library & Archives



**This major exhibition on The Treaty of 1921 will run in Wicklow Town Library & Archives until the 17<sup>th</sup> of May.** Marking the centenary of the signing of the Anglo-Irish Treaty, the exhibition – ‘*The Treaty 1921: Records from the Archives*’ - has had a hugely successful three-months run at Dublin Castle where the Treaty went on public display for the first time. The exhibition is presented by the National Archives in association with Wicklow County Council. ‘*The Treaty, 1921: Records from the Archives*’ has been developed in partnership with the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, Royal Irish Academy, the National Library of Ireland with records

from the collections of the Military Archives and University College Dublin Archives.’ The exhibition in Wicklow Library & Archives was formally opened on April 25<sup>th</sup> by the Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council, Cllr Shay Cullen, along with Cllr Gail Dunne, Wicklow Municipal District; Chief Executive, Brian Gleeson and Director of the National Archives, Orlaith McBride.

The papers of Wicklow's Robert Childers Barton, who was one of the plenipotentiaries of the Treaty, will also feature in the exhibition, as well as other local records from the Wicklow County Archives collections. The Military Archives has also kindly loaned items from their collections for the Wicklow exhibition. To mark the exhibition coming to Wicklow, a series of public talks will take place in County Buildings, commencing with a talk by Dublin City Historian-in-Residence, Dr Cormac Moore on the Anglo-Irish Treaty.



**Pickleball Taster Session**

Free Pickleball Taster Session for 50+, in partnership with Pickleball Ireland. Taking place in Hollywood Community Centre, Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May @ 10.20am – 12.30pm. All Welcome! To register your interest please call Denise on 0404-20100 or e-mail [doshea@wicklowcoco.ie](mailto:doshea@wicklowcoco.ie)

**Couch to 2K**

FREE five week walk to jog programme, starting Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May. 116 people have registered for the programme which will be delivered through an app called ‘Movespring’

**Courses**

Safeguarding 1	9 <sup>th</sup> May	Online – Public - FULL
Safeguarding 2	24 <sup>th</sup> May	Online



## Upcoming Events: Bike Week 2022

**BikeWeek 2022**

*Schedule of events*

**SATURDAY, 14TH MAY**  
 10AM SOCIAL CYCLE - THE SPORT ROOM, WICKLOW TOWN  
 TBC LEARN TO CYCLE U13 - BALTINGLASS

**SUNDAY, MAY 15TH**  
 12PM FAMILY CYCLE - RUSSBOURGH

**MONDAY, MAY 16TH**  
 7PM CYCLE TO ZEN - THE AVON, BLESSINGTON

**TUESDAY, MAY 17TH**  
 6-15PM BIKE MAINTENANCE WORKSHOP - THE SPORTS ROOM, WICKLOW TOWN  
 5PM BIKE MAINTENANCE WORKSHOP - MERIDAN SHOPPING CENTRE GREYSTONES  
 7PM BEGINNERS BIKE MAINTENANCE WORKSHOP - THE AVON, BLESSINGTON  
 10AM CYCLE TO ZEN - THE AVON, BLESSINGTON  
 10AM CYCLE TO ZEN - BANDSTAND, BRAY SEAFRONT

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 18TH**  
 10AM CYCLE TO ZEN - BURNABY PARK, GREYSTONES  
 6PM-8PM MTN BIKE TASTER SESSION - CARRICK MTN, GLENEALY  
 5PM-7PM FATBIKE ADVENTURES RENTALS - BELMONT, GREYSTONES  
 7PM TRIKE TO TRACK - SHORELINE LEISURE CENTRE, CHARLESLAND  
 7PM CYCLE TO ZEN - THE AVON, BLESSINGTON

**THURSDAY, MAY 19TH**  
 7PM CYCLE TO ZEN - BANDSTAND, BRAY SEAFRONT  
 7PM INTERMEDIATE/ADVANCED BIKE MAINTENANCE WORKSHOP - THE AVON, BLESSINGTON  
 6-15PM BIKE MAINTENANCE WORKSHOP - THE SPORTS ROOM, WICKLOW TOWN  
 5PM-7PM FATBIKE ADVENTURES RENTALS - BELMONT, GREYSTONES

**FRIDAY, 20TH MAY**  
 10AM CYCLE TO ZEN - THE AVON, BLESSINGTON  
 7PM CYCLE TO ZEN - BURNABY PARK, GREYSTONES  
 5PM-7PM FATBIKE ADVENTURES RENTALS - BELMONT, BRAY

**SATURDAY 21ST MAY**  
 10AM SOCIAL CYCLE - THE SPORT ROOM, WICKLOW TOWN

**SUNDAY 22ND MAY**  
 MIDDAY FAMILY CYCLE - RUSSBOURGH

**ONGOING EVENTS**  
 25K PEDAL FOR YOUR MEDAL

**Wicklow Sports & Recreation Partnership**  
 Cúideamheaghlácaí Spóirt agus Récreálaí Cluiche Chill Mhícheál  
 SPORT IRELAND

Bike Week is kicking off Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May – Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> May. Wicklow Sports & Receptions Partnership are offering a variety of cycling programmes across the county such as, Pedal for your Medal, Mountain Bike Taster Session, FATBIKE bike rentals, Cycle to Zen, Social & Family Cycles, Learn to Cycle Programmes, Bike Maintenance Workshops, Bike Week School Grants for pre-schools, primary schools, secondary schools and a Bike Week Club Grant. For more information please e-mail [wicklowlsp@wicklowcoco.ie](mailto:wicklowlsp@wicklowcoco.ie) or visit our website [www.wicklowlsp.ie](http://www.wicklowlsp.ie)

### Slaintecare Healthy Communities Programme

The main focus at the moment is planning the Slaintecare Healthy Communities Launch in Bray. This will be the first local launch of the programme nationally. Plans are well underway, and the event is scheduled to take place on 3<sup>rd</sup> June at 10am in Ballywaltrim Community Centre. The invite list includes local county councillors, key people from the Department of Health, Wicklow County Council, and the HSE, delivery partners, and community services from across the Bray area. In addition to this, progress is being made in relation to the enhancement fund projects. Designs for the two new community kitchens, one each for Ballywaltrim and Little Bray, are currently being drawn up. In addition, the tendering process for several other projects, including the redevelopment of Basketball and Futsal Pitches in Ballywaltrim, are underway.

### Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP):

Aside from delivering on existing programme commitments, the SICAP programme implementers also continue to work extensively supporting the Ukrainian refugees.

Bray Area Partnership are chairing and co-ordinating the Bray and North Wicklow Response Forum which brings together statutory agencies, local community organisations, NGOs and volunteers to provide a





collaborative and partnership response to the needs on the ground. The Forum meets fortnightly and has between 20-30 attendees.

Co. Wicklow Partnership have recruited three new part-time Support Workers under the SICAP programme to work closely with the Ukrainian refugees in the Wicklow, Arklow and Baltinglass MD areas. They are Irish-Ukrainian and are fluent in English, Ukrainian and Russian. CWP also provided assistance under the SICAP programme to kit out the Wicklow Hub Centre.

### Public Participation Network (PPN):

A successful funding application was made by Co. Wicklow PPN/WCC/LCDC to DRCD and Pobal to run a pilot project that will facilitate marginalised groups engage with the upcoming Local Economic & Community Plan (LECP) planning process. This work will also review Co. Wicklow's PPN Visions for Community Wellbeing. The five consultation workshops will take place in May.

Consultations: PPN Vision for Community Wellbeing/LECP Online Survey; Food Waste Prevention Roadmap; 21 Actions to Tackle Racism Survey; Proposed Amendments to the Co. Development Plan; Impact of Covid 19 on Persons with Disabilities; Unveiling Inequality- A peer support project exploring the experiences of LGBT Travellers and Roma.

Funding Opportunities/Competitions: Social Entrepreneurs Ireland Ideas Academy; Communities Integration Fund; European Year of Youth Micro Grants Scheme; International Charity Bazaar-Funding applications; Clár Funding; Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Fund; Lets Fund it Organisation-providing support to local charities; Ireland Increasing Digital Reach Initiative Fund; Arklow Municipal District Festivals Funding; AXA Parks Fund.

Training sessions were held recently for member groups on the topics of: Funding; Risk Management; Insurance. All sessions well attended.

### LECP

Consultation process so far:

- Social Inclusion Women's Network – 60 participants
- Breakfast Briefing – approx. 100 participants
- Comhairle na nóg – approx. 100 participants
- Wicklow MD – 19 participants
- Greystones MD – approx. 20 participants
- 2 written submissions
- Online survey

### Engagement with Marginalised Communities

County Wicklow has been selected as one of four pilot projects to develop and test engagement strategies to support inclusive participation. The project aims to develop toolkits that can be adapted and used by local authorities and other state agencies to enable better engagement with hard to reach groups.

Following an expressions of interest process administered by Pobal on behalf of the Department of Rural and Community Development, funding of up to €40,000 has been approved for each of 4 LCDCs.

Clare, Fingal, Galway City and Wicklow will undertake pilot programmes to support participation and engagement by marginalised and disadvantaged communities in the Local Economic and Community Planning (LECP) process which is currently underway in each local authority area. The process will take six months and in Co. Wicklow's case involves both participation and capacity building.



## Core Aims & Actions

- Through the networks available – to members of the LCDC, WCC & Co Wicklow PPN, key community leaders and service providers within/working with the target groups will be identified and encouraged to undertake training that will support them to understand the background & context for developing the VCWB & the LECF as well as providing them with the facilitation skills & tools needed for them to run this process of consultation in their communities & those they work with.
- This will extend the reach of the consultations and engage with those groups which are harder to reach.
- The facilitators will also be trained to support the data analysis process that will inform and develop the VCWB as well as the LECF.
- This in-depth consultation should also provide direction and help prioritise some of the actions within the LECF.
- Collaborating with key agencies in this process should also result in cohesive & complimentary local plans, work plans and strategies e.g. SICAP and LEADER plans.
- Record and report on the learning from this process

## Next Steps in the consultation process:

4 public consultations remaining :

Baltinglass (Monday 16<sup>th</sup>), Bray (Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>), Arklow (Mon 23<sup>rd</sup>) Online (Wed 25<sup>th</sup>)

## Co-operation Ireland All-Island Pride of Place Awards

The Awards ceremony for the Co-operation Ireland Pride of Place competition 2021 will be held in The Gleneagles INEC Arena, Killarney, Co. Kerry on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2022. The following groups were nominated under these two categories -

- ❖ Kiltegan under Population under Population Category 1- 300
- ❖ Neighbourhood Network – Time Machine under Community Wellbeing Initiative Category.

The judging of this 2021 competition was made by virtual presentations. Kiltegan Village made their impressive presentation to the judges on the 28<sup>th</sup> September 2021, on a Zoom call. Two days later by Zoom again, Neighbourhood Network presented their novel project of the intergenerational time capsule to the judges.

## Blessington eGreenway

The Planning application was lodged to An Bord Pleanála on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2022. A number of submissions were received by the Bord by the deadline of the 4<sup>th</sup> March 2022. The Bord's decision on the application is due on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2022. It is envisaged that there will be an Oral Hearing for this project.



ORIS APPLICATIONS

Scheme Measure	Rationale for prioritisation (less than 50 words)	Community/Partner name(s):	Project Name:	Project Description (less than 30 words):	Total estimated costs including Administration / Professional fees	Amount of Match Funding - 10%	Amount of ORIS funding requested
One	This project was chosen as a key project to enhance the walks in this area with friendly.	Mountaineering Ireland	West Wicklow Access Point	Creation of user-friendly access points at two West Wicklow locations leading to the uplands via Coillte properties	€30,000.00	€3,000.00	€27,000.00
One	This project was chosen to facilitate horse riding for the disabled.	Coillte, Horse Sport Ireland	Ballyboy Equestrian Trial	Providing access to equestrian trials for people with disabilities	€33,000.00	€3,300.00	€29,700.00
One	This project was chosen to enhance walking trails for families in Wicklow. It is required for the sustainable of the trail.	Seal Rescue Ireland, Friends of the Murrough, Wicklow Town Team	Glen turn Cliff Walk	Upgrading and drainage works	€33,000.00	€3,300.00	€29,700.00
One	This project was chosen to make it safer and more inclusive for people with disabilities.	Coillte, NPWS, Wicklow Uplands Council	Miner's Way Resurface	Resurfacing the trail whilst protecting the flora and fauna to enhance the trial for all	€28,000.00	€2,800.00	€25,200.00
One	Enhancement of the Red Kite trail by developing a wild play area.	Coillte, WCC, Avoca Tidy Towns	Red Kite Wild Play	Develop a wild play area within the confines of the Red Kite Loop. Further enhancing the experience for families	€33,000.00	€3,300.00	€29,700.00
One	Essential project for the sustainability of these route. To airlift materials into sensitive project sites.	NWPS	Airlift of Materials to Sensitive Upland Access	To assist in the development of the Mountain Meitheal trial, by having stone materials delivered by	€33,000.00	€3,300.00	€29,700.00





				air as opposed to hand balling materials			
One	To resurface the Avonmore Way to make it safer for older and less able users	NPWS, Age Friendly Alliance, Old Persons Council, Sport Inclusion Development Officer	Avonmore Way – Age Friendly Surfacing	To resurface the Avonmore Way trail, thus making it more accessible to more people.	€33,000.00	€3,300.00	€29,700.00
Project Dev.	To assist with the development of ebike charging points network in the County. Thus supporting the Greenway developments .	Wicklow Tourism, Wicklow Local Sports Partnership and County Wicklow Partnership	E-bike Network Study for the County Wicklow	County Wicklow is keen to commission a study that would help develop Wicklow as an e-biking destination that would include a network of e-bike charging and renting locations	€50,000.00	€5,000.00	€45,000.00



## Economic Development, Planning and Infrastructure

### 1. Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) (Economic)

The Economic Development Unit of the Enterprise and Corporate Services Directorate is charged with implementing the economic actions in the Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP).

