

**Wicklow County Council
Chief Executive's Monthly Report – January 2025**



W I C K L O W

ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES

Wicklow County Council

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This month:

National Transport Authority Award €8.65m of Funding to Wicklow County Council Active Travel Projects

Wicklow County Council has welcomed the announcement by the Department of Transport, of €8,655,000 in funding, which has been granted to 30 Active Travel projects across Wicklow. Within that figure, funds have also been allocated specifically to the bus stop enhancement programme.

The National Transport Authority (NTA) has distributed these funds as part of a broader €283 million investment dedicated to new and existing walking and cycling infrastructure Active Travel projects throughout Ireland this year.

Projects to receive funding in Wicklow include the Bray Dart Interchange scheme, Wicklow Port Access Road Link, the Wicklow and Greystones Pathfinder projects, as well as funding for eight schools in the county that are part of the Safe Routes to Schools programme. Additional walking and cycling infrastructure projects will be developed across all five municipalities in Wicklow.

Wicklow Finalists Announced for Business of Craft Awards

Two craft and design businesses from County Wicklow have been shortlisted for the finals of the Business of Craft Awards, which will take place as part of the Local Enterprise Showcase at the Showcase Craft Trade Fair 2025 in the RDS later this month. Culu Design and One Dame Lane, both of which are supported by LEO Wicklow, have been shortlisted in the 'One to Watch' category in what is the second year of the Business of Craft Awards. They will be joined in the LEO Wicklow area by two other local companies: Amurelle Bedlinen and Living Earth Photography.

Culu Design is owned by Louise O'Hara from Bray, while One Dame Lane is run by Lyndsey Cavanagh from Greystones. Both businesses specialize in designing and manufacturing beautiful women's jewellery with a contemporary twist.

Amurelle was founded by Hannah Sanusi in Greystones and focuses on high-quality linen and cotton bedding, while Aidan White's Living Earth Photography sells exquisite prints of Irish landscapes.

The Local Enterprise Office (LEO) awards were open to all LEO clients exhibiting at the event as part of the Local Enterprise Showcase, which showcases 105 small craft businesses from LEOs nationwide. This is the second year of the awards, which celebrate the business aspect behind the remarkable craft and design products created across the country.

Showcase 2025, a pinnacle event in the global design and crafts calendar, will welcome thousands of buyers from around the world, including those from Ireland, the UK, USA, mainland Europe, Asia, and Africa, generating millions of euros in sales orders during the show. Showcase is presented by the Design & Crafts Council Ireland, with support from Enterprise Ireland in promoting the trade show internationally through their network of offices overseas, along with the Local Enterprise Offices nationwide.

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Social Development (Housing & Community)

Housing

	December 2024	December 2023
No. availing of Rental Assistance Scheme (RAS)	96	122
No. availing of Housing Assistance Payment	1351	1474
No. in Long Term Leasing Accommodation	20	23
No. in Short Term Leasing Accommodation	21	28

Allocation of Social Housing

	December 2024	December 2023
Wicklow County Council	10	10
Approved Housing Bodies	1	13

Social Housing Stock

	December 2024	December 2023
Tenancies Occupied	5030	4902
Total Weekly Rent Accrual	€338,854.47	€324,536.40
Arrears (Including Bray)	€3,078,907.92	€3,038.902.00

Rent

- Income based Differential Rent Scheme - Last Review – 2019
- 2 Schemes in the County – one in Bray and one for the rest of the County (new tenants in Bray now go onto Wicklow Scheme)

Social Housing List by Area of Choice

	As of 30/11/2024
Arklow	922
Ashford	383
Aughrim	37
Avoca	37
Ballinaclash	9
Ballyconnell	4
Ballycoogue	1
Baltinglass	111
Barndarrig	11
Blessington	234
Bray	1070

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Brittas Bay	1
Carnew	68
Conary	4
Coolboy	4
Delgany	222
Donard	16
Dunlavin	29
Enniskerry	46
Glenealy	12
Greystones	308
Kilcoole	50
Kilmacanogue	10
Kiltegan	5
Kirakee	1
Knockananna	6
Laken	1
Laragh	11
Newcastle	12
Ntrmk	58
Rathdangan	2
Rathdrum	58
Rathnew	113
Redcross	1
Roundwood	33
Shillelagh	25
Stratford On Slaney	3
Thomastown	9
Tinahely	28
Wicklow	248
TOTAL	4203

Housing Needs Assessment 2024 (SSHA 2024)

The Summary Social Housing Assessment (SSHA) 2024 is the continuation of the ongoing process of annual assessments of national housing need. It provides vital data to inform the ongoing development of housing policy. The purpose of the process is to identify the current level of national housing need. At county level, it captures the total number of households qualified for social housing support across the county whose social housing need is not being met, in order to understand the level of need for such support. The social housing applications were reviewed from 1st November 2023 to 4th November 2024. The data on the housing needs for Wicklow was returned to the Department by 2nd December 2024

The following actions were taken to complete the HNA 2024-

- Forms issued to the social housing support applicant
- Advertised in paper and on local media to remind applicants to complete and return these forms.
- Reminder letters issued to applicants
- Follow up emails and phone calls to the applicant

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- Review of list by housing teams – Homeless, Traveller accommodation and Tenant Sustainment Officers
- Reports on the Social Housing application list were generated from the Ihouse System.

At the end of November, the Wicklow County Council Social Housing supports list figure was 4225. This number includes persons on Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) and on the Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS). It also includes persons seeking transfer from Approved Housing Body properties and council house properties to other social houses. When those on HAP, RAS and seeking transfers are removed for the overall figure of 4,225, the number of persons seeking and in need of Social Housing support in Wicklow is 1744.

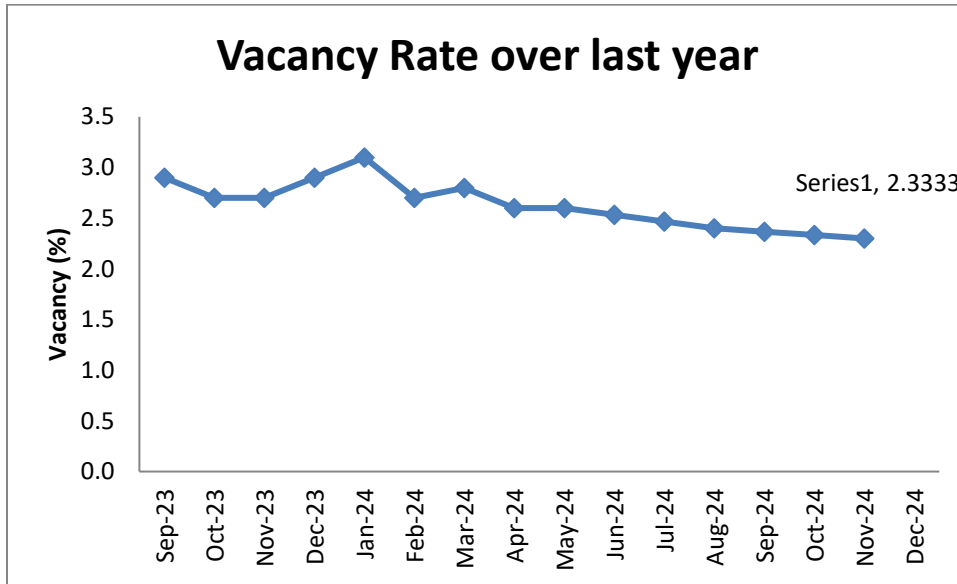
Re-Lets / Voids

MD	Completed in 2024	In Progress	Not Started	Completed but not yet tenanted	Vacant
Arklow	23 (+5)	8 (+1)	5 (0)	14 (-1)	27(0)
Baltinglass	27 (+10)	2 (-3)	5 (+3)	14(-2)	21 (-5)
Bray	59 (+5)	5 (0)	7 (+2)	10(+6)	22(+6)
Greystones	9 (+1)	5 (-1)	1 (+1)	1 (+1)	7(+5)
Wicklow	25 (0)	9(0)	20 (-3)	12(+8)	39 (-5)
2024 Totals	142 (+2)	29 (+0)	38 (+16)	51(+13)	116 (-5)
2023 Totals	140				
Total Vacancy as % of Total Stock (Total Vacancy + Occupied Tenancies)	2.3	Figures in brackets indicate change on last month			

A new local area maintenance framework was setup in 2024. 17 contractors were appointed to cover all five MD areas for works such as housing refurbishments works, repairs and adaption grants.

The Council can only recoup a maximum of €11,000 per house from the Dept of Housing Local Government and Heritage, whereas the average cost of relets was €36,000 per house in 2022 and €31,000 per house in 2023.

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Note: No occupied tenancy data available in June/July/Oct/Nov 2024

According to CSO Census 2022 data:

Total No of rented properties in the state	513,704	100%
No of properties rented by Private landlords	330,632	64.4%
No of properties rented by Local Authorities	153,192	29.8%
No of properties rented by AHBs	29,880	5.8%
No of vacant houses (including Holiday Homes) in Co Wicklow	4,320	
Average no of WCC vacant units (using 2023 figure)	140 (3.2% of total vacant houses in the county)	

The overall vacancy rate for rental properties (private and social) on Census night was 7%, so our vacancy rate is less than half the overall rate for a rental sector where Local Authorities account for only 29.8% of the properties. Also, Wicklow County Council's vacant units only account for 3.2% of the total number of vacant units in our county.

Housing Maintenance

Planned Maintenance in the form of electrical remedial works has been completed at Parkmore in Baltinglass. Protech Electrical is currently carrying out remedial works at Palladius Park in Donard and will then move on to Mallinswood, Grangecon.

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Gas and oil boiler servicing and repairs continue in all MDs. Checks for fire blankets, smoke and carbon monoxide alarms are part of the boiler service visit and any missing or time expired alarms are replaced. Heat Pump maintenance contract documents are currently being prepared, and tender competitions will be run on www.supplygov.ie shortly.

Housing crews are also currently replacing fire blankets, smoke and carbon monoxide alarms in our housing stock following a request sent out for replacements needed at the end of 2023.

Core Capital Programme

i. Traveller accommodation

Scheme	Current Status
Ballinteskin – 3 houses	Houses allocated
Avondale Heights, Rathdrum – 3 houses	Contractor on site completion date March 2025
Barndarrig Group Housing scheme for 3 houses and 17 social houses	Three group housing schemes. Final layout agreed with department/families. Social house layout is being finalised for the rest of the site. Part 8 Expected Q2 2025.

ii. Infill Sites/Age Friendly & Disability Schemes

Scheme	Units	Current Status
5A Rednagh Road – Disability house	1	Expected completion Q3 2025
1A Mill Road- Age Friendly	3	Commenced on site.

iii. Energy Retrofit Program

As part of our ongoing energy upgrade scheme, housing services are undertaking works across the county. This includes, depending on house surveyed, and not limited to external wall insulation, attic insulation, heat pumps and upgraded windows and doors. Number of houses retrofitted as of September 2024. These works comply with our policy on energy fabric upgrades which went through the SPC in 2023.

EERP	Numbers carried out as of December
Houses retrofit	125

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Retrofit Scheme at Monastery Grove. Completed nominated for ICE/LAMA Award

Mortgage To Rent

A total of 52 households are tenants of Wicklow County Council through the Mortgage to Rent Scheme and as such pay a weekly rent to WCC. WCC leases these properties for a 25-year period from Home for Life, all 52 properties have been inspected, and our housing team administers the monthly lease payments to Home for Life.

MTR	Numbers of inspections and sign offs as of December
Mortgage to Rent Properties	44

Vacant Home Surveys

Housing Services have been completing vacant homes surveys on behalf of the Vacant homes officer in 2024. This maps locations of vacant and derelict properties around the county in coordination with other departments.

Vacant Homes Surveys	Numbers carried out as of December
Surveyed on app	428

Private Rented Accommodation Regulation & Enforcement

The Targeted Inspection programme on private rented accommodation continues. **Housing For All** requires 25% of all private rented properties to be inspected annually. This equates to approx. 1500 properties in Co. Wicklow every year. Target properties are selected using a Risk Based approach. The Council is responsible for enforcing the Housing (Standards for Rented Houses) Regulations 2019 (SI 137 of 2019).

Private Rented Inspections	Numbers carried out last month (December)
Targeted and complaint inspections	55

So far in 2024, the following Notices have been served by Wicklow County Council in relation to breaches of SI 137 of 2019:

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Notice Type	Served so far in 2024 (figures in brackets indicate increase on previous month)
Improvement Notice	36 (+2)
Prohibition Notice	9 (0)

Prohibition Notices are published on the Council’s website and there are currently 6 such notices (the oldest dates back to 2020). Note that in the case of properties subject of HAP, service of a Prohibition Notice results in the HAP payment being stopped as per Section 41(2) (d) (i) of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2014 and this happens within a maximum of 13 weeks.

Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)

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

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

Assessment criteria

CAS funding operates in partnership with LA’s and Approved Housing Bodies.

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

In 2023, Wicklow County Council delivered on 8 properties in partnership with Dublin Simon (4), Ark Housing Association (3) and Housing Association for Integrated Living (HAIL) (1).

Active projects 2024

Wicklow County Council is currently actively working with Ark Housing, Sunbeam housing association, National Association of Housing for Visually Impaired (NAHVI), St John of Gods Housing Association, Newgrove Housing Association, and Peter McVerry Trust to drive projects to completion.

To date, December 2024, Wicklow have delivered 11 units (6 properties) in partnership with Sunbeam Housing Services (3), Ark Housing Association (3), National Association of Housing for Visually Impaired (1) and St John of Gods (4 units). Areas of delivery below:

CAS Acquisitions 2024	No. of Units	Delivery Schedule	Scheme
Bray	8	Delivery 2024	CAS
Newcastle	1	Delivery 2024	CAS
Arklow	2	Delivery 2024	CAS

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Active CAS projects leading into 2025 include 4 turnkey & 1 acquisition properties with Ark Housing, to deliver units to persons at risk of homelessness and 1 acquisition property in partnership with Tiglin to accommodate a care leaver category of housing need.

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

Council Delivered Adaptions Works	Completed/Ongoing
Bray MD	39
Baltinglass MD	14
Wicklow MD	21
Arklow MD	29
Greystones MD	12
Total	112

Budget Spend

	2024 Budget	Amount Spent as of December 2024
Grant Funding for Private Housing	€2,728,709.00	€2,500,000.00
Grant Funding for Social Housing	€913,457.00	€1,363,421.37

Year	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Number of Grants Received/Processed	249	216	266	327	281	456	769

Local Authority Home Loans up to December 2024

Received	Approved in Principle
77	27

2016 Tenant (Incremental) Purchase Scheme

	To Date	December 2024
Applications Received	466	1
Completed	110	1
Declined	280	0
Ongoing	15	15

Housing Acquisitions

The Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage like previous years, have devolved arrangements through the Local Authorities to focus on acquiring properties where a tenant in receipt of social housing supports, including Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) and Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS), and has received a Notice of Termination (NOT) due to the landlord's intention to sell the property.

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	Vacant	Tenant In Situ (TIS)	In Progress	TOTAL
2023	2	24		26
2024 (to 30th November)	6	6	5	18



(Apt 19 Parkview Villas, Blessington – sale closed 16th October 2024)

House Purchase Enquiries (To 31st December 2024)

Total Received to date	Early Enquiry EOI Received	Closed -did not Progress with Purchase	Sale Agreed	Due Diligence Ongoing
55	16	26	6	7

Mortgage to Rent (MTR)

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

There are currently 98 households in the County availing of this scheme.

Wicklow County Council (MTR) Tenants	Approved Housing Body (MTR) Tenants	In Progress
53	48	8

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Homeless Services

Homeless Figures for December 2024

Addressing Homelessness			
	As at 31/12/2024	Year To Date	As at 31/12/2023
No of New Presentations	13	318	19
No. of Repeat Presentations	2	7	2
No. of Families (Minimum 1 Adult + One Child)	6	97	2
No. of Individuals (Single Adult, no children)	14	276	19
No. Of Couples (2 Adults, no children)	1	26	1
No. of Children	8	155	8
NTQ/Asked to Leave/Landlord selling	2	59	4
Family Circumstances	2	117	5
Leaving Prison/Hospital Care	2	24	0
Mental Health	1	20	1
Risk of Homelessness	5	138	13
Arrears/Loss of Income	1	11	0
Addiction Issues	3	38	5
DV/DA	1	10	0
Medical Issues	2	18	1
Overcrowding	1	42	2
Unsuitable/Voluntarily Left	1	16	1
ASB:	0	8	0
Rough Sleeping*	0	18	4
Sofa Surfing*	1	32	3
Staying with Family*	6	89	4
Staying with Friends*	0	22	2

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

Own Door Temporary Accommodation at 31/12/24	
Families	12
Adults	25
Children	37
Single individual	9

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Bed & Breakfast Accommodation - No. of Homeless Emergency Accommodation Placements & Duration @ 31/12/2023								
	No. of Households	No. of Adults	No. of Children	< 3 mths	3-6 mths	6-9 mths	9-12 mths	>12mths
Household breakdown	22	27	21	4	10	5	4	3

Bed & Breakfast Accommodation - No. of Homeless Emergency Accommodation Placements & Duration @ 31/12/2024								
	No. of Households	No. of Adults	No. of Children	< 3 mths	3-6 mths	6-9 mths	9-12 mths	>12mths
Household breakdown	22	23	22	6	6	3	2	4

Homeless HAP Place Finder

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, 597 households (418 families & 179 singles) have been assisted under the Homeless HAP Scheme in Wicklow County Council from the inception on 1st October 2018 to 31st December 2024. (238 homeless cases, 332 prevention cases to date and 27 direct provision). 152 properties were sourced by WCC.

Addressing Homelessness in Partnership with Approved Housing Bodies

Homeless Supported Temporary Accommodation – Kilmantin Hill, Wicklow

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

There are 9 clients supported in the Kilmantin Hill facility, operated by Dublin Simon. There is continuous transition by the clients to suitable alternative accommodation.

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

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Homeless Family Service – Fitzwilliam Road, Wicklow

Dublin Simon are engaged by Wicklow County Council to operate and manage the facility at Fitzwilliam Road, Wicklow as a Family Homeless Service. The building comprises of three 1-bed units, two 2-bed units, and two 3-bed units. Eleven families have now transitioned or are in the process of transitioning to a permanent home and the resulting vacancies are in the process of being occupied with families experiencing or in danger of homelessness.

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

Homeless Supported Temporary Accommodation – San Remo, Bray

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

The Neighbourhood Liaison Committee is now operational and meets monthly.

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

Homeless Supported Accommodation - Carraig Eden, Greystones

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

Other Homeless Supported Accommodation

Wicklow County Council owned properties in Wicklow, Bray, and Greystones, leased to Approved Housing Bodies, provide 12 units of low to medium supported accommodation targeted to the particular support needs of the clients. Six of these persons living in shared accommodation have now successfully moved into their forever homes and this in turn created space to move further people out of homelessness.

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

Housing First

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

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

Wicklow County Council has, to date, successfully accommodated 18 clients under Housing First. Other clients proposed for Housing First have been assessed by the team and are availing of key support work

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pending finalisation of sourcing of accommodation. The main issue facing this programme is the availability of 1-bed units in suitable locations with easy access to required services.

