

Chief Executive's Report – March 2026



Comhairle Contae Chill Mhantáin Wicklow County Council



W I C K L O W

ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES

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This month:

Tidy Towns, Estates, and Schools applauded at the Sustainable Development Awards Ceremony

Wicklow County Council held its annual Sustainable Development Awards, Tidy Main Streets & Tidy Estates Awards ceremony, on Saturday, 7th March in The Brockagh Centre, Laragh. Tidy Towns groups, Residents' Associations, schools, local & farming champions, and businesses were recognised and thanked for their pro-active role in the restoration of our biodiverse environment and building more sustainable and resilient communities in Co Wicklow. The quality of the work completed and the exceptional levels of volunteering were evident, with 72 awards handed out to schools, groups, businesses and individuals throughout Wicklow.

Wicklow's Sustainable Development Awards focuses on various themes such as Biodiversity, Climate Action, Waste Reduction, Built Heritage, Water Protection and Energy. In addition, three categories specifically recognised the outstanding work undertaken by Wicklow's primary and secondary schools.

The award for Biodiversity, Wildlife & Natural Amenities went to ReWild Wicklow for their deep understanding and appreciation of Biodiversity demonstrated through their restoration work on upland woodland areas using native trees grown from local seed. Roundwood Tidy Towns won the Built Environment category for their commemorative events at Derralossary Graveyard, while the Five Loaves Bookshop in Bray, nominated by Bray Tidy Towns, received the Business Award.

Greystones Tidy Towns won the Climate Action Award for their ongoing excellent work in this category, includes initiatives like 'solar meitheals' and tree planting. A new participant, Jack's Mill Forest Garden, was awarded the Communal Gardening Award for their well-planned community garden. Thanks to the Community Climate Action Fund, there were excellent entries in the Energy Award category, with the prize awarded to Donard Community Enterprises for their thoughtful energy upgrade to their community hall, which provided numerous benefits to the locality.

Bray Golf Club won the Sustainable Tourism Award having been nominated by Bray Tidy Towns for their efforts to protect and enhance biodiversity on their grounds. Meanwhile, Hollywood Tidy Towns secured the Trees Award with their ongoing, well-planned tree planting schemes. Staying westside, Blessington Tidy Towns continues their outstanding projects and initiatives and secured the Waste Minimization Award. Glenwood Residents Association (Swan River Group) won the Water Protection Award for their work restoring river habitat and improving and enhancing this Bray tributary in a sensitive manner.

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Social Development

Housing

	February 2026	February 2025
No. availing of Rental Assistance Scheme (RAS)	83	95
No. availing of Housing Assistance Payment	1316	1358
No. in Long Term Leasing Accommodation	19	20
No. in Short Term Leasing Accommodation	18	21

Allocation of Social Housing

	February 2026	February 2025
Wicklow County Council	6	7
Approved Housing Bodies	12	4

Social Housing Applications

	February 2026	February 2025
New applications	76	75
Awaiting further information/EHO report	125	143

Social Housing Stock

	February 2026	February 2025
Tenancies Occupied	5160	5043
Total Weekly Rent Accrual	€356,050.64	€340,081.97
Arrears	€2,639,202.22	€3,066,687.00

Rent

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

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Social Housing Supports List

The number of households that are seeking social housing supports is 2,078. This number is constantly changing as there is a number of applications awaiting processing, see number of applications on hand below -

Social Housing Support Applications on hand @ 19th March 2026

CUSTOMER CARE: NEW APPLICATIONS	4
CUSTOMER CARE: AWAITING INFORMATION	3
CUSTOMER CARE: AWAITING PROCESSING	41
HOUSING: AWAITING TO BE LOGGED & THEN PROCESSED	88
HOUSING: AWAITING FURTHER INFORMATION	111
HOUSING: AWAITING EHO	24
TOTAL:	271

Social Housing Support – Allocations made in 2025 Data

Local Authority Name:	Wicklow County Council
Total Allocations from Waiting List	248
Total Allocations from HAP	119
Total Allocations from all other transfer lists	31
TOTAL (includes AHBs)	398

Reasons for Refusals 2025	1st
Applicant no longer interested in area of choice	32
Applicant indicated they are already in suitable accommodation	1
Applicant refused offer of accommodation which they deemed unsuitable to their needs	12
Offer made in low demand estate	10
Offer refused because a flat was offered rather than a house	5
Offer refused because of location of house in estate	21
Offer refused because applicant already residing in private rented accommodation with State support	4
Other	
TOTAL	85

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).

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- people with a disability, with particular emphasis on moving people with disabilities from congregated settings into community-based living.

Assessment criteria

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

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

February 2026, Wicklow County Council continues to work in partnership Oaklee, KARE, St John of God & Sunbeam to deliver properties under the disability category of social housing need. Wicklow LA also continues to work with Sunbeam House Services, National Association of Housing for Visually Impaired to bring active projects to completion.

Areas of delivery below:

CAS Acquisitions 2025	No. of Units	Delivery Schedule	Scheme
Rathnew	1	Delivery Q1 2026	CAS
Arklow	1	Delivery Q1 2026	CAS

2016 Tenant (Incremental) Purchase Scheme

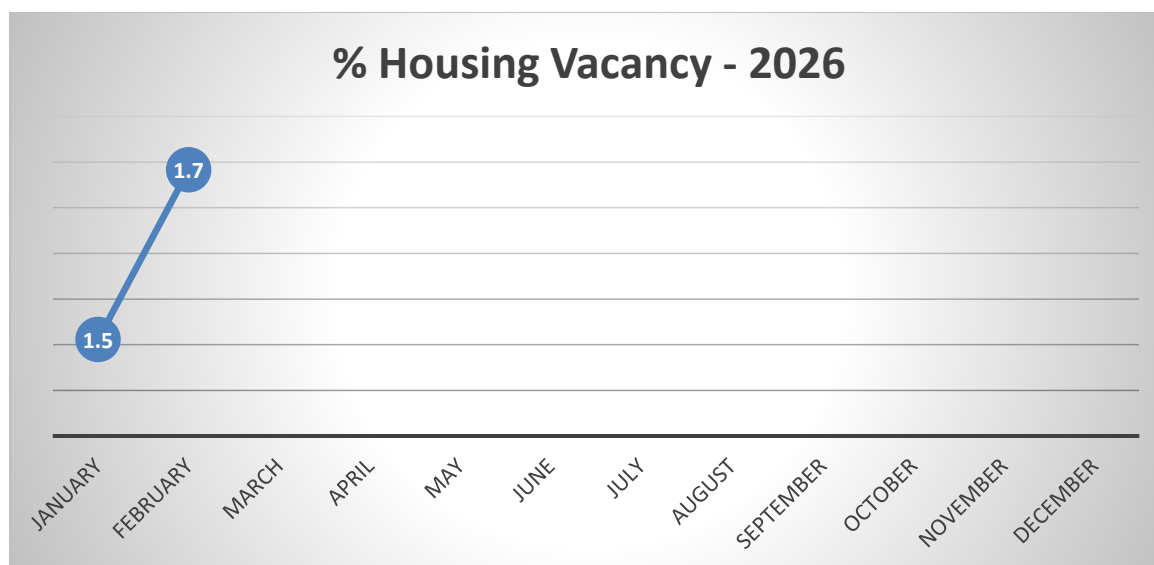
	To Date	February 2026
Applications Received	488	6
Completed	124	3
Declined	280	0
Ongoing	15	15

Voids / Re-Letting Programme

MD	Not Started	In Progress	Completed but not yet tenanted	TOTAL Vacant	TOTAL Completed in 2026
Arklow	4 (0)	5 (0)	3 (0)	12 (0)	2 (0)
Baltinglass	7 (0)	7 (0)	9 (+4)	23(+4)	3 (+3)
Bray	7 (0)	4 (0)	1 (0)	12 (0)	4 (0)
Greystones	6 (+1)	3 (0)	4 (0)	13 (0)	1 (0)
Wicklow	9 (+3)	14 (+2)	8 (0)	31 (+5)	3 (0)
2026 Totals	33 (0)	30 (0)	25 (0)	91 (0)	10 (0)
2025 Totals					142
Total Vacancy as % of Total Stock	Figures in brackets indicate change on previous month			1.7 (+0.2)	

As part of the Voids Funding Programme, the Council can recoup a maximum of €11,000 per house from the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) on a once off basis. The cost of refurbishing and re-letting social housing stock in Wicklow is currently averaging €45,866 per property.