New guidelines have been launched for the preparation of LECPs. LECPs detail how Local Authorities will support economic and community development in their areas. The guidelines will require the Council to consider housing needs when formulating both the economic and community elements of the LECPs. The guidelines are timely as the current LECP finishes in 2022.

The next Wicklow Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) 2023 – 2029 will set 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 new plan will take account of lessons learned and the changing needs of communities, climate action and sustainability among other things. The Economic Development unit is seeking to engage with the business, tourism and wider community to help identify priorities for the County over the lifetime of the plan.

### Retail

#### Bray Central

Oakmont have informed Wicklow County Council that the project has reached practical completion (PC). The Wicklow County Council monitor, Conor Carty Executive Engineer Bray MD, on the scheme is reviewing documentation on the project. Once PC has been agreed the process of transfer of title will begin.

Oakmont continue to engage with prospective anchor tenants on the two main units in the centre. It is hoped that agreements to let will be settled in the coming weeks. Oakmont has advised that there are leases in place on all of the leisure spaces and heads of terms are agreed with several new retail units. Fit out of the restaurants continues and Press Up Group has advertised for staff for these units.

#### Bray Outdoor Performance Space

The letter of Contract Award issued to the successful tenderer on the 30<sup>th</sup> March. The successful tenderer is Vincent Hannon Architects. An initial meeting with officials from the Council was held during April. A



consultation meeting with officials from Mermaid Theatre took place in early May which informed the Architects on the variety of users that may use this space. The canopy designer also attended this meeting and will now liaise with the Architects with a view to submitting an appropriate design. Meetings with the businesses in the vicinity of the space are due to take place. Meetings have already taken place with Strand Road residents, Royal Marine Terrace and Martello Terrace.

Consultants will also be engaging with Elected Members in due course.

### Town Teams

Under the Government policy, Town Centres First, the establishment of Town Teams is encouraged and we are likely to see more Town Teams in situ over the coming years.

Most Town Teams in Wicklow have been operating since 2018. It is considered timely to carry out a review of the town teams and with this in mind Wicklow County Council has appointed Mr Allen McAdam of MCA Consulting to conduct the review. It is proposed to present the results of the review at a plenary meeting of all the Town Teams to be held in early 2022.

### Masterplans for Town Centres under 10,000 population

Blessington has been awarded funding of €100,000 to develop a Master Plan for the town. This will also allow plans for projects identified as part of the drive to become e-greenway ready to be advanced.

This initiative is a key part of Our Rural Future – the Government’s ambitious five-year strategy designed to reimagine and revitalise rural Ireland. It is also linked to the Government’s ‘Housing for All’ strategy and the forthcoming ‘Town Centre First Policy’ which will be announced in the coming weeks.

Wicklow County Council will now work closely with local community groups, retailers and members of the Town Team in devising and delivering on the objectives of the Masterplan building on the very comprehensive Health Check carried out by Future Analytics.

### Arklow Town Team

Following a recent successful application for the Arklow Pottery Online project, Arklow Town Team will host a ‘Trip Down Memory Lane’ event in the Arklow Library on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May . The project teams aim is to record the stories from past employees of Arklow Pottery or members of the community who had a connection to Arklow Pottery. Members of the public can also bring along any old original photos or documents which will be copied and included in the archive. The project when completed will be accessible via a new website where it will be available for future generations to engage and learn about the heritage of one of the regions most important social and economic entities.



Following on from the success of the flower basket scheme over the last five years, Arklow Town Team will continue to enhance and improve the image of Arklow's Main Street by once again launching a Flower Basket Scheme for 2022. Research has shown that this type of scheme can bring many social and environmental benefits to a town. Arklow Town Team acknowledges that the Parade Ground Public Realm improvement works have been difficult on businesses in Arklow at this time, therefore sponsorship has been sought to fund the Flower Basket Scheme this year.

### **Bray Town Team / Bray Town Recovery Team**

Terms of reference were issued to the Bray MD Members in 2021. The Cathaoirleach is reviewing these and will be examining the best way forward.

### **Greystones Town Team**

Greystones Town Team hosted a community information event at the Templecarrig School on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May. The aim of this event was to showcase community organisations in the area.

### **Wicklow Town Team**

Guided Heritage Trail walks are planned to take place from May onwards. These walks will commence from Fitzwilliam Square, Wicklow Town at 11 am each Saturday morning and will take approximately 2 hours to complete, allowing participants to spend some time at each key location.

The backlighting project is completed now with the exception of Parnell Bridge which is awaiting ESB connection.

Wicklow Town Team in association with the Wicklow Town & District Chamber and Wicklow Municipal District were involved in launching the recent video of Wicklow Town. The video will be used across various channels to promote Wicklow showing how the friendly vibrant coastal town offers a unique experience for the local as well as the visitor.

### **Streetscapes**

Wicklow County Council has been allocated €320,000 in Streetscape funding under the Department of Rural and Community Development Town and Village Streetscape Scheme.

The Streetscape Enhancement Initiative is a key part of the Government's 'Our Rural Future' and is designed to make our rural towns and villages more attractive colourful and vibrant places to live, work and visit.

108 applications were received and approved under this measure with 52 businesses submitting required documents to receive payment. €192,180.61 has been paid out to date.



It is expected that there will be new Streetscape funding announced in 2022.

## Tourism

### **Tourism Strategy and Marketing Plan 2018-2022**

The strategy sets out a number of challenging but achievable priorities along with a series of detailed actions to be implemented over the next 5 years

The Key Priorities are:

1. Develop New Accommodation
2. Develop Key Towns as Visitor Hubs
3. Develop a Masterplan for Glendalough
4. Grow Thematic Experiences
5. Market our County by Developing A Common Narrative

### **Wicklow Passport**

The Wicklow Passport project was rewarded with two prizes at the All Ireland Community & Council Awards 2021 ceremony in April. The Wicklow Passport received Silver Awards for both 'Best Arts/Culture' and 'Best Tourism Initiative'. This is great recognition for the work that has been done on this project.

### **Wicklow Passport Display Units:**

There are now three display units around Wicklow: Powerscourt Gardens, Arklow Bay Hotel & Glenview Hotel with positive feedback from these locations. A further display unit is planned and to increase awareness around the Wicklow passport over the next couple of months

### **Wicklow Tourism AGM**

Wicklow Tourism held its annual AGM at the Glenview Hotel on the 26<sup>th</sup> of April. This was the first in person meeting for two years which allowed a networking opportunity for those in attendance. Included in the AGM was a presentation about the new development at Avondale. 'Beyond The Trees' is set to open in June and is sure to become one of the top attractions in Wicklow.

### **Webinar Sustainable Energy Grants**

On the 5<sup>th</sup> of April, a webinar on Sustainable Energy Grants was organised. This webinar offers an introduction to SEAI's support for small businesses to businesses in the hospitality and tourism sector with the objective to reduce energy cost.



## **Wicklow Influencer's Itineraries:**

Over the bank holiday weekend, a second press trip under the Failte Ireland Influencers project took place. Siobhan O'Connor from the Irish Mirror had a romantic overnight in Wicklow with her partner and TV producer John Norton. The weekend included a climb of the Sugarloaf, visit of Wicklow Way Wines, swim in the Irish sea, visit of Kilmaccuragh and Wicklow Jail. Find their itinerary can be seen at <https://visitwicklow.ie/romantic-weekend-with-siobhan-john/>

## **Search for the Wicklow Rose**

Wicklow County Council is sponsoring this year's Wicklow Rose. The search for the 2022 Wicklow Rose was launched in the Arklow Bay on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April. Part of the sponsorship includes a trip from International Roses just ahead of the main event this August in Tralee. This is a fantastic opportunity for Wicklow to showcase our County on an international platform.

## **Destination Town Funding**

An application to Failte Ireland on behalf of Wicklow Town was made in respect of Destination Town Funding and funding has been awarded to develop visitor amenities in the Abbey Grounds with Mosart consultant's appointed to lead the design process. A planning application to enhance and redevelop the Abbey Grounds, Wicklow, into the Abbey Gardens and event space was passed unanimously by the members of Wicklow Municipal District at their meeting held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2021. The procurement process for detailed design and construction has begun.

## **Glendalough Masterplan and Wicklow Visitor Orientation Study**

This is a Fáilte Ireland funded project led by FI with strategic partners NPWS, OPW, Coillte and WCC. The Plan covers visitor attractions and activities available in the area and the first stage of stakeholder engagement has been completed.

The consultant team is now engaging with some of the key landowners to assess the feasibility of developing additional off road trails between Laragh and Glendalough and provision of additional parking. The process has identified a number of issues: congestion at key sites, concerns over security, capacity and quality of car parking and visitor services, issues with local access, and erosion and degradation of the environment.

Visitor Experience Hubs have been identified around the county where there is a particular focus of visitor attractions. Development of these hubs will build capacity, help disperse visitors across the county,



encouraging longer stays and greater investment in the area. The team is developing detailed plans for walking, mountain biking, off road family cycling.

Measures have been taken this year to introduce additional temporary parking and to use traffic counters to improve parking management and signage. Toilet facilities have been upgraded.

The consultants have prepared the draft masterplan and this was presented to members of the Laragh/Glendalough Community on the 27th October 2021 and to the members of at the Ordinary Meeting of Wicklow County Council on the 6<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

Next Steps: Further Consultation, Strategic Environmental Assessment and Economic Appraisal. A number of multi-agency sub-groups have been formed to address Environmental, Financial and Management issues; these are data gathering at present.

### **Outdoor Dining**

All Local Authorities were invited to apply to Fáilte Ireland for funding under Part Two - Local Authority Weatherproofing & Outdoor Dining Enhancement Scheme - to develop streets and public spaces to facilitate outdoor dining in urban tourism centres, enabling access to outdoor seating for extended periods throughout the year.

Wicklow County Council applied for and was awarded funding for Outdoor Dining and Weatherproofing for Market Square in Wicklow Town (€119,000) and Abbey Lane in Arklow (€81,000). Works are almost complete on the Wicklow project, the windbreaker flower boxes with MARKET SQUARE etched on them have been installed

### **Rural and Urban Regeneration Development Fund Grant Applications**

Blessington has been awarded just over €1m funding under the Rural Regeneration Development Fund (RRDF). This will be used for a major regeneration of Blessington Town Centre and related projects. It will be utilised for the regeneration of Blessington Town Centre, the development of plans for public realm works, the redevelopment of derelict property to create an eHub and a Visitor Centre for the forthcoming Blessington Lakes eGreenway. This strategic funding along with the planned completion of the Blessington Inner Relief Road and the funding for the Blessington Lakes eGreenway will help achieve Wicklow County Council's long-term vision for Blessington and enhance the Blessington as a place to visit. Combined with the proposals for developing a Masterplan for Blessington, this project will add to the quality of life of the



entire community by optimising digital connectivity, supporting employment and skills and enhancing the public realm in line with the objectives that underpin “Our Rural Future” Ireland’s Rural Development policy.

A call was announced for RRDF category 1 proposals with a closing date for applications on the 29<sup>th</sup> April 2022.

### **URDF: Urban Regeneration Development Fund**

Part 1 of the Arklow URDF Project the refurbishment of the Courthouse and the development of an Enterprise Space in the former Town Council offices. Part 2 of the project the public realm works are currently underway.