Homeless Action Plan 2024 – 2026

The plan was approved by the elected members of Wicklow County Council at the Council meeting on 8th April 2024.

Youth Homeless Strategy 2023-2025

- Three-year strategy published 9th November 2022
- Focus on ending homelessness for young people aged 18-24 through:
 - Prevention of young people from entering homelessness
 - Improving the experience for young people accessing emergency accommodation
 - To assist young people exiting homelessness
- Multitude of stakeholders all with vital roles in addressing fundamental issues

Community

Local Enhancement Programme 2025

The launch of the Local Enhancement Programme 2025 was announced on the 7th of November 2024 by Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys TD, and Minister of State with responsibility for Community Development and Charities, Joe O’Brien TD.

This fund is being provided by the government to support community and voluntary groups, totalling €7 million to be allocated across the local authority network.

County Wicklow has received €199,044 as part of the Local Enhancement Programme 2025, details of which were shared by Ministers Humphreys and Joe O’Brien TD. The allocation is broken down as follows:

	<u>Capital Allocation</u>	<u>Current Allocation</u>	<u>Total Allocation</u>
Wicklow	€170,609	€28,435	€199,044

Under the Local Enhancement Programme 2025, there will be €6 million in capital funding available nationally to assist community and voluntary groups, particularly in disadvantaged areas. This funding can be used for minor capital works, improvements to facilities, and the purchase of equipment for community use.

Additionally, this year’s fund includes €1 million in current funding to support community and voluntary groups with non-pay running costs, such as energy bills (electricity, refuse charges, heating), and other operating expenses (rental or lease costs, insurance bills).

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The Department of Rural and Community Development administers the Local Enhancement Programme 2025 through Local Community Development Committees (LCDCs), with support from Local Authorities in each area.

It should be noted that groups applying under the €1 million current fund are not precluded from applying for the capital funding and vice versa.

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

Further information and application forms will be available in January 2025.

Community Recognition Fund (CRF) 2024

In March 2024, Wicklow County Council welcomed the announcement from the Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys TD, along with her colleague Minister Joe O’Brien TD, regarding the allocation of €1,584,550 to Wicklow under the 2024 Community Recognition Fund. This funding is part of a larger investment of €50 million in national funding for project delivery over 2025 and 2026.

The Community Recognition Fund was first introduced last year to recognise the significant efforts made by communities in welcoming and supporting newcomers to Ireland. The fund aims to support the development of community infrastructure and facilities for the entire community, acknowledging the contributions made by local communities in accommodating arrivals from Ukraine and other countries. Eligibility for this scheme is limited to areas with high levels of new arrivals. Funded projects must be capital in nature, provide medium- to long-term benefits for their communities, and be capable of being completed in 2025 or 2026.

Earlier this year, Wicklow County Council sought expressions of interest for project proposals during the scheme’s first phase, resulting in the approval of €694,300 for seven community projects*. The final application window closed on Friday, 10th January 2025, the assessment process will be underway in the coming weeks.

This final application window of the CRF scheme has been advertised in the Wicklow People, Wicklow Times, WCC Instagram Facebook and X pages, WCC website, and PPN Facebook page.

A Community Recognition Fund online information session was held online on Wednesday 11th December. This was very well attended by a number of community groups and elected members. The session focussed on breaking down the scheme outline and the main criteria for this funding.

*CRF 2024 Phase 1 Approved Projects

Wicklow	Carnew	Old Coolattin County Club CLG and Wicklow County Council	Carnew Community Land Development	€150,000
Wicklow	Dunlavin	Dunlavin GAA Club	Development of multi-use games area	€144,000
Wicklow	Dunlavin	Imaal Hall Committee	Facilities Upgrade	€60,800

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Wicklow	Newtownmountkennedy	Newtown GAA	Development of a Walkway	€100,000
Wicklow	Arklow	Arklow Town Team	Upgrade to St. Peter's Place Playground	€135,000
Wicklow	Bray	Bray Area Partnership	Purchase of new vehicle	€50,000
Wicklow	Rathdrum	Rathdrum Playground Committee	Park Placemaking Project	€54,500
Wicklow Total				€694,300

The Department of Rural and Community Development has published the full details of the scheme (including funding allocations).

Community Recognition Fund (CRF) 2023

The projects below are nearing completion, with most having estimated completion dates of early 2025.

	Project Description
Bray Community Centre	Internal works including electrical upgrade, painting, flooring and heating system improvement works
	External works including windows and doors replacement, safe removal of asbestos, exterior painting,
	Other works will include accessible lift, protected stairway works, insulation upgrade, landscaping and signage
Baltinglass Community Park	Riverside Walking Path
	New Playground
	MUGA Refurbishment
Bray Parish Centre Completed	Internal works including electrical upgrade, painting and fittings
Wicklow Town Placemaking Project	Refurbishment of Assembly Hall (total area 2,000 sq. ft) to include new heating system, Internal painting, insulation, install 3 phases, refurbish kitchen, toilets and meeting room areas. Make universally accessible
	Installation of universally accessible outdoor community gym facility along the Murrough, in order to extend upon and complement the existing community facilities present.
	Improvements to the seafront promenade linking Wicklow Harbour to the existing Murrough community facilities and beyond to the Murrough coastal walk.
Arklow Playing Pitch	Groundworks and surfacing works
	Multi use pitch and fencing
	Landscaping
Rathdrum Community Park	Groundworks, Fencing, Gates
	Landscaping, large planters and benches

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Greystones Community Park	Boules/pétanque playing ground
	Landscaping and Community Placemaking



County Wicklow Age Friendly Programme

Older People’s Council, Executive Group - Meetings and Representation

The Older People's Council (OPC) AGM took place on the 1st of November 2024 in the Arklow Bay Hotel. Over 200 people attended this event. The Health Minister Stephen Donnelly attended along with the Cathaoirleach Paul O’Brien who addressed the attendees. There were information stands from various groups such as HSE, An Garda Síochána, Sláintecare, Local Sports Partnership, Healthy Ireland and Speakers from Citizens Information Centre and Bank of Ireland. It was a very informative day and lots of positive feedback was received.

OPC Executive is planning for wider engagement with older people across the county and recruitment of more members of the OPC this year.

Clinics for the Greystones area and Blessington area will be scheduled for 2025.

County Wicklow Age Friendly Alliance

Alliance meeting was held on the 9th of September 2024 where issues of Health, Transport, Housing and Socialisation were discussed. Each member of the Older Persons Council will discuss the issues facing their own areas. Visits will be carried out to various different clubs around the county for example Men’s Sheds, Women’s Sheds and Active Retirement groups.

“Care and Repair” for the Arklow Area – This is a programme aimed at helping the older person in the community avail of minor works being carried out around their home. Interviews will shortly be taking place. Initially this programme will be a pilot project following which a decision will be made regarding the viability of rolling out in other areas/towns within the county.

Age Friendly Ireland Committee

Wicklow Station has been nominated as the first train station within the County to receive Age Friendly Status. A Committee has been formed, and a Walkability Audit took place on the 16th of October 2024 where people from the Irish Wheelchair Association, Members from the Older Peoples Council and members from Wicklow County Council took part. They were given a toolkit to use on the walk up to the station and around the station and they took notes of any issues that they came across. After the

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Walkability the Committee went back to County Hall to discuss their findings. A report of all the findings will be issued in the next few weeks and work will commence at the end of 2024 and beginning of 2025.

Disability Inclusion Steering Group

A “Make Way Day” meeting was held on the 24th of September 2024. “Make way Day” is a programme that will be piloted to make people aware of the difficulties people with disabilities face when people park their cars on footpaths obstructing people with disabilities to pass by freely. It is hoped that this programme will be launched by the end of the year.

The Sunflower Lanyard Programme aims to easily identify people with hidden disabilities. This Programme was rolled out in Wicklow County Council. Members of the Customer Care Unit currently wear these Lanyards so that a person with a hidden disability can identify which member of staff they need to talk to.

Access Officer

Training for Access Officer commenced in October 2024.

Comhairle na nÓg

The position of Co-ordinator has been filled.

Healthy Age Friendly Homes

Since the commencement of the Healthy Age Friendly Homes Programme in Wicklow, in January 2024, the level of interest in the programme has been greater than anticipated. Consequently, a large number of referrals to the programme in Wicklow have been received, and the wait times to be seen by the Local Coordinator are longer than originally forecast.

Since her appointment to her role in January, Local Coordinator for Wicklow, Marion Van der Wel, has been conducting home assessments on a weekly basis to our programme participants. As part of her role, Marion offers a wide range of supports to our participants, including but not limited to, arranging fall detector personal alarms, helping with housing adaptation grants, organising Care and Repair services, linking-in with community services, signposting the older person to health services etc.

The programme has gone from strength-to-strength in Wicklow since its inception. The 2024 projected targets for the programme in Wicklow have been exceeded, which demonstrates the success of the programme, and is a testament to the concerted collaborative efforts of the Local Coordinator and Local Authority Staff.

Total Number Home Visits Conducted (Mar. 2024 – Dec. 2024):

Total Initial Visits	177
Total Additional Visits	70
Total Visits Overall	247
Total No. Participants Awaiting a Visit	66

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**The revised projected visits for 2024, reflects the time needed this year to recruit new staff, the time required to facilitate staff training, and the time needed to initiate stakeholder engagement, programme promotion and programme scale-up. The new projected target of 203 visits in Wicklow for 2024 has been exceeded, thereby reflecting the success of the programme since its establishment in in 2024.*



Healthy Wicklow

Farmers Health

Healthy Wicklow has been allocated an additional €25,000 funding for 2025 to roll out a Social Farming project. In this programme people will be offered the opportunity to take part in Social Farming practice and will be supported by social farmers to improve their health and wellbeing in their own communities by participating in ordinary activities and engagements in a non-clinical environment.

Period Poverty

Following on from the engagement and uptake on the Period Poverty initiative across the County in 2024 within Sports clubs, Youth organisations, Women's Refuges, Child and Family organisations an expression of interest for €15,000 additional funding has been submitted to the Department of Health.

The Recovery Village Newcastle

Due its success and feedback from participants another 6-week Drumming programme will commence in The Recovery Village on the 20th of January. Running alongside this an Unwind with Plants Social and Therapeutic programme will start on the 23rd of January.



Sláintecare Healthy Communities

Pre and Post Evaluation

Sláintecare Bray has successfully appointed Mary Immaculate College to conduct a comprehensive 12-month pre and post evaluation of the Children's Wellbeing Hub at the Bray Family Resource Development Project. The evaluation will focus on key areas including trauma, poverty, play therapy, and early years interventions. This research will provide critical insights into the impact and effectiveness of the hub's services, guiding future developments and ensuring the project meets the needs of vulnerable children and families in Bray.

Children's Wellbeing Hub – Bray

The Bray Family Resource Development Project has recently appointed a Play Therapist who will begin her role in the coming weeks. Additionally, a Family Engagement Worker will be joining the team to work alongside the play therapist, ensuring comprehensive support for children and their families. This

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collaborative effort with the Marian Centre, the Bray Travellers Community Project, and Sláintecare Healthy Communities aims to deliver targeted interventions that address mental health, family resilience, and social inclusion for vulnerable and disadvantaged families in the Bray community.

Community Recognition Fund 2024

Expression of Interest – Children's Wellbeing Hub Expansion

Working alongside WCC, The Bray Family Resource and Development Project (BFRDP) has submitted an Expression of Interest under the Community Recognition Fund 2024 for a new purpose-built, three-room facility to expand the Children's Wellbeing Hub.

In collaboration with the Marian Centre and the Bray Traveller Community Development Group, the expanded hub will provide essential mental health and wellbeing services for vulnerable and disadvantaged children and families in Bray. The facility will offer play therapy, family engagement programmes, and tailored supports to address trauma, poverty, and social exclusion.

This project aligns with Sláintecare strategies to reduce child poverty and improve family wellbeing, filling critical gaps in local mental health services in Bray.

Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP):

SICAP Annual Plans 2025: Draft SICAP workplans for the coming year have been compiled and submitted by the local development companies and are currently being reviewed and finalised in conjunction with Pobal and the LCDC. Overall budgets for Co. Wicklow of €1,668,338 for SICAP and €303,412 for the New Arrivals cohort i.e. over €1.9 million in total, have been confirmed by the Department of Rural & Community Development.

Annual Performance Review of 2024 SICAP Programme: The local development companies have a deadline of January 16th to submit all completed work from 2024 onto the online IRIS system. This will then be reviewed and assessed by Pobal and the LCDC. Date for final approval of these end of year reports is February 28th.

Co. Wicklow Public Participation Network (PPN):

Current PPN Membership: 481 member groups across the county.

PPN representatives for the Community & Voluntary, Social Inclusion and Environmental seats listed in the new SPC Scheme for each of the local authority's Strategic Policy Committees are now in place.

Recruitment process currently underway to recruit a new part-time Resource Worker in a job-share arrangement to work alongside the existing Resource Worker who is moving to part-time hours.

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

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Planning, Economic & Rural Development

Planning

WICKLOW COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN (CDP) 2022-2028 (as varied)

Healthy Place-making, Climate Action and **Economic Opportunity** are the three overarching cross-cutting themes that inform and shape all aspects of the plan. The plan also includes the Core Strategy and the Settlement Strategy for the County. The plan also includes the **Town Plans** for the following settlements: - Baltinglass, Newtownmountkennedy, Rathdrum, Ashford, Aughrim, Carnew, Dunlavin, Tinahely, Avoca, Donard, Newcastle, Roundwood, Shillelagh and Laragh-Glendalough. The Wicklow County Development Plan 2022 – 2028 as altered is available to view here –

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

Proposed Variation No 2 to the County Development Plan 2022 – 2028 (Wicklow Town - Rathnew LAP)

The purpose of the Variation is to ensure consistency between the WCDP 2022-2028 and the draft and final Wicklow Town – Rathnew Local Area Plan, which is being prepared separately but alongside the Proposed Variation. An online consultation portal was created to present the variation alongside the draft Local Area Plan. The Proposed Variation was on display for 6 weeks from 09 October to 20 November with 11 submissions received. The forward planning team prepared a Chief Executives Report which was issued to the elected members on the 10 of January 2025 for their consideration. The elected members have up to 6 weeks to consider the recommendations of the Chief Executives Report.

<https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Planning/Development-Plans-Strategies/National-Regional-County-Plans/Wicklow-County-Development-Plan-2022-2028/Variation-No-2-to-the-County-Development-Plan-2022-2028>

Proposed Variation No 3 to the County Development Plan 2022 – 2028 (Blessington LAP)

The purpose of the Variation is to ensure consistency between the WCDP 2022-2028 and the draft and final Blessington Local Area Plan, which is being prepared separately but alongside the Proposed Variation. An online consultation portal was created to present the variation alongside the draft Local Area Plan. The Proposed Variation was on display for 6 weeks from 30 October to 11 December with 11 submissions received. The forward planning team are currently preparing the Chief Executives Report on the proposed variation which will be issued to the elected members for their consideration on the 31 of January.

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<https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Planning/Development-Plans-Strategies/National-Regional-County-Plans/Wicklow-County-Development-Plan-2022-2028/Proposed-Variation-No-3>

Proposed Variation No 4 to the County Development Plan 2022 – 2028 (Greystones / Delgany & Kilcoole LAP)

We are currently preparing proposed Variation No. 4 to the WCDP 2022-2028. The purpose of the Variation will be to ensure consistency between the WCDP 2022-2028 and the draft and final Greystones /Delgany & Kilcoole Local Area Plan, which is being prepared separately but alongside the Proposed Variation. Consultants have been appointed to carry out the SEA and AA for the Variation and the initial stages of the SEA screening is currently being carried out.

LOCAL AREA PLANS

There are 5 Local Area Plans in Wicklow for the following settlements – ‘Bray Municipal District’, ‘Wicklow Town - Rathnew’, ‘Greystones – Delgany & Kilcoole’, ‘Arklow & Environs’ and ‘Blessington’. We are currently reviewing all five in the following order.

Draft Wicklow Town – Rathnew Local Area Plan 2025

The draft Wicklow Town – Rathnew Local Area Plan 2025 was on display for 6 weeks from 09 October to 20 November 2024 with 166 submissions received. The forward planning team prepared a Chief Executives Report which was issued to the elected members on the 10 of January 2025 for their consideration. The elected members have up to 6 weeks to consider the recommendations of the Chief Executives Report. The Wicklow Town - Rathnew Local Area Plan process, including the Chief Executives Report is available to view here -

<https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Planning/Development-Plans-Strategies/Local-Area-Town-Settlement-Plans/Wicklow-Town-Rathnew/Wicklow-Town-Rathnew-Local-Area-Plan-Process>

Blessington Local Area Plan

The draft Blessington Local Area Plan 2025 is on display for 6 weeks from 30 October to 11 December 2024 with 253 submissions received. The forward planning team are currently preparing the Chief Executives Report which will be issued to the elected members for their consideration on the 31 of January. The Blessington Local Area Plan process is available to view here -

<https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Planning/Development-Plans-Strategies/Local-Area-Town-Settlement-Plans/Blessington/Draft-Blessington-Local-Area-Plan-2025/Draft-Blessington-Local-Area-Plan-2025>

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Greystones – Delgany & Kilcoole Local Area Plan

Pre-draft consultation closed for the new 'Greystones - Delgany' & 'Kilcoole' Local Area Plan closed on 31 January 2024 with 115 submissions received. Two well-attended public information days were held in January 2024. All valid submissions have been reviewed and considered. The draft plan is currently being prepared and it will go out on public consultation for 6 weeks with submissions invited from everyone. It is hoped that the draft plan will commence display in Q1 2025.

Consultants have been appointed to carry out the SEA and AA for the LAP and they are continuing to work on the SEA/ AA work. All other studies / assessments are intended at this time to be carried out in-house.

The Greystones – Delgany & Kilcoole Local Area Plan pre-draft process and the consultation portal is available to view here -

<https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Planning/Development-Plans-Strategies/Local-Area-Town-Settlement-Plans/Greystones-Delgany/Greystones-Delgany-Kilcoole-Local-Area-Plan>

Arklow and Environs Local Area Plan

The pre-draft public consultation stage of the Local Area Plan ran from 01 March 2024 to 02 April 2024. An online consultation web portal was created for this stage, with submissions invited through the portal. 80 submissions were received. A well-attended public information day was held on 15 March 2024. Consultants have been appointed to carry out the SEA and AA for the LAP and they are continuing to work on the SEA/ AA work. DBFL have also been appointed to complete an ABTA (Area Based Transport Assessment) and prepare an LTP (Local Transport Plan) for Arklow which will underpin the Draft LAP. All other studies / assessments are intended at this time to be carried out in-house.

<https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Planning/Development-Plans-Strategies/Local-Area-Town-Settlement-Plans/Arklow/Arklow-and-Environs-Local-Area-Plan>

Bray Municipal District Local Area Plan (including Enniskerry and Kilmacanogue)

The pre-draft public consultation for the new Bray Municipal District Local Area Plan ran from the 20 November 2024 until 18 December 2024. A well-attended public open day was held on the 05 December in Bray Civic offices. An online consultation portal was prepared and 117 submissions were received. Consultants have been appointed to carry out the SEA and AA for the LAP and they are continuing to work on the SEA/ AA work. All other studies / assessments are intended at this time to be carried out in-house.