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

Traveller Accommodation (TAU)

Scheme	Current Status
Barndarrig Group Housing scheme: 3 group housing units and 17 social houses	This three-unit group housing scheme forms part of the Housing Capital Works Project at Barndarrig. The Part 8 planning application for this project was approved in October 2025. Detailed design is ongoing.
Vale Road, Arklow	This is a two-unit group housing scheme. The Part 8 planning process is complete. TAU funding approved and design team appointed
Ballintесkin – 2 extensions	The tender for the construction contract is substantially complete, and we are awaiting approval from the TAU regarding updated costs.

Infill Sites/Age Friendly & Disability Schemes

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

Energy Retrofit Program

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

The driver of this programme is the improvement to energy efficiency of local authority properties (BER – B2 or better), energy cost savings and sustainability. The move from solid fuel to more sustainable, energy efficient and cost-effective

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heating systems contributes to the climate change agenda and dramatically improves the comfort levels of tenants in these properties.

EERP	Numbers carried out as of March 2026
Houses complete	0



Energy Retrofit works completed at Seamount Drive Kilcoole 2025.

Regeneration Projects/ Special Projects

Hillview, Wicklow Town

Wicklow County Council have initiated meetings with the DHLGH regarding the inclusion of Hillview Estate, Wicklow Town in the Housing Regeneration Programme. Hillview Estate, Wicklow Town has been identified as a location that would benefit from a housing regeneration project, due to the complexity of issues both structural and social. It is proposed to develop this project in 2026 and apply for funding when the DHLGH Regeneration Programme is open.

Farrankelly Close, Greystones

Stock condition surveys (+Adjust) have been completed at Farrankelly Close. Phase 1 of the works to install new windows and doors to 11 properties has been delivered with associated improvements to insulation and ventilation completed by the Greystones MD team. Tendering is ongoing for Phase 2 of this works programme to include for the delivery of windows and doors for the remaining properties. It is expected that the contract will be awarded in Q2 2026 and the windows installed in Q3/Q4 2026.

Fitzwilliam Apartment Complex, Wicklow Town

Fire remedial works have been substantially completed, and discussions are ongoing with the service provider to return this facility to full use.

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

Grant	Home Adaptations
Disabled Persons Grant (DPG) completed February 2026	5
Housing Adaptation Grant complete February 2026 (HAG/MAG/HOP)	102

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

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Private Rented Accommodation Regulation & Enforcement

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

Private Rented Inspections	Numbers carried out 2026 to date:
Targeted and complaint inspections	103

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

Notice Type	Notices currently active:
Improvement Notice	
Prohibition Notice	1

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

Stock Condition Surveys (SCS)

Wicklow County Council completed 371 stock condition surveys on local authority properties to date. This formed the basis of drawdown of planned maintenance funding from the DGLGH in terms of surveys, electrical inspections, electrical upgrade works, heating upgrade works and replacement of windows and doors.

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 104 households in the County availing of this scheme.

Wicklow County Council (MTR)Tenants	Approved Housing Body (MTR) Tenants	In Progress
54	50	9

Local Authority Home Loans up to 28 February 2026

Received	Approved in Principle
3	0

Local Authority Home Loans up to December 2025

Received	Approved in Principle
42	11

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Homeless Services

Homeless Figures for March 2026

Addressing Homelessness			
	As at 28/02/2026	Year To Date	As at 28/02/2025
No of New Presentations	68	86	36
No. of Repeat Presentations	18	26	9
No. of Families (Minimum 1 Adult + One Child)	21	31	15
No. of Individuals (Single Adult, no children)	72	92	49
No. Of Couples (2 Adults, no children)	8	12	3
No. of Children	38	54	34
NTQ/Asked to Leave/Landlord selling	16	24	7
Family Circumstances	26	35	8
Leaving Prison/Hospital Care	7	8	0
Mental Health	0	0	0
Risk of Homelessness	46	65	34
Arrears/Loss of Income	0	0	0
Addiction Issues	2	4	2
DV/DA	2	3	1
Medical Issues	2	3	1
Overcrowding	2	2	3
Unsuitable/Voluntarily Left	2	3	1
ASB:	0	0	0
Rough Sleeping*	6	6	2
Sofa Surfing*	4	7	5
Staying with Family*	7	7	9
Staying with Friends*	5	6	5

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

Own Door Temporary Accommodation at 28/02/26	
Families	18
Adults	39
Children	46
Single individual	12

Bed & Breakfast Accommodation - No. of Homeless Emergency Accommodation Placements & Duration @ 28/02/2025								
	No. of Households	No. of Adults	No. of Children	< 3 mths	3-6 mths	6-9 mths	9-12 mths	>12mths
Household breakdown	27	29	24	9	4	9	0	7
Bed & Breakfast Accommodation - No. of Homeless Emergency Accommodation Placements & Duration @ 28/02/2026								
	No. of Households	No. of Adults	No. of Children	< 3 mths	3-6 mths	6-9 mths	9-12 mths	>12mths
Household breakdown	24	27	20	6	6	1	4	7

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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, 690 households (483 families & 207 singles) have been assisted under the Homeless HAP Scheme in Wicklow County Council from the inception on 1st October 2018 to 28th February 2026. (267 homeless cases, 376 prevention cases to date and 48 direct provision). 175 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.

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.

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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 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.

Community

Community Awards Scheme (CAS) 2026

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

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

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

Please note only **one** application per organisation was considered.

Applications for the 2026 scheme opened on 16th February 2026 and closed on 13th March 2026.

The Community Section have received a large volume of applications, which are now being processed for assessment.

Local Enhancement Programme (LEP) 2026

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

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

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

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

Applications are now closed (223 applications received and currently being validated.)

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IPB Pride of Place Competition 2026

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

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

Pride of Place recognises and rewards communities who are making a real difference—big or small—to enhance everyday life where they live. Whether it's improving local spaces, fostering inclusion, protecting biodiversity, or championing creativity, this competition honours the dedication that fuels community pride.

2026 Competition Categories

There are 13 categories this year, offering a place for every type of community initiative:

1. Population 0 - 300
2. Population 300 - 1000
3. Population 1000 - 2000
4. Population 2000 – 5000
5. Population over 5000
6. Creative Communities
7. Climate Action and Biodiversity
8. Community Youth Initiative
9. Inclusive Communities
10. Community Wellbeing Initiative
11. Community Tourism Initiative
12. Age Friendly Communities
13. Urban Neighbourhoods and Housing Estates

Based on the expressions of interest received, Wicklow County Council will shortlist and nominate groups to represent the county in Pride of Place 2026.

Application forms and guidelines are available from Wicklow County Council's website <https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Community>

Applications can be emailed to prideofplace@wicklowcoco.ie by the deadline: **4:00pm Friday 24th April 2026**

Please note that we are unable to accept applications submitted after the closing date.



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County Wicklow Age Friendly Programme

Wicklow Age Friendly Strategy: Review of 2025 work & plans for 2026, meeting with key stakeholders, in-person preferably, over early 2026, to review actions completed in 2025, ongoing and planned for 2026.

Age Friendly Alliance: Preparations underway for meeting taking place 10th March. New/previous members have been invited to attend, such as CEART Wicklow Primary Health Care , Bray Travellers Project and Wicklow Library Service.

OPC Executive Committee:

Meetings Held 2026	Future Meetings
23 rd January 2026	20 th March
1	1

Walkability Audit in the GAA grounds in Aughrim, Echelon Park took place Friday 6th March. Echelon Park are one of 4 successful GAA stadiums around Ireland to pilot a project through Age Friendly Ireland. The aim of this project is the continued implementation of age friendly practices through the GAA's network of club and county structures and to further develop its stadia to achieve age friendly recognition. 15 individuals met on the day to survey the Park and meet after the walk to discuss their findings.



- Ongoing meetings with AF Regional Manager & AF Wicklow team

Care & Repair, County Wicklow Partnership: ongoing linking in with the Healthy Age Friendly Homes Coordinator, Age Friendly Ireland & CWP to keep updated.

Over 55's Climate course: The Age Friendly Programme Manager along with the Climate Action Officer Wicklow County Council are organising a Climate Action Programme which will be run by Jacinta Barrins. This six-week programme started 23rd February in Bray.