Funding of €7.14m has been announced for the Bray Harbour Area Integrated Regeneration Project from the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF) and this funding has the capacity to unlock the great potential of Bray Harbour and surrounding area.

Following a presentation to the Bray members on the 11<sup>th</sup> January, RPS recently completed a draft feasibility report covering the marine and terrestrial elements of the Bray Harbour Improvements Scheme. A meeting of the Bray Harbour Joint Development Committee took place on the 24<sup>th</sup> February at which the preferred options described in the report were presented along with some further matters that have been requested for attention.

It is recognised that space for existing and proposed recreational facility providers around the harbour remains an issue and was discussed at the meeting. RPS will be asked to further examine the regeneration opportunities on the north side of the harbour that may also facilitate the provision of improved recreational infrastructure. RPS has also been requested to address future sea level rise in the terrestrial works proposals and to outline the stakeholder engagements that took place in preparing the report.

The preferred option for the marine works provides for extending south pier northwards and extending a breakwater spur northwards from the north pier to create a smaller outer harbor. Along with another spur on the inside of the south pier this will serve to greatly reduce the wave action from the north easterly winds that are responsible for the wave damage that occurs in the harbor. This will also provide a berth for small passenger ferries and also provide a holding area for boats while waiting on the tide before entering the main harbor. Dredging is also proposed to facilitate mooring but access in and out of the current harbor will be still dependent on the tides.

An estimate of about €8.5m plus VAT has been provided for the preferred option for the marine works. A cost for the terrestrial works was not provided and this has been requested for inclusion in the report. A steering group meeting is planned for the 9<sup>th</sup> March, at which additions and amendments to the report will





be discussed. Additional works, in relation to environmental assessments will also be examined with RPS to determine if they can be progressed within the current contract. The draft feasibility report has found that there are significant potential environmental impacts and that the planning decision will most likely be determined by An Bord Pleanála.

The Bray Sustainable Bridge Project is on hold until An Bord Pleanála make a determination on the need for an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR).

The requirement for additional environmental assessments was identified in the draft Feasibility Report. During a meeting with RPS in March, RPS undertook to carry out an EIA Scoping Exercise as an add-on to their current engagement. It was also agreed that they should provide ecological services to undertake a Stage 1 Appropriate Assessment Screening. A fee proposal was submitted and included for additional public consultation on the scheme and the production of a 3D model for the improved visualization of the scheme. The fee falls within the value of the original tender for which RPS were appointed in 2019 to carry out the feasibility study. Accordingly, the RPS has been instructed to proceed with this work.

When scoping reports are completed and agreed, a new tender will be required to procure engineering services for the preparation of detailed designs and EIAR to submit to An Bord Pleanála for planning approval. It is also proposed that the council investigate the feasibility of acquiring a portion of the foreshore by CPO for the marine element of the scheme. This can be decided in parallel by An Bord Pleanála and may avoid the need for a foreshore licence application for the scheme. At a meeting with BHJDC on the 5th May, stakeholders were updated on the status of the scheme.

### Maritime

The area of offshore renewable energy is rapidly evolving. Due to the number of projects proposed off the coast of Wicklow it is important that the County engages with the process to enable the community of Wicklow to benefit from the opportunities arising while mitigating against any likely impacts that any offshore renewable project will have.

Key milestones have been:

The Offshore Renewable Energy Support Scheme Consultation. Wicklow County Council made a submission strongly supporting the case for the funds created as a result of the offshore renewable energy projects to be managed and distributed locally rather than centrally.

The adoption of the Maritime Area Planning (MAP) Act 2021 aimed at harnessing Ireland's offshore wind potential while protecting our marine environment

One of the elements of the MAP is the creation of a new maritime consent process (MAP)



Under the special transition provisions in the MAP Act, the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications will have the responsibility for assessing and granting MACs for a first phase (Phase One) of offshore projects, which satisfy the definition of “relevant maritime usage” under the Act (the Relevant Projects).

The relevant projects of interest to Wicklow include the Codling Wind Park and the Dublin Array

A consultation process on the Offshore Renewable Energy Maritime Area Consent (MAC) Assessment for Phase One has taken place.

The purpose of the consultation is to:

- Set out the proposed approach to MAC assessment for Relevant Projects
- Provide important information on various aspects of the new MAC regime for Relevant Projects
- Invite feedback from interested stakeholders on the proposed approach to the assessment of Phase One MAC applications

Following completion of the consultation process, the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications has announced the opening of the application process for Marine Area Consents to relevant projects, it should be noted that the Arklow Bank Wind Farm, which is Ireland’s first offshore wind farm, is at an advanced stage of planning and has been operating under an earlier consent regime. SSE has recently announced its intention to apply for a larger more ambitious project under the new MAC scheme.

### **Food and Beverage Strategy**

Funding of €175,000 has been secured via the LEADER Food Programme for a Food and Beverage Co-ordinator role for Wicklow Naturally CLG and for the supply of event costs for the period 2021 - 2023 in support of Wicklow Naturally’s Promotional Activities Plan. Wicklow Naturally will contribute 5% from subscriptions and it is proposed that Wicklow County Council will contribute €35,000 over the two year life of the project.

Wicklow Naturally, supported by Wicklow County Council was successful in securing funding from Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine in respect of the development of Food Trails as part of Wicklow’s tourism offering. Wicklow Naturally will be working with Wicklow Tourism to develop this product.

## MAY 2022



Wicklow Naturally continues to increase its network of members in 2022 to add to the array of County Wicklow produce. Wicklow Naturally members will be represented at a range of events throughout the year including Taste of Wicklow, the Tinahely show, Ploughing Championships, OctoberFeast and Gifted; all aimed at raising the profile of Wicklow produce.



## 2. Local Enterprise Office

<b>LEO Objectives</b>
<p>To foster an enterprise culture and stimulate enterprise at local level by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Promotion of the enterprise message at local level.</li> <li>- Working with the relevant stakeholders in the county to foster entrepreneurship.</li> <li>- Delivering appropriate enterprise training and mentoring to entrepreneurs.</li> <li>- Providing funding options to entrepreneurs, early stage promoters and viable businesses to support growth and development of micro enterprises.</li> <li>- Developing a progression pathway for clients to Enterprise Ireland</li> <li>- Acting as a 'First Stop Shop' for business information and referral</li> </ul>

<b>METRICS: Grants</b>	<b>HISTORICAL</b>	<b>TARGETS</b>	<b>YEAR TO DATE</b>
	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Grants Approved (number/ value)</b>			
- Measure 1	- 33/ €641,745	- Meet Demand	-8/ € 232,935
- Technical Assistance for Micro Exporters	- 4 / €6,594	- Meet Demand	-6/ € 11,021
NB: Ability to meet demand is influenced by the amount of funding allocated to the LEO			

<b>METRICS: Training/ Capacity Building</b>	<b>HISTORICAL</b>	<b>TARGETS</b>	<b>YEAR TO DATE</b>
	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2022</b>
Total No. of All Programmes (Training/Networking/Events/Seminars)	77	64	29
Start Your Own Business Participant numbers (included in total training programmes)	105	75	72
Total No. of all Participants participating in above Programmes	994	900	301
Women in Business Network Number of Meetings	10	10	4

<b>METRICS: Business Advice &amp; Mentoring</b>	<b>HISTORICAL</b>	<b>TARGETS</b>	<b>YEAR TO DATE</b>
	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2022</b>
Number of new clients added to database *criteria have been amended for this metric	849	750	156

## MAY 2022



Number of One to One Business Advice meetings including Businesses assigned a mentor and Brexit 1-1	530	500	153
---	-----	-----	-----

METRICS: Student Enterprise Programmes	HISTORICAL	TARGETS	
Academic Year	2020/2021	2022/2023	Year to Date 21-22
No. of Secondary Student Participants	953	1000	864

METRICS: Irelands Best Young Entrepreneur	HISTORICAL	TARGETS	
Academic Year	2021	2022	Year to Date 2022
Number of Applications	Programme review	Programme review	Programme review

Trading Online Voucher	HISTORICAL	TARGETS	
No of Trading Online Vouchers approved	2021	2022	Year to Date 2022
Trading Online Vouchers	135 Total value: € 279,127.40	70 Depending on budget and demand	21

Lean For Micro Project	HISTORICAL	TARGETS	YEAR TO DATE
	2021	2022	2022
No. of Companies who have undertaken a Lean for Micro Assessment by a Lean Expert	8	11	11

Microfinance Ireland	HISTORICAL	TARGETS	YEAR TO DATE
	2021	2022	2022
No. of Companies who have submitted a MFI loan application through the LEO	7	10	2



## APRIL / MAY 2022 Activities

- F fortnightly newsletter continues to be circulated to the LEO client database outlining supports, training courses, events and other relevant information.
- Social media and LEO website updates are carried out a number of times a week to raise awareness and promote the LEO supports.
- Loreto Bray student Alanna Demel won The Most Creative Use of Social Media award at the National Student Enterprise National Awards 2022 for her business @chandracrystals.
- The Wicklow County final of the Student Enterprise Programme took place virtually on 22nd March 2022. 864 Students have participated in the programme over the past academic year and have learned how to set up and run a mini business. The Winners will represent Wicklow in the Junior and Senior category of the National Final which takes place on 18th May in Dublin.
- The Dutch Ambassador Adrian Palm and a delegation of maritime trade visited County Wicklow in partnership with the Coddling Wind Park and LEO team attended this event.
- Connected Hubs Funding Call: an application for conference AV equipment, a security system for the BCP and a pod cast studio was submitted under this funding call.
- Regional Enterprise Innovation Scoping Scheme – Priming Grant application was submitted for funding towards the appointment of an Architect Led Design Team to prepare detailed drawings of a Food Incubation Development Hub at Wicklow County Campus, to apply for Part 8 and project manage the construction phase of the Hub.
- A Manager for the Film & TV Crew Academy East project started begin May to role out film making skills training and workplacments in conjunction with the screen industry, funded by Screen Ireland.

## Business Skills and IT skills Training Programme

The SpringSummer 2022 business skills training programme is underway with courses now open for bookings through our online portal on [www.localenterprise.ie/wicklow](http://www.localenterprise.ie/wicklow).

### Business Skills Training Courses recently held:-

- 22<sup>nd</sup> March: E-tenders & Tendering Introduction for SMEs
- 24<sup>th</sup> March: Effective Use of SM - Beginners Level
- 7<sup>th</sup> April: Bookkeeping Using Excel
- 27<sup>th</sup> April: Effective Use of SM - Intermediate Level
- 5<sup>th</sup> May: Start Your Own Business
- 10<sup>th</sup> May: Driving Your Own PR Campaign



## 2. Planning and Development

### County Development Plan

Following consideration of the Draft Wicklow County Development Plan 2022-2028 and the Chief Executive's Report in respect of submissions received, the Members of Wicklow County Council, resolved in accordance with Sections 12(6) and 12(7) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), that the Draft Development Plan be amended. The proposed amendments constitute material alterations to the Draft Wicklow County Development Plan 2022-2028.

The Proposed Amendments and associated Addenda are available to view and download from the Council's website [consult.wicklow.ie](https://consult.wicklow.ie) from Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2022 to Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2022 inclusive.

Submissions or observations regarding the Proposed Material Amendments to the Draft Plan and the associated Addenda may be made between Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2022 to 5pm Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2022 inclusive.

### Wicklow Heritage & Biodiversity Office

Community Monument Fund (CMF) 2022- County Heritage Plan allocations from The Heritage Council: Following the submission of project proposals, a total allocation of €57,000 has been received for 2022 for Wicklow for the following projects and activities; Wicklow Barn Owl Survey; Wicklow Swift Champion Project; Heritage Communications; Glendalough Community Archaeology project and a County Wicklow Community Archaeology initiative.

Wicklow Barn Owl project underway, survey work commenced, social media Facebook page created, over 100 reports of sightings (including historic) and expressions of interest in hosting a nest box received. Barn Owl Nest boxes (internal and external) erected by NPWS in 12 + locations to date.

Heritage Communications: Let's get buzzing, biodiversity awareness public event held on Sat 9<sup>th</sup> April in Roundwood Parish centre aimed at tidy towns and other community based groups. Providing update on latest biodiversity initiatives and an opportunity to share information and resources.

Distribution of 'managed for wildlife' and other pollinator resources among public and local authority staff.

Swift project underway - promoted via social media, dedicated point of contact, nest boxes provided to tidy towns groups and schools.