Portal link - <https://bray-md-lap-wicklow.hub.arcgis.com/>

The current LAP for Bray MD is available to view here

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<https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Planning/Development-Plans-Strategies/Local-Area-Town-Settlement-Plans/Bray>

RESIDENTIAL ZONED LAND TAX (RZLT)

The Government's [Housing For All – A New Housing Plan for Ireland](#) has introduced a new tax to activate vacant land for residential purposes as a part of the 'Pathway to Increasing New Housing Supply'. The draft RZLT maps for lands liable in 2025 was published on 01 February 2024. Submissions were invited on the draft maps up to 01 April 2024 with 9 submissions received. Submissions requesting a variation of the zoning of land were invited up to 31 May 2024 and no submissions were received by WCC. Determinations on the 9 submissions were issued by 01 July. Landowners had until 01 August to appeal the decision to ABP in the determination and 3 appeals were made. To view the draft RZLT maps click on the link below. The final RZLT maps for lands liable in 2025 will be published on 31 January 2025.

<https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Planning/Residential-Zoned-Land-Tax/Residential-Zoned-Land-Tax-2024>

VACANT SITE LEVY

This is the last year the Vacant Site Levy will apply. All sites currently on the register are in the process of being inspected and demands for payment will issue shortly where applicable. More information can be found online at the following link

<https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Planning/Derelict-Vacant-Sites/Vacant-Sites>

HERITAGE OFFICE

County Heritage Plan Review: A draft Heritage Plan was prepared by the Heritage Forum following analysis of issues raised through the pre-draft consultation process. The Draft was adopted by the members of Wicklow County Council during their meeting on 4th November. The second public consultation phase concluded on 3rd Jan 2025, 6 submissions received. Issues raised are being considered as part of the Plan preparation process.

County Heritage Plan (CHP): All projects co-funded with the Heritage Council for 2024 are complete and recoupment claims submitted. New CHP applications for 2025 in preparation.

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Irish Community Archive Network (iCAN) –following the addition of new groups in 2024, there are now 11 community heritage archives in county Wicklow, see www.wicklowheritage.org

Community Monuments Fund- CMF. The Community Monuments Fund for 2025 is advertised with a closing date of 31st January for applications to WCC.

Built Heritage Capital Funds (Architecture): BHIS 2025 was advertised in September. A total county allocation of €141,000, 25 applications received and assessed. Awaiting outcome from Dept.

The HSF 2025 and National Thatch Scheme are open for applications, closing date of 17th Jan 2025

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Development Management

Planning Applications

Total valid applications received	To 30 th November 2023	To 30 th November 2024
Received (Valid)	1167	1067

A total of 91 valid applications were received during December as follows:

Type of Development	31 st December 2024 - Number Received
Individual Houses	18 (15 Rural)
Housing Developments*	05
Agricultural Structures	00
Commercial	04
Other Developments**	64
Total	101

**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.

Housing Developments – PRR24/60756- mixed use development, Ballybeg, Rathnew, Co. Wicklow

PRR24/60793-mixed use development, Castle Street, Bray, Co. Wicklow

PRR24/60815 Durkan Broomhall Developments Ltd, 87 Dwellings, Broomhall, Rathnew, Co. Wicklow

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Decisions issued in respect of 71 applications in December 2024:

Type of Development	Number of Decisions
Housing Developments	00
Individual Houses	02
Other Developments	69
Other Developments Requiring EIA	00
Total	71

Decisions issued between January to December, in comparison to the same period for 2023:

	31/12/2023	31/12/2024
Total Number of decisions issued	1013	893
Total Number of decisions to grant	847	750
% Grant Rate	84%	84%
No of applications withdrawn		12 (6 refer to rural house)

Applications Lodged with An Bord Pleanála

Strategic Housing Development

ABP-313229-22 – Lands at **Coolagad**, Greystones (586 Units) Members Meeting 27/4/2022, CE report forwarded 30/5/2022

ABP-313314-22 – Lands at **Fassaroe and Monastery**, Bray (650 Units) Members Meeting 10/5/2022, CE forwarded 07/06/2022 – ABP unable to determine within the 16 weeks statutory timeframe.

ABP-313442-22 – Lands at the former **Heiton Buckley** site on Castle Street, Bray, (139 Units) Members Meeting 10/05/2022, CE report forwarded 22/06/2022

ABP-314686-22 Lands at **former Bray Golf Club Lands**, Off Ravenswell Road and Dublin Road, Bray, Co. Dublin and Co. Wicklow, (586 Units), Members meeting 4th October 2022, CE report submitted 21/11/2022 – Granted 19/08/2024

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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** – approved with conditions 27/5/2023.

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** – Decision, refuse permission under section 37G of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, 27/09/2023.

An Bord Pleanála has received an application for proposed development primarily comprising of the provision of a new 110 KV substation with Gas Insulator Switchgear (GIS) technology and two 110kV underground transmission cables (connecting to existing 220kV overhead lines to the northwest of the proposed substation) along with associated and ancillary works **at Bogland, Kish, Cooladangan, Ballintombay, Ballyroonaun and Ballynattin, Co. Wicklow** – ABP approved proposed development subject to 15 conditions 30/11/2023.

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

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

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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. Granted by ABP 16/8/2024 subject to 16 conditions.

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

E-Planning Project

The eplanning has now been in place for just over a year and half, going live on 17th April 2023.

For the **month of December**, a total of 106 planning applications were received of which 31.13% were hard copy applications **and 68.87% were received online.**

From **1st January 2024 to 31st December 2024** a total of **1308** applications were received of which 36.77% were hard copy applications and **63.23% were received online.**

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

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

- A number of one off rural dwellings throughout the county
- Development relating to a Large-scale Residential Development consisting of modifications to the Strategic Housing Development permitted in Delgany
- Change of use to a number of properties throughout the county
- Extensions and alterations to existing properties throughout the county including proposed domestic store to rear garden
- Construction of 7 self-catering units for agri-tourism accommodation and upgrade of effluent treatment system in Enniskerry

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- Construction of a development comprising total of 15,717 square metres of light industrial and warehouse, to include ancillary offices, crèche, cafe and 88 dwellings in Rathnew
- Subdivision of residential zoned lands into 10 serviced sites, new access road & footpath to serve zoned lands
- Proposed development of the construction of 87 No. residential units including duplex units and houses and crèche in Broomhall, Rathnew

Planning Enforcement

New Files	1
Advisory Letters	8
Warning Letters	0
Enforcement Notices	1
Legal Files	0
Closed	14

Vacant Sites

Municipal District	No. of Sites on Register
Arklow	7
Baltinglass	1
Bray	2
Greystones	4
Wicklow	6

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

Derelict Sites

Municipal District	No sites on Register
Baltinglass	2

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TOWN REGENERATION

1.1 Town Centre First Masterplans

1.1.1 Blessington Town Centre First Masterplan

Blessington, as a Pathfinder Town, is leading the way in the development of a Town Centre First Masterplan. This masterplan offers a clear and strategic framework for the positive and sustainable development of the town, both in the short term and in the future. Currently, the implementation of the Town Centre First (TCF) plan is in the planning stage, focusing on revitalizing key areas in the town. Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF) funding has been allocated specifically to redesign Main Street and Market Square, two central areas that will play a significant role in the town's regeneration. The goal is to bring these projects to a shovel-ready stage, which means they will be fully prepared for the next phase, where they can be submitted for Category 1 RRDF funding to secure further financial support for construction and development. This initiative is a significant step toward enhancing the town's infrastructure, economic vitality, and overall community appeal.

1.1.2 Newtownmountkennedy Town Centre First Masterplan

Newtownmountkennedy is among the 26 towns identified nationally under Phase 2 of the Town Centre First Plan initiative. The town will receive €30,000 in funding to support the development of its own Town Centre First Plan. This funding aims to guide the revitalization and sustainable development of the town centre, to enable it to become a vibrant and thriving hub for the community. The funding was awarded under the Town Centre First Measure 2 Suite of Supports. The plan must be completed with all associated claims submitted to the Department by 5th September 2025.

After successfully establishing the Newtownmountkennedy Town Team in November 2024, the Town Team along with the Town Regeneration Officer (TRO) is now in the process of drafting a tender document for the production of the Town Centre First Plan.

1.2 Town Centre First – Suite of Supports

Baltinglass, Rathdrum, and Kilcoole have been approved for €10,000 in funding under the *Town Centre First Town Team Support Fund – Measure 1*. This funding is designed to help establish or further develop town teams in areas where they are either not yet established or are in the early stages of development. These teams will play a crucial role in driving forward the revitalization and sustainable development of the town centres.

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The original deadline for the drawdown of the funding was 15th November 2024. However, an application to extend the deadline was submitted to the Department of Rural & Community Development, and the request was approved. As a result, the revised deadline for drawing down the funding is now 8th May 2025, giving the town's additional time to finalize their plans and ensure the successful formation of their town teams. This extension provides a valuable opportunity for further planning and preparation in these communities.

Two applications have been approved for funding under *Town Centre First Measure 3 Suite of Supports*;

1. Blessington – measures to include enhancement to the Square with tree planting and rain garden, spaces for dining and fixed seating.
2. Wicklow Town – Further enhancement at the Black Castle area to encourage more tourism and attractions for locals with installation of picnic tables, seating and a sculpture park.

The capital funding agreement was returned to the DRCD on 16th September 2024. The *Town Centre First Measure 3* projects must be completed with all associated claims submitted to the DRCD by 30th September 2025.

1.3 Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2023

Wicklow County Council has been awarded €725,000 from the Department of Rural and Community Development under Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2023. The projects selected were;

- a. Kirikee, Glenmalure for work on their Community Centre to include renovation of the roof, windows ceilings and walls.
- b. Lacken to renovate the old school house to be used as a community centre to include café and community shop and a small heritage section.
- c. Wicklow Towns, Murrough BMX pump track to develop into best- in-class asphalt covered pump track for all ages and abilities. The Acceptance Agreements have been signed and the commencement of the tender process was discussed with the associated Town Team / Community Groups in early September.

Meetings are ongoing with the respective Community Groups to review their tender documents prior to uploading to e-tenders.

1.4 Town Teams

The process of forming a new Town Team in Newtownmountkennedy was completed in November 2024. Following this, the newly established team held its first meeting in December 2024. This marks an important milestone in the town's efforts to revitalise and develop its town centre as part of the Town

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Centre First initiative. The formation of the Newtownmountkennedy Town Team brings the total number of Town Teams in County Wicklow to five, joining Arklow, Blessington, Greystones and Wicklow.

The Town Regeneration Team will now plan to form Town Teams in Bray, Rathdrum, Kilcoole, and Baltinglass in 2025.

1.5 Rural and Urban Regeneration Development Fund Grant Applications

1.5.1 Blessington RRDF

Blessington has been awarded over €1m funding under the Rural Regeneration Development Fund to be used for the regeneration of Blessington Town Centre, the development of plans for public realm works, the redevelopment of a vacant/derelict property to create an eHub and a Visitor Centre for the forthcoming Blessington Lakes Greenway. Meetings are being planned with the Town Team in early 2025 to progress these works.

1.5.2 Baltinglass RRDF

The costings for Baltinglass Gateway to Southwest Wicklow came in over budget on both the public realm and the Courthouse refurbishment. The proposals have been revised and the necessary technical plans are complete in order for the works to commence. Works on the Public Park and playground are almost completed. Application for further funding on this project was made to the Department on the 7th February 2024. However the submission was not successful. The Town Regeneration Team have met with the consultants regarding the public realm works and a finalised a first phase of the works, which will hopefully go out to tender early in 2025.

1.5.3 Newtownmountkennedy RRDF

The project is at a standstill over contested issues regarding the design of the public realm. Following the necessary revisions it is hoped that agreement will be reached with the plans signed off and submitted for Category 1 funding. A revised design will also form part of the Town Centre First Plan referenced previously.

1.5.4 Urban Regeneration Development Fund Call 3

Wicklow will receive €2.5 million to assist long term vacancy and dereliction. Four properties have been chosen (two in Arklow and two in Wicklow). The two properties identified in Wicklow have since had refurbishment works commenced on them by their owners and are no longer available for purchase. Two further properties are now to be identified and this process has commenced.

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An additional property has been identified in Arklow and approval has been received from the department to start the process of acquiring this property.

1.5.5 Bray Harbour Improvements – URDF Wic0004

A revised business case has been sent to DHL&H in December 2025. A tender brief is currently being prepared for the procurement of engineering consultancy services to produce detailed designs, environmental reports and an application to An Bord Pleanála for the proposed works. A WCC project team are meeting monthly to track progress of the project.

TOURISM

Wicklow County Council Tourism Team continues to promote County Wicklow as a destination not only to domestic visitors but also on the international market using a range of tools and activities. See below some of the actions delivered on and also some upcoming events:

1. Christmas & Shop Local Campaign

The Christmas campaign proved extremely successful, with focus given to 'Shop Local'. Full page advertisements were placed in the local press and promoted on social media as well. The online campaign had a reach of more than 80,000 accounts with some 6000 engagements. The Wicklow Passport was promoted as a great Christmas present with sales of over 250 Passports over the five weeks campaign.

2. Tourism Ireland Marketing Launch

County Wicklow was represented at the annual Tourism Ireland Marketing Launch held in mid-January. Over the years, Wicklow has developed strong connections with some of Tourism Ireland's offices in various countries and regions. Those connections have resulted in numerous media visits with extensive reach on various channels. This year, there is a strong focus on slow tourism and the outdoors.

3. Wicklow Gaol

Wicklow Gaol is a key tourism attraction in Ireland's Ancient East, welcoming over 23,000 visitors in 2024. It is also an important heritage asset which is in need of some attention. A number of actions have been recently implemented to consolidate the tourism and heritage asset of Wicklow Gaol.

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A strategic report has been prepared by CHL & Associates' consultant, focussing on the future operation of the Gaol. Following review by Wicklow County Council, the board of Wicklow Gaol will be consulted on how best to implement the key findings of this report.

The tender for a Conservation Management Plan has been completed and a consultant has been appointed. Work on the Plan will commence in the coming weeks and will identify a schedule of works and ongoing maintenance for this important heritage asset in Wicklow.

A funding application has been prepared for the Historic Structures Fund 2025 to address some urgent repairs, in line with a conservation engineer report. If successful, this will provide much needed repairs to ensure the building is weatherproof.

Economic Development

Abbey Grounds, Wicklow

Work is progressing on the Fáilte Ireland Destination Towns project at the Abbey Grounds and is expected to be complete later this year.

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

Work continues on the implementation of recommendations contained in the 7 – 10 year VEMMP. Some improvements already implemented include:

- Formation of the Glendalough Partnership; a strategic collaboration of the critical stakeholders operating in the area
- Tender for All Ability Trail from Laragh to Upper Lake is complete, with consultant appointed
- Preparatory work being carried out for a Conservation Management Plan
- Improvements to parking and traffic management are planned for Summer 2025, similar to those implemented last year which were widely welcomed
- A map showing trails of different levels was erected at the Derrybawn carpark entrance in December.
- Upgrade works to the Spinc trail (phase 2) are complete
- Establishment of the Local Advisory Group and increased communications with local residents and businesses
- Submissions have been sought by the NTA for their public consultation on a potential bus service from Bray to Glendalough.

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Each of the stakeholders continue to work towards the implementation of actions contained in the VEMMP

Special Projects

The GRID: The GRID (Greystones Regional Innovation District) is now open and taking enquiries. The event space and meeting rooms have been taking bookings and some offices have been licenced to customers. Engagement with potential licencees is ongoing with booking of hot desk space or meeting rooms live on the Connected Hubs platform.

Sites on Mill Road, Greystones: Progress on the Mill Road sites is on hold pending PRA confirmation of site registration.

Carnew Remote Working Hub: Design drawings have been reviewed and are being finalised. Documents for Part VIII planning approval are currently being prepared and will be submitted in the coming weeks.

Marketing Plan: The #ChooseWicklow campaign continues with regular social media posts and radio advertising each week, backed up by the ChooseWicklow.ie website. The campaign will run until the 1st April 2025.

Offshore Renewable Energy

The Offshore Renewable Energy (ORE) Network continues to meet regularly and engage with the offshore renewable energy companies who are developing proposals off the coast of County Wicklow. 'Preparing for Offshore', a networking/information event for suppliers and other interested parties was held in Clermont on 28th November. There were four speakers, a 'fireside chat' style Q&A session, as well as information stands in the room. The event was well attended, and participant's feedback indicated that it was useful for all. It is hoped to run a similar event again later this year.

Skills Strategy

The Skills Strategy for County Wicklow is available on the wicklow.ie website. The focus of the Skills Taskforce now turns to implementation of the strategy. The Taskforce will meet quarterly over the coming months to ensure cooperation between local government and training and development providers, and to drive implementation of the actions contained within the strategy.

Food and Beverage Strategy

Wicklow Naturally:

Wicklow Naturally is hosting its first Networking Event of 2025 on the 30th of January. The event is a great opportunity for producers to network, share information and support each other. Focus for 2025 will be on

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increasing awareness for the network, developing food tourism opportunities and creating stronger events showcasing the fantastic flavours available in Wicklow.

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LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE (LEO) FOR JANUARY 2025 MEETING:

LEO Objectives			
To foster an enterprise culture and stimulate enterprise at local level by:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promotion of the enterprise message at local level. - Working with the relevant stakeholders in the county to foster entrepreneurship. - Delivering appropriate enterprise training and mentoring to entrepreneurs. - Providing funding options to entrepreneurs, early-stage promoters, and viable businesses to support growth and development of micro enterprises. - Developing a progression pathway for clients to Enterprise Ireland - Acting as a 'First Stop Shop' for business information and referral 			
METRICS: Grants	HISTORICAL	TARGETS	YEAR TO DATE
	2023	2024	2024
Grants Approved (number/ value) - Measure 1 - Technical Assistance for Micro Exporters	- 28/ € 672,873 4/ € 6,541	42 Combined	22 €671,740 7 €12,500
NB: Ability to meet demand is influenced by the amount of funding allocated to the LEO			
METRICS: Training/ Capacity Building	HISTORICAL	TARGETS	YEAR TO DATE
	2023	2024	2024
Total number of participants at Management Development type programmes.	40	60	54
Start Your Own Business Participant numbers (included in total training programmes)	73 / 7 programmes	120	145
Total No. of all Participants participating in training Programmes and events (all programmes except SYOB and MDP)	757	1020	1223
Women in Business Network Number of Meetings	30	20	24
METRICS: Business Advice & Mentoring	HISTORICAL	TARGETS	YEAR TO DATE
	2023	2024	2024
Number of new clients added to database. *Criteria have been amended for this metric	581	500	443

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METRICS: Student Enterprise Programmes	HISTORICAL	TARGETS	
Academic Year	2021/2023	2023/2024	Year to Date 23-24
No. of Secondary Student Participants	1028	1100	1358

METRICS: Client Transfers to Enterprise Ireland	HISTORICAL	TARGETS	
No of transfers	2023	2024	Year to Date 2024
Number of transfers	5	5	6

Trading Online Voucher	HISTORICAL	TARGETS	
No of Trading Online Vouchers approved	2023	2024	Year to Date 2024
Trading Online Vouchers	81	38 (meet demand)	93

Lean, Green & Digital Start for Micro Projects	HISTORICAL	TARGETS	YEAR TO DATE
	2023	2024	2024
No. of Companies who have undertaken a Lean for Business Assessment by a Lean Expert	11	15	17
No. of Companies who have undertaken a Green for Business Assessment by a Green Expert	5	17	20
No. of Companies who have undertaken a Digital for Business Assessment by a Digital Expert	1	6	7
Energy Efficiency Grant	-	12	3
Microfinance Ireland	HISTORICAL	TARGETS	YEAR TO DATE
	2023	2024	2024
No. of Companies who have submitted an MFI loan application through the LEO	6	11	12
New Exporters	HISTORICAL	TARGETS	YEAR TO DATE
	2023	2024	2024
No. of Companies who have started exporting (at least €10k in first time export sales).	5	3	-

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December 2024 Activities:

- Social media and LEO website updates are carried out several times a week to raise awareness and promote the LEO supports.
- Business Advice Clinics continue to run 3 days per week to provide advice to those individuals hoping to start a business and to assist existing businesses grow and develop.