Age Friendly Technical, Seán Keane:

Age Friendly Housing Delivery	On Site	Design Stage	Part V/ Turnkey 2026	Completed 2025
*Numbers Design Stage Subject to Change, numbers include Disability Units UD+	26	58	12	17

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Comhairle na nÓg

- 16th February Youth Council meeting to progress survey and to continue their plans to link in with the Older People's Council Executive Committee around the theme of intergenerational transport. Seven young people from five schools around the county attended. The group will meet the OPC EC over easter.
- The group are also twinning with a diverse group in Dublin California, an area that comprises of 55% Asian American and 13% white American. This is an area that has had school walk outs to protest ICE actions. Young people are seeing their friends impacted and are aware of the importance of mental health at these times. -1 Good Thing Dublin is a planned joint project. The groups will meet online in March



Access Officer: Disability & Inclusion

- **Disability & Inclusion Steering Committee (DISC)** meeting was 10th February 2026 online. Date for March meeting TBC.
- **Website Accessibility:** Funding agreed for *Inventise* to make necessary adjustments required for current Wicklow.ie website to ensure it is as accessible as possible. New website is being planned, which DISC will have an active part in development of to ensure maximum accessibility from the start.
- **Universal Design Training** be rolled out 4th March to 20 staff members in County Buildings.
- **Access Officer queries:** dealing with ongoing queries for support and/or information, linking in with WCC staff including Laura O'Callaghan and externally, as appropriate.
- **The Sunflower Lanyard** aims to support people with hidden disabilities. In February, 90 lanyard & card packs were distributed, as well as 100 wristbands (50 adult & 50 children), 50 children-sized lanyards, a starter pack box & 4 large posters to Triple A Alliance group.
- Planning meetings for **Walkability Audit** to take place in conjunction with KARE in Tinahely, with date set for 30th April for the event.
- **Communication Boards:** Replacement of vandalised sign in Meadowvale, Arklow now in place. Work in ongoing to get rest of planned signs in place for every playground in the county.



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Sláintecare Healthy Communities

1. Children's Wellness Hub

Work on the evaluation of the Children's Wellness Hub is progressing well. The final draft of the evaluation report from Mary Immaculate College is expected by the end of March. Once received, this will provide a valuable overview of the impact of the Hub and will help inform future development of services and programmes within the Bray Sláintecare Healthy Communities area. Additional supporting information and programme updates will also be included as part of this process.

2. Bray Traveller Project

The Bray Traveller project continues to progress positively and is currently meeting all of its key performance indicators. As part of the next phase of the programme, two groups of participants 6 male and 4 female, will be commencing higher education opportunities. This represents an important step in supporting educational progression and capacity building within the Traveller community and reflects the strong engagement and commitment of participants involved in the programme.

3. Period Poverty Initiative

An Expression of Interest has been submitted to the Department of Health to secure ongoing funding for the Sláintecare Healthy Communities Period Poverty initiative. This funding will support the continued delivery and expansion of the project by providing free menstrual products through community organisations and services working with vulnerable individuals and families. This approach aims to ensure sustained access to essential health supports. The funding will also enable the delivery of targeted menstrual health education workshops within disadvantaged communities, supporting awareness, dignity, and long-term wellbeing outcomes.

4. Food Poverty Research Project

This year, as part of the Sláintecare Healthy Communities programme, a community food and nutrition research project will be undertaken in the Bray area. The purpose of the project is to build community-informed evidence that can inform the future development of local interventions, planning, and policy responses.

The research will involve a community survey followed by focus groups exploring several key areas including how residents interact with their local food environment, such as access, affordability, and availability of food. It will also examine the prevalence of food poverty and food insecurity within the context of the current cost-of-living pressures, as well as broader nutrition and eating habits within the community.

To support the research process, a Research Steering Group is being established. The group will help ensure that the research is conducted in a high-quality, ethical, inclusive, and community-informed manner, while also supporting the relevance and impact of the findings. The group will meet approximately three times over the course of the project, which will run from March 2026 to March 2027.

The first meeting of the Research Steering Group will take in March.



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Healthy Wicklow

Active Communities

Healthy Wicklow has funded and provided a Health & Wellbeing Board for Carnew Emmets GAA Clubhouse.

The aim of the boards is to raise awareness of the mental health and wellbeing supports available to everyone within County Wicklow.

- Provide contact details for the 24/7 national crisis helplines on the boards
- Provide information of the two Wicklow HSE Districts, 'Numbers When You Need Them' support services.
- Promote awareness of the 'Five Ways to Wellbeing', which are evidence-based actions that we can be included into our everyday lives to improve wellbeing.

The infographic is titled "HEALTH & WELLBEING SUPPORTS #supportsinwicklow" and features the GAA logo and "GAA WE ARE COMMUNITY". It lists "THE FIVE WAYS TO WELLBEING" as simple actions: CONNECT, BE ACTIVE, TAKE NOTICE, KEEP LEARNING, and GIVE. It also provides contact information for several support services: Childline (1800 666 666), Samaritans (116 123), Te9nLine (1800 833 634), Women's Aid (1800 341 900), and the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre (1800 77 88 88). Emergency services are listed as 112 or 999. The infographic also includes a QR code and the address "The Enclave for this location is: Y14 W894".

Woodlands for Health

A new 10-week Woodlands for Health Programme will commence every Monday from The Recovery Village on the 23rd of March. Woodlands for Health is an accessible and sustainable way to engage with nature, as part of a toolkit for supporting mental health and well-being.



Wicklow Local Community Safety Partnership

The Policing, Security and Community Safety Act 2024 came into effect on April 2nd, 2025, mandating all Local Authorities to establish Local Community Safety Partnerships. Under the Act, Local Community Safety Partnerships (LCSP) have replaced the Joint Policing Committees in each Local Authority area.

Membership of the LCSP consists of representatives from state agencies, (HSE, TUSLA, An Garda Síochána), local authority members, and community representatives. The members of Wicklow's Local Community Safety Partnership

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were officially appointed by the Minister of Justice on 1st December 2025 and the first meeting of the LCSP was held on the 4th of Dec 2025.

At the first meeting the members elected the Chair and Vice Chair by secret ballot. Cllr Tom Fortune was elected Chair and Selena McKenzie (IFA) was elected Vice Chair.

Two meetings have been held so far in 2026. The full partnership will meet bimonthly, and the steering group will meet monthly.

At the recent meeting of the full partnership on 16th Feb, it was agreed that three working groups be established as follows:

- Domestic Violence
- Roads and Road Safety
- Antisocial behaviour

Public Consultations for the Wicklow Local Community Safety Plan will take place from April/May 2026 onwards.

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



Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP):

SICAP Annual Plans 2026: Both Local Development Companies presented their Annual Plans for the upcoming year at recent LCDC meeting followed by Q&A. The Plans were very well received by LCDC members, and the companies were commended on the broad range and comprehensiveness of the work planned. Approval of both 2026 Annual Plans as recommended by the SICAP Sub-group was proposed and seconded by the LCDC.

SICAP End of Year Reports 2025: Programme data and financial reports pertaining to 2025 were reviewed by the LCDC and Pobal. All found to be in order and carried out to a very high standard. Both programme implementers also over-achieved on Key Performance Indicators relating to work with community organisations and with individuals. Approval of both 2025 End of Year Reports as recommended by the SICAP Sub-group was proposed and seconded by the LCDC.



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Public Participation Network:

PPN Membership: 534 Member groups

Women of Wicklow's Social Inclusion Network International Women's Day event held on March 6th.

Voter Registration Drive initiative. Blessington event held in collaboration with WCC, KWETB and Blessington Tourist Office.

Consultations: Submissions made on- Locations for Bus Shelters in Co Wicklow and to the Community Safety partnership survey. PPN also advertised 9 national and 4 local consultations including: Greystones Family Resource Centre Survey; Proposed Variation Plan No. 6 to the Wicklow County Development Plan 2022 – 2028; Wicklow to Greystones Greenway: Non-Statutory Public Consultation - Emerging Preferred Route; Call for Sites: Land Suitable for Residential Development.

PPN Secretariat Members & Representatives: A nominations call disseminated for vacant Secretariat & Representative seats. Also, new online induction training rolled out for first-time committee members which will inform best practice for placing reps on committees in the future.

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

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Planning, Economic & Rural Development

Local Plans

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

Draft Arklow Local Planning Framework 2025 (Variation 5 to the Wicklow County Development Plan) – this is the new form of LAP

Variation 5 to the County Development Plan is the draft Arklow Local Planning Framework 2025, went on display from 01 October 2025 to 12 November 2025 with submissions invited. A public information day was held in Arklow MD Office on the 23 October 2025. 67 submissions were received. The Chief Executive's (CE) Report on submissions received and issued to the Elected Members. It is currently available to view on the Wicklow.ie website. The CE report will be considered by the Elected Members at Wicklow County Council meeting scheduled for 13 April 2026.