Biodiversity Grazing on Wicklow County Council owned land: Introduction of x 5 Droimeann Cattle (Irish Rare Breed) to a specially designed grazing plot at North Beach Brittas Bay on 14<sup>th</sup> March. It is anticipated to retain animals onsite for 4-6 weeks as a trial regime of conservation grazing to enhance floral diversity and composition on the EU protected Dune Habitat. .

Local Biodiversity Action Plan Fund: The Heritage Office has prepared and submitted funding applications for €48,000 under the LBAPF for a continuation and expansion of the Brittas Bay Conservation Project and the initiation of a county hedgerow survey. Awaiting the outcome of these funding applications.

Protected Structures Grants: Applications were assessed and submitted from Wicklow under the Built Heritage Investment Scheme (BHIS) and the Historic Structure Fund (HSF) grant schemes from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. Approval received for 11 projects under a county allocation of €96,000. Three successful projects under the HSF; €25,000 towards Russborough Weir Wall repairs; €40,000 for St Matthews Church, Newtownmountkennedy, and €10,000 to vernacular house at Greenan More.

## Development Management

### Planning Applications

Total valid applications received	To 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	To 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2021	% Increase
Received (Valid)	416	419	-.07%

A total of 154 valid applications were received during April as follows:

Type of Development	30 <sup>th</sup> April, 2022 Number Received
Individual Houses	40 (36 refer to a rural house)
Housing Developments*	09
Agricultural Structures	00
Commercial	09
Other Developments**	96
<b>Total</b>	

\* Large housing development

22/380 RGRE J&R Stylebawn Ltd 42 Units, Delgany



## MAY 2022



22/429 RGRE J&R Stylebawn Ltd 99 Units, Delgany  
22/342, Ardale Property Group, 27 Units, Newcastle  
22/398, Dungrey Ltd, 21 Units, Blessington  
22/444, Papaver Ltd, 27 Units, Newtownmountkennedy

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

Decisions issued in respect of 76 applications in April:

Type of Development	Number of Decisions
Housing Developments	03
Individual Houses	18 ( 14 refer to a rural house)
Other Developments	55
Other Developments Requiring EIA	00
<b>Total</b>	<b>76</b>

Decisions issued between January to April 2022, in comparison to the same period for 2021:

	30/04/2021	30/04/2022
Total Number of decisions issued	355	325
Total Number of decisions to grant	308	283
% Grant Rate	87%	87%
No of applications withdrawn		09

### Applications Lodged with An Bord Pleanala

#### Strategic Housing Development

- ABP-305558-21, Kilgarron Hill, Parknasilloge, Enniskerry (219 Units), Members meeting 1/3/2022, CE report forwarded to ABP by 31/3/2022



- ABP-312020-21, Lands at Bray Head House (179 Units) Members meeting 7/12, CE report forwarded 26/1/22, Granted 23/3.
- ABP-313208-22 – lands at Season Park, Newtown (179 Units) Members Meeting 25/4, CE report due 30/5
- ABP-313229-22 – Lands at Coolagad, Greystones (586 Units) Members Meeting 27/4, CE report due 30/5
- ABP-313314-22 – Lands at Fassaroe and Monastery, Bray (650 Units) Members Meeting 10/5, CE report due 07/06
- ABP-313442-22 – Lands at the former Heiton Buckley site on Castle Street, Bray, (139 Units) Members Meeting 10/05, CE report due 22/06

### **Strategic Infrastructure Development**

An Bord Pleanála has received an application for approval under section 182A(1) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 as amended -ABP-310090-21- Proposed development will comprise the onshore grid infrastructure including 220kV export cable circuits and fibre optic cables, new 220kV GIS substation at Shelton Abbey and overhead line connection and all associated ancillary works. In the townlands of Johnstown North, Johnstown South, Seabank, Ballymoney, Killiniskyduff, Templerainy, Coolboy, Kilbride, Shelton Abbey, Ballyraine Lower and Ballyraine Middle, in Co. Wicklow

An Bord Pleanála has received an application for permission under section 37E of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 as amended -ABP-309991-21 - Development and operation of an inert landfill facility to backfill the existing quarry to original ground level; progressive restoration of the backfilled quarry to longterm grassland/scrub habitat: establishment and operation of a construction and demolition waste recovery facility; installation and operation of a soil washing plant and all associated site works at Ballinclare and Carrigmore townlands, Kilbride, Co. Wicklow

### **Substitute Consent**

An Bord Pleanála has received an application for substitute consent for the remainder of the development on lands at Ashford, Co. Wicklow - ABP-312283-21 refers.

# MAY 2022



## Planning Enforcement

New Files	11
Advisory Letters	30
Warning Letters	4
Enforcement Notices	4
Legal Files	4
Closed	10

## Vacant Sites

Municipal District	No. of Sites on Register
Arklow	7
Baltinglass	1
Bray	4
Greystones	3
Wicklow	8

3 sites on appeal to ABP – Section 9 (Notice of Entry)

3 sites on appeal to ABP - Section 18 (Demand Levy)

1 sites on appeal to Valuation Tribunal

€3,245.43 paid in levies in April

## Derelict Sites

Municipal District	3 No sites on Register
Wicklow	1
Baltinglass	1
Bray	1

## Short-Term Letting

	To date
Applications for Registration received to date	139

## MAY 2022



Warning Letters issued	26
Enforcement Notices issued	7
UD files opened	27
Under Investigation	52
Legal Proceedings instigated	1

The recent Government strategy 'Housing for All' has announced new regulations in this regard, with revised regulatory controls requiring the registration of short term and holiday lets with Failte Ireland. Responsibility for enforcement with the new registration requirements will lie with the Residential Tenancies Board, the Local Authority will continue to address illegal or unauthorised structures or changes of use.



## 3. Environmental Services

### Waste Management

#### Litter/Waste Enforcement

No. of Complaints Created	137
No. of Cases Closed, Resolved or Completed	84
No of Litter Fines Issued	11
No. of Waste Management Files Opened	4
No. of Warning Letters Issued	2
No of Abandoned Car Notices Issued	9
No. of Burning Applications Granted	14
No. of Temporary Signs Granted	2
No. of Notices Issued under Section 14 of the Waste Management Act	1
No. of Notices Issued under Section 18 of the Waste Management Act	0
No. of Notices Issued under Section 55 of the Waste Management Act	2
No. of Fixed Penalty Notices issued	0
No. of files prepared for Court and included in Court Lists	46
No. of Cases in Court under the Litter Pollution Act	1
No. of cases in Court under the Waste Management Act	1
Income - Litter	€1,800.00
Income- Waste Management	€5,695.00

### Whitestown Remediation Project

Wicklow County Council has employed Fehily Timoney & Company to advise on the remediation of the site at Whitestown, in accordance with the judgments of Mr. Justice Humphreys



The first draft remediation plan was lodged with Brownfield restoration Ireland Limited (BRIL) on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2020. Following submissions from a number of parties a revised remediation plan, which incorporated requests contained in the submissions, was circulated on the 28<sup>th</sup> April 2022.

The revised draft remediation plan also contains a Natura Impact Statement as requested by the NPWS in their submission.

### **Recycling Centres**

Tenders have been received and assessed to set up a Multi-Party Framework for Civil and Structural Engineer-Led Integrated Design Team Consultancy Services for various projects established in the next 4 years with the replacement of the Asbestos Roof in Bray Recycling Centre and general refurbishment of the centre. Contract documents will issue shortly to the successful tenderer.

### **Climate Action**

#### **Climate Action Plan 2021 – Securing Our Future**

The Climate Action Plan, which was launched on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2021, is an ambitious plan to put Ireland on a more sustainable path, cutting emissions and creating a cleaner, greener economy and society

The Climate Action Plan follows the Climate Act 2021, which commits Ireland to a legally binding target of net-zero greenhouse gas emissions no later than 2050, and a reduction of 51% by 2030. These targets are a key pillar of the Programme for Government.

The plan sets out 475 separate actions to halve Ireland's greenhouse emissions by 2030, including extensive offshore wind power, retrofitting 500,000 homes and putting a million electric vehicles on the roads.

The public sector will lead by example and halve emissions by 2030. Green Teams will be established in every public sector body. No new fossil fuel heating systems will be installed in public buildings after 2023, except in very limited exceptional circumstances. All new fleet purchases will be electric from 2023, where such vehicles are available.

A new National Retrofit Plan will drive demand and make retrofitting more affordable whilst there are increased targets for district heating and the public sector, and strengthening building standards for all buildings.



Just transition principles are embedded in the plan, including the principles that people need to be equipped with the skills to benefit from changes and that costs need to be shared. A Just Transition Commission will be established.

All increases in carbon tax receipts are earmarked for targeted social protection measures, an expansion of retrofitting, particularly for social and low-income homes, and agri-environmental projects.

Wicklow County Council will commence the Advance Planning Stage of the development of the plan in Q2. This will include a review of the Climate Adaptation Strategy adopted in September 2019 and a Countywide Baseline Emissions Inventory (BEI).

### **Wicklow Climate Action**

The Tree Management Policy was adopted by Plenary on 10th January 2022. Work is ongoing to implement the protocols in the policy. This includes the development of an app to capture all information about existing trees on council owned land.

A draft Glyphosate Policy was endorsed by the CABA SPC on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2022 and will be on the agenda of the June plenary meeting. As with the Tree Policy, an App is being developed to record and map usage throughout the County by WCC Staff.

RPS Consulting Engineers have completed the base line carbon footprint study for the Arklow Decarbonisation Zone. They have also submitted two key interim deliverables, the Decarbonisation Zone – Register of Opportunities and the Placemaking and Active Travel Report and have progressed to completing the Draft Implementation Plan with proposed carbon reducing projects.

The Climate Action Officer is coordinating an input from a number of departments to develop a strategy for the Council on the rollout of EV Chargers in the public domain and also transitioning fleet to EVs. A National EV Strategy was launched by the Department of Transport in March. This strategy places an onus on the Public Sector to increase EV penetration in the public sector fleet, to coordinate the delivery of infrastructure across all levels of government and to facilitate the development of a comprehensive mixed-type EV charge point network serving the needs of all citizens.

The Green Team, a cross departmental team with 16 members, is looking at a policy to rollout the use of recycled paper throughout the organisation.

Wicklow Co Co, as the Lead Authority, is collaborating with Meath Co Co and Kildare Co Co to develop an Energy Bureau to assist the three LAs in meeting on our Energy Targets as set out in the Public Section Climate Action Mandate of the Climate Action Plan 2021. Tenders for the service were invited



in February 2022 and no responses were received. As a result we have entered the negotiation process with a third party with the capability of delivering the service. Work is continuing on developing the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the SEAI for the part funding of the service.

### Environmental Awareness

In Green schools, sixteen schools are either renewing their Green Flag or receiving their first Green Flag in 2022. Assessment visits were undertaken in March.

County Wicklow Partnership has funded an eight week Climate Action training course for community representatives in County Wicklow. 51 people participated in the training which was delivered by Sustaineo.

A composter and two worm composting systems were ordered to test composting options for food waste in the staff canteen and provide a demonstration of composting to staff.

Organisation of a biodiversity seminar and site visit to a neighbourwood project commenced with the event programmed for April.

A one hour webinar with Wicklow Tourism businesses was organised involving presentations on SEAI Support Scheme for Energy Audits and Support Scheme for Renewable heat.

An LAPN project will link to the Bikes for Africa project and involve delivery of workshops on bicycle repair in the three larger recycling centres and a video animation to promote extending the life of bicycles through good maintenance. Workshops will target both adult and youth participation.

An LAPN project to provide training on composting has now been completed and a case study is being prepared.

The annual National Spring Clean Campaign has been launched and materials purchased to support the campaign. 105 groups had registered by the end of March.

Wicklow County Council is one of three local authorities involved in an EPA funded pilot on separate collection of textiles which will test different approaches for improving the collection of textiles. The communications campaign will target one town, for which we will use Arklow, focusing on the charity shops in the town and the recycling centre.

Wicklow County Council is working with eight other local authorities to develop a series of short videos on dog fouling for use on social media. The videos are currently in production.

### Sustainable Energy Committees

Work continues on the Energy Map Plans, EMPs for Enniskerry, Greystones/Delgany, High Park Wicklow and Blessington. Greystones/Delgany and Wicklow are almost complete.

Newtownmountkennedy completed its Energy Master Plan in November and a claim was made to SEAI for grant payment.



## MAY 2022



Glenmalure and Laragh have also completed Energy Master Plans.

The Arklow SEC received grant approval for Energy Master Plan funding in December and consultants were recruited in February with a first meeting in April.

### **Control of Dogs – Lambing Season**

A successful media campaign to highlight control of dogs during lambing season was launched in April, in collaboration with the ISPCA, the IFA, Wicklow Uplands and Wicklow County Council.