January 2025 Activities:

- Showcase 2025 visit facilitated by LEO Wicklow in conjunction with CWP on 21/01/2025 for 16 craftspeople interested in exhibiting at Showcase in the future
- Four craftspeople from Wicklow will exhibit at Showcase 19-21 Jan, with two of them nominated for the Business of Crafts Awards

Business Skills and IT skills Training Programme

The training programme for Spring/Summer 2025 is open for bookings through our online portal on www.localenterprise.ie/wicklow.

Training scheduled for January:

- Start Your Own Business Course 14/01/2025
- LinkedIn Masterclass 15/01/2025
- Using Canva for your Business: Beginners 21/01/2025
- Using Canva for your Business: Advanced 28/01/2025

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Climate, Environment, Recreation & Amenity

Climate Action

Climate Actions Focus:

- **Climate Action Committee** established and second meeting to take place in January. The Climate Action Delivery committee inaugural meeting is to take place in January.
- **E-Bike Shared Mobility Scheme**
Expression of interest for Bray, Greystones, Wicklow and Arklow issued and two submissions received. Bolt and Moby have expressed an interest.
Preparations are being made to commence the new contract.
- **Wicklow Second Youth Climate Conference**
Held in East Glendalough on 26th November from 10-1pm with Codling Wind Park and East Glendalough School
- **Coastal Erosion**
 1. The ECRIPP project is at public consultation until the 4th January 2025, WCC have made a submission.
 2. Malachy Walsh and Partners have been engaged in relation to Brittas Bay and Ennereilly and have submitted an Inception report.
 3. Ltd have been appointed for the Seabank to Kilmichael Point coastal erosion management risk study and have submitted an Inception report.
 4. North Beach (Funding submitted to OPW, Area may be covered by ECRIPP)
- **Glyphosate Policy** – Wicklow County Council has joined a Service Level Agreement for the Scientific Assessment of Alternatives to Herbicide Use in the Maintenance of Amenity Public Open Spaces project with various third level institutions (such as Maynooth University and Trinity), agencies, and ten other local authorities (some with large park departments). This SLA commenced in 2020 and findings have been received by WCC. Documents have been reviewed and advice issued to Municipal Districts.
- **Wicklow SuDS Policy Draft Complete** Public Consultation has passed. LA Waters Programme have released a new Implementation of Urban Nature-Based Solutions Guidance Document for Planners, Developers and Developer Agents and the Draft Policy is being checked against the guidelines.
- **Greystones MD - Active Travel Scheme with NB SuDS Rainwater Garden scheme taking place**– Part Funded by Climate and Biodiversity Action Fund
- **Rainwater Management Plan drafted** for area in Redford Park. An initial design has been completed, Detailed design to be completed. CCTV survey required
- **Arklow MD Office, Civic Centre, Depot and Harbour Office** – Solar PV to be added and funded by Climate and Biodiversity Action Fund.
Arklow MD done, Civic centre approved by climate Team, Depot approved funding by Climate Team. Energy Team organising works. Harbour Office under consideration.
- **Bray MD EV Mower** – The District reviewed EV mowers with the Climate Action Team – Mower has been delivered.
- **Wicklow MD - Brittas Bay** – 1000m of Chestnut Fencing, Delivery has been received and installation will be carried out by Wicklow MD funded by Climate and Biodiversity Action Fund.
- **Baltinglass MD** - Community Notice Board to be trialled in Blessington. Meeting to take place with District Engineer. The option of a shared mobility scheme for Blessington will be reviewed.

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Climate Action Officer Update:

- Draft Green Events Policy
- Litter Management Plan – Reviewing with Sarah and Merlin(Nov/Dec)
- A meeting was held with Wicklow Naturally and the Wicklow Uplands Council to plan the development of a Vision for Venison Campaign for this year. A one year plan is being developed and a three year plan will also be developed.
- A meeting was held with Wicklow Uplands Council and the National Parks and Wildlife Service to explore an application for a Dark Sky park in the Wicklow Mountains.
- A meeting was held with Saint Vincent de Paul to explore development of a communal garden in Tinahely. A meeting with the Blessington allotment campaign is planned. Whether development of a communal gardening site in Clermont is feasible is also being explored.

Biodiversity Officer Update

- Biodiversity Working Group third meeting held, to discuss aims, objectives and preliminary actions.
- Biodiversity Plan Update –
Review submissions from public engagement process and develop report in response.

Key stakeholder engagement continues (meeting with key groups)

Initiate internal consultation process in new year (meeting with nominees from each section)

- Local Biodiversity Action fund:
End of year report on the 6 LBAF projects
€95,000 Claimed
- Heritage Council grant
- End of year reporting on same - €20,000 grant
- Contributing to Wicklow Outdoor Recreation Committee through WORC
- Grants applications for 2025 Heritage Council & Local Biodiversity Action Fund to be prepared Jan/Feb 2025

Community Climate Action Programme

- Provided support to applicant groups in Phase 1 of CCAP Strand 1 grant applications
- WCC has set up a new revenue code for payments to the community groups
- Initial Claim return issued to DECC for post and expenses
- Announcement of opening date of “Phase 2” of the programme not available yet but expected in January.

Environmental Awareness

Green Schools:

- Between now & mid-March Green Schools flag renewal visits.
- EAO Training day Jan 28th with An Taisce

Tree care & maintenance (complementing our Tree Policy)

- 27th November postponed webinar - rescheduled for Jan 28th with 60+ registered
- Organising on site tree planting/fruit tree pruning/tree advice for Feb/March/National Tree Week

SD Awards to be held 11th March:

- With Nicole's help & support finalising the SDG Awards etc
- Organising the event, catering etc March 11th in Clermont

Schools Textile upcycling awareness raising programme:

- Piloting with Curtlestown NS, nr Enniskerry
- Theme St Patrick's Day – working title 'St Patrick's Day Bunting'
- Basic sewing, Textile literacy, Circular Economy literacy

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Litter Management Plan – started the review & drafting

Graduate:

- Completed a data report on carbon footprint analysis for the machinery yard. Under review.
- Monitoring the data for the Energy Retrofit Tracker Program – Excel Database.
- Analysis project for Biodiversity with Hannah and the GIS Team on the Barn Owl Conservation

Climate Networking

- Bioeconomy Forum member (Two LA's represented Tipperary (Enterprise) and Wicklow (Climate Team)).
- SDG Forum
- Biodiversity Officers Network
- Community Climate Actions Officers network
- LA Climate Action Forum
- Revised Climate Action Charter Workshop
- Rain Water Management Plan template workshop
- Climate Action Week completed.

Forums /Groups:

Wicklow County SEC's

- Solar Meithal in Greystones ongoing
- Fabric Meithal in Arklow
- Wicklow County Council provided bridging funding of €10,000 for the completion of an Energy Master Plan for Carnew Community Care SEC. A claim was submitted to SEAI for grant funding of the works and this has now been paid out by SEAI.

Tidy Towns Forum

- Tidy Towns Education Event for County with Tidy Towns Forum launched (Good representation from around County)
Communication issued to the TT groups this week
- Compiling list of interested groups

Greystones, Newcastle, Kilcoole and Delgany Climate Action Forum

- Looking at date in January for next event

Harbours and Ports

CCTV and Access Control

Civil works have commenced to put in place improved CCTV and access control systems in Wicklow and Arklow harbours.

Arklow Harbour

Work is underway to bring water and power to the Fishers pontoon in Arklow Harbour.

Wicklow Harbour

Work is underway to construct showers for swimmers adjacent to the Sandfiner beach.

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Month / Year	Ships	Single (Import or Export)	Double (Import & Export)	Transactions	Imports	Exports
Jan-24	7	5	2	9	7	2
Feb-24	6	5	1	7	5	2
Mar-24	8	7	1	9	7	2
Apr-24	10	9	1	11	9	2
May-24	8	8	0	8	6	2
Jun-24	8	8	2	10	6	4
Jul-24	8	6	2	10	7	3
Aug-24	5	4	1	6	4	2
Sept -24	7	6	1	8	5	3
Oct- 24	4	3	1	5	3	2
Nov-24	5	5	0	5	3	2
Dec-24	7	6	1	8	4	4
Total 2024	83	72	13	96	66	30

Litter/Waste Management

No. of Complaints Created	78
No. of Cases Closed, Resolved or Completed	50
No of Litter Fines Issued	8
No of Fixed Penalty Notice issued	0
No. of Waste Management Files Opened	2
No. of Warning Letters Issued	2
No of Abandoned Car Notices Issued	11
No. of Temporary Signs Granted	0
No. of Notices Issued under Section 14 of the Waste Management Act	7
No. of Notices Issued under Section 18 of the Waste Management Act	0
No. of files prepared for Court and included in Court Lists	21
No. of Cases in Court under the Litter Pollution Act	2
No. of Cases in Court under the Waste Management Act	4
Income - Litter	€300.00
Income- Waste Management	€3,500.00

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Pollution Control

Pollution Response & Investigation

- 8 Water pollution complaints received and investigated.
- 2 Water pollution complaints closed.
- 1 Noise pollution complaints received and investigated.
- 2 Noise pollution complaints closed.
- 0 Air pollution complaints received and investigated.
- 0 Air pollution complaints closed.

Private Water Supplies

- 1 Drinking Water Monitoring Plan for 117 Regulated Private Water Supplies prepared.
- 1 Private Water Supplies Monitored.
- 1 Private Water Supplies were compliant with drinking water parametric limit values.
- 0 Private Water Supplies were non-compliant with microbiological parametric limit values.
- 0 Private Water Supplies were non-compliant with pH parametric limit values.
- 0 Private Water Supplies were non-compliant with chemical parametric limit values.
- 0 Private Water Supply audit inspection.
- 0 Boil Water Restrictions placed on Private Water Supplies upon HSE advice due to microbial failures.
- 1 Boil Water Restrictions lifted from Private Water Supplies upon HSE advice after remedial action and compliant sample results.
- 0 Do Not Consume Restrictions placed on Private Water Supplies upon HSE advice due to chemical failures.
- 2 Do Not Consume Restriction lifted from Private Water Supplies upon HSE advice after remedial action and compliant sample results

Water Framework Directive National Monitoring Programme

- 5 Lakes monitored for checking compliance with environmental quality standards
- 18 Rivers monitored for compliance with environmental quality standards.

Water Framework Directive River Management Engagement and Investigations

- 0 Catchment engagement activities was undertaken
- 0 Catchment assessments carried to assess risk and impact.

Septic Tank Inspections - National Inspection Plan 2022-2026

- 1 Inspection Plan prepared
- 0 inspections of domestic wastewater treatment

Good Agricultural Practice Inspections

- 3 Inspections of farms were carried out for adherence to good agricultural practice.
- 4 follow-up Inspections of farms were carried out for adherence to good agricultural practice.
- 3 Inspections of farms were carried out following pollution complaints.

Well Grants

- 12 New Water Grant applications were received
- 2 New Well were granted

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- 6 New Pumps were granted
- 6 Water Treatment/Disinfection Equipment Units were granted
- 10 inspections in advance/completion of works were carried out

Petrol Vapour Recovery

- 1 Petrol filling station Stage Ib Installation (Petrol Delivery) inspected.
- 2 Petrol filling station Stage Ib Installation (Petrol Delivery) assessed.
- 0 Petrol filling station Stage II Installation (Petrol Pump Dispensing) issued certificate of testing.
- 1 Petrol filling station Stage II Installation (Petrol Pump Dispensing) inspected.

Deco Paint Solvent Regulations

- 1 Paint Retailer inspected.
- 0 Vehicle refinisher installations inspected.
- 0 Vehicle refinisher (car spraying) installation issued letters.
- 2 Vehicle refinisher (car spraying) installation issued compliance certificate.
- 0 Dry Cleaner installation was inspected.
- 0 Dry Cleaners installation issued compliance certificate.

Solid Fuel Regulations

- 3 Wholesalers/distributors/retailers inspected and non-compliant.
- 0 Wholesalers/distributors/retailer follow-up inspections.
- 0 Solid Fuel Samples Taken and Analysed.

Air Pollution Act

- 0 Inspection of Licenced bitumen plant.

Licensed Effluent Discharges to Waters/Sewer

- 0 licensed wastewater discharges to waters were monitored and deemed compliant.
- 0 licensed wastewater discharges to waters were monitored and deemed non-compliant and licensees were requested to take corrective action.
- 0 unlicensed wastewater discharges to waters was inspected.
- 0 unlicensed wastewater discharges to waters was assessed.

Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plants – Ambient Monitoring

- 0 River samples taken upstream and downstream of wastewater discharges of municipal wastewater treatment plants.
- 0 Lake samples taken upstream and downstream of wastewater discharges of municipal wastewater treatment plants

Planning & Development

- 2 environmental reports on referred planning applications/consultations were completed concerning agricultural development.
- 3 environmental reports on referred planning applications/consultations were completed concerning commercial development.

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- 1 environmental report on referred planning applications/consultations was completed concerning housing development.
- 1 Environmental reports on compliance with existing planning conditions
- 0 Environmental reports on other planning assessment (forestry etc.) was completed.

Control of Dogs

The Regulations in relation to the keeping of XL Bully breeds has come into effect. Owners have until the 1st March 2025 to apply for a certificate of exemption to own or keep an XL Bully dog after which time it will be an offence. To date there have been 20 applications for certificates of exemption.

Dog Licences

During the month of December 2024, a total of 192 dog licence reminders were sent out. A total of 244 licences were purchased, with 50% being purchased on line.

For the full year 01/01/24 to 31/12/24 a total of 7317 general dog licences were issued and a further 431 lifetime licences. This is a total amount of 7748 licences. This is in comparison to the same period of 12 months in 2023 when 4727 general and 343 lifetime licences, which totals 5070. This is a 53% increase. Dog wardens commenced weekly monitoring of areas in 2024 and this combined with a social media campaign has increased the purchasing of dog licences.

XL Bully Regulation

Since 1st October 2024 it is illegal to import, breed, resell or rehome an XL Bully. From 1st February 2025 it will be illegal to own an XL Bully unless you have a Certificate of Exemption. A total of 16 Exemption Certificates have been issued to date in respect of XL Bully dogs in County Wicklow. An additional number of applications are currently being processed.

Horses

A number of horses were impounded during December and January as a result of seizures at the request of An Garda Síochána. Horses can be seized if they are at risk on a public road, and the owners cannot be located, or if a horse has been abandoned and there is a welfare issue.

Projects Office

Whitestown Remediation Project

The draft remediation plan has been presented to the court and has been approved in part. Tender Documents for the Outlets for Material excavated from the site and also for the main contractor are presently being prepared.

Avoca Mines Remediation Project

The Council is working in Partnership with DECC to advance the Remediation of the Avoca Mines project. Currently, this work primarily involves making the mines sites safe, by replacing fencing and making safe access to locations that require sampling and monitoring. The contract has been awarded to complete the fencing around Cronebane and Tigrooney sections of the Mines. Monitoring and repair works to existing fencing continues.

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Arklow Flood Relief Scheme

Planning Application and CPO has been approved by An Bord Pleanála. Byrne Looby Partners Ltd., (now known as Ayesa) has been appointed to carry out the detailed design and tender stage of the project. Site Investigation and Archaeological Investigations will be carried out in 2024.

Wicklow Arts Office

Strategic Project Award Scheme 2025

Six applications were successful under the Stream A applications to this scheme for 2025, each will receive an award of €15,000.00 to carry out a project which meets the strategic ambitions of the Arts Plan 2020 – 2025 in the community realm. There were four successful applicants to Stream B. These applicants will each receive continuation funding for initiatives which were previously funded under Stream A of this Award Scheme. Each will receive €10,000.00. Announcement of successful applicants is pending contract acceptance.

Creative Places Baltinglass

Three further residencies and a commission commenced in November and December 2024. These will have durations of six to nine months and will have wide ranging participation both in age range and inclusion from the town. They are shaped by our experiences to date in working with the community to identify areas of artistic need and input.

Creative Ireland

The very successful Music Teaching Residency 55+ project in partnership with Music Network has been contracted and will involve a new ensemble of accordion, violin and harp providing tuition for a new group of learners. It took place at Rathnew in Wicklow County Campus.

Wicklow County Library Service

The County Council Library Service is thrilled with the library's performance in 2024, especially when it comes to measurable statistics. We ended the year strong, with our active membership reaching 39,781 by December, meaning that 25.5% of Wicklow's population are library users! Over the course of the year, 613,574 people visited our library buildings—an increase of 12,339 visitors compared to 2023 and a 6.5% rise over our pre-pandemic 2019 figures of 575,815. People used the library for a variety of reasons: borrowing books, seeking information, studying, and taking part in the many events and exhibitions we offer.

In total, 439,015 physical items were borrowed, including books, audiobooks, sensory toys, blood pressure monitors, C-Pens, and Acorn tablets. Additionally, the library topped the national charts for e-book and e-audiobook borrowing through the BorrowBox app, with an impressive 138,839 issues in 2024.

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The Year Ahead

We're delighted to be back after the Christmas holiday and would like to wish the Chief Executive and staff a very Happy New Year. We're excited to kick off January with a great mix of events and activities in our libraries for people of all ages.

Arklow Library

Arklow Library is delighted to host *Arklow in Sketch & Wash*, a stunning exhibition of watercolour paintings by Barney Joyce. This beautiful collection captures the unique charm and character of Arklow and its surrounding landscapes. The exhibition will run from Monday, January 13th, to Tuesday, January 30th, offering visitors the chance to enjoy Barney's artistic perspective on the town and beyond.

ARKLOW IN SKETCH & WASH

ARKLOW LIBRARY
MAIN ST., ARKLOW

JANUARY 13 - JANUARY 30

AN EXHIBITION OF
WATERCOLOURS OF ARKLOW
AND BEYOND BY BARNEY
JOYCE



EXHIBITION PREVIEWS:

- FROM MONDAY, JANUARY 13
- OFFICIAL OPENING THURSDAY
JANUARY 16 @ 6.30 PM
- EXHIBITION RUNS UNTIL
JANUARY 30

FREE ENTRY

Ballywaltrim Library

Ballywaltrim Library hosts Children's Storytime every Saturday at 11:30 am. There's no need to book—just drop in and enjoy a fun picture book session. It's a great chance for children to discover new stories and meet new friends. We look forward to welcoming you!