The draft LPF and plan process to date can be viewed here –

<https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Planning/Development-Plans-Strategies/Local-Area-Town-Settlement-Plans/Arklow/Arklow-Local-Planning-Framework-Variation-No-5-Wicklow-County-Development-Plan-2022-2028/Draft-Arklow-Local-Planning-Framework-2025-Proposed-Variation-No-5-to-the-Wicklow-County-Development-Plan-2022-2028/Draft-Arklow-Local-Planning-Framework-2025-Proposed-Variation-No-5-Wicklow-County-Development-Plan-2022-2028>

Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole Local Planning Framework (LPF) 2026 (Variation 4 to the Wicklow County Development Plan) – this is the new form of LAP

Variation 4 to the County Development Plan is the Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole Local Planning Framework 2026. The Draft LPF went on display from 09 May 2025 to 20 June 2025 with 88 submissions received. Public information days were held in Kilcoole and Greystones on the 29 May 2025 and 04 June 2025, respectively. The Chief Executive's (CE) Report on the submissions received was prepared and was issued to the Elected Members in August and following on from this the draft LPF and CE report was considered at the Council meeting on the 06 October 2025. Proposed Material Alterations to the draft LPF were proposed by the Elected Members and went on display from 24 October 2025 to 21 November 2025 with submissions invited. 86 submissions were received. A second CE report was prepared on the submissions received on the Proposed Material Alterations and the report was issued to the Elected Members for their consideration. This CE report was considered at the Council meeting of the 9 February and the Greystones – Delgany and Kilcoole LPF was adopted on the 9 February 2026, and it is in effect from 9 February. It is available online and can be viewed [here](#).

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The LPF making process and the adopted LPW is available here –

<https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Planning/Development-Plans-Strategies/Local-Area-Town-Settlement-Plans/Greystones-Delgany/Greystones-Delgany-Kilcoole-Local-Planning-Framework-Variation-No-4-to-the-County-Development-Plan-2022-2028>

Wicklow Town – Rathnew Local Area Plan 2025

The Wicklow Town – Rathnew Local Area Plan 2025 was adopted at the full Council meeting of 12 May 2025, this plan came into effect on 23 June 2025. The Minister issued a Ministerial Direction regarding the zoning of 3 sites on the 07 October 2025. The plan as altered is available to view online.

The plan making process and the adopted plan is available 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-2025-2031>

Blessington Local Area Plan 2025

The Blessington Local Area Plan 2025 was adopted at the full Council meeting of 16 June 2025, this plan came into effect on **28 July 2025**.

The plan making process and the adopted plan is available here

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

Bray Municipal District (including Enniskerry and Kilmacanogue) Local Planning Framework/ Variation

The pre-draft public consultation for this plan has been completed, and work is being carried out on preparing draft LPF, which will be done through a variation of the County Development Plan.

There is no specific date to publish Bray draft LPF.

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

National Planning Framework (NPF) Implementation: Housing Growth Requirements, Guidelines for Planning Authorities (July 2025)

New Ministerial Guidelines on *NPF Implementation: Housing Growth Requirements* were published on the 29 July 2025 on www.gov.ie with the aim of updating development plans to reflect the requirements of the Revised National Planning Framework (NPF) and achieving a significant acceleration in housing delivery. The Guidelines provide for an increased annual housing growth requirement for County Wicklow, and an 'additional provision' mechanism to support the zoning of additional lands in areas where it can be justified.

As set out in these [new NPF guidelines](#), a Chief Executive's Report was prepared on the implementation of these guidelines and issued to the members for their information. Workshops were held with the Elected Members on 25th and 27th November 2025 to discuss the CE report. Wicklow County Council have commenced a staged response to implement these Guidelines. Initially Variation no. 6 has been proposed as well as a 'Call for Sites'.

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Variation No. 6

Proposed Variation No. 6 to the Wicklow County Development Plan 2022-2028 was on display with submissions invited from 5th December, 2025 until 16th January, 2026. 119 submissions were received. A CE report was prepared on the submissions received and was issued to the Elected Members for their consideration. It is currently available to view on the Wicklow.ie website. Workshops will be arranged with the Elected Members.

More information is available here -

<https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Planning/Development-Plans-Strategies/National-Regional-County-Plans/Wicklow-County-Development-Plan-2022-2028/Variation-No-6>

Call for Sites

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

A 'Call for Sites' consultation portal was created to assist those wanting to send in a submission. Drop-in services were also held in County Buildings to provide assistance during the consultation stage. The "**Call for Sites**" consultation was open from December 2025 to 27th February 2026.

Over 200 submissions were received and are currently being reviewed.

More information is available here -

The online consultation link is <https://call-for-sites-wicklow.hub.arcgis.com/>

Wicklow County Development Plan (CDP) 2022-2028

Proposed Variation No 2

The purpose of Variation No. 2 is to ensure consistency between the Wicklow CDP 2022-2028 and the draft and final Wicklow Town – Rathnew Local Area Plan.

Variation No. 2 was made and came into effect on 12 May 2025. The Minister issued a Ministerial Direction regarding the zoning of 3 sites on the 07 October 2025. The plan as altered is available to view online.

More information is available here - <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

The purpose of the Variation is to ensure consistency between the Wicklow CDP 2022-2028 and the draft and final Blessington Local Area Plan.

Variation No. 3 was made and came into effect on 16 June 2025.

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

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Proposed Variation No 4

See the section on Draft Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole Local Planning Framework (LPF) 2025 above.

Proposed Variation No 5

See the section on Draft Arklow Local Planning Framework (LPF) 2025 above.

Proposed Variation No 6

The purpose of Variation No. 6 is to revise the Wicklow Core Strategy and associated housing targets, and a number of related housing objectives set out in the Wicklow County Development Plan 2022-2028 Written Statement to implement the new NPF Guidelines (see above). Variation No. 6 was on display from 5th December 2025 until 16th January 2026 with submissions invited. 119 submissions were received. The CE report issued to the Elected Members and is currently available to view on the Wicklow.ie website. Workshops are being arranged with the Elected Members. The CE report will be considered by the Elected Members at Wicklow County Council meeting scheduled for 30 March 2026.

Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT)

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

The final RZLT maps for lands liable in 2026 were published on 31 January 2026 and can be viewed here:

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

Submissions to Final 2026 RZLT Maps. The final map for 2026 identifies land that may be liable for the tax in 2026. Owners of such land are invited to make a request to Wicklow County Council **to change the zoning** of this land until **1 April 2026**. If certain conditions are met, a landowner may be exempt from the 2026 liability on foot of such a request. Refer to the following link for further details.

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

The annual draft RZLT maps for 2027 were published on 31 January 2026 and can be viewed here:

[Wicklow > Living > Services > Planning > Residential Zoned Land Tax > Draft Residential Zoned Land Tax 2026 > Residential Zoned Land Tax 2027 > Liable Land](#)

Submissions to Draft 2027 RZLT Maps. The draft map for 2027 identifies land that may be liable for the tax in 2027. Owners of such land – and interested third parties – are invited to make submissions by 01 April 2026 regarding the inclusion of land on this draft map.

The RZLT process has two parts:

1) **Identification and mapping of the land in scope for the tax.** This is undertaken by local authorities through the publication of annual draft and annual final maps as outlined above.

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2) **Administration of the tax.** This will be undertaken by the Revenue Commissioners. Please click the following link for further information: <https://www.revenue.ie/en/property/rzlt/index.aspx>

The following link provides some general information on the RZLT process including a short information video: <https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Planning/Residential-Zoned-Land-Tax/RZLT-General-Information>

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

Residential Zoned Land Tax — FAQ's:

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

Vacant Site Levy

The Vacant Site Levy has been replaced with the RZLT. 17 sites remain on the Vacant Site Register. Sites have been levied up to and including 2024 and no further demands will issue. Outstanding levies are currently being pursued. More information can be found online at the following link

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

Planning Applications

Total valid applications received	To 28 February 2025	To 28 February 2026
Received (Valid)	143	159

A total of 81 valid applications were received during February as follows:

Type of Development	Number
Individual Houses	08 (05 Rural)
Housing Developments*	04
Agricultural Structures	06
Commercial	04
Other Developments**	59
Total	81

Housing Developments - PRR26/60101 – 22 dwellings at The Nursery, Bollarney North, Wicklow

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

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Decisions issued in respect of 81 applications in February 2026;

Type of Development	Number of Decisions
Housing Developments	01
Individual Houses	03
Other Developments	77
Other Developments Requiring EIA	00
Total	81

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

	28 February 2025	28 February 2026
Total Number of decisions issued	129	162
Total Number of decisions to grant	109	145
% Grant Rate	84%	90%
No of applications withdrawn		9 (8 refer to rural house)

Applications Lodged with An Coimisiún Pleanála

Strategic Infrastructure Development

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

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

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

Substitute Consent

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

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E-Planning Project

The E-planning system has been in place since 17 April 2023

From the 1 January 2026 we received a total of 155 valid applications of which 120 (77.42%) were received through the Eplanning portal and 35 (22.58%) were received in hard copy.