### **Dog Licences.**

During the month of April 311 dog licences were renewed, 145 of which were purchased on-line.

### **Control of Horses**

No horses were seized on behalf of Wicklow County Council in April 2022.

### **Beaches**

Two defibrillators have been installed in the car parks of Brittas Bay in time for the summer season, one in the north car park and one in the south.

Lifeguard interviews for the 2022 Bathing Season will be held in May.

### **Caravan Park**

Application forms have been sent out to approximately 30 caravan parks for the 2022 season. This generally runs from St Patrick's Day until the end of October.

### **Harbours and Ports**

#### **Activity at Wicklow Port - Shipping Movements**

<b>Month / Year</b>	<b>Ships</b>	<b>Single (Import or Export)</b>	<b>Double (Import &amp; Export)</b>	<b>Transactions</b>	<b>Imports</b>	<b>Exports</b>
Jan-22	5	4	2	6	4	2
Feb-22	5	6	0	6	5	1
Mar-22	11	8	3	14	10	4
Apr-2022	9	9	0	9	7	2



Applications for funding under the Brexit Adjustment Local Authority Marine Infrastructure Scheme 2022-2023 were submitted to the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine in March 2022 for the below listed projects. Five of the applications submitted were successful.

## **Wicklow**

Refurbishment of Aids to Navigation on the East and North Piers Wicklow Harbour	€42,500
Installation of a pontoon at South Quay, Wicklow Harbour	€44,200
Creation of quay space through demolition of a warehouse at North Quay, Wicklow	€not funded

## **Arklow**

Development of a heavy duty pontoon at the Inner Harbour, Arklow	€170,000
Development of Welfare and Toilet facilities at South Quay, Arklow Harbour	€38,250
Storage facilities at South Quay, Arklow Harbour	€276,250

## **Pollution Control**

### **Pollution Response & Investigation**

- 4 Water pollution complaints received and investigated.
- 1 Noise pollution complaints received and investigated.
- 1 Air pollution complaints received and investigated.

### **Water Framework Directive National Monitoring Programme**

- 15 Lakes monitored for checking compliance with environmental quality standards
- 40 Rivers monitored involving 184 samples for compliance with environmental quality standards.

### **Water Framework Directive River Management Engagement and Investigations**

A submission on highly modified water bodies was made to the Department/EPA highlighting our views from the WCC perspective.

### **Deco Paint Solvent Regulations**

- 1 Vehicle Refinisher Installation was certified.
- 1 Vehicle Refinisher Installation were inspected



## **Petrol Vapour Regulations**

1 Petrol filling station was certified.

## **Drinking Water Regulations – Non-exempted Private Supplies**

26 Regulated Private Water Supplies were monitored and compliant with tested parameters

6 Regulated Private Water Supplies were monitored and 5 had minor non-compliances with pH parameters and 1 had detected the presence of coliforms.

5 Merit Action letters issued

1 Boil Water Notice and remedial action letter was issued.

## **Septic Tank Inspections - National Inspection Plan 2022-2026**

1 Preparation of Inspection Plan

8 Inspections of domestic waste water treatment systems carried out and 6 found compliant.

2 Advisory notices issued requiring remedial action for the non-compliant domestic waste water treatment systems.

## **Bathing Water Regulations**

Bathing Water Quality Report for 2021 just published.

100 % identified bathing water met or exceeded minimum standards.

- Good - Bray South Promenade
- Excellent - Greystones, Silverstrand, Brittas Bay North & South and Clogga

Other monitoring bathing waters:

- High Quality - Arklow South, Kilcoole, Murrough
- Generally Good Quality – South of Bray Harbour
- Meet Minimum Standard – The Cove Greystones
- Below Minimum Standard – Wicklow Harbour

The public are invited to make submission on the bathing waters already identified and others that they wish to have identified as bathing water by 9<sup>th</sup> June for the 2023 season via consultation hub, email or post.

## **Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plants – Ambient Monitoring**

31 River/Lake samples taken and analysed upstream and downstream of discharges of public wastewater treatment plants



## **Planning & Development**

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

## **Well Grants**

Number of New Applications	16
Number of New Wells Granted	6
Number of New Pumps Granted	14
Number of New Equipment (Filters etc.) Granted	27
Number of Inspections in advance/after works	25

## **Arklow & Avoca Flood Relief Schemes**

The Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) was signed by the Chief Executive and nominated member on the 25<sup>th</sup> of May 2021 and the Environmental Impact Statement and application to An Bord Pleanala was submitted to An Bord Pleanala on the 31<sup>st</sup> of May 2021

An Oral Hearing took place on the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> of January 2022. This Oral Hearing only related to the CPO.

Wicklow County Council has been working with the Law Department and the OPW in reviewing the submissions in order to prepare for the Oral Hearing.

There were 21 submissions on the Planning Application and 9 submissions to the CPO, all of these submissions were addressed, either by way of written response or at the Oral Hearing.

A decision is awaited from An Bord Pleanala.

# MAY 2022



## 5. Transportation, Water & Emergency Services

### Public lighting

For your information below is a comparison on the number of outstanding faults to same period in the previous three years.

Please find attached the latest update on the outstanding public faults. The total number of faults currently outstanding stands at **282/1.86%**. Please note that some of these faults are dependent on ESB attendance and co-operation. Please note the drop from 327 on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022 to the current 282

For your information below is a comparison on the number of outstanding faults to same period in the previous three years.

Year	2022	2021	2020	2019
Date	09/05/2022	10/05/2021	11/05/2020	07/05/2019
No. of Outstanding Faults	<b>282</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>385</b>
Difference		-78	80	103

Status	ARKLOW MD	BALTINGLASS MD	BRAY MD	GREYSTONES MD	WICKLOW MD	Grand Total
Access Issues (Attend)	2	5	4	5	2	18
Cable Fault (Attend)	1	1			1	3
ESB Required (Attended)	5		3	5	7	20
Knock Down (Attended)		1		1		2
Materials required	1	1				2
No Supply	1	4	2	7		14
On Hold			11		9	20
Submitted	12	57	40	35	29	173
TMR	4	2	8	13	3	30
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>282</b>
<b>Percentage Not Working</b>	<b>0.88%</b>	<b>2.96%</b>	<b>2.04%</b>	<b>2.37%</b>	<b>1.39%</b>	<b>1.86%</b>

	4th April 2022	11th April 2022	19th April 2022	25th April 2022	3rd May 2022	9th May 2022
Access Issues (Attend)	15	14	14	14	15	18
Cable Fault (Attend)	4	4	4	4	4	3
ESB Required (Attended)	20	20	20	19	20	20
Knock Down (Attended)	3	3	2	2	2	2
Materials required	2	2	2	2	2	2

## MAY 2022



No Supply	14	14	14	14	14	14
On Hold	18	18	18	18	18	20
Submitted	223	229	210	213	194	173
TMR	23	23	29	29	30	30
TOTAL	322	327	313	315	299	282
Percentage Not Working	2.13%	2.16%	2.07%	2.08%	1.98%	1.86%

### Transportation Statistics (General)

	Total 2020	Total 2021	Total 2022	March 2022	April 2022
<b>Solicitors Queries</b>	842	923	<b>245</b>	66	<b>59</b>
<b>Road closure applications</b>	23	53	<b>23</b>	5	<b>7</b>
<b>Road Opening licences</b>	1279	1575	<b>520</b>	119	<b>142</b>
<b>Abnormal Load applications</b>	33	54	<b>16</b>	3	<b>2</b>

#### M11N11 Junction 4 to 14 Improvement Scheme

The Option Selection report was published along with Bulletin #11 on the project website [www.n11m11.ie](http://www.n11m11.ie) on 14 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. The scheme is currently suspended as no funding has been provided to continue during 2022.

Following the motion passed at the Council meeting on 7th March 2022 a letter was sent to the Minister for Transport, on behalf of the Members, requesting a meeting with the Minister to discuss the suspension of funding for the N11M11 Improvement Scheme. A response on behalf of the Minister advised at meeting would be arranged with his officials in the first instance. A follow-up letter from the Chief Executive to the Minister dated 14th April 2022 advised that, given the importance of this project to the electorate of County Wicklow, the Elected Members have stressed their preference for an in-person meeting with the Minister and requested for this to be facilitated as soon as possible.

Environmental Surveys already commenced on site will likely be continued to a logical point and concluded. The Wicklow County Council project team are continuing to meet virtually with the public and any interested parties.

#### M11N11 Bus Priority Interim Scheme

The N11/M11 Bus Priority Interim Scheme (BPIS) was, until the end of 2021, being progressed in tandem with the main N11/M11 scheme. The BPIS seeks to achieve the early delivery of bus priority measures along the N11/M11 corridor in advance of the main scheme.

In December 2021, the emerging preferred option for the BPIS was for a northbound and southbound bus lane linking between Junction 6 (Fassaroe) and Loughlinstown Roundabout. Bus priority south of junction 6 was expected to be discounted. Following the suspension of funding on the main scheme and clarification on the likely EIA requirement for the BPIS, it was decided to revisit full extent of the scheme between Loughlinstown Roundabout to Junction 9 (Glenview).

The BPIS web site is now available on [www.n11m11bpis.ie](http://www.n11m11bpis.ie). This website will provide up to date information on the progress of the scheme.

#### N11 Parallel Service Road at Kilmacanogue

Work by the contractor on the snagging and outstanding items is continuing. The road works speed limit order was lifted on 01 October 2021, with the exception of the Parallel Service Road which will



retain the RWSLO of 50km/h. The speed limit of 60km/h included in the current bye-laws will apply on the N11 mainline. It is intended to amend this bye-law to allow a 100km/h speed limit as intended by the Part 8 for the scheme. This will be further considered as part of the county wide review of speed limits in the coming months.

TII have approved funding to carry out a noise assessment of the 7 no residential properties that are adjacent to the new Parallel Service Road Scheme. This noise assessment is expected to be carried out during April and May 2022.

### **N81 Knockroe Bend Realignment**

The tenders for the Per Cent Art Feature will be published by the Arts Officer shortly.

### **N81 Irishtown West, Whitestown Lower, Hangman's Bend and Tuckmill Lower "N81 Four Studies"**

Phase 1 (Feasibility Report) for the N81 Tuckmill Lower, Hangman's Bend, Whitestown Lower and Irishtown West projects (the 'N81 Four Studies') has been completed. Funding has been allocated by TII to progress this Phase 2 (Option Selection) in accordance with the TII Project Management Guidelines (PMG) in 2022.

**N81 Pavement Capital Works** - Resurfacing works of 1km of the N81 between Tuckmill and Saundersgrove will be tendered for in 2022. Ground Investigation was carried out in May with pavement design to follow.

**N81 Capital Maintenance** - Resurfacing work at Monaspick and Annalecky have been approved by TII. Tenders for this work have been received with resurfacing works at both Annalecky and Monaspick to commence in May. Applications for funding for drainage works at Mullycagh and Tinode have been approved and works are to commence in Quarter 2.

### **N81 TII Vehicle Restraint Systems (VRS) Programme**

The contract involves 9 complete barrier replacements and 7 barrier repairs. The contract has **been** awarded to CHM and works commenced on site in Nov 2021 and are continuing in 2022.

### **N81 Fencing Retrofit**

The contract for the fencing will commence in Q3 after the VRS programme is finished.

### **N81 Invasive Species Removal**

A tender will be prepared for the removal of invasive species identified along the N81.

### **Active Travel**

The Active Travel Team has relocated to the Arklow Municipal District Offices. They can be contacted on [ActiveTravel@wicklowcoco.ie](mailto:ActiveTravel@wicklowcoco.ie)



## Opening of Strand Road Plaza, Bray

The Cathaoirleach of Bray Municipal District, Councillor Aoife Flynn Kennedy officially opened the recently completed Strand Road Plaza in Bray. The completion of this high-quality public plaza has really enhanced the public space on Bray's Sea Front.

The scheme includes: widened pedestrian areas using new paving materials; a shared space linking to the existing cycle route on both sides of the scheme; new seating, trees and planters; and new public lighting. The road carriageway has been raised and reduced in width, to control vehicle speeds and shorten crossing distances for pedestrians.



Strand Road Plaza's development is one of many National Transport Authority (NTA) projects in progress and its completion and opening, is a clear demonstration of Wicklow County Council's commitment to sustainable transport and active travel measures for the future in conjunction with the NTA.