Later this month, the library will also be marking Grief Awareness Week with dedicated book displays and an information stand to offer support and resources to the community. The Irish Hospice Foundation is also offering free webinars and we are hoping to be able to screen these in the community room.

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Baltinglass and Dunlavin Library

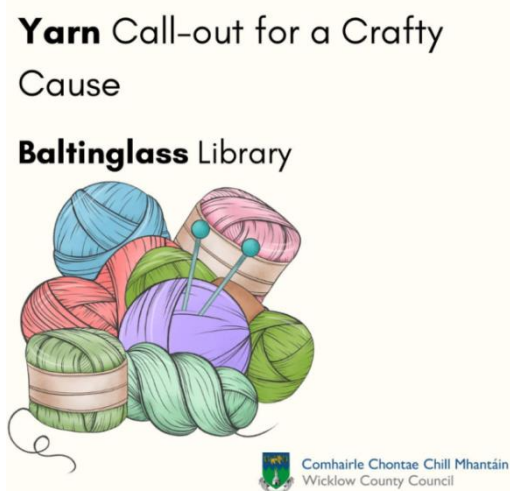
Baltinglass Library started the New Year with a series of wonderful crafting events at both Baltinglass and Dunlavin Libraries. These events were led by Olha, our TÚS worker from Ukraine, who has been doing an incredible job bringing people of all ages together through her creative

workshops. Her talent and enthusiasm have made a real difference in communities.

both

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Baltinglass Library had a fantastic response to a recent call-out for yarn donations, with a generous delivery now available for upcoming crochet workshops. Olha will be running a beginner-friendly crochet series at Baltinglass Library, giving people the chance to learn a new skill in a welcoming setting. As always, we strive to follow the principles of the circular economy by reusing materials and making the most of available resources.

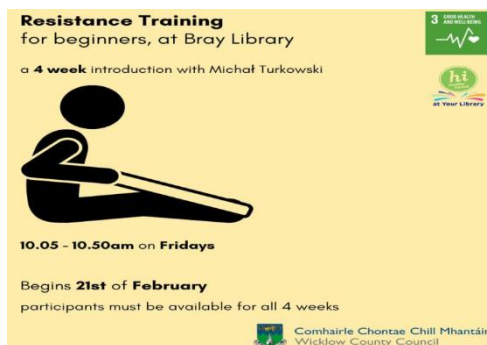
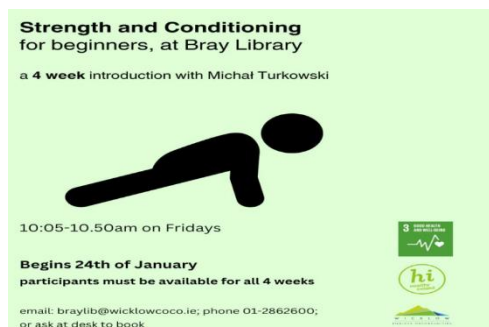


Bray Library

Bray Library is delighted to welcome back Michal Turkowski for two highly anticipated fitness courses in the new year. A four-week **Strength & Conditioning** course will begin on Friday, 24th January at 10:05 am, offering participants the opportunity to build strength and improve overall fitness.

Following this, Michal will also lead a four-week **Resistance Training** course starting on Friday, 21st February at 10:05 am.

Both courses are in high demand, and places are limited. Participants must be available to attend all four sessions.




Enniskerry Library

Enniskerry Library is hosting two exciting workshops in the coming weeks. On **Wednesday, January 29th at 6:15 pm**, Caroline will lead a **St Brigid's Cross Workshop**, where participants can learn to craft their own traditional cross.

Looking ahead, on **Wednesday, February 19th at 6:30 pm**, the library will host a **Poo and Pellets Owl Investigation Workshop**, offering a fascinating look into the diet and habits of owls through hands-on investigation.

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Places are limited for both events, so be sure to book in advance to secure your spot.



Make a **St. Brigid's Cross**
with **Caroline**

Enniskerry Library

Wednesday, January 29th
from **6.15 pm**

Comhairle Chontae Chill Mhantáin
Wicklow County Council

WICKLOW
CHILL MhANTÁIN
COUNTY COUNCIL

The poster features three golden St. Brigid's crosses of varying sizes against a light background. Logos for Wicklow County Council and the local authority are at the bottom.



Wicklow Owls
Poo and Pellets Owl Investigation Workshop

Comhairle Chontae Chill Mhantáin
Wicklow County Council

OPW
Office of Public Works

Enniskerry Library
Wednesday, Feb 19th from 6.30pm

The poster includes images of an adult owl, a young owl, and a barn owl in flight. Logos for Wicklow County Council and the Office of Public Works are present.

Ballywaltrim Library

Ballywaltrim Library hosts **Children's Storytime** every Saturday at 11:30 am. There's no need to book—just drop in and enjoy a fun picture book session. It's a great opportunity for children to discover new stories and make friends.

In addition, starting this Saturday, the library will introduce a **fortnightly STEM session** for children aged 18 months and older. These hands-on sessions will encourage curiosity and early learning in a fun and engaging way.

We look forward to welcoming everyone!



Comhairle Chontae Chill Mhantáin
Wicklow County Council

Children's Storytime
Every Saturday

Ballywaltrim Library
11.30 am

The poster shows a woman sitting on a yellow beanbag chair reading a book to a group of diverse children sitting around her. Logos for Wicklow County Council and the local authority are at the top.



Join us for
STEM Saturday

18 months +
Ballywaltrim Library

Saturday, 25th of January and
every fortnight thereafter.

Comhairle Chontae Chill Mhantáin
Wicklow County Council

The poster features images of children playing with colorful building blocks and a Connect Four game. A lightbulb icon is next to the word 'STEM'. Logos for Wicklow County Council and the local authority are at the top.

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Blessington Library

Blessington Library is planning to introduce a conversational English group to support new communities, and we are looking for volunteers to help make it happen. No formal teaching qualifications are required—just an enthusiasm for supporting others, while any teaching or TEFL/ESOL experience would be an added advantage. The sessions will be informal and conversation-based, with full training and resources provided.

In addition, Blessington Library is hosting a Spanish Conversation group, with the next session taking place on Monday, 20th January at 10:50 am. The group will meet every second Monday, providing a relaxed and friendly space for participants of all levels to practice and improve their Spanish skills. No booking is required—everyone is welcome to join.



Local



History Talk at Wicklow Town Library

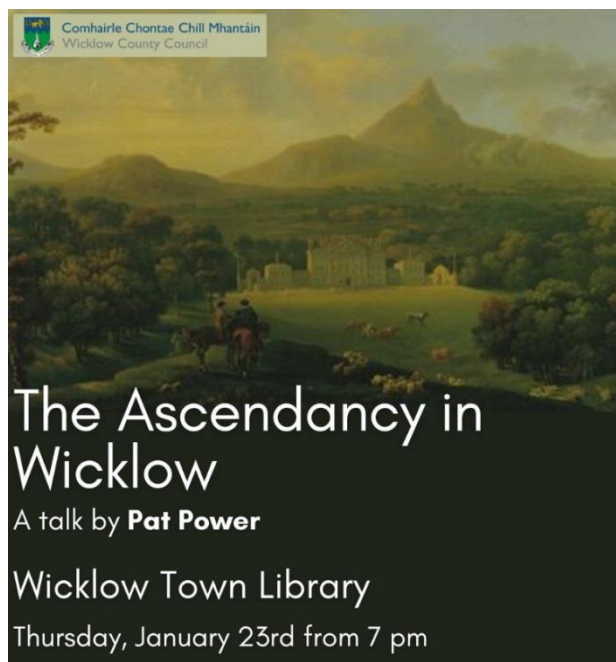
Wicklow Town Library is pleased to host a fascinating **Local History Talk** on **Thursday, 23rd January at 7:00 pm**, presented by historian Pat Power.

Titled *The Ascendancy in Wicklow*, the talk will explore the rise and influence of the ascendancy in the county, covering its development from the early 1600s to 1829. Pat Power will delve into key aspects such as the impact of the Big House, the workings of Wicklow's Grand Jury System, cultural and social life, and the roles of both the Established and Roman Catholic Churches.

The talk will feature a variety of rare illustrations and drawings, offering a rich visual insight into this fascinating period of Wicklow's history.

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Archives & Genealogy Service

Digitisation programme

County Wicklow Valuation records are now uploaded to Wicklow.ie. These records date from 1887 to 1892 and place individuals in towns and townlands in County Wicklow at a time when there are relatively very little records for family history in Ireland. The records are accompanied by guidance information on searching as well as contextual information on the records and the purpose of their creation. The records list rate-payers, usually heads of household, and often show if property changed hands, where one name is simply crossed out and replaced with another - known as "cancelled records"- which provides valuable information to the family and local historian.

Genealogy Service

As of end of December 2024, Wicklow County Archives researched genealogy enquiries from approximately 200 Wicklow descendants throughout the year. The Archives operates a genealogy service assisting those with Wicklow roots to access records and information about their ancestors. Enquirers are also directed to our online resources such as the digitised collections on Wicklow.ie and the genealogy and local history resources on the community archives site Our Wicklow Heritage – wicklowheritage.org

Outdoor Recreation

Wicklow Coast Blueway

The Wicklow Coast Blueway project is moving towards the second stage of the accreditation process with the current accreditation mainly reliant on provider-based activities. Blueway promotion and links has commenced with a timetable of events and providers listed. Project completion is due in March 2025, with signage installation a priority and works currently at various stages of completion on the selected Blueway Nodes:

Greystones – Accessible boardwalk installed at South Beach. Works completed.

Brittas Bay – Accessible toilet, upgraded toilets, new larger water tank and new outdoor shower facilities. Car parking painting and tidy up. Works completed.

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Wicklow Town –Harbour area: path upgrade completed. Toilet facilities upgrade completed. New outdoor showers, ground works and showers installation completed.

Arklow – New path completed replacing the old boardwalk at South Beach. Planters with shrubs now installed along the Roadstone site fence by the car park. Licence Agreement and MOU finalised with Roadstone, landowner, with new facility works at the Cove consisting of installation of a changing screen with seating area and a bike shelter being installed in Q1 of 2025.

Wicklow Outdoor Recreation Committee (WORC) – NPWS

The next meeting will be held on the 16/01/2025 at either NPWS’ Kilafin HQ or Bolger's Cottage Education Centre, Glendalough.

ORIS 2021- M3 – The Sugarloaf Repair Project – Images January 2025:



Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme

The Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) supports the development of new outdoor recreational infrastructure and the necessary repair, enhancement, or promotion of existing outdoor recreation infrastructure in countryside areas across Ireland. The Scheme is funded under “Our Rural Future” which specifically prioritises the growing outdoor activity tourism sector as part of a long-term vision for a vibrant and sustainable rural Ireland.

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

ORIS	Project Name	Brief description	Date for Completion
OR221WW02	<i>Bray to Greystones - Cliff Walk Protection Scheme</i>	WCC liaising with Bray MD and a new task force on project funds’ allocation decision.	Extension granted.
ORIS 2021-M2 OR221WW01	<i>Jubilee Loop and Avonmore Way link 2021 Scheme</i>	Accessibility works at Samuel Hayes bridge. New tender in progress. Trial hole dug, engineers report with JJ Martin for review and response.	In progress. Extension granted.
ORIS 2021-M3 OR321WW01	<i>The Sugar Loaf Repair (Images above)</i>	Stone Pitching by hand, waterbars, path building and crossdrains completed on Shoulder to Cone section. V-Ditches dug for water management on lower sections and family area. Blocking of gully and anchor bar construction continuing downhill. Cross drainage installed on family area section. Some areas cordoned off to allow plant recovery with damaged caused by construction and user	Extension granted. Nearing completion.

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		traffic, particularly after heavy rain and snow periods. Native tree planting in progress adjacent to trail. Interpretative signage to be placed along the path.	
ORIS 2022 M1 OR122WW05	Red Kite Loop (Avoca) Play Area	Ground works completed around Play Area. Play Equipment installed.	Completed
ORIS 2022 M2 OR222WW01	Blessington Greenway Link to Russborough House & Park	Enhancement of trails in Russborough Parklands/cycle hub to link with Greenway. Bike shelter installed at the end of the trail and new finger signage and plaque.	Completed
ORIS 2022 M2 OR222WW02	Glenmalure Community Riverside Walk & Recreation Area	Upgrade of existing trail, boardwalk replaced with a path. Play Equipment installed and groundworks completed.	Completed
ORIS 2022 M2 OR222WW03	Coolkenno Equestrian Trail	Construction of equestrian trail and access. Licence Agreement with landowners pending their planning permission process.	In progress
ORIS 2022 M3 OR322WW01	Roundwood Recreation Area	Groundworks and extension of existing car park with fencing works completed. Play equipment installed in play areas, some surface works completed. Play areas being completed by Jan 17 th . Bike area designed; works will commence in mind February. Running routes planned, but storm Darragh considerable damage has delayed waymarking of same.	In progress

ORIS 2023 - Project Development Measure (PDM), Measure 1 and Measure 2

The total funding awarded by the Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD) to 2023 ORIS Measures 1, 2 and Project Development Measure projects in Wicklow amounts to **€858,780**.

ORIS	Project Name	Brief description	Date for Completion
ORPDM23WW01 CC781	Lugnaquilla Recreation Plan	Recreation plan for the area with a Feasibility study in progress, consultation underway. Due to be completed by March'25.	30/06/2025
ORPDM23WW02 CC782	Bray Head Sustainable Recreation Plan	Feasibility project to provide a realistic work plan with budget and time frame designed to deliver: AA screening, a biodiversity survey, trail design, landscape design, bike hub design. Environmental consultation and Tender documentation ready for circulation.	30/06/2025
OR123WW01- CC791	Hollywood Natural Play Area	Provision of a natural play area within Ballysize forest. Play Equipment RFQ sent and contract appointment due shortly. Licence agreement signed with Coillte. Play area at design stage.	31/10/2025
OR123WW02 - CC792	Wicklow Way (Glencree River) Re-surface	200m of new trail construction and 800m of surface dressing.	Completed

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OR123WW03 - CC793	Knockree Bridge	Knockree bridge replacement at the Glenree brook on the Wicklow Way, between Ballyreagh and Onagh Bridge.	Completed
OR123WW04 - CC794	Knockamunnion-Stranahely Bridges	Replacement of 2 bridges and additional drainage works between them over a track of some 200m. Work plan being prepared.	31/10/2025
OR123WW05 - CC795	Three Wells and Cushbawn Link	8m of surfacing on Three Wells crossing and 270m of surfacing on the looped upper trail. Specification of works commenced.	31/10/2025
OR123WW06 - CC796	Wicklow Uplands rebranding to Sugarloaf Way	Signage replacement along an 18km route is in progress.	31/10/2025
OR223WW01 - CC903	Baravore Car Park, Glenmalure	Enhancing parking, with design being done by Council's Engineer. Trail specification underway. Car park specification created, with RFQ due at the end of January.	30/06/2026
OR223WW02 - CC904	Three Trouts Bridge, Delgany	New bridge across Three Trout stream, linking 2 sections of the route. In progress with Greystones MD Engineer with initial tender out.	30/06/2026
OR223WW03 - CC905	Tinahely New Loop Trail	Additional spur to loop walks linking Coolafunshogue, Curravanish and Ballyshonog. 10km route to Tinahely village. Initial design in progress. Landowner agreement being signed.	30/06/2026

Wicklow Sports & Recreation Partnership

Wicklow Outdoor Recreation Plan Public Consultation

As part of the development of the Wicklow Outdoor Recreation Plan there will be 2 public consultations in East and West of the County. Prior Registration is required.

They will be held in the following locations;

- **BLESSINGTON**, Wednesday 5th February, 7-830pm, Tulfarris Hotel
- **NEWTOWNMOUNTKENNEDY**, Thursday 6th February 7-8.30pm, Parkview Hotel

Register Here:

wicklowlsp.ie/have-your-say/

Training & Education

Activity	Venue	Date
Disability Awareness Training	Blessington ETB	16 th December 2024
Safeguarding 1	Online	4th December 2024
Safeguarding 1	Face to Face KWETB Blessington	10th December 2024
Safeguarding 1	Online	29th January 2025
Sports First Aid	St Kevins Hall	18th January 2025

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Chronic Condition Programmes

December and January Chronic Condition Programmes:

Programme	Venue	Start Date	No. of Weeks	No. of Attendees	Funding
Pilates	Recovery Village Newcastle Hospital	24 th October	8 weeks	10	HSE Seed Funding
Tai Chi for Respiratory Conditions	Shoreline Leisure, Bray	19 th November	5 weeks	9	HSE Seed Funding
Aqua Aerobics for People with Chronic Pain & Arthritis	Coral Leisure, Arklow	20 th January	8 weeks	12	HSE Seed Funding
Prime Time of Life	St. Kevin's Hall, Blessington	22 nd January	12 weeks	38	HSE Seed Funding
Activator Poles Taster – Wicklow Active Retirement Group	Pastoral Hall, Wicklow Town	21 st January	Taster Session	70	Age & Opportunity Funding

Arklow Sports Hub January Programmes

Programme	Venue	Start Date	No. of Weeks	No. of Attendees	Funding
Walk n Talk programme	Coral Leisure Arklow	14 th January	6	6	Arklow Hub
TY tennis and Yoga Leadership	Arklow Tennis Club	14 th January	8	16	Arklow Hub
Inclusive Gym for Sunbeam service users	Stephen Hurley Fitness	16 th January	8	10	Arklow Hub

Rathdrum Sports Hub Programmes

Programme	Venue	Start Date	No. of Weeks	No. of Attendees	Funding
Walk n Talk programme	Parnell Memorial Park	13 th January	6	12	Rathdrum Hub
Learn to Cycle	Avondale GAA	13 th January	5	6	Rathdrum Hub
Teen Boxing Programme for Crosscare Teenagers	RDA Hall	23 rd January	8	17	Rathdrum Hub
Activator Poles	RDA Hall	15 th January	6	17	Rathdrum Hub

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Couch to 5km Programme for Women

Programme	Venue	Start Date	No. of Weeks	No. of Attendees	Funding
Couch to 5km Avoca	Rooster Park Avoca	6 th January	6	15	WIS
Couch to 5km Bray	Bray Bandstand	27 th January	8	25	WIS

Learn to Cycle

Programme	Venue	Start Date	No. of Weeks	No. of Attendees	Funding
Learn to Cycle Rathnew	Rathnew Soccer Club	14 th January	6	14	Cypsc/Health Ireland



Inclusive Badminton with the National Learning Network

10 participants from the National Learning Network in Arklow are attending a 4-week Inclusive Badminton programme in Coral Leisure Arklow. Badminton Ireland coach Georgina Ward is facilitating the programme by introducing the participating to the fundamentals of the games.