For the month of February 2026, a total of 80 planning applications were received of which 66 (82.5%) were received online and 14 (17.5%) were hard copy applications.

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 January via the E-planning portal including:

- A number of one-off rural dwellings throughout the county
- Change of use to a number of properties throughout the county
- Extensions and alterations to existing properties throughout the county
- Several amendments to previous granted applications
- Construction of 7 x 2/3-bedroom duplexes in Roundwood
- Landscaped Remembrance Garden, incorporating the installation of above ground de fabricated columbarium walls for the storage of cremation urns, the provision of pedestrian access gate and repair of existing stone boundary wall in Ballymoat
- 406sqm soil screening storage shed for existing infill site and associate works at Castleruddery upper
- Permission to construct a grain store/machinery shed and all associated site works at Deepark
- Proposed modifications to a LRD i.e. reduction in the number of units from 179 to 172 at Bray Head House (Protected Structure)
- Construction of an agricultural shed consisting of 3 no. stables and manure store at Coolkenna

Planning Enforcement – February 2026

New Files	9
Advisory Letters	26
Warning Letters	2
Enforcement Notices	1
Legal Files	0
Closed	6

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Vacant Sites as of 28th February 2026

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

Derelict Sites as of 28th February 2026

Municipal District	No sites on Register
Baltinglass	2

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

Heritage Office

County Heritage Plan (CHP) Work Programme: Funding applications for County Heritage Plan Fund from Heritage Council prepared and submitted by 18th February 2026.

Historic Towns Initiative (HTI): Application for Heritage Led Regeneration Plan for Wicklow prepared in association with Wicklow Town Team and submitted to The Heritage Council on 18th Feb.

Wicklow Heritage Forum: Four meetings scheduled for 2026 with the next meeting taking place on 25th March in Russborough.

Built Heritage Funds (Architecture): Co-ordination of the annual Built Heritage Investment Scheme (BHIS) and Historic Structure Fund (HSF) grant schemes. BHIS 2026 allocation of €175,000 for County Wicklow confirmed for 18 projects. HSF 2026 applications assessed and forwarded to National Built Heritage Service by 6th February 2026. Await outcome.

Built Heritage Funds (Archaeology): Applications to the Community Monument Fund invited and received from the public by end of January 2026. Ten applications from County Wicklow prepared and submitted to National Monuments Service in mid-February.

Irish Community Archive Network (iCAN): Co-ordination of *Our Wicklow Heritage* (county Wicklow online community heritage archive) plus a network of 11 groups in County Wicklow in association with WCC archives and library services and in partnership with National Museum of Ireland and the Heritage Council. Next In person Wicklow group meeting to be held in Donard in April. Three Wicklow groups (Blessington, Delgany & Donard) awarded iCAN grants for equipment and activities

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

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

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Town Regeneration

1.0 Town Teams

There are eight Town Teams in County Wicklow: Arklow, Baltinglass, Blessington, Carnew, Greystones, Newtownmountkennedy, Rathdrum, and Wicklow.

2.0 Town Centre First Masterplans

2.1 Blessington Town Centre First Masterplan

Blessington, as a Pathfinder Town, was selected as the first town in Co. Wicklow to develop a Town Centre First (TCF) Masterplan. This masterplan was published in 2023. The plan identifies opportunity sites within the town core for redevelopment.

2.2 Newtownmountkennedy Town Centre First Masterplan

Newtownmountkennedy was one of 26 towns nationally selected under Phase 2 of the Town Centre First Plan initiative. The town received €30,000 in funding to support the development of its Town Centre First Plan. The final plan was successfully launched in December 2025

3.0 Town Centre First Measure 3 Suite of Support

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

a) Blessington:

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

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

b) Wicklow Town:

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

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Update: Three public consultation workshops were held in August, September, and October 2025, giving the community the opportunity to share ideas for improving the area around the Black Castle. The final plan was presented to the Elected Members of the Wicklow Municipal District and published in December 2025.

4.0 Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2023

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

- a) **Kirikee, Glenmalure** - Renovation works are planned for the Community Centre, including upgrades to the roof, windows, ceilings, and walls. Construction works are progressing. A change of scope and extension of time has been forwarded to the Department and a response is imminent.
- b) **Lacken** - The old schoolhouse will be renovated and transformed into a community centre featuring a café, community shop, and a small heritage section. Construction works are progressing and should be completed by the extended deadline of March 31st 2026.
- c) **Murrough Pump Track** – complete

5.0 Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2025

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

Main Scheme Funding

- a) Rathdrum RDA hall – grant funding of €225,000 secured which will be used to replace the electrical system to ensure compliance with current safety standards and to refurbish the existing toilet block, including the installation of a fully wheelchair-accessible facility. These works are essential to ensuring the hall remains safe, functional, and inclusive, and continues to meet the needs of Rathdrum's growing population.
Funding agreements to be put in place and tendering process to begin in March 2026

Project Development Measure

- b) Arklow St. Marys Park – grant funding of €49,500 has been awarded to engage a professional consultancy to prepare a detailed design for the regeneration of St. Mary's Park in Arklow. The project aims to create a vibrant, multi-functional public space capable of accommodating community gatherings, events, outdoor dining, and markets, thereby boosting footfall and supporting local employment along Main Street. The proposed design will enhance the park's amenities, visibility, and green infrastructure, ensuring sustainability, accessibility, and stronger integration with surrounding civic and cultural assets.
Funding agreements to be put in place and tendering process to begin in March 2026

Feedback has been sought from the Department regarding the schemes not chosen for progression.

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Health checks

Quotations were sought for Health checks for two towns: Carnew and Wicklow. A successful tenderer has been chosen by the advisory committee, and the applicants have been notified. We are currently in the standstill period and following same, we will award the contract.

Rural Regeneration Development Fund Grant Applications

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

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

Blessington RRDF (Category2)

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

Blessington Old HSE Building – We have a RRDF allocation to do a feasibility covering scoping of the site, viability, planning, and design if relevant and applicable. The current allocation does not include refurbishment of any such site under category 2 funding. We await approval from Department to proceed with feasibility study.

Any future development of HSE building/location following feasibility is likely to be a Category 1 application to RRDF requirement.

A meeting between WCC's Capital Delivery Team (CDT) the Department's RRDF Team of the took place on the 25th February 2026. The Department requested some further information on the Councils proposals for Blessington and how they align with the original RRDF Application and grant of funding. The Department were accepting of the fact that a Town Centre First (TCF) Plan had been developed in line with the Departments guidelines since the awarding of the RRDF Grant and that it had been prudent to wait until that process had been completed to progress the RRDF further during the same time period to ensure the RRDF complimented the TCF Plan. The requested further information was sent to the Department on the 9th March and a response is expected during the week commencing 16th March.

Baltinglass RRDF (Category 1)

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

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The required Quality Audit process on the design of Public Realm has been completed in late February 2026. Some minor changes to the designs are required on foot of the outcomes of the QA process. The preparation of design drawings and tender documents should take approximately 8 weeks to complete. It is envisaged to go out to tender for construction in May 2026.

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

Urban Regeneration Development Fund Grant Applications

(Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage, DHLGH)

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

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.

Meetings have been held with 4 no property owners of sites on the Main Street Arklow. All parties are to submit both short-term plans for dereliction and longer-term proposals for development and reuse of these sites. This work with these owners is ongoing. One of the sites identified has been cleaned up and is on the market. Works are to start on another site in January, we understand there has been some activity on site.

A review of other sites across Arklow, at locations previously highlighted by An Taisce, has been completed and correspondence and next steps for all these properties will be finalised shortly. Several formal notices have issued to owners of properties in Arklow. A review is also taking place of sites in Wicklow Town, with a view to addressing a number of sites that may be deemed Derelict.

Bray Harbour Improvements – URDF Wic0004 (Category B)

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

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

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Bray Sustainable Transport Bridge – URDF Wic0002 (Category B)

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

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

Tourism

1. Wicklow Gaol

Upgrade and improvement work continue at Wicklow Gaol including electrical upgrades and fire safety management. Negotiations continue with a potential new operator, with a view to opening the Gaol to visitors for Summer 2026.

2. Wicklow Naturally

Wicklow Naturally was showcased at the high profile 'For the Love of Creativity' event organised by 'Made in Wicklow' taking place during the month of February at Powerscourt. Chef Paul Smith, Chairperson of Wicklow Naturally, organised a curated tasting event, sharing the stories behind Wicklow's exceptional and diverse flavours.

Wicklow Naturally has made a funding application under the 2026 Rural Innovation Development Fund with the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine. The application is focused on bringing local foods and drinks, local agri-food and local crafts to the 'Taste of Wicklow' event scheduled for early July.