## 2022 Project Status

<b>Construction Stage</b>
Rathnew to Glenealy Footpath
Red Lane Footpath
Kilmalum Road / Naas Road Junction Improvements
Priory Road Footpath, Delgany
Cycle Parking Provisions Arklow MD
R-761 Greystones to Kilcoole Footpath
<b>Detailed Design and Tender Stage</b>
Bray Dart Interchange
Putland Road
Delgany Village to Mill Road
Cycle Parking Provisions in Wicklow
Arklow North – Pedestrian and Cycle Scheme
Fernhill to Marian Villas Pedestrian Improvements
<b>Design Stage</b>
Arklow – Woodenbridge – Shillelagh
Port Access Road to Wicklow Train Station
Killarney Road Cycle Route
Vevay Road Cycle Route
Kilmacanogue to Bray Retail Park (Southern Cross Road)





Southern Cross Road VRU Improvements
Convent Avenue to Vevay Crescent Permeability Scheme
Dublin Road to Wexford Road
Arklow Main Street to Train Station
Blessington Main Street to Deerpark
Lower Main Street, Tinahask Road and Dock Road to South Quay
Old Ballymore Road
Ballyguilemore Footpath, Wicklow Town
Arklow South – Pedestrian & Cycle Scheme
Ashford to Roundwood Road (R-764) Footpath
R-761 Kilcoole Road Cycle Scheme
Kindlestown Cycle Improvement Scheme
Woodlands to Lambertton Avenue – Accessibility Improvement Scheme

Further details on all projects can be viewed on <https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Roads-Transport/Roads-Infrastructural-Projects/Active-Travel>

## **Blessington Inner Relief Road**

### **Non Statutory Public Consultation on Emerging Preferred Route**

Wicklow County Council has appointed DBFL Consulting Engineers to progress the Blessington Inner Relieved Road Project through all phases of the TII Project Management Guidelines (Phases 1 to 7). The scheme has progressed to Phase 2 and the Emerging Preferred Route for the scheme has now been identified.

Wicklow County Council wishes to deliver a purpose built route connecting existing sections of the Inner Relief Road already completed between the Naas Road and the Blessington Industrial Estate junction (opposite Maxol filling station) and between the N81 south of the town and the Kilmalum Road. There are two primary sections of the Inner Relief Road yet to be completed which are subject to the emerging preferred route, one section is located to the south of Blessington and the other to the north of the town.

**Southern Section** - The section of road to be constructed lies between the roundabout on the R410 Naas Road and Roundabout on the L8364 Kilmalum Road.

**Northern Section** - The proposed route of this section of road heads northwards from the existing roundabout on the Blessington Inner Relief Road just to the west of Woodleigh Estate and traverses the quarry to emerge onto the N81 in the vicinity of the existing quarry entrance.

New pedestrian and cycling infrastructure are proposed along the route to encourage alternative more sustainable transport modes.

Wicklow County Council is now inviting interested parties, residents of the local area and members of the public, to participate in a Non-Statutory Public Consultation for the scheme in order to provide their feedback on the identified Emerging Preferred Route Corridor. This consultation event will run from **the 12<sup>th</sup> May 2022** until **the 26<sup>th</sup> May 2022** inclusive.

### **Wicklow County Council Compulsory Purchase (Chapel Road Pedestrian and Cycle Infrastructure Improvement Scheme) No. 1 Order 2021**



An Bord Pleanála has, on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of February, 2022, made a confirmation order confirming, with modifications, the above-named compulsory purchase order The said order, as so confirmed, authorises the County Council of the County of Wicklow to acquire the said land compulsorily.

The Order as so confirmed will become operative at the expiration of three weeks from the 16<sup>th</sup> May 2022.

## Local Improvement Scheme

The Department of Rural and Community Development has confirmed funding of €384,390 in respect of road projects approved under the 2022 Local Improvement Schemes to benefit six projects throughout the county.

## Fire Services

Operational Fire Statistics April 2022

	Total stations	Bray	Greystones	Wicklow	Rathdrum	Arklow	Blessington	Dunlavin	Baltinglass	Carnew	Tinahely
Call sign		1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.9	2.1
<b>Two Stations Mobilised</b>											
Fire Domestic Persons Reported	2			1	1						
Fire Domestic	20	7	7	3	3						
Fire Caravan	0										
Road Traffic Collision (RTC)	15	2	3	3	1		1	2	1	1	1
Fire Vehicle (HGV /motorway)	0										
Hazardous Materials Incident	0										
Fire Industrial / Commercial	2	1	1								
Fire Barn / Shed / Prefab	4	1	1	1	1						
<b>One Station Mobilised</b>											
Fire Alarm or CO <sub>2</sub> Activation	22	9	6	4	1	1			1		
Fire Outdoor: Gorse / bushes	7	2	3	2							
Fire Chimney	5	3					1	1			
Fire Small / bin / skip / bonfire	28	3	6	10	3	4			1		1
Fire Vehicle	4			2		1			1		
Flooding	0										
Trees Down, Make Scene Safe	0										
Ambulance Assist / Medical Assist	22	5	5		1	1			10		
Garda Assist	0										
Electrical Incident	0										
Gas Leak	0										
River / Water Rescue	1					1					
Fire Oil / Petrol	0										
Explosion	0										
Entrapment / Rescue / Lift	2	2									
Oil Spill / Road Hazard	1			1							

# MAY 2022



Animal Rescue	0										
Lock In / Lock Out	1				1						
False Alarm – Good Intent	1				1						
Malicious False Alarm	0										
<b>Mobilised into other County</b>	<b>5</b>					3			1	1	
<b>Times Stations mobilised</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>

There were **121 incidents** attended during the month of April 2022. Individual Fire Stations were mobilised on a total of **142 occasions** including 5 incidents in other counties.

Operational activity for the month of April **increased by 28% on the preceding month** (March 2022 – 111 mobilisations). This is accounted for by the following: mobilisations to domestic fires increased from 12 to 22, gorse fires increased from 7 to 14, ambulance assists increased from 7 to 22, there was an increase in small malicious fires close to urban areas, up from 15 to 22.

Operational activity for the month of April 2022 **was down 11% on the equivalent month in 2021** (April 2021 – 159 mobilisations). When comparing year on year, the reduction can be attributed to a reduction in gorse fires from 47 to 7 while mobilisations to domestic fires are up from 10 to 22, alarm activations are up from 8 to 22, ambulance assists are up from 7 to 22.

## Sample Incidents (April 2022)

- 06/04/2022 Crews from Greystones and Wicklow Town attended a serious single vehicle RTC at Kilquade Hill involving a car rollover with trapped casualties
- 08/04/2022 Crews from Baltinglass and Dunlavin attended a single vehicle RTC on the N81 at Conlan's Hill involving a trapped casualty in a vehicle rollover.
- 09/04/2022 Greystones and Bray crews attended a serious kitchen fire in a domestic premises in Charlesland. The fire was quickly contained and extinguished by firefighters in breathing apparatus.
- 20/04/2022 Arklow crew rescued a man and his dog from the Avoca river using personnel in dry suits with a fire service inflatable raft.
- 20/04/2022 Crews from Greystones and Bray contained a fire to an annex of the historic but derelict Kindlestown House.
- 26/04/2022 Bray and Greystones crews attended a well-established house fire in Elgin Wood. Personnel in breathing apparatus contained the fire to the house of origin which was extensively damaged.

### Incidents in County Kildare (1-incident):

- 17/04/2022 Baltinglass fire crew supported by crews from Carlow town attended a single vehicle RTC near Castledermot.

### Incidents in County Wexford (4-incidents):

- 02/04/2022 Arklow fire crew supported crews from Gorey at a 6-car RTC affecting both sides of the M11 at Junction 23.
- 04/04/2022 Arklow fire crew attended a chimney fire at Monalee, Ballyfadd.
- 23/04/2022 Carnew fire crew attended an alarm activation at Ballintim, Camolin.
- 27/04/2022 Arklow fire crew attended a chimney fire at Ardamine, Courtown.

## General

- Detailed engagement took place during the month with the Air Corps, Coillte and National Parks and Wildlife Service in relation to “wildland fires”. Co-ordination meetings took place and the Air Corps



was provided with detailed information of potential water sources for their use in the event of their deployment to Wicklow.

- Fire Service personnel across the county were actively involved in recruitment to seven of the ten stations with various information evenings, leaflet drops, radio and social media engagement.
- A number of personnel were involved in Officer Development Courses throughout the month:
  - One firefighter attended a 2-day Effective Decision Making Course in the Hydra Computer Suite in Clonmel.
  - One Officer instructed and one fire was a student on a Module2 Course in Nenagh Fire Station
  - One officer was appointed course Director for the national Heavy Vehicle Rescue Course in Hacketstown. Wicklow also had one student on the course.
  - Two firefighters were students on a Module 1 Course for developing officers held in Sligo Fire Station.
- Cork City Fire Brigade carried out one week of training in the Bray Training Centre for their firefighter competency training.
- The computer App developed for national instructors by Michael Gahan was used on a 2 week Using Breathing Apparatus Initial Wearers Course, while the development is ongoing it is expected the App will be adopted for all Fire Service QQI courses.

### Fire Prevention Statistics April 2022

Application type	Received	Deemed Invalid	Requested additional information	Inspections	Recommended Grant
Fire Safety Certificates	15		4		10
Regularisation Certificates	1		0		0
FSC as part of 7 Day Notice					
Disability Access Certificates	13		1		6

Licensing	Received	Inspected	Request further info	Response Issued	Not raising an objection
District	2				

### Commencement Notices for April 2022:

Commencement Notices Submitted: 44

- 10 Commencement Notices with Compliance Documents
- 25 Opt Out Declarations
- 7 Commencement Notices without Compliance Documents
- 2 Seven day Notice

#### Submission Statistics

- 57 % of Commencement Notices - Opt Out
- 75 % of Commencement Notices Revised Information required & requested = 30 No. Commencement Notices (CN) of which
  - 10 are Compliance Documentation (30%)

## MAY 2022



- 22 are Opt Out (67%)
- 0 Without Compliance Documentation (0%)
- 1 Seven Day Notice (3%)
- 31 Valid Commencement Notices
  - 227 new build residential Units
  - Invalidated CNs for April = 0

### **Certificates of Completion processed in April 2022**

- 14 New No. of CCC submitted
- 10 Required Revised Information
- 21 No. Validated
- 0 No. Invalid
- 52 new residential units validated
- 

### **Submission Statistics**

- 21 No. Validated CCCs related to;
- 7 No CCCs submitted in March 2022
- 14 No CCCs submitted in April 2022

\*\*BCA not notified on completion of opt out developments

Building Control continues to experienced high construction activity in April 2022. 227 new residential units in were notified to LA for commencement in April. 52 newly completed residential units were submitted, assessed and validated in April.

Building Control continued with site inspection in April to identify non-compliances with Building Regulations onsite and 3 No. Section 11 Compliance Requests were issued.

Revised Information requests remain high in Wicklow Building Control. In April revised information was high in both Opt Out Commencement Notices and Commencement Notices with Compliance Documentation. Opt Out submissions are generally from BCMS users who are unfamiliar with both BCMS and Building Regulations which leads to Building Control resources being directed to resolving both administration and technical issues with Opt Out Submissions. Also as the construction industry is a thriving industry at present, the quality of submissions for both Opt Outs & Commencement Notices with Compliance Documentation have reduced due to lack of resources in private practice. Rigorous assessment of submissions at commencement stage and onsite presence during constructions remains the best way to promote compliance with Building Regulations.

### **Water Services**

In Quarter 1 2022, Wicklow County Council staff continued to provide Water and Wastewater Services under the current Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Irish Water.

### **Annual Service Plan 2022**

Wicklow County Council works alongside Irish Water in line with Key Performance Indicators under the Annual Service Plan. As a part of the Annual Service Plan, Water Services in Wicklow County Council is required to deliver on performance measures and Key Performance Indicators.



The Annual Service Plan 2022 outlines all 69 performance measures alongside all corresponding baselines and targets. Each measure and associated objective has been grouped into one of four categories, namely: -

**1. Learning & Growth (7 measures)**

Objective: To continuously improve and drive transformation and change initiatives

**2. Customer (17 measures)**

Objective: Providing services that are valued by customers. This is influenced by the CRU Customer Handbook and proposed Performance Assessment metrics

**3. Internal Process / Compliance (30 measures)**

Objective: Adherence to all reporting requirements and meeting regulatory requirements as set out by the relevant statutory and regulatory bodies, e.g. CRU and EPA

**4. Financial (15 measures)**

Objective: Providing a cost effective service, within budgetary constraints

Within the four categories of performance measures there are three distinct tiers:

1. KPIs – 17 measures
2. Operational Measures – 39 measures
3. Tracking Measures – 6 measures

## **Drinking Water**

Wicklow County Council staff work with Irish Water under a Service Level Agreement to provide safe and clean drinking water to the people of Wicklow. This year the Council continues to work under changes to the working environment that were brought in due to Covid-19. Normal Operation and Maintenance works have been on-going with Caretakers, leakage locators, plumbers and leakage inspectors ensuring quality and supplies from Water treatment plants and within networks, haven't been affected during this period. Administration, outdoor, technical and engineering staff continue to work together to ensure the best service is delivered on a daily basis.