Chronic Condition Programmes:

December Chronic Condition Programmes:

- Tai Chi for Respiratory Conditions, Shoreline Leisure, Bray
- Pilates, The Recovery Village, Newcastle Hospital, Newcastle

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Transportation & Infrastructure Delivery

Transportation

Public Lighting Maintenance

Status	ARKLOW MD	BALTINGLASS MD	BRAY MD	GREYSTONES MD	WICKLOW MD	Grand Total
Access Issues (Attend)	3	2	8	3	4	20
Cable Fault (Attend)	6		3			9
ESB Interface required			8			8
ESB Required (Attended)	18	12	17	16	18	81
Knock Down (Attended)			1	1		2
Materials required	1	2	1		2	6
No Supply	5	1	12	1		19
On Hold	5	2	6		3	16
Submitted	90	113	108	58	97	465
TMR	4		10		2	16
Tree Cutting Required			5		3	8
Grand Total	132	132	179	79	129	650
Percentage Not Working	4.28%	5.44%	5.28%	2.69%	3.36%	4.15%
No. of Lamps	3087	2425	3389	2934	3841	15676
Percentage of Total Lamps	20%	15%	22%	19%	24%	100%
Works Complete (22/12/2024 - 22/01/2024)	104	32	19	12	57	224

Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project (PLEEP)

The initial survey element of the above project has been completed. This is the initial phase of the project; the design is currently ongoing. The retrofitting of lanterns has commenced in Arklow, Baltinglass & Bray MDs with c. 650 lanterns replaced.

Periodic Speed Limits

The signs have been erected and snag list complete save for two outstanding issues, which we are working to resolving.

Speed Limits

The change to the rural local road default limits is due to come into effect on 7th February.

Signs have been delivered and will be erected by the MDs prior to this date.

Review/revision of the urban speed limits is due to commence in the coming months.

Noise Action Plan

The Wicklow Noise Action Plan has been published.

Transportation Statistics

	Total 2022	Total 2023	Total 2024	October 2024	November 2024	December 2024
Solicitors Queries	838	1026	1014	124	131	60
Road closure applications	78	42	50	1	0	6

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Road Opening licences	1414	1956	1254	115	127	99
Abnormal Load applications	60	54	50	4	3	6

M11N11 Junction 4 to 14 Improvement Scheme

The Option Selection report was published along with Bulletin #11 on the project website 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 is provided. The Wicklow County Council project team are continuing to meet with the public and any interested parties.

M11N11 Bus Priority Interim Scheme

The BPIS seeks to achieve the early delivery of bus priority measures in advance of the main scheme between Loughlinstown Roundabout and Junction 9 (Glenview). The scheme is currently at the Options Selection phase (Phase 2 of TII’s Project Management Guidelines).

A non-statutory public display on the emerging preferred options for sections A and C took place in November 2022.

A further non-statutory public display event was held in the Glenview Hotel in September 2023 that presented the overall emerging preferred option for the BPIS between Loughlinstown Roundabout and Junction 9 (Glenview).

The public display documents are available to view on the project website www.n11m11bpis.ie. The Post Consultation Report which summarises the issues raised has been prepared and is available on the Project Website since the 18th October 2024.

Since December 2023, work has been progressing to develop the emerging preferred option in greater detail and to undertake a thorough environmental evaluation of the scheme.

Specifically, the reassessment of options currently being undertaken is focussed on Sub-Scheme B, between Junction 6 (Bray/Fassaroe) and Junction 8 (Kilmacanogue). Further details on the options being assessed are presented in the Post Consultation Report. This work is currently progressing, and following completion of this revisit of Phase 2, details of any revision to the final preferred option will be published. This is expected in late Q1 2025.

N11 Parallel Service Road at Kilmacanogue

A noise assessment to the east of the new Parallel Service Road Scheme was carried out during April and May 2022. The options review and design commenced in March 2023 following confirmation of funding from TII. Site investigation works were completed in November 2023. This information has been reviewed by the Design Team and the final design option has been prepared. Direct consultation has taken place with the affected residents/landowners. The procurement of a contractor for the construction works is currently being progressed by the project team in conjunction with TII.

N81 Knockroe Bend Realignment

Tenders for a Per-Cent Art Feature are being procured by the Arts Office. The preferred feature has been selected pending the completion of the final assessment stage.

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

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

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

The Phase 2 Options Selection work is currently progressing under TII’s Project Management Guidelines. A non-statutory Public Display event on the Route Options took place in the Inis Fail Germaines, Main Street, Baltinglass, on Wednesday 27th March 2024. The public display documents are available to view on the project website www.N81whitestownandtuckmill.ie. The period for submissions ended on Friday 26th April 2024. A second non-statutory public consultation on the emerging preferred options commenced on the 30th January 2025 with a display event in Germaines in Baltinglass. Submissions and observations will be accepted up until 12:00 noon on 27th February 2025

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

The Feasibility and Options report (Phase 2) was approved by TII in November 2023. The Design Report (Phase 3) was approved by TII in April 2024. The Part 8 statutory process (Phase 4) commenced on the 28th March 2024 with the period for submissions by interested parties ending on the 14th May 2024. At the May 2024 meeting of Baltinglass Municipal District the Elected Members voted to approve the Chief Executive’s recommendation for the scheme to proceed. The

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Detailed Design and Contract Documents (Phase 5) are being prepared in advance of tendering for a contractor for construction.

Park & Ride/Share at Hollywood

A feasibility report, funded by the Baltinglass Municipal District was prepared and submitted to TII in Oct 2021. This report considered an option for parking accessed from the N81. TII subsequently provided funding to further examine the feasibility and options.

TII have indicated that they do not support the proposed additional access to the N81. As a result, the option for a parking facility accessed from the N81 has been discounted from the traffic calming scheme. Suitable parking locations, which can be accessed from the regional/local road network, are being investigated.

N81 Blessington Gateway Project

The Feasibility and Options report (Phase 2) was finalised and approved by TII in October 2023. TII have also approved funding to proceed with the design phase in accordance with TII Standards. Wicklow County Council are progressing this project to the design phase (Phase 3) to be followed by any necessary statutory approvals process (Phase 4).

N11/M11 Strategic Bus Park & Ride Facilities

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

The Park & Ride at Junction 6 Fassaroe was approved by the Elected Members at the meeting of the full Council in November 2023. Land acquisition and tendering was carried out during 2024 and construction work is expected to commence during Q1 of 2025

The preliminary design for the Bus Park & Ride at Junction 16 (Ashford/Rathnew) was on public display under Part 8 up until the 11th December 2024. Submissions were accepted up until noon on the 10th January 2025.

The preliminary design for the Bus Park & Ride at Junction 11 (Kilpedder) is being progressed in conjunction with the NTA Park & Ride Delivery Office.

M11/R772 Johnstown North - VRS Installation on the Regional Road

The installation of a vehicle restraint system along the R772 at the interface between the R772 and the M11 motorway at Johnstown (North of Junction 20) was completed in December 2024.

Arklow to Shillelagh Greenway

The Phase 2 Options Selection Report, which will determine the preferred route for the Greenway, is currently being reviewed by Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII). Negotiations are still ongoing with landowners. Following TII approval of Phase 2 we will proceed to Phase 3, involving Design and Environmental Evaluation.

Blessington Inner Relief Road

As of September 9th, 2024, An Bord Pleanála (ABP) have granted permission for the northern section of the Blessington Inner Relief Road as a partial approval for a planning development. The residential development (330 units) has been refused permission by ABP. A preplanning LRD application was submitted in November 2024 based on the current Draft Blessington LAP.

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

Tenders submitted by contractors for the Chapel Road Project have been evaluated and we are currently raising orders for the construction phase of the project including the main Contract Award. On successful completion of the contract award process construction is expected to start on site at the end of Q1 2025. The CPO Notice to Treat was issued on all landowners in October 2023 and Notice of Entry issued in November 2024. Discussions between Wicklow Roads Project staff and landowners are ongoing. A Wicklow County Council appointed valuer is engaging with valuers and homeowners as part of the CPO process.

Wicklow Greystones Greenway

Phase 2 Route Options are currently being developed by Wicklow County Councils consultant Atkins Realis within the preferred coastal route corridor. Site visits are being planned for February 2025. Meetings and information sharing is ongoing with Irish Rail for their East Coast Rail Infrastructure Protection Project.

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Blessington eGreenway

Wicklow County Council were notified by letter dated 02/12/2024 that An Bord Pleanála has refused permission for the Blessington Greenway. The full ABP inspectors report has been issued and has been referred to Wicklow Law Department and project design consultant Aecom for advice on how to proceed.

Kilmacanogue to Bray Southern Cross Active Travel Scheme

TII have instructed Wicklow County Council to issue tender documents for design services for the development of the Kilmacanogue to Southern Cross Active Travel Scheme.

Active Travel

Projects under Construction

Ballyguilemore Active Travel Facilities (Wicklow MD)

Provision of new pedestrian facilities and road safety improvements along the Ballyguilemore Road between Carrig View and the entrance to the proposed new St. Patricks GAA Pitch. The scheme includes for new footpaths and road widening works. Construction of the new footpath is complete, along with the drainage and public lighting works. Road edge reinstatement works have also been completed and the planting of new native hedgerow and native trees along roadside boundary are also complete. Road Tender process ongoing for completion of accommodation works.



Arklow South Cycle and Pedestrian Scheme (Arklow MD)

Provision of 2.8km of segregated cycle track along the R-772 Wexford Road, Arklow between Knockmore Roundabout and M11 Junction 21. The scheme will also construct 1.4km approx. of pedestrian footpath. Construction works have been completed on this project. Stage 3 of Road Safety Audit to be completed.

Safe Routes to Schools: St. Kevin's National School, Greystones (Greystones MD)

Provide infrastructure for schools to increase walking and cycling as the preferred travel mode where possible and improve safety at front of schools. Front of school implementation works are completed. New pedestrian crossing and footpath civil upgrade works are completed on Church Lane. Demobilisation and handover to school scheduled for January.

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**Scoil Nioclais Naofa
New One Way System**

Safe Route to Schools: Scoil Nioclais Naofa, Dunlavin (Blessington MD) Provide infrastructure for schools to increase walking and cycling as the preferred travel mode where possible and improve safety at front of schools. This project includes implementing a one way system on the eastern side of Fair Green. Front of school works for the school zone are complete, and works on permeability link are also complete. Public lighting is scheduled to be installed, date to be agreed with contractor.

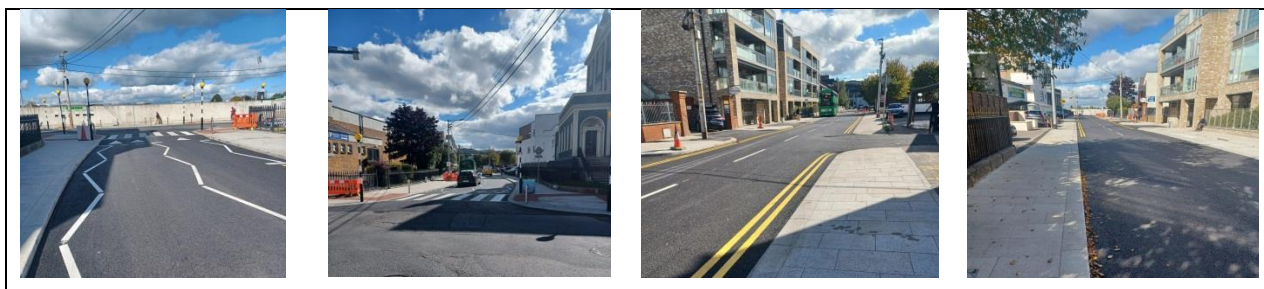
Kilcoole Road Footpath (Greystones MD)

Footpath to be constructed linking Greystones to Kilcoole. Accommodation works are ongoing at Barna Cottage, and construction works have commenced on the new boundary wall.

Project Updates

Bray Transport Interchange (Bray MD)

New plaza and public transport interchange in front of Bray DART station, with revised car parking, set down and taxi rank arrangements. David Walsh Civil Engineering commenced ground works in Mid-February. Main drainage works have been completed. Paving has been installed on Quinsborough Road and Adelaide Road. Works are progressing on schedule. Buses are relocated to temporary stops. Works ongoing on Station Road.



Bray Transport Interchange

Wicklow Station Pedestrian and Cycle Link (Wicklow MD)

New pedestrian and cycle bridge to be provided at Wicklow Train Station, linking Station Road to the Port Access Road. Bus and vehicle set down to be provided along with cycle parking. Acquisition of lands on northern side of rail line complete. Part 8 approved by Members on 2nd December. NTA approval has been sought for commencement of Phase 5-Detail design and Procurement.

Wicklow Active Travel Pathfinder Project (Wicklow MD)

Provision of pedestrian and cycle improvements along the R750 and Station Road from Abbey Street carpark to Station Road Junction to improve linkage to Wicklow Train Station. The Preliminary Design has been prepared by DBFL

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Consulting Engineers and submitted to the NTA for approval, comments received from NTA. Road Safety Audit to be carried out. Tender assessment to be carried out for consultants to manage the project through phases 4-7.

Bray Bridge footbridges and tie ins (re-draft tender) (Bray MD)

New footbridges and alterations of road to make provision for cyclists. Tender to be advertised for the appointment of a consultant to progress the scheme through Phase 3 to Phase 7.

Greystones Pathfinder (Greystones MD)

Provision of new and improved pedestrian and cycle links to Greystones Train Station. The spine route extends from Greystones Marina to Shoreline Sports Centre

Phase 1 – Charlesland Dual Carriageway Roundabout Upgrade Works - The phase will include new and improved pedestrian and cycle crossings along the Charlesland Dual Carriageway. Tenders were invited for contractors to carry out the upgrade works and contractor has been appointed. NTA approval received to proceed to construction stage. Construction works commenced on Mill Road roundabout.

Phase 2 - Church Road Improvement Works - This phase of the project will reduce vehicle speeds and provide a safer environment for pedestrians and cyclists along Church Road through the narrowing of the carriageway, junction realignment, new and improved pedestrian crossings and road resurfacing. Works completed and road markings installed.

Phase 3 - Greystones Marina to Charlesland Pedestrian and Cycle Improvements - This phase includes the design of pedestrian and cycle improvement works to be completed along the public road linking Greystones Train Station with the Marina to the north and Charlesland to the south. Tender assessment to be carried out for consultants to manage the scheme through Phases 4 to 7.

Safe Routes to Schools: Gaelscoil na gCloch Liath, Greystones Educate Together & Temple Carrig School (Greystones MD)

Provide improvements on Blacklion Manor Road to make the area safer for school children. These works aim to encourage more children to walk and cycle to school. NTA have confirmed Gateway 3 approval with approvals to proceed to Phase 4: Consultation.

Safe Routes to Schools: Kilmacanogue NS (Bray MD)

Provide infrastructure for schools to increase walking and cycling as the preferred travel mode where possible and improve safety at front of school. Preliminary Designs are being updated by the designer.

2025 Budget Allocation

The NTA have recently announced Budget Allocations for 2025, the following projects have been allocated funding:

• Bray DART Interchange	€1,750,000
• Active Travel Bridge (Wicklow Train Station to Port Access Road) Pathfinder	€ 415,000
• Bray Bridge Footbridges and tie-ins	€ 100,000
• Delgany Village to Mill Road Active Travel Elements	€ 40,000
• Active Travel Pathfinder: Wicklow Town	€ 570,000
• Blessington Main St. to Deerpark	€ 100,000
• Greystones Pathfinder phase 1: Charlesland Roundabout Upgrade	€1,600,000
• Delgany Village Convent Road	€ 100,000
• Arklow South Active Travel Improvements	€ 100,000
• Kilcoole Road Footpath	€ 50,000

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• Killincarrig Village Enhancement Scheme – cofund	€ 575,000
• Wicklow County Council Active Travel Office – Staff Costs	€ 700,000
• SRTS Round 1: St. Kevin's National School, Greystones	€ 75,000
• SRTS Round 2: Gaelscoil na gCloch Liath, Greystones	€ 80,000
• SRTS Round 2: Greystones Educate Together	€ 80,000
• SRTS Round 2 Kilmacanogue NS, Kilmacanogue	€ 100,000
• SRTS Round 2: Scoil Nioclais Naofa, Dunlavin	€ 20,000
• SRTS Round 2: Temple Carrig School, Greystones	€ 80,000
• Baltinglass Active Travel River Crossing Study	€ 100,000
• Active Travel Promotion Costs	€ 20,000
• Greystones Pathfinder Phase 2 – Traffic Management upgrade Church Road	€ 50,000
• Greystones Pathfinder Phase 3 – Greystones Seafront to Charlesland	€ 950,000
• SRTS Round 3: Scoil Mhuire Realt na Mara HSRR*, Brittas Bay	N/A*
• SRTS Round 3: Scoil Mhoire na n-Aird	€ 70,000
• Scalp Road Footpath, Enniskerry	€ 75,000
• Aughrim Road Pedestrian Crossing, Tinahely	€ 50,000
• Kiltegan Road Pedestrian Crossing, Baltinglass	€ 50,000
• Vale Road Pedestrian Improvement Scheme, Arklow	€ 100,000
• Fassaroe Strategic Bus Based Park and Ride	€ 50,000
• Bus Stop Enhancement Programme	€ 500,000
• Arklow Local Transport Plan	€ 85,000
• Greystones Local Transport Plan	€ 20,000
TOTAL	€8,655,000

** Scheme to be designed by NTA consultants under different project code*

Bridge Rehabilitation (Local and Regional Roads)

Work commenced on 1 new bridge (Drummin) in December.

Winter Maintenance

Salting continues under WM Plan.

Significant cold event during 1st week of January led to continuous gritting in areas.

Oct 14 to 31 - 0 treatments

Nov 1 to 21 - 1 single and 2 double treatments

Nov 22 to Dec 11 - 7 single and 4 double treatments

Dec 12 to Jan 26th – 8 single and 9 double runs

Machinery Yard

Large truck (HCV) tender for 4 vehicles currently being processed with delivery during the Summer.

Vehicle disposal and sales being organised for scrap and written off vehicles. Approx. 15.

Pick-up truck framework now available on SupplyGov. Details to be agreed prior to order in coming weeks.

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Parking Income

Parking Income by Municipal District	EURO
Bray Municipal District	1,043,117.20
Greystones Municipal District	315,258.25
Wicklow Municipal District	452,138.82
Arklow Municipal District	243,546.59
Parking Permits	110,742.66
Parking Fines	600,566.00
Wicklow County Council Total	2,765,369.52

Infrastructure Delivery

Affordable Housing information as at the 31st December 2024

Greenhill Road – 36 Houses

- 35 sold
- 1 remaining portal to reopen on the 13th November 2024 until the 13th December 2024 (advertised week starting 28/10/24). Offer to be made in January 2025.

Aldbrough Manor Baltinglass – 22 Houses – Phase 1

- 58 applied
- 29 eligible
- 29 offered
- 6 accepted

Phase 2

The Scheme was re-advertised on Wednesday 21st February in both the Wicklow People and Irish Independent. Portal opened on the 6th March 2024 until the 17th April 2024 for applications to be submitted.