3. Meitheal Tourism Ireland

Nine Wicklow tourism businesses are attending the Meitheal Event organised by Tourism Ireland and Fáilte Ireland in Killarney. This is the largest tourism industry trade event welcoming tour operators from all over the world. A pack of various resources was sent to each local business to help promote Wicklow as a premier destination, including access to an extensive database of strong Wicklow imagery, information on the Wicklow Passport, and Wicklow Naturally and Made In Wicklow networks.

4. Destination Experience Development Plan (DEDP)

In partnership with Fáilte Ireland, work continues on the preparation of the DEDP, with the final draft document expected by end of Q1 2026. Various actions are already underway including the Glendalough Masterplan, Screen Tourism Study or Access & Movement Assessment. The DEDP Implementation team has been established and will be integral in activating this plan.

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

Economic Development

1. Abbey Grounds, Wicklow

The Abbey Grounds development continues to progress; the phased approach of the Destination Towns project ensures the introduction of new public amenities throughout the year.

2. Special Projects

Avondale Business Park: Site sales at Avondale Business Park are progressing steadily across various stages, with two disposals moving toward formal notice at an upcoming Council meeting.

Strategic Enterprise Lands: Strategic enterprise land in County Wicklow is under review to determine suitable use.

The GRID: The tendering process to appoint a new operator is nearing completion. Active progress continues on the remaining office units, which now stands at 60% occupancy. Phase two fit-out is currently underway to prepare the remaining office units for incoming licensees.

Sites on Mill Road, Greystones: Registration of the site continues to move forward following comprehensive engagement with the Property Registration Authority. The Law Agent is maintaining progress through the final procedural elements to ensure a successful resolution.

Carnew Remote Working Hub: Final design drawings have been received. Project handover has been completed and will now be progressed with the Community and Development Section.

3. Offshore Renewable Energy (ORE)

The second meeting of 2026 took place on February 25th. A highlight of the session was a presentation from the Principal Officer of the Green Tech Unit (DETE), who detailed the Powering Prosperity Offshore Industrial Strategy. Discussions also covered the Department's ongoing initiatives regarding large energy users, green energy parks, and the upcoming launch of the Green Growth Strategy later this year. The next meeting of the Network is planned for April.

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4. Skills Strategy

The Skills Taskforce has transitioned into an active delivery phase for the Wicklow Skills Strategy. Work is progressing on the rollout of priority 2026 projects, supported by the ongoing development of strategic frameworks. The next meeting of the Taskforce is planned for April.

Local Enterprise Office (LEO)

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
	2025	2026	2026
Grants Approved (number/ value) - Measure 1 - Market Explorer Grant	14 BEG / 2 Priming / 8 Feasibility / 3 (MEG) Total: 27- €546,033	33	2 (€56,060)
Gross Jobs Created	696	188	-
Net Jobs Created	50	105	-
New Job Commitments 3 Years	N/A	84	5
NB: Ability to meet demand is influenced by the amount of funding allocated to the LEO			
Metrics: Training/ Capacity Building	Historical	Targets	Year To Date
	2025	2026	2026
Total number of participants at Management Development type programmes.	117	90	59
Start Your Own Business Participant numbers (included in total training programmes)	156	90	30
Total No. of all Participants participating in training Programmes and events (all programmes except SYOB and MDP)	1139	720	53
Women in Business Network Number of Meetings	20	20	2
Metrics: Business Advice & Mentoring	Historical	Targets	Year To Date
	2025	2026	2026
Number of new clients added to database. *Criteria have been amended for this metric	580	TBC	99

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Number of One-to-One Business Advice meetings including Businesses assigned a mentor	544	270	115
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Metrics: Student Enterprise Programmes	Historical	Targets	
Academic Year	2025/26	2026/2027	Year to Date 2026/27
No. of Secondary Student Participants	1170	1170	1449

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

Lean, Green & Digital Start For Micro Projects	Historical	Targets	Year To Date
	2025	2026	2026
No. of Companies who have undertaken a Lean for Business Assessment by a Lean Expert	15	15	3
No. of Companies who have undertaken a Green for Business Assessment by a Green Expert	21	27	8
No. of Companies who have undertaken a Digital for Business Assessment by a Digital Expert	34	27	3
Number of Grow Digital Vouchers approved	5	18	2
Energy Efficiency Grant	9	18	5
RD&I Grants (inc IP) Approved	1	1	1
Microfinance Ireland	Historical	Targets	Year To Date
	2025	2026	2026
No. of Companies who have submitted an MFI loan application through the LEO	17	19	6
New Exporters	Historical	Targets	Year To Date
	2025	2026	2026
No. of Companies who have started exporting (at least €10k in first time export sales).	3	3	-

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Activities took place in February/March

- **Student Enterprise Programme – Wicklow County Final 2026**

A countywide showcase of student entrepreneurship featuring innovative business ideas across Junior, Intermediate, and Senior categories. Winners demonstrated strong creativity and commercial skills, earning the opportunity to represent Wicklow at the National Finals, following the County Final held at the Arklow Bay Hotel.

- **Local Enterprise Week 2026 – A Strong Showcase of Supports and Innovation**

Over 200 participants attended 8 events during Local Enterprise Week 2026.

A dynamic week supporting businesses through expert insights, practical workshops, and networking opportunities, with a strong focus on digital transformation and sustainability.

- **AI Works for Ireland – National Development Summit**

Explored practical applications of AI in SMEs to improve efficiency, enhance customer experience, and unlock growth opportunities. Provided real-world insights and future trends shaping the business landscape at The Foundry, Google HQ, Dublin.

- **Green Lunch & Learn**

Focused on energy efficiency and sustainable practices that deliver cost savings and environmental benefits. Introduced businesses to relevant supports and resources available through the Local Enterprise Office at the Arklow Bay Hotel, Arklow.

- **Digital Marketing Clinics**

Supported businesses in enhancing their online presence and customer engagement through structured strategies. Focused on improving digital visibility and driving growth through effective marketing techniques at Clermont House, Rathnew.

- **Future-Proofing Retail – Strategic Masterclass**

Delivered insights into evolving consumer behaviour and emerging retail trends.

Equipped businesses with strategies to remain competitive in a changing marketplace at Tulfarris Hotel, Blessington.

- **ILM Leadership & Management Programme – Manufacturing Sector**

A leadership development programme aimed at strengthening decision-making and team performance in manufacturing. Provides practical tools and frameworks to boost productivity and long-term organisational impact at Clermont House, Rathnew.

Upcoming Training in March:

- Effective Marketing for SMEs
- Bookkeeping for Small Businesses
- A Layman's Guide to Income Tax
- AI for Small Business Online
- Start Your Own Business Course

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Climate, Environment, Recreation & Amenity

HARBOURS AND PORTS

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

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

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

Works ongoing. Due for completion in March.

3) Mara Applications

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

4) Accessibility to Wicklow Harbour Swimming Areas

Works complete on new age friendly steps access to bathing area in Wicklow harbour.

5) Storm Damage, Wicklow Harbour

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

WICKLOW HARBOUR STATISTICS

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

GENERAL CARGO DATA JANUARY 2026	
General Cargo/Container	11
Gross Tonnage	25,794

SIZE OF VESSELS BREAKDOWN JANUARY 2026			
Tonnes		Number of Vessels	Gross Tonnage
Lower Limit	Upper Limit		
500	999	2	1704
1,000	1,999	0	0
2,000	2,999	8	20,907
3,000	3,999	1	3183

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2026 – CARGO BREAKDOWNS			
CATEGORY	IMPORTS	EXPORTS	TOTAL
Forestry Products	9786.69	1770.16	11556.85
Metals		7312.93	7312.93
	9789.69	9083.09	18869.78

CLIMATE & BIODIVERSITY ACTION AND ENVIRONMENT AWARENESS

Community Climate Action Programme - The second round of the Community Climate Action Programme, offering €646,000 in funding was evaluated where a total of 27 groups were recommended to receive funding out of a total of 49 applications received to the value of €2.3m. 20 groups received funding under phase 1 and are now either completed or at the delivery stage of their projects.