### **Operation and Maintenance Works:**

#### **Reservoir Cleaning:**

There is an on-going program of Reservoir cleaning and repair currently being carried out by Irish Water and the water services staff of Wicklow County Council, to ensure the highest quality water is supplied and distributed into the networks. Site visits have been completed on 20 reservoirs due for cleaning in 2022. Service reservoir cleaning inspections have taken place for Giltspur, Drummin, Broomhall & Priestnewtown reservoirs.

#### **Burst Mains & Leak Repairs:**

On a daily basis, there are burst mains and leak repairs carried out by Wicklow County Council water services staff. Often, these are on smaller mains but regularly they are on larger pipes on roads and can cause a lot of disruption. This can be due to older pipes, pressure build up or pipe strikes. These incidents can happen at any time during the day or night and water leakage inspectors, leakage locators, plumbers and external contractors make themselves available to fix these issues. The leaks



identified by Wicklow County Council leakage crews and repaired by the plumber since beginning of January 2022 has saved approximately 883,000 litres a day.

### **Leakage Equipment Pilot:**

Wicklow County Council is currently involved in trialling new leakage equipment on behalf of Irish Water. This equipment detects noise on the network and gives the Leakage Crews locations of possible leaks. The meters are currently being used in Arklow following trials in Delgany, Blessington and Kilpedder. Wicklow County Council has also received an additional 250 loggers for future leakage monitoring across the county.

### **Water Network Programme: Mains Rehab.**

Irish Water, in partnership with Wicklow County Council, are currently progressing a number of water improvement projects, to improve security of supply, water quality and reduce high levels of leakage.

- Palermo Bray - Complete
- Trafalgar Road Greystones – Complete
- Roundwood Rationalisation – Works near completion
- Barndarrig Rationalisation – Complete.
- Avondale Park Bray – Complete
- Glen Road Delgany – Complete
- Dunlavin rationalisation – at final design.
- Windgates rationalisation – ongoing.

### **Pressure Management**

Irish Water, in partnership with Wicklow County Council, are currently progressing a number of pressure management projects, to improve security of supply and reduce high levels of leakage across Wicklow.

### **District Metering Areas (DMA)**

Through the Irish Water, Water Network Programme, Wicklow County Council is currently replacing DMA flow meters across the county in order to track and manage the leakage in the metered water network more efficiently.

### **Waste Water**

#### **Waste Water Operations and Maintenance (O & M) Section**

The primary function of the Waste Water Section, working under the Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Irish Water, is the on-going management, operation and maintenance of existing waste water treatment plants, in order to ensure continued production of effluent discharges to the environment to required standards and to keep the waste water collection network running properly.

The Waste Water Section also organises regular sampling, and testing of effluent parameters and reporting of results (to IW). In addition reports are provided to Irish Water as to feasibility and particular requirements in relation to connection applications and pre-connection enquiries (received by IW) and similarly in relation to planning applications.

#### **Capital Maintenance & Minor Capital Improvement Works.**





O & M expenditure falls under two main headings or funding sources – i) day to day operational goods and services and ii) Capital Maintenance (CM). Capital Maintenance expenditure essentially provides for the like-for-like replacement of components and equipment, as and when required due to normal wear and tear or breakdown.

From time to time somewhat more substantial or notable works are proposed (and when approved) are progressed by the Wicklow County Council O&M Section under CM funding. There were no such notable projects completed or underway in Q1 2022.

### **Irish Water Capital Works (Waste Water)**

[Note:- Notwithstanding some occasional local input at certain junctures, Wicklow County Council has no role in the delivery of these projects by Irish Water]

#### **Arklow WwTP:**

The €139 million Arklow Wastewater Scheme formally commenced on the ground with a sod turning ceremony at the old Wallboard Factory site in Arklow on 30<sup>th</sup> August 2021.

Works will be ongoing over the next few years.

#### **Blessington WwTP Upgrade:**

The upgrade to the Blessington WWTP began in Q4 of 2021 and is anticipated to be completed in Q4 of 2022. The Upgrade will increase the PE into the plant and allow planning applications that have been granted, subject to planning permission to be progressed.

#### **Avoca WwTP**

A Planning Application for a new WWTP in Avoca has been submitted to Wicklow County Council in the first week of May 2022.

#### **Aughrim WwTP Upgrade:-** (Small Town & Village Growth Programme)

This Project has been transferred from IW Asset Strategy Section to Asset Delivery (AD) and is in the early stages of design etc.

#### **Key Performance Indicators (KPI's):**

Under the Annual Service Plan with Irish Water, Wicklow County Council continued to be scored on Key Performance Indicators. The 2022 Q1 score was 92% which reflects the excellent performance of Wicklow County Council staff across all pillars within the Annual Service plan throughout the year. The Quarter 1 report for 2022 includes:

- A score of 100% was achieved for notice of planned work
- A score of 100% was achieved for timely response to workflow queries
- A score of 100% for Drinking Water Supply – Microbiological Compliance
- A score of 100% for Waste Water Treatment – UWWTD Performance by no of WWTP's

(Based on Irish Water ASP Monthly Report Quarter 1 2022).





Building Control Officers attended the National Building Controls Conference for 2 days in late March. Presentations included information on Part A,B, D & L of the Building Regulations and also updated guidance from NBC&MSO.

## Parking Income

<b>Parking Income by Municipal District</b>	<b>EURO</b>
Bray Municipal District	<b>301,357</b>
Greystones Municipal District	<b>77,358</b>
Wicklow Municipal District	<b>108,756</b>
Arklow Municipal District	<b>70,800</b>
Parking Permits	<b>23,740</b>
Parking Fines	<b>104,999</b>
<b>Wicklow County Council</b>	<b>687,009</b>



## Organisational Development and Financial Matters

### 1. HR and Corporate Services

#### Recruitment

The following interviews were held in April:

- Broadband Officer (2 yr contract)
- Senior Library Assistant (Grade IV)
- Assistant Staff Officer (Grade IV) – Final Interviews
- Executive Accountant (Grade VII)
- Assistant Architect
- Environmental Awareness Officer

#### Employee Numbers

<b>Employee Numbers</b>	<b>Q2 2021</b>	<b>Q3 2021</b>	<b>Q4 2021</b>	<b>Q1 2022</b>
<b>Managerial/Administrative</b>	297	304	305	303
<b>Professional/Technical</b>	118	121	122	117
<b>Outdoor</b>	264	261	262	273
<b>Temporary/Seasonal</b>	71 (increase relates to lifeguards)	49 (reduction relates to lifeguards)	49	44
<b>Non DOHPLG</b>	8	8	8	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>758</b>	<b>743</b>	<b>746</b>	<b>743</b>

# MAY 2022



## Access to Information

### F.O.I. Requests

April 2022: 5	April 2021: 10
Jan – April 2022: 31	Jan – April 2021: 28

### Ombudsman Requests

April 2022: 0	April 2021: 1
Jan – April 2022: 9	Jan – April 2021: 4

### Press Releases

April 2022 -18

## Register of Electors

The Franchise Section are working as part of the team assisting the LGMA in developing an updated version of the current register database system, with regular MS Team meetings and discussions on this project.

The testing and troubleshooting of this new system commenced in March of this year with staff from both Wicklow and Kildares franchise departments processing the many variations of application types and highlighting bugs within the new system to the LGMA. Testing is currently paused as discussions between the LGMA and Department of Social Protection continue with regard to the PPSN API.

Fieldworkers are no longer used in the gathering of information for the Register, so we need to engage in alternative methods of reaching the electorate. We are currently working on an advertising and social media campaign that we hope to run from June to October, this campaign will encourage people to check that they are registered correctly as well as encouraging those not registered to do so.

We are also planning to run a poster campaign in September/October within our secondary schools highlighting to students the importance of having a vote

## Customer Service Hub

Customer Service Innovation Hub			
2022- April			
Communication	No.	Public Counters	Transactions
No. of Phone Calls	8086	Motor Taxation	1237



No. of Emails	1203	Revenue	311
No. of Elected Members Emails	154	Social Housing Applications	39
CRM Cases	271		

## Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards 2022

Chambers Ireland sought submissions for 'The Excellence in Local Government Awards 2022', which is an opportunity to showcase best practice in our local Authority and to recognise the skills, hard work, innovation and enthusiasm of our staff here in Wicklow.

We have submitted 12 very worthwhile projects from Wicklow:

Chambers Ireland - Excellence in Local Government Awards 2022	
<i>Wicklow County Council Submissions 2022</i>	
Category	Submission
Heritage & Built Environments	Celebrating Wicklow's Wonder Women
Supporting Tourism	Wicklow Passport
Initiative through the Municipal Districts	Blessington Town Centre Public realm Regeneration Project
Initiative through the Municipal Districts	Arklow Courthouse & Enterprise Hub
Sustaining the Arts	Platform 31
Health & Wellbeing	Healthy Blessington
Promoting Economic Development	Wicklow Town Promotional video
Supporting Sustainable Communities	Carraig Eden Project
Sustainable Environment	Food in the Circular Economy online conference
Climate Change	WCC Solar Car Park
Diversity & Inclusion	Wicklow Library – Changing Places
Local Authority Innovation	Social Housing – Design & Build



## 2. I.C.T.

### Blended Working

The IT Department continue to plan and support the additional business needs required by implementation of Blended Working:

- Blended model for return-to-work arrangements
- Remote Working Requirements for staff of Wicklow County Council
- Government Networks
- Phone Systems
- Call Conferencing
- Communications and awareness

### IT Helpdesk

- The IT Helpdesk continues to streamline the workflow for the technical support team with an average of 30 tickets a day in April, providing assistance for both in-house and remote workers.
- Examination of system upgrades potential is underway.
- The upgrade of PC's in libraries and general offices completed this month.

### Implementation of ePlanning

- Systems and Project Plan in Place to rollout ePlanning

### GIS & Systems Analysis

- The Online Consultation Portal of the revised County Development Plan has gone live.
- Preparation of the draft Greystones/Delgany - Kilcoole LAP has commenced.
- Testing of an upgrade to Environment Enforcement's hardware has been finalised.
- The development of a new Tourism Mapping System has started in conjunction with the Tourism Office.
- Training for new entrants on the various GIS Applications has commenced.

### Business Systems/Applications Development

- Arklow Municipal District's Road's Section is collaborating with the inhouse Applications Development Team, to design and develop a new generation of "Smart" mobile data collection applications.

### Customer Service Delivery

- Support for the Customer Service Innovation Hub is ongoing. The Customer Service project requires a high level of IT collaboration with both hardware and software elements integrated into the Hub.
- Work continues with the business process mapping and DPIA's are being carried out for each process as it arises.
- Avaya IP Office Phone System has been modified to integrate the Avaya Contact Centre Select Hardware Appliance and software. This has led to greater integration with call reporting systems and has improved customer service delivery.

### eServices

Wicklow.ie – pageviews from April 1st, 2021, to March 31st, 2022, were 1,374,638 This is a slight decrease in unique pageviews compared the same period the previous year.