- 80 applications received
- 32 offers made (letters sent)
- 15 income too high (letters sent)
- 2 withdrawn
- 5 accepted

All applications exhausted, no more offers to be made from this portal all applicants have been notified. Payment of the Affordable Contribution was paid to the Developer in December 2024 for 6 of the houses to allow for the sales to close and it is hoped to close the remainder in January/February 2025.

Rathnew – 44 dwellings

- Advertised - Wicklow Times is Monday 27th May 2024 and Wicklow People is Wednesday 29th May 2024.

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- Portal opened from the 10th June 12noon until the 22nd July 2024. Offers have been made. 42 accepted. All who have applied have been notified.
- A Purchaser of a 3 bed pulled out in November 2024 as they could not secure a mortgage.
- The original 2 remaining terrace houses were re-advertised week starting 28/10/2024 with portal to open on the 14th November 2024 until the 13th December 2024. We now have 3 to offer from this portal. Offers to be made in January 2025.

Wicklow County Council also has plans for further developments throughout the county.

Housing Supply – Programme of Delivery

Schemes Recently Completed	UNITS	CURRENT STATUS
Avondale Phase 2 Design & Build	20	Completed and allocated
Cedar Court Bray Design & Build	14	Completed and allocated
Greenhills Road (Affordable)	36	Completed and sold
Schemes on Site	Units	Current Status
Cois Droichead, Greystones	41	Final snagging underway
Ballard Shillelagh	20	Completed
Lugduff Tinahely	20	Completion anticipated Q1 2025
Merrymeeing Rathnew Phase 2	21	Completed and allocated
Liam Kavanagh Park Ballynerrin	10	Completed and allocated
1A Mill Road	3	Completion expected Q1 2026
5A Rednagh Road	1	Completion expected March 2025
Pipeline Schemes	Units	Current Status
Merrymeeing, Rathnew, Phase 3	7	Part 8 approved, design work underway
Fassaroe, Bray	13	Contractor appointed
Burgage More Blessington PPP	106	Part of PPP bundle 3 with NDFA. Tender stage
Lott Lane, Kilcoole	75	Contractor appointed
Rehills, Bray	193	PPP dropped the scheme due to high projected costs, WCC reconsidering the viability of this scheme
Rockbrae, Bray	53	Stage 1 funding application underway
Ballyguile Rd, Wicklow	14	Design Stage
Burnaby, Greystones PPP	272	PPP Bundle 5 continuing
Ballinahinch Ashford	19	Part 8 approved, design work underway
Tinahask, Arklow	75	Part 8 approved, design work underway
Tinahask PPP, Arklow	128	PPP Bundle 6 continuing
Sheephouse Arklow	48	Design Stage
Mountainview, Blessington	10	Part 8 approved, design work underway

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Hawkstown Park Phase 2, Wicklow Design & Build	54	Part 8 approved, design work underway
------------------------------------------------	----	---------------------------------------

Traveller accommodation

Capital Programme

Ballintreskin – 3 houses	Houses allocated
Avondale Heights, Rathdrum – 3 houses	Contractor on site completion date January 2025
Barndarrig Group Housing scheme for 3 houses and 17 social houses	Three group housing schemes. Final layout agreed with department/families. Social house layout is being finalised for the rest of the site. Part 8 Expected Q2 2025.
Vale Road Arklow – 2 Units	Preliminary Design Stage/Pre- Part 8

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

Framework for consultants for one off housing projects Age Friendly/Disability Schemes has been tendered due end of January.

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

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

Energy Efficiency upgrades to Council Stock

Wicklow county council has an ongoing Programme of works retrofitting our council housing stock. The works selected and completed complies with our Energy Fabric Upgrade Policy that went through SPC in 2023. In 2024 we took on a second contractor from our framework to cover the Arklow, Tinahely Area.

Work has been completed on 110 units by the end of the year.

Monastery Grove Was Nominated for LAMA award 2024.

Part V

The following Part V units are due during 2024:

Location	No. of Units	Due for Delivery	Method
Bray	1	Delivery due Q1 2025	CALF
Dunlavin	3	Delivered Q2 2024	WCC
Delgany	1	Delivered Q1 2024	WCC
Rathnew	2	Delivered Q1 2024	WCC
Greystones	8	Delivered Q4 2024	CALF
Wicklow	3	2 Delivered Q1 2024, 1 Delivered Q2 2024	WCC
Rathdrum	2	Delivered Q1 2024	WCC
Delgany	8	3 Delivered Q3, 3 delivered Q3, 2 due Q1 2025	WCC
Blessington	6	4 Delivered Q2 2024, 2 Delivered Q3	WCC
Rathnew	4	Delivered Q4 2024	WCC
Rathnew	37	1 Delivered Q4 36 Due Q1 2025	WCC
Blessington	9	Delivered Q4 2024	CALF
Bray	15	Delivered Q4 2024	CALF
Dunlavin	1	Delivered Q4 2024	WCC

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Potential units

Wicklow County Council currently has agreements in place for units in Delgany, Rathnew, Bray, Roundwood, Newtownmountkennedy, Blessington, Baltinglass and Wicklow with delivery ranging from 2025-2027. This includes the units listed above. WCC is in negotiations in respect of over 100 further units with delivery dates yet to be confirmed.

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

Turnkey D

The following Turnkey units are due during 2024:

Location	No. of Units	Due for Delivery	Method
Bray	17	Delivery Due Q1 2025	CALF
Greystones	5	Delivered Q3 2024	WCC
Baltinglass	2	Delivery Due Q1 2025	WCC
Arklow	3	Delivery Due Q1 2025	WCC
Rathnew	1	Delivered Q2 2024	WCC
Blessington	7	Delivered Q4 2024	CALF
Bray	10	Delivered Q4 2024	CALF

- Negotiations are on-going with a number of Developers and AHB's in relation to acquiring further Turnkey units.
- Expression of Interest for Turnkey Housing Developments/Housing Schemes and or land for the provision of social housing/affordable housing was advertised on 30th July 2024 and closed 2nd December 2024. A new advert requesting Expression of Interest will be placed in the New Year.

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. Approved Housing Bodies also make applications for CALF acquisitions to address a particular housing need.

CALF Acquisitions 2024	No. of Units	Delivery Schedule	Scheme
Bray	2	Delivered February 2024	CALF
Bray	1	Delivered April 2024	CALF

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 etc.

CAS Acquisitions 2024	No. of Units	Delivery Schedule	Scheme
Bray	1	Delivery February 2024	CAS
Newcastle	1	Delivered April 2024	CAS
Bray	1	Delivered April 2024	CAS

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Expressions of Interest – Social Housing on Council lands

Parnell Road (Central Garage site)

Tuath have submitted the revised CAS application and it is currently being assessed. The Department had some queries which have been responded to.

Kilbride Lodge and Sutton Villas

All land registration issues have now been resolved. Respond are in the process of appointing a project manager.

Infill Sites

- Knockroe – Two 4 bed fully accessible completed in April.
- 5a Rednagh Rd – One 4 bed house – Section 179A commenced 27th March 2024. Display period ended 27th May 2024.
- 1A Mill Road – renovation plus construction of 3 houses. Section 179A commenced 12th June 2024. Display period ended 12th August 2024.

Housing for Older People - Age Friendly Schemes

Millbank, Mill Road – 2 x 2 bed properties	Allocated
Castle Villas - Two 2 bed properties	Ready for allocation
Carrig Eden - 14 units x 1 bed age friendly units	Part 8 complete – design team procured
Kilcoole Health Centre - 4 no 1 bed apartments	Contact on site - expected completion date Q2 2024

Vacant Homes Scheme

Current Compulsory Purchase Orders on long term vacant houses around the county 2025.

No.	Property Location	Current Status
1	5 Priory Way, Delgany.	Works commenced.
2	30 South Green, Arklow.	Works commenced.
3.	53 South Green, Arklow.	Works commenced.
4.	88 Wicklow Heights, Wicklow Town.	Works commenced.
5,	6 Ashleigh, Ashford.	Works commenced.
6.	2 Harbour Road, Arklow.	Contractor appointed.
7.	114 Hillside, Greystones.	Gone to Tender for refurbishment works.
8.	53A South Green, Arklow.	Gone to Tender for refurbishment works.
9.	108 Charwood, Bray.	Gone to Tender for refurbishment works.
10.	36 Wheatfield, Bray.	Preparation for Tendering for Works.
11.	10 Liam Mellows Avenue, Arklow.	Preparation for Tendering for Works.

N.B. 12 CPO files completed (7 Houses now in WCC Stock - 5 houses sold by owners)

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

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

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

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A grant of up to €70,000.00 is available, if the refurbishment costs exceed the standard grant of up to €50,000.00; a top-up grant amount of up to €20,000.00 is available.

To qualify for the grant, applicants must:

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

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

Number of Applications	182
Applications in progress/information requested from applicants.	16
Applications Approved.	80
Number of Applications paid.	25
Value of 25 Grants paid out.	€1,427,675.77
Applications pending execution of Legal Deed of Charge/Payment.	19
Applications withdrawn/Rejected.	42

Serviced Sites – Kilcommon, Tinahely,

Number of Sites	5
Letters of Offer Issued	7
Number of applications	7

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Emergency Response

Fire Service

Operational Fire Statistics December 2024

There were **110 incidents** attended during the month of December 2024. Due to laid down procedures to mobilise two stations to potentially serious incident types, individual Fire Stations were mobilised on a total of **147 occasions** including **8** mobilisations in other counties. On no occasion did an incident commander request additional resources over what was prescribed in the Pre-Determined Attendance.

Operational activity for the month of December 2024 **increased by 1% (+ 2 mobilisations) on the preceding month November 2024 (145 mobilisations)**. There was a decrease in mobilisations to RTC (-16), a reduction in malicious fires in urban areas (-5) but there was an increase in mobilisations to domestic fires (+6) and an increase in Ambulances Assists (+7).

Operational activity for the month of December 2024 **increased by 18% (plus 22 mobilisations) on the equivalent month in 2023** (December 2023, 125 mobilisations). There was a decrease in mobilisations to RTCs (-10) but an increase in mobilisations to domestic fires (+9), small fires in urban areas (+7).

Incidents in County Kildare (7-incidents total):

- 01/12/2024 Dunlavin crew supported crews from Naas and Newbridge at a single vehicle RTC at Carnalway, Kilcullen.
- 07/12/2024 Dunlavin crew attended a request to “make scene safe” following a fallen tree at Crookstown.
- 07/12/2024 Baltinglass crew supported a crew from Athy at an electrical incident in Ballytore.
- 11/12/2024 Dunlavin and Blessington Crews supported a crew from Naas at a 2 car RTC at Monread, Naas.
- 24/12/2024 Blessington crew supported a crew from Naas at a 3-car RTC in Naas.
- 27/12/2024 Blessington crew supported a crew from Naas at a fire in a pub / restaurant in Ballymore Eustace.
- 31/12/2024 Blessington crew supported crews from Naas, Newbridge and Dublin at a 2 car RTC at Oberstown, Naas.

Fire Prevention Statistics November 2024

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

Application type	Received	Deemed Invalid, refused or withdrawn	Requested additional information	Inspections	Recommended for Grant
FSCs	12	1	3		1
Revised FSCs	0		0		1
FSC 7-Day Notice	5		4		3
Regularisation FSCs	0		0		0
DACs	6		6		9
Revised DACs	0		0		1
Dispensations / Relaxations	1		0		0

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Licensing	Received	Inspected	Request further info	Letter / Licence Issued	No objection entered on Courts on-line Service
District	1			9	9
Circuit					
Dangerous Substances Act	0	4	4	0	0
Explosive Act					

Activities during the month of December included:

- Fire Safety inspections of Traveller Accommodation.
- A road safety event including an RTC demonstration took place in Dunlavin Secondary School on 11th December.
- Open Days were held in all Fire Stations during the month of December.

Building Control Statistics December 2024

Commencement Notices for December 2024:

Commencement Notices Submitted: 48

- 13 Commencement Notices with Compliance Documents
- 26 Opt Out Declarations
- 4 Commencement Notices without Compliance Documents
- 5 Seven Day Notice

Submission Statistics

- 54 % of Commencement Notices - Opt Out
- 81 % of Commencement Notices Revised Information required & requested = 32 No. Commencement Notices (CN) of which

10 with Compliance Documentation (26%)

22 are Opt Out (56%)

2 Without Compliance Documentation (5%)

5 Seven Day Notice (13%)

- 40 Valid Commencement Notices
- 139 new build residential Units and additional 53 Apartments
- 13 Extensions
- 4 Non Res new builds

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- 2 Invalidated CNs
- Certificates of Completion processed in December 2024
- 14 New No. of CCC submitted
- 10 Required Revised Information
- 31 No. Validated
- 0 No. Invalid
- 42 new Residential units and 4 additional apartments
- 5 Non Res. Builds

Submission Statistics

31 No. Validated CCCs related to;

27 no. CCCs submitted in November 2024

12 No. CCCs submitted in December 2024

**BCA not notified on completion of opt out developments

139 new residential houses and 13 Extensions were notified to LA for Commencement & 42 newly completed residential units plus 4 apartments units were submitted, assessed and validated in December. There has been an increase in both Commencement Notices particularly in Opt Out Submissions and Certificate of Compliance on Completion submissions compared to the same period in 2023. BCMS closed for maintenance & system upgrades from the 19th to 31st December.

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

In December, Building Control continued to carry site inspections based on risk based approach. For any non-compliance with Building Regs identified onsite or during desk top assessment, Section 11 Compliance Requests were issued. 4 No. Section 11 issued during December.

Revised Information requests remained high in December for both Commencement Notices and Certificates of Compliance on Completion, 81% of Commencement Notice submissions & 71% of Certificate of Compliance on Completion submissions required revised information. Revised information requests are issued to nominated role holders of submissions when compliance with Building Regs has not been demonstrated.

Opt Out submissions are both extensions and single unit dwellings, 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.

It has been observed by Building Control during CN Assessments that there has been an increase in the proposed use of non-traditional, uncertified products and systems. Additional resources have had to be used to assess both these new products/systems and associated alleged certification. These resources are being used for Market Surveillance, which is one of the key roles of Building Control.

In December, Building Control staff attended the Quarterly Regional Building Control meeting in Tullamore and a Building Control CPD Day event run by NBCO in Trim.

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Top Line Data

IPAS Centre information as of 05. 01. 2025	
Current number of IPAS centres in County Wicklow	12
Number of new centres opened this month	0
Total number of residents	1465
Of which are children	459

WCC LAIT Activity up to end of Dec 2024	
Total number of Integration Clinics delivered	93
Total number of face-to-face support sessions	761
Total number of sessions with single adults	458
Total number of sessions with families/couples	303

LAIT Integration Support Data Recorded for December

Basic Clinic Data	
No. of clinics	5
Total no of face-to-face sessions	*42
No. of adults (total from singles, couples and families)	59
No. of sessions with single adults	17
No. of sessions with families	24
No. of children from families met	47
No. of sessions with couples	1
No. of IPA's met	42
No. met with Refugee Status	7
No. met with Subsidiary Protection	0
No. met with Leave to Remain	0
Less than 3 months in Ireland	2
1-3 months in Ireland	12
3-6 months in Ireland	15
6 months – 1 year in Ireland	9

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1-2 years in Ireland	3
Over 2 years in Ireland	3

**Any differences between figures reflect instances where two adults in a family/couple have different status or have been in the country for a different length of time.*

Areas of Support

Main Theme / Primary Support Issue	Incidence
Health - adult	12
Health - child	4
Mental health	0
Medical Card	4
Education & Training - Adult	10
Education - child	0
Special needs - child	0
English	0
MyGovID	0
Employment	4
Volunteering	0
Legal	2
Housing/accommodation	4
Transport	0
Childcare	0
Family support	0
Orientation to Ireland	10
Financial Supports	6
Other	1

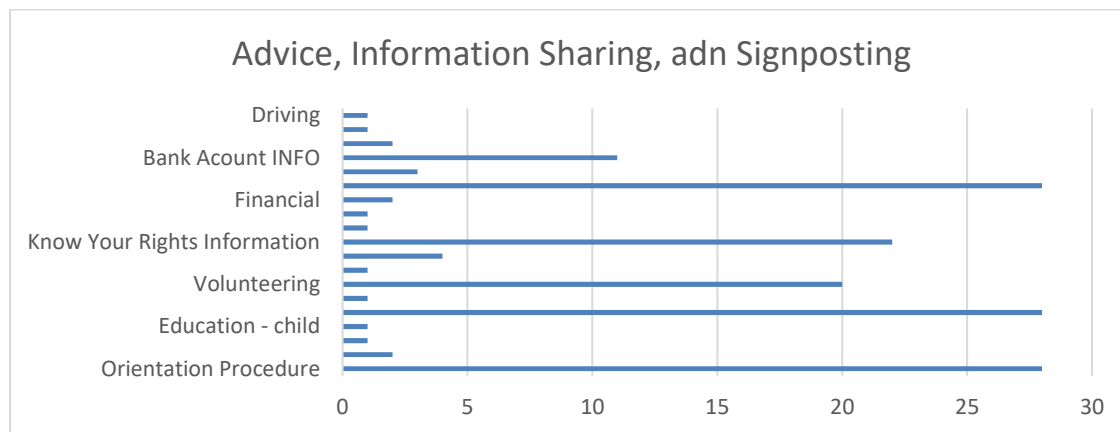
In-Session Support Categories	Incidence
Advice, Information and Signposting	117
Practical Support	22
Referral and advocacy	25

Post-Session Categories of Support	
Advocacy and Referral	27
Follow up Contact with Client	79

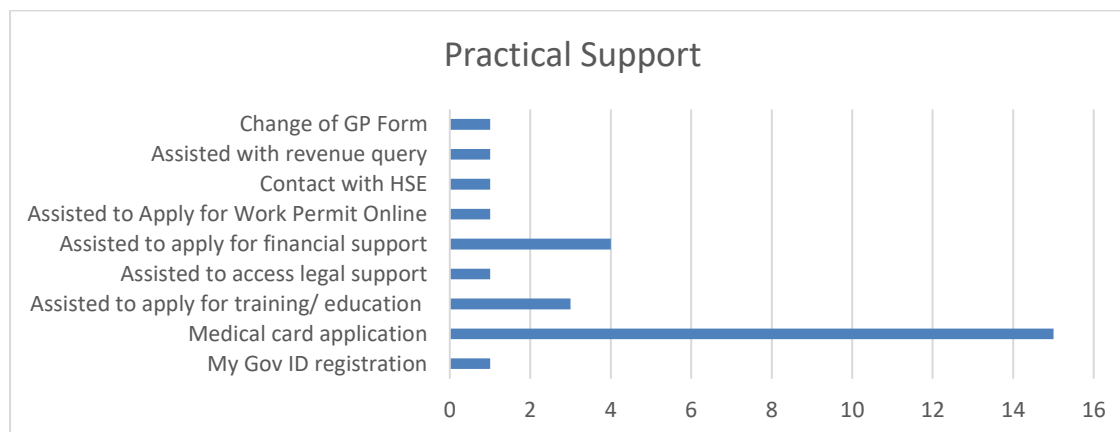
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In-Session Support: Detailed Breakdown

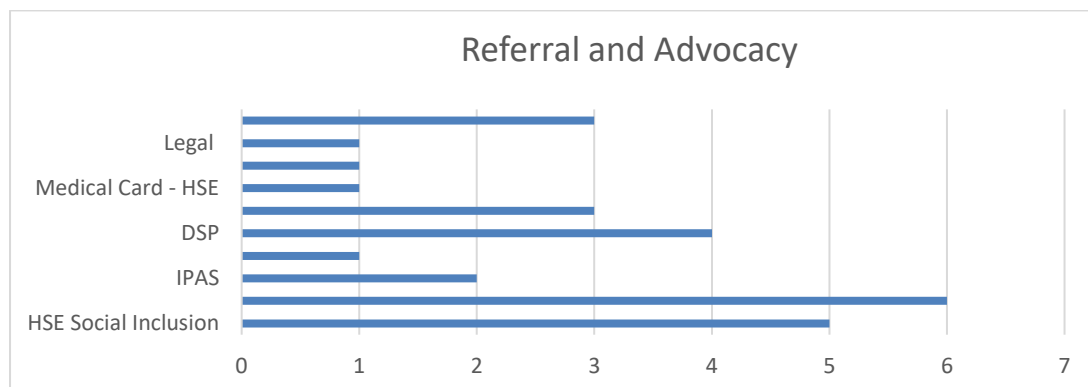
- Advice, Information and Signposting**



- Practical Support**



- Referral and Advocacy**



Other Activity

- Team conducted a full service review and developed an annual service plan for 2025.
- The Integration Support Workers will be visiting each IPAS centre to re-assess the support needs of the current residents.