GROUP	DETAILS	AMOUNT	PROGRESS
Carnew Community Care CLG	Solar PV System, Heat Pump Water Heater, Insulation Works, EV Charger	€44,936.00	Completed
Ballinacor Community Projects	Solar PV array LED lighting in community centre / GAA club house	17,491.24	Completed

Greystones Disposable Cup Scheme - Over 7,500 Greystones Disposable cups and a PR campaign was launched where a number of clubs and coffee shops around Greystones are taking part in the scheme. By working together on climate action initiatives like this, it also strengthens the town's commitment to sustainability and positive environmental action. Available at:

- Buoys Café, Café Grey, K28, NY Eats (Chill'd), Rise at the Cove, Roasted Brown, Spendloves, The Happy Pear, Vicks



WCC signed up for NTA Smarter Travel Charter: A smarter travel survey completed on the 24th February where 271 respondents completed the survey out of 531 staff. A consultant is supporting the roll out of this scheme where a Smart Travel Plan with Actions will be drafted in 2026 for the County Buildings. Recommendations such as the following came from the survey:

- 76% of staff live within and are driving a car within a 3-kilometer radius of their workplace and they can be encouraged to swap out for a sustainable commute option.

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- Promote walking and cycling through periodic organised step and cycling challenges
- Make umbrellas and ponchos available for staff to borrow on wet days
- Provide fleet cars or a corporate account with car rental services for work-related travel
- Provide Access to a fleet bike for business travel
- Provide information sessions on Cycle to Work scheme and usage of the TFI Leap Card



Greystones Municipal District Community Climate Action Team AGM 12th February and Climate Action Plan Workshop 24th March. A community Climate Action Team has been elected for the Greystones Municipal District Area. This was followed by a Workshop to help develop a Community Climate Action Plan on the 24th March.



Wicklow Biodiversity Action Plan 2026 - 2031 The Biodiversity Action Plan was officially launched on the 23rd February 2026 to halt biodiversity loss and restore nature across County Wicklow. Our new Action Plan sets out practical, collaborative measures for habitat restoration, species recovery, river restoration, invasive species control, and more. Already, we’re seeing progress with native woodland regeneration, wildlife pond creation, barn owl monitoring (with record breeding numbers) and river connectivity improvements for climate resilience.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

No. of Complaints Created	154
No. of Cases Closed, Resolved or Completed	95
No of Litter Fines Issued	8
No. of Waste Management Files Opened	1
Waste Management Interviews scheduled during the month	7
No. of Warning Letters Issued	4
No of Abandoned Car Notices Issued	14
No. of Notices Issued under Section 14 of the Waste Management Act	4
No. of files prepared for Court and included in Court Lists	16

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No. of Cases in Court under the Litter Pollution Act	1
No of Cases in Court under the Waste Management Act	1
Income - Litter	€1,420
Income- Waste Management	€2,000

DOG CONTROL, DOG LICENCES AND HORSES

Dog Licences: For the month of January 2026, 615 dog licences were issued. Dog wardens have been carrying out inspections during the month and will continue to liaise with other agencies to ensure all dogs are licenced and under control, particularly during the lambing season.

Dog Shelter Sharpshill

Statistics	
In shelter at beginning of January 2026	6
Dogs found/seized	20
Surrendered	0
Reclaimed	8
Rehomed to rescue	4
Rehomed to public	3
PTS	1
Amount in shelter at end month	0

Horses: No horses were seized during February 2026 and there are no horses being held on behalf of Wicklow County Council.

POLLUTION CONTROL

Pollution Control Statistics up to end of January 2025

Pollution Response & Investigation

Pollution Response & Investigation	
7	Water pollution complaints received and investigated.
3	Water pollution complaints closed.
5	Noise pollution complaints received and investigated.
2	Noise pollution complaints closed.
7	Lakes monitored for checking compliance with environmental quality standards
2	Rivers monitored for compliance with environmental quality standards.
Water Framework Directive River Management Engagement and Investigations	
2 No. Catchment engagement activities were undertaken.	
Septic Tank Inspections - National Inspection Plan 2022-2026	
1	Inspection Plan prepared.
17	Pre-inspection visit, and letters issued to house owners connected to domestic wastewater treatment systems.
2	Radio and Newspaper advert regarding domestic wastewater treatment system inspections.
Good Agricultural Practice Inspections	
7	Inspections of farms carried out for adherence to good agricultural practice.
1	Follow up inspections of farms carried out for adherence to good agricultural practice

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11	Sewage sludge nutrient management plan applications to land reviewed.
Well Grants	
11	New Water Grant application received
4	New Well granted
8	New Pumps granted
8	Water Treatment/Disinfection Equipment Units granted
34	Inspections in advance/completion of works
Petrol Vapour Recovery	
1	Installation inspected (petrol dispenser vapour recovery)
1	Stage 1b (petrol tanker delivery vapour recovery) application assessed
1	Stage 1b (petrol tanker delivery vapour recovery) Installation Inspections.
Deco Paint Solvent Regulations	
1	Dry cleaner Installations issued with Certificate of Compliance.
1	Inspection of Dry Cleaner carried out.
2	Vehicle Refinisher (car spraying) Installations issued with Certificates of Compliance.
Licensed Effluent Discharges to Waters/Sewer	
5	Licensed wastewater discharges to waters were monitored and deemed compliant.
7	Licensed wastewater discharges to waters were monitored and deemed non-compliant and corrective action requested.
1	Misconnection survey carried out.
Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plants – Ambient Monitoring	
38	River samples were taken upstream and downstream of wastewater discharges of municipal wastewater treatment plants.
4	Lake samples were taken upstream and downstream of wastewater discharges of municipal wastewater treatment plants.
5	Coastal waters samples taken upstream and downstream of wastewater discharges of municipal wastewater treatment plants.
Planning & Development	
4	Environmental reports on referred planning applications/consultations were completed concerning agricultural development.
2	Environmental reports on referred planning applications/consultations were completed concerning commercial development.

CEMETERIES

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

Published Death Notices Data

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Total	138	94										
WCC	55	32										
Cremation	49	27										
Other	34	35										

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232	Total Published Death Notices 2026
38%	Traditional Interment in Local Authority Burial Grounds
33%	Cremation/Other non-traditional interments
30%	Other Burial Grounds

OUTDOOR RECREATION

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

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

ORIS	Project Name	Brief description	Completion/ Update
OR221WW02	Bray to Greystones - Cliff Walk Protection Scheme	The walk remains closed due to safety concerns over instability of the area, which represents a significant safety risk to the public. Cliff Walk Task Force to provide updates on potential works and costs to be allocated to ORIS project.	Extension granted by DRCD.
OR221WW01	Jubilee Loop and Avonmore Way link 2021 Scheme	Accessibility works at Samuel Hayes bridge. Damage report due to assess any damage related to recent flood.	Ongoing 2026
OR222WW03	Coolkenno Equestrian Trail	Construction of equestrian trail and access. Licence Agreement with landowners pending their planning permission process.	Ongoing 2026
OR322WW01	Roundwood Recreation Area	Bike pump track works commenced with some delays due to rainfall. Base installed and drying out for a few weeks to avoid cracks emerging, before completing works. Signage RFQ completed. Installation of signs due.	31/03/2026
OR423WW02	Bray Head Sustainable Recreation Plan	Feasibility project to deliver: AA screening, a biodiversity survey, trail design, landscape design, bike hub design. 50% Plan work completed approximately.	31/03/2026
OR123WW01	Hollywood Natural Play Area	Provision of a natural play area within Ballysize forest. Awaiting sign off to publish tender. Licence Agreement due.	30/04/2026
OR123WW06	Wicklow Uplands rebranding to Sugarloaf Way	Signage replacement along an 18km route. Signage contract awarded for 4 new trailheads will be erected at Raheen, Kilmacanogue, Great Sugarloaf, Mullinaveigue. Sign installation due.	30/04/2026
OR223WW01	Baravore Car Park, Glenmalure	Car park upgrade works and fencing completed during November 2025. Multi-disciplinary design team appointed to prepare feasibility / scoping study	30/06/2026

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OR223WW02	Three Trout's Bridge, Delgany	New bridge across Three Trout stream, linking 2 sections of the pathfinder route. Consent process to progress managed by MD office	Q4 2026
OR223WW03	Tinahely New Loop Trail	Funding for additional spur to loop walks on a 10km route to Tinahely village. Review of project specifics being undertaken.	TBC
ORIS 2024	Project Name	Brief description	Completion
OR424WW01	Disability and Outdoor Recreation	Creation of a strategy and work plan to ensure accessibility for walking, cycling and water access for the disabled community in Co Wicklow. Background specification underway to identify available/usable sites for 2 x water, 2 x bike and 2 x trail access for exploration in the study.	26/02/27
OR124WW01	Brockagh Forest and Science Discovery Area	Provision of rustic, timber exploration, science tables, magnifying glasses play equipment and seating in Brockagh Forest.	26/02/27
OR124WW02	Wicklow Harbour Sea-Trac	Installation of a Sea-Trac system in Wicklow Harbour to create independent swimming access for those with a physical disability. Preparing tender specification and search suppliers.	26/02/27
OR124WW03	Vartry Anglers Disabled Access	Disabled access to the lakeshore with 320m of new trail surfacing for wheelchair use and installation of a self-contained eco toilet and tree planting. Project under review	26/02/27
OR124WW04	Wild Swimming Infrastructure	Installation of changing screens at 4 locations where wild swimming is popular throughout Wicklow. Bike shelter installation at 3 of those locations.	26/02/27
OR224WW01	Glen Turn Cliff Walk	Complete surface upgrade and drainage work on cliff walk trail.	30/11/27
OR224WW02	Russelstown Link to Russborough House	Proposed trail linking Russelstown Wood to Russborough House & Park. Prepare tender for planning consent	30/11/27
OR324WW01	Djouce Mountain Trail construction and habitat restoration	Djouce Mountain trail construction works will significantly reduce the safety issues and habitat damage currently occurring. Project steering group established. Draft MOU and route planning and specification under discussion with NPWS.	30/11/27

WICKLOW OUTDOOR RECREATION COMMITTEE (WORC)

WORC is comprised of members from Coillte, National Parks and Wildlife Service, Wicklow County Council, County Wicklow Partnership, Wicklow Local Sports and Recreation Partnership and Wicklow Uplands Council and is an information sharing forum of parties most involved in planning, development and management of recreation in Wicklow. The Committee meets four times a year with the last meeting taking place on the 23rd March.