- Social media accounts – followers to date
  - o Facebook (Wicklow County Council) – 11,107 followers. This is an increase of 105 followers or 1% on the previous month.
  - o Twitter (@WicklowCoCo) – 7682 followers. This is an increase of 70 followers or .3% on the previous month.
  - o Instagram (@WicklowCoCo) – 2808 followers. This is an increase of 94 followers or 3.5% on the previous month.
- The Online Consultation Hub on Wicklow.ie continues to feature in enhanced consultation campaigns. These have included–
  - o Redford Junction Part 8
  - o Blessington Inner Relief Road Project
  - o Draft Customer Action Plan
- Social media campaigns have continued over the last month.
  - o #KeepWell
  - o #OutdoorsForEveryone

### 3. Financial

#### Revenue Account

REVENUE ACCOUNT							
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION AT 30TH APRIL 2022							
	EXPENDITURE			INCOME			NET
	Actual Expenditure	Adopted Full Year Budget	% Budget Spent to Date	Actual Income	Adopted Full Year Budget	% Budget Spent to Date	Actual Expenditure / (Income)
	€	€	%	€	€	%	€
Housing and Building	11,041,794	34,438,754	32%	(12,669,353)	(39,943,965)	32%	(1,627,559)
Road Transport & Safety	4,785,876	22,204,016	22%	(1,784,267)	(15,347,052)	12%	3,001,609
Water Services	1,808,087	5,394,788	34%	(2,261,019)	(6,561,262)	34%	(452,932)
Development Management	3,690,483	12,355,595	30%	(2,063,539)	(6,872,547)	30%	1,626,944
Environmental Services	3,475,796	12,130,078	29%	(404,671)	(2,083,134)	19%	3,071,125
Recreation and Amenity	2,710,431	8,498,513	32%	(364,598)	(1,148,299)	32%	2,345,833
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	357,573	1,566,840	23%	(98,540)	(809,228)	12%	259,033
Miscellaneous Services	4,562,530	10,846,102	42%	(3,814,741)	(9,033,954)	42%	747,789
Central Management Charges	6,327,456	20,213,475	31%	(360,046)	(1,000,000)	36%	5,967,410
Local Government Fund				(4,356,302)	(13,068,907)	33%	(4,356,302)
Pension Levy				0	0		0
Commercial Rates				(10,643,271)	(31,929,814)	33%	(10,643,271)
	<b>38,760,027</b>	<b>127,648,161</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>(38,820,348)</b>	<b>(127,798,162)</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>(60,321)</b>

#### Cashflow/Overdraft

Wicklow County Council manages its cashflow requirements on a daily basis and did not avail of its overdraft facility during the period 1st April 2022 to 30th April 2022.



## Capital Account

CAPITAL ACCOUNT					
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION AT 30TH APRIL 2022					
	Opening Balance at 01/01/2022	Actual Expenditure	Actual Income	Transfers to/from Reserves	Closing Balance at 30/04/2022
	€	€	€	€	€
Housing and Building	13,706,643	22,585,129	(13,514,157)	(182,000)	22,595,615
Road Transport & Safety	(35,706,853)	2,981,600	(771,248)	(125,000)	(33,621,501)
Water Services	(10,436,363)	133,995	(374,310)	(17,500)	(10,694,178)
Development Management	(25,225,375)	564,981	(2,318,783)	(250,000)	(27,229,177)
Environmental Services	743,438	1,043,516	(1,087,238)	(155,625)	544,090
Recreation and Amenity	446,620	967,481	(182,071)	(60,392)	1,171,638
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	(1,443,763)	33,995	0	(98,750)	(1,508,518)
Miscellaneous Services	(18,825,824)	2,682,202	(6,089,279)	572,349	(21,660,551)
	<b>(76,741,477)</b>	<b>30,992,898</b>	<b>(24,337,085)</b>	<b>(316,918)</b>	<b>(70,402,581)</b>

## Commercial Rates, Rents and Loan Collections

SUMMARY OF MAJOR COLLECTIONS AT 30TH APRIL 2022										
Income Collection Area	Opening Balance 01/01/2022	Accrued	Vacancy Property Adjustments	Write Offs	Waivers	Total for Collection	Collected	Closing Arrears 30/04/2022	Specific Doubtful Arrears	% Collection
Rates	6,342,375	31,917,481	0	0	(1,171,316)	37,088,540	(11,691,787)	25,396,753	2,747,619	34%
Rents & Annuities	2,837,526	5,891,442	0	47	0	8,729,015	(5,512,496)	3,216,519	0	63%
Housing Loans	446,170	770,339	0	0	0	1,216,509	(765,521)	450,988	0	63%

The rates collection, rent collection and housing loan collection percentages are below normal levels due to the carry forward of arrears at the start of the new financial year. This situation will be regularised over the course of the year.

## General Municipal Allocation and Discretionary Fund 2022

The decision taken by Members at the LPT meeting on July 27th 2021 to raise the LPT basic rate by 6% resulted in an additional €1,043,460 in the Revenue Budget for 2022. This money was ring-fenced for Discretionary Funding in the Municipal Districts. The total Municipal District's General Municipal Allocation funding for 2022 is set out below:





Municipal District	C/F from 2021	Adopted Budget 2022	Funds available to MD	Committed	Balance to Expend
	€	€	€	€	€
Arklow MD	63,471	256,649	320,120	3,665	316,455
Baltinglass MD	113,456	221,649	335,105	92,407	242,698
Bray MD	262,229	431,254	693,483	77,810	615,673
Greystones MD	393,074	233,649	626,723	523	626,200
Wicklow MD	246,816	241,649	488,465	14,887	473,578
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,079,046</b>	<b>1,384,850</b>	<b>2,463,896</b>	<b>189,294</b>	<b>2,274,602</b>

**Capital Investment Programme 2022-2024**

The Capital Investment Programme 2022-2024 for Wicklow County Council details proposed capital expenditure projects over the next 3 year period, subject to available funding, was noted by the Members at the Council meeting of March 21st 2022. The table below outlines the proposed capital expenditure by programme group.

PROGRAMME GROUP	Expected Outlay				Proposed Funding				
	2022	2023	2024	TOTAL	Dev Charges <sup>1</sup>	Loan	Grant Aid <sup>2</sup>	Other <sup>3</sup>	TOTAL
	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€
HOUSING AND BUILDING	107,820,000	104,427,500	107,603,750	319,851,250	-	26,000,000	288,594,000	5,257,250	319,851,250
ROAD TRANSPORT & SAFETY	24,647,487	29,100,107	16,356,902	70,104,496	14,713,521	7,795,000	42,632,508	4,963,467	70,104,496
WATER SERVICES	100,000	100,000	100,000	300,000	-	-	300,000	-	300,000
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT	6,550,000	10,178,000	5,962,000	22,690,000	2,897,800	2,000,000	9,627,200	8,165,000	22,690,000
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	2,920,000	10,850,000	28,550,000	42,320,000	-	-	32,060,000	10,260,000	42,320,000
RECREATION AND AMENITY	11,281,823	22,079,000	12,091,000	45,451,823	9,525,870	-	35,025,953	900,000	45,451,823
AGRICULTURAL, EDUCATION, HEALTH & WELFARE	5,150,000	16,900,000	30,682,946	52,732,946	4,585,368	-	41,647,210	6,500,368	52,732,946
MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES	200,000	200,000	200,000	600,000	-	-	-	600,000	600,000
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>158,669,310</b>	<b>193,834,607</b>	<b>201,546,598</b>	<b>554,050,515</b>	<b>31,722,559</b>	<b>35,795,000</b>	<b>449,886,871</b>	<b>36,646,085</b>	<b>554,050,515</b>



## Capital Funded Projects

Project Scheme	Project Name	Project Cost	Match Funding
NRGF	Blessington Greenway	€15,000,000	€0
URDF	Arklow Historic Town Core	€3,134,684	€783,671
URDF	Wicklow Town - Library and Fitzwilliam Square	7,034,879	€2,407,470
URDF	Bray Public Transport Bridge	€8,600,000	€1,000,000
URDF	Bray Harbour Area Integrated Regeneration	€9,520,000	€2,380,000
RRDF 2019	Blueprint for Baltinglass	€3,566,968	€891,742
RRDF 2020	Placemaking Newtownmountkennedy	€477,000	€119,250
REDF	Wicklow County Campus - Content Creation Hub	€3,500,000	€2,000,000
Fáilte Ireland Destination Towns	Abbey Grounds Wicklow Town	€620,000	€120,000
Fáilte Ireland Outdoor Dining Scheme	Market Square Wicklow Town	€119,000	€19,000
Community CCTV Scheme	Greystones CCTV	€115,000	€75,000
Community CCTV Scheme	Blessington CCTV	€115,000	€75,000
WCC	Mill Road, Greystones Masterplan	€50,000	€50,000
ORIS 2018	Avonmore Way Link Bridge	€490,000	€98,000
ORIS 2018	Vartry Reservoir Walks & Car Park	€197,131	€39,426
ORIS 2018	St. Kevin's Way	€200,000	€40,000
ORIS 2018	The Spinc	€200,000	€50,400
ORIS 2019	Wicklow Way Infrastructure Enhancement	€25,000	€5,000
ORIS 2019	Baltinglass Road Cycle Trails	€11,000	€2,200
ORIS 2019	North Wicklow Trails Network Development	€310,700	€38,140
ORIS Measure 1 2020	Avondale Avonmore	€20,330	€2,033
ORIS Measure 1 2020	Trail Digitising	€19,600	€1,960
ORIS Measure 1 2020	Tinahely	€20,000	€2,000
ORIS Measure 1 2020	Stratford	€20,000	€2,000
ORIS Measure 1 2020	Long Distance Video	€21,400	€2,140
ORIS Measure 1 2020	Brockagh Mountain Access	€11,100	€1,110
ORIS Measure 1 2020	People Counters	€22,000	€2,200
ORIS Measure 1 2020	Sean Lenihan	€21,200	€2,120
ORIS Measure 1 2020	Glenmalure Bridge	€12,500	€1,250
ORIS Measure 3 2020	Bright light Blueway	€554,820	€55,482
Sports Capital Programme	Charlesland All Weather Pitch Refurbishment -	€59,271	€5,927
LSSIS	Wicklow Swimming Pool	€1,646,052	€493,816
LSSIS	Charlesland Running Track	€411,674	€123,502
CLAR 2019	Rathcoyle NS	€55,556	€2,778
CLAR 2019	Knockananna	€46,000	€3,000
CLAR 2021	Knockananna community allotment	€10,830	€1,083
CLAR 2021	Askanagap	€55,557	€5,557
CLAR 2021	Knockananna	€27,514	€2,501



Project Scheme	Project Name	Project Cost	Match Funding
T&V 2018	Blessington	€100,000	€20,000
T&V 2018	Wicklow	€150,000	€30,000
T&V 2019	Dunlavin	€26,216	€2,623
T&V 2019	Coolkenno	€30,000	€3,000
T&V 2019	Aughrim	€119,500	€17,925
T&V 2019	Redcross	€100,000	€20,000
T&V 2019	Delgany	€37,000	€3,700
T&V 2020 (Accelerated)	Bundled	€28,000	€2,800
T&V 2020 (Accelerated)	Dunlavin	€4,950	€495
T&V 2020 (Accelerated)	Roundwood	€40,000	€4,000
T&V 2020 (Accelerated)	Ballinaclash	€44,000	€4,400
T&V 2020 (Accelerated)	Enniskerry	€44,000	€4,400
T&V 2020 (Accelerated)	Laragh	€27,000	€2,700
T&V 2020 (Accelerated)	Tinahely	€5,500	€550
T&V 2020 (Accelerated)	Baltinglass	€10,000	€1,000
T&V 2020 (Accelerated)	Arklow	€39,500	€3,950
T&V 2020 (Accelerated)	Wicklow	€44,444	€4,444
T&V 2020 (Accelerated)	Greystones	€44,444	€4,444
T&V 2020 (Accelerated)	Rathdrum	€27,000	€2,700
T&V 2020 (Accelerated)	Broadband Connection Points	€44,444	€4,444
T&V 2020 (Accelerated)	Kilcoole	20,000	2,000
T&V 2020 Main	Stratford	€200,000	€22,222
T&V 2020 Main	Avoca	€100,000	€11,111
T&V 2020 Main	Enniskerry	€100,000	€11,111
T&V 2020 Main	Annamoe	€100,000	€11,111
ORIS 2021 Measure 1	Kilmacanogue Nature Trail	€20,000	€2,000
ORIS 2021 Measure 1	Lacken Mass Path	€18,000	€1,800
ORIS 2021 Measure 1	Kilcoole Mass Path	€13,000	€1,300
ORIS 2021 Measure 1	Avonmore Kayak Project	€16,500	€1,650
ORIS 2021 Measure 1	Age Friendly Triobikes for older people	€23,160	€3,160
ORIS 2021 Measure 1	Keadeen Access	€13,500	€1,350
ORIS 2021 Project Development	Three Trout Route	€50,000	€5,000
ORIS 2021 Measure 3	The Sugarloaf Repair	€500,000	€50,000
ORIS 2021 Measure 2	Jubilee Loop and Avonmore Way link	€180,000	€18,000
ORIS 2021 Measure 2	Cliff Walk Protection Scheme	€220,000	€22,000
Sports Capital Programme	Coral Wicklow	€68,759	€20,628
Sports Capital Programme	Coral Arklow	€28,999	€8,700
Sports Capital Programme	Arklow Running Track	€62,434	€18,730
Sports Capital Programme	Dr. Ryan Park	€45,320	€13,596
	<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>€59,067,435</b>	<b>€11,267,801</b>