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- In January, the team will launch its new data collection and collation process, which should allow for more accurate reporting on LAIT activity going forward.

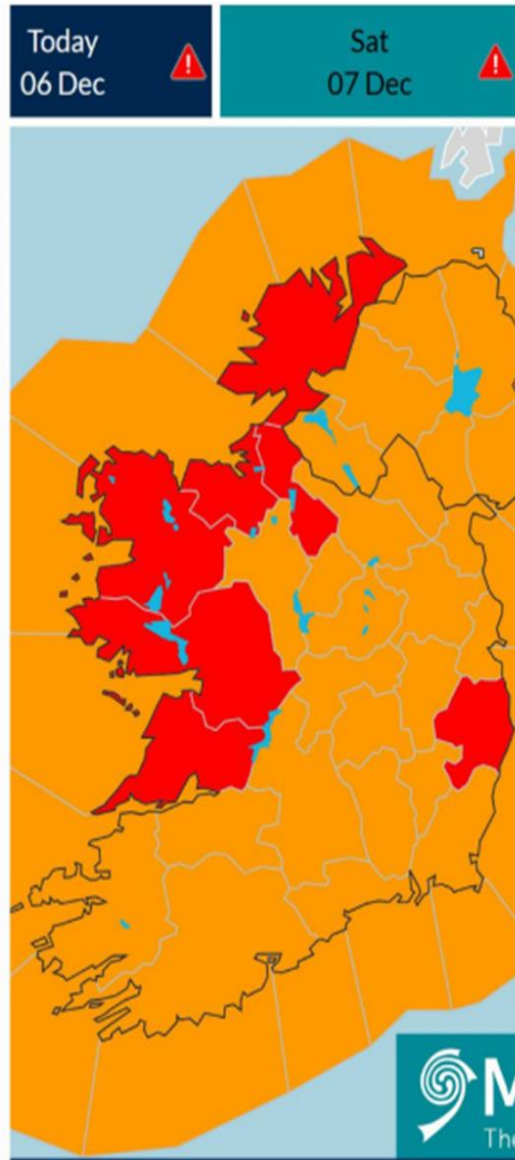
Civil Defence

- Civil Defence volunteers were tasked by Gardai to assist with locating a missing person on Lugnaquilla, a positive result as the missing person appeared the next morning.



- With the increasing number of adverse weather events our volunteers remain on standby during Orange and Red weather warnings, when the need arises to assist the community, our crews are always on hand to help out.

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Organisational Development (HR & Corporate)

Recruitment

The following interviews were held in December 2024:

- Interviews Temporary Senior Executive Officer
- Interviews Information Systems Technical Support Officer
- Interviews Information Systems Project Leader (Cyber & Information Security)
- Shortlisting Clerical Officer
- Shortlisting Local Sports European Fund Officer
- Shortlisting Local Sports Programme Manager

Employee Numbers

Employee Numbers	Q1 2024	Q2 2024	Q3 2024	Q4 2024
Managerial/Administrative	323	337	334	333
Professional/Technical	150	146	146	146
Outdoor	261	259	255	252
Temporary/Seasonal	44	87	91	68
Non DoHPLG	5	5	5	5
Total	783	834	831	804

*** Decrease in Temp/Seasonal category due to end dating of Lifeguards (delay in employee submitting leaver documentation)**

Freedom of Information

December 2024: 1	December 2023: 3
January- December 2024: 118	January - December 2023:100

Ombudsman Requests

December 2024: 3	December 2023: 1
January – December 2024: 23	January – December 2023: 29

Press Releases

December 2024 – 11

Register of Electors

Online applications via www.checktheregister.ie continue to be received and processed daily. Approximately 5000 applications were received in advance of the closing date for the general election. The franchise team are now processing any applications which were minor in nature such as updating contact details etc. and any applications received after the closing date. A large amount of returned polling cards were received after the General Election and

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work is commencing in establishing to contact these electors to ascertain if they are still resident or if they wish to register at a new address.

Following the Boundary Commission Report in 2023 and the subsequent redrawing of boundary lines in both Wicklow and Wexford, the new smaller 4 seat constituency of Wicklow recorded the highest turnout nationally at 67.8% - 8.1 percentage points above the national average of 59.7%

The new 3 seat constituency of Wicklow-Wexford recorded a turnout of 61.17%.

Work will commence on the migration to a national database of Register of Electors.

Customer Service Innovation Hub

Customer Service Innovation Hub			
2024 – December			
Communication Channels	No.	Public Counters	No.
No. of Phone Calls received to (0404) 20100	5,304	Motor Taxation transactions in County Buildings	1,276
No. of Customer Service Emails received	528	Revenue Transactions	1,092
No. of Elected Members / Deputy Representatives Received	55	Housing Counter Visits	Not available

Energy

2024					
Action	Energy Savings	Carbon Savings	Simple Payback before Grant (Years)	Project Status	Funding
	(kWh)	(T CO2)			
Bray Fire Station					
Air-to-water heat pump, re-piping, replacing radiators and re-plumbing	350,000	71	8	Works Complete	50% SEAI Pathfinder 50% WCC Energy Efficiency Fund
Appliance Bay Doors (5)				Works Complete	
Window Upgrades				Works Complete	
Total	350,000	71	8		
County Buildings					
Air-to-water heat pump	230,000	47	10	Works Complete	50% SEAI Pathfinder 50% WCC Energy Efficiency Fund
Enabling Works				Works Complete	

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Radiator Upgrades				Works Commenced	
Total	230,000	47	10		
Bray Civic Offices					
Air-to-water heat pumps replacing gas boiler	120,000	24	8	Works Complete	50% SEAI Pathfinder 50% WCC Energy Efficiency Fund
Heating Controls				Works Complete	
Total	120,000	24	8		
Wicklow Civil Defence (Greystones)					
Air-to-water heat pump, replacng gas boiler	10,000	5	7	Works Complete	50% SEAI Pathfinder 50% WCC Energy Efficiency Fund
Solar Photovoltaics (10kWp)				Works Complete	
Insulated hot water cylinder				Works Complete	
Total	10,000	5	7		
Wicklow Town Fire Station					
Air-to-water heat pump, replacing electric storage heating	10,000	3	8	Works Complete	Wicklow Fire Service
Window & External Door Upgrade				Works Complete	
Insulation Upgrades				Works Complete	
Total	10,000	3	8		
Blessington Fire Station					
Air-to-water heat pump, replacing gas boiler	24,657	5	13.5	Works Complete	50% SEAI Pathfinder 50% WCC Energy Efficiency Fund
Solar Photovoltaics (10kWp)				Works Complete	
Insulated hot water cylinder				Works Complete	
Upgrade Lighting to LED				Works Complete	
Insulation Upgrades				Works Complete	
Total	24,657	5	13.5		
Arklow Recycling Centre					
Solar PV Project 20kW	20,000	3	4	Works Complete	WCC Climate Action Fund
Total	20,000	3	4		
Arklow Municipal District Depot					
Solar PV Project 20kW	20,000	3	4	Works Complete	WCC Climate Action Fund
Total	20,000	3	4		

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Finance, Water & Information Systems

Finance

Revenue Account

DRAFT REVENUE ACCOUNT								
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION AT 31st DECEMBER 2024								
	EXPENDITURE			INCOME			NET	NET
	Actual Expenditure	Adopted Full Year Budget	% Budget Spent to Date	Actual Income	Adopted Full Year Budget	% Budget Spent to Date	Actual Expenditure / (Income)	Actual Expenditure / (Income)
	€	€	%	€	€	%	€	€
Housing and Building	50,465,667	53,458,479	94%	(53,885,762)	(57,560,824)	94%	(3,420,095)	682,250
Road Transport & Safety	27,424,398	25,608,536	107%	(20,101,000)	(18,366,119)	109%	7,323,398	80,981
Water Services	4,647,171	4,809,015	97%	(5,662,538)	(5,729,978)	99%	(1,015,367)	(94,404)
Development Management	27,745,875	15,877,727	175%	(21,961,755)	(10,024,717)	219%	5,784,119	(68,891)
Environmental Services	16,237,040	15,632,861	104%	(4,622,669)	(4,087,049)	113%	11,614,371	68,559
Recreation and Amenity	9,446,439	9,440,065	100%	(1,118,951)	(1,079,718)	104%	8,327,488	(32,859)
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	2,152,201	2,283,534	94%	(926,555)	(1,104,228)	84%	1,225,646	46,340
Miscellaneous Services	10,131,539	9,997,953	101%	(14,187,173)	(13,219,706)	107%	(4,055,633)	(833,880)
Central Management Charges	23,303,827	22,890,755	102%	(1,122,193)	(1,050,000)	107%	22,181,634	340,879
Local Government Fund				(16,880,701)	(16,880,701)	100%	(16,880,701)	0
Commercial Rates				(31,366,789)	(31,045,885)	101%	(31,366,789)	(320,904)
	171,554,157	159,998,925	107%	(171,836,087)	(160,148,925)	107%	(281,930)	(131,930)

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 December 2024 to 31st December 2024.

Capital Account

CAPITAL ACCOUNT					
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION AT 31st DECEMBER 2024					
	Opening Balance at 01/01/2024	Actual Expenditure	Actual Income	Transfers to/from Reserves	Closing Balance at 31/12/2024
	€	€	€	€	€
Housing and Building	13,566,712	52,649,828	(45,570,482)	(642,459)	20,003,599
Road Transport & Safety	(41,551,755)	18,192,764	(14,361,161)	(299,209)	(38,019,361)
Water Services	(6,530,052)	1,726,303	(2,649,807)	(22,500)	(7,476,056)
Development Management	(32,037,828)	16,234,691	(41,156,865)	(370,250)	(57,330,252)
Environmental Services	(936,699)	12,047,607	(6,028,498)	(585,000)	4,497,410
Recreation and Amenity	(2,144,873)	6,777,161	(2,777,438)	(377,791)	1,477,059
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	(2,046,613)	366,218	76,397	(343,817)	(1,947,815)
Miscellaneous Services	(10,410,645)	769,784	(917,945)	1,446,895	(9,111,911)
	(82,091,754)	108,764,355	(113,385,799)	(1,194,130)	(87,907,327)

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Commercial Rates, Rents and Loan Collections

SUMMARY OF MAJOR COLLECTIONS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2024										
Income Collection Area	Opening Balance 01/01/2024	Accrued	Vacancy Property Adjustments	Write Offs	Waivers	Total for Collection	Collected	Closing Arrears 30/12/2024	Specific Doubtful Arrears	% Collection
Rates	3,457,366	31,923,285	(170,649)	(843,702)	(145,375)	34,220,925	(30,291,590)	3,929,335	522,801	90%
Rents & Annuities	3,434,905	17,998,276	0	(92,763)	0	21,340,418	(18,028,206)	3,312,213	0	84%
Housing Loans	276,649	2,465,860	0	0	0	2,742,509	(2,710,580)	31,929	0	99%

NB: The 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 2024

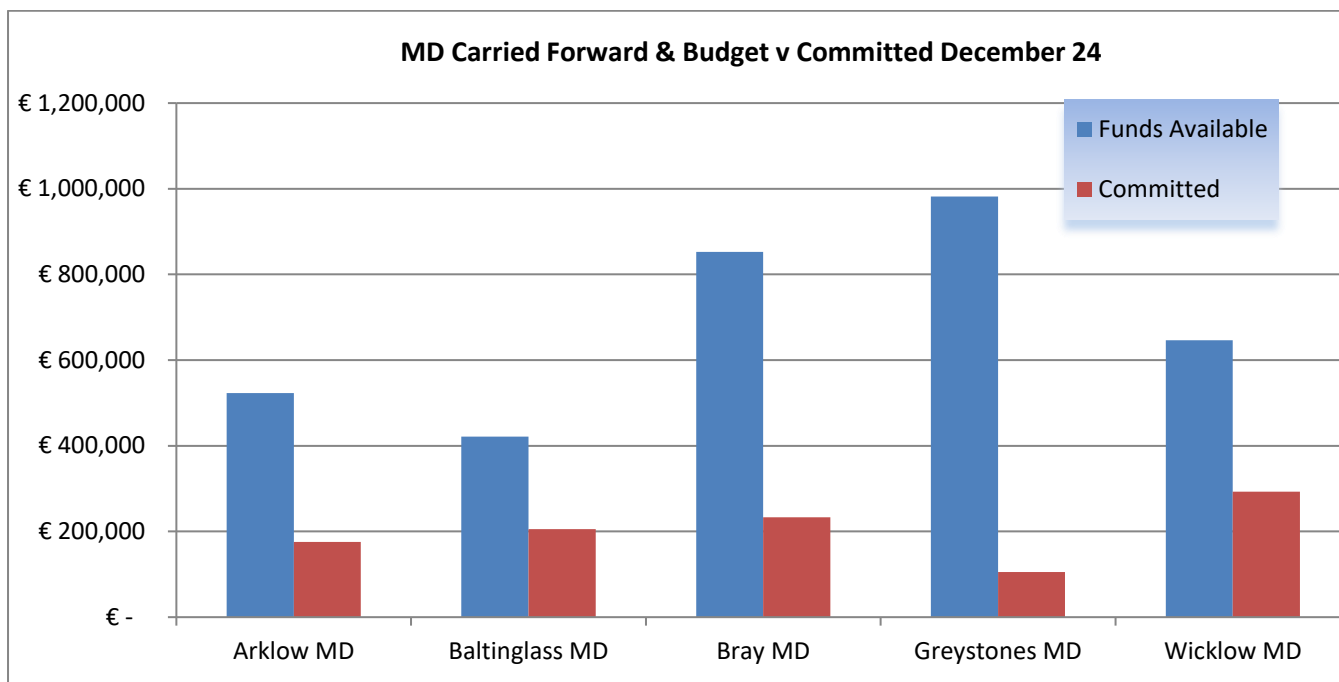
The decision taken by Members at the LPT meeting on October 9th 2023 to maintain the LPT basic rate increase at 6% generated circa €1.2m which was ring-fenced for discretionary funding within the 5 Municipal Districts to implement important public realm projects. The total Municipal District's General Municipal Allocation funding for 2024 is set out below:

Description	Arklow	Baltinglass	Bray	Greystones	Wicklow	Total
Town Twinning	6,000	6,000	10,000	6,000	6,000	34,000
Economic Development and Promotion	28,000	10,000	9,500	10,000	9,000	66,500
Festivals / Other	25,000	20,000	52,000	20,000	25,000	142,000
Civic Receptions	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	10,000
Discretionary Funding	223,028	223,028	367,370	223,028	223,028	1,259,482
Total	284,028	261,028	440,870	261,028	265,028	1,511,982

Municipal District carried forward allocation and budget '24 and expenditure for 2024 is as follows:

Municipal District	C/F from 2023	Adopted Budget 2024	Funds available to MD	Committed	Balance to Expend
	€	€	€	€	€
Arklow MD	238,944	284,028	522,972	157,174	365,798
Baltinglass MD	160,175	261,028	421,203	155,541	265,662
Bray MD	411,666	440,870	852,536	393,848	458,688
Greystones MD	720,591	261,028	981,619	95,091	886,528
Wicklow MD	381,436	265,028	646,464	276,146	370,318
Total	1,912,812	1,511,982	3,424,794	1,077,800	2,346,994

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Capital Investment Programme 2024-2026

The Capital Investment Programme 2024-2026 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 April 8th 2024. The table below outlines the proposed capital expenditure by programme group.

PROGRAMME GROUP	Expected Outlay				Proposed Funding				
	2024	2025	2026	TOTAL	Dev Charges ¹	Loan	Grant Aid ²	Other ³	TOTAL
	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€
HOUSING AND BUILDING	107,375,000	130,150,000	136,500,000	374,025,000	-	30,000,000	333,083,500	10,941,500	374,025,000
ROAD TRANSPORT & SAFETY	20,331,000	45,830,000	58,400,000	124,561,000	31,001,000	7,000,000	69,360,000	17,200,000	124,561,000
WATER SERVICES	100,000	100,000	100,000	300,000	-	-	300,000	-	300,000
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT	8,271,000	4,849,507	8,435,000	21,555,507	2,172,376	-	15,623,131	3,760,000	21,555,507
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	4,990,000	25,370,000	23,997,000	54,357,000	-	-	47,867,000	6,490,000	54,357,000
RECREATION AND AMENITY	8,467,791	9,595,000	18,017,000	36,079,791	12,773,291	-	21,806,500	1,500,000	36,079,791
AGRICULTURAL, EDUCATION, HEALTH & WELFARE	4,000,000	12,210,000	20,400,000	36,610,000	3,127,500	-	30,507,500	2,975,000	36,610,000
MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES	700,000	500,000	500,000	1,700,000	-	-	-	1,700,000	1,700,000
OVERALL TOTAL	154,234,791	228,604,507	266,349,000	649,188,298	49,074,167	37,000,000	518,547,631	44,566,500	649,188,298

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Capital Funded Projects

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

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

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Information Systems

Operations

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

GIS & Systems Analysis

- **Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT)**
Implemented amendments to zoning data within the RZLT viewer to reflect updated planning information. Collaborated with the Forward Planning team to provide technical assistance, ensuring accurate representation of zoning changes and compliance with regulations.
- **Landownership Check for Corporate Services**
Conducted detailed landownership verifications using the Land Direct platform.
- **National Social Housing Data Map Viewer**
Assisted the Housing Department with the preparation and submission of their data return. Provided guidance and technical support in navigating and utilising the National Social Housing Data Map Viewer to ensure data accuracy and completeness.
- **Nutrient Management Plan**
Processed multiple applications related to the Nutrient Management Plan. Verified data integrity, prepared the necessary information, and uploaded it to the GIS application for inspection purposes. This ensured compliance with inspection requirements and facilitated field-based assessments.

Infrastructure

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