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WICKLOW SPORTS & RECREATION PARTNERSHIP

Training & Education

Activity	Venue	Date
Safeguarding 1	Online	5 th March 2026
Vision Sports Awareness Training	Online	5 th March 2026
Safeguarding 1	Online	11 th March 2026
Safeguarding 3	Online	19 th March 2026
Safeguarding 1	Monday	13 th April 2026
Sports First Aid	Ballywaltrim Recreational Park	18 th April 2026
Safeguarding 1	Online	28 th April 2026

General Programmes

Women in Sport Week took place from 2nd–8th March 2026. The week focused on increasing participation and highlighting the role of women and girls in sport. A range of events were delivered locally, supported by clubs, schools, community groups and activity providers across Wicklow.

A county-wide directory of events was developed to capture and promote activity taking place, helping to showcase opportunities for women and girls to get involved.

Overall, the week strengthened local engagement and supported ongoing efforts to increase female participation in sport. Here is a link to the website landing page: <https://wicklowlsp.ie/women-in-sport-week-2026-celebrating-women-girls-in-sport-across-wicklow/>

Inclusive Programmes

Inclusive pitch and putt session

Pitch and Putt Ireland delivered 3 inclusive one-hour indoor sessions at Coral Leisure Arklow to the 10 participants from the National Learning Network

One to One swimming lessons for Special Olympic athletes

Four participants from the local Special Olympics clubs started a 6-week programme one to one swimming programme on 6th March in Coral Leisure Arklow. This is funded by the HSE Strengthening Children's Disability Services Scheme.

Inclusive gym programme Sunbeam users

A 10-week inclusive gym programme started with ten Sunbeam service users in Stephen Hurley Health and Fitness on 18th March.

Inclusive Coaching Upskilling and Network Day

Wicklow Sports and Recreation Partnership are facilitating an inclusive coaching workshop for coaches and volunteers who work with inclusive teams on Saturday 28th March in Aughrim Community Centre. There are 27 participants registered to attend.

Easter Inclusive 3-day Multi Sport Camp

There is a 3-day multi-sport camp planned on 30th, 31st March and 1st April for children aged between 7 to 11 years with a disability or diagnosis. There are 8 participants signed up.

Easter Inclusive swim lessons

There is a 2-day swim camp planned for 9th and 10th April in Coral Leisure Arklow. There are 8 participants registered.

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ESF+

Group	Participants	Actions
Wicklow Traveller Network – Active Age Women	12	6-week Walking programme started. Weekly walk to increase physical activity and healthy daily habits. Try Padel and Try Lawn Bowling planned for April and May.
Crosscare Boys	14	14 Youth at risk boys have begun a weekly multisport programme using astro pitches in Shoreline. Increasing physical activity and social inclusion.
Crosscare Girls	8	8 youth at risk girls have started work on Co-Designing a programme to start in April. Creating their own inclusive activities and trying new sports to create a long-term sustainable programme.
Bray Connect Youths	12	12 youth at risk males from Bray started their journey to become fully qualified referees through training with the FAI. Part 1 of 3 has been complete, providing training, increasing employment opportunities, physical activity and social inclusion.
In Sync	18	18 youths residing in Kippure and the Avon have started a 4-week introduction to Table Tennis Programme in Blessington.
Shelton Abbey		3 male prisoners from Shelton Abbey have Co-Designed a “Shel & Back” event for Mental Health week in Shelton Abbey Prison in Arklow. It is expected about 50 men will take part in the event.
Social Inclusive Youth Football	60	60 children aged 5-14 based in West Wicklow will begin a 4-week football programme. Children from Kippure, The Avon and Blessington community will enjoy 4 1.5hr long sessions based in the Arena in the Avon playing football together.

LIBRARY SERVICE

Seachtain na Gaeilge 2026 ran in Wicklow Libraries from the 7th to the 14th March. Some highlights included a bilingual workshop by Anyone4science on ‘how to make a kite’, the children’s author Sadhbh Devlin visiting branches to share her Irish stories with the children, a special Harp Ensemble performance at Bray Library and Irish board games being made available in Wicklow Library (Scrabble, Dominoes and Trivial Pursuit). There was a very successful ‘Well known Irish phrases’ competition with the local primaries which received more than 400 entries, and a hugely popular Art competition with local schools, adjudicated by Alan Nolan, a great illustrator in his own right. Two winners were picked and patrons can now enjoy their designs as they are now printed on 2000 special edition library cards for Seachtain na Gaeilge 2026.



Photo: Local author and illustrator Alan Nolan presented the awards at Greystones Library. Congratulations to our overall winners: Amélie Evans (Primary), Lucy Finnegan (Secondary) and also to our runners-up: Max Nolan (Primary), Lily Lockhart (Secondary).

Arklow Library marked its 10th Birthday this month and celebrated with a World Book Day celebration for children and families which featured a Kids’ Disco, a Magic Show, a Puppet Show and costume prizes; a fun opportunity for children and families to celebrate reading through interactive entertainment and costume participation. The Ballyrogan Expression & Guests exhibition (Sarah Eva Manson) added a strong visual arts element to the library programme and offers support to local artists. The launch of the Junior Comic Club represents a new initiative aimed at encouraging creativity, storytelling

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and wellbeing among young people. Arklow Library's Irish language engagement continued through weekly Irish Classes with Séadna and the Ciorcal Comhrá, supporting community participation in Irish language and culture during the Seachtain na Gaeilge period.



Photo: Arklow Library staff celebrating Arklow Library's 10th Birthday on World Book Day, with cake.

Ballywaltrim Library focused on collaboration, outreach and shared programming, with a strong emphasis on strengthening relationships with local schools. A wide range of school visits, workshops and events were delivered in partnership with DEIS schools, aligning with Engineers Week and Seachtain na Gaeilge.

The children's programme included bilingual Storytimes, author visits and interactive workshops. Highlights featured a World Book Day event with a 3rd class group inspired by the Laureate na nÓg initiative, a Young Engineers workshop, and an author storytelling session with Sadhbh Devlin delivered through Irish. Community events, including a local author Storytime and seasonal arts and crafts, celebrated St Patrick's Day, Mother's Day and Easter.

Community engagement was further enhanced by a performance from Bray Cross Community Choir, showcasing multilingual songs, including in Ukrainian. Adult programming included a needle-felting workshop, supporting creative skills and lifelong learning.

Baltinglass: Following a recent Community Hub meeting hosted by Creative Places Baltinglass, work began on installing display mounts to support exhibitions and showcase local artwork. A highlight for March was the success of the Librarian's Choice display for Ireland's Reads, which sparked increased engagement and discussion among patrons around favourite books and authors.

Blessington Library: March saw improved engagement across children's programming, literacy initiatives, and health-related events in Blessington Library. There was particularly high participation in school visits under the Right to Read programme, alongside continued demand for adult learning, Irish language activities, and Healthy Ireland events. The branch continues to provide a balanced programme supporting literacy, wellbeing, and community inclusion.

Children and family activity was a key strength, with six class visits from local schools including St Mary's NS, Educate Together and Bláth na nÓige Montessori, welcoming a total of 231 children. The Children's Book Club continued as part of the Right to Read programme, while early years engagement was supported through regular Tummy Time sessions.

Bray Library continued its strong tradition of celebrating Seachtain na Gaeilge with a vibrant and engaging programme of events. A standout moment was a special performance by the Bray CCE Harp Ensemble, led by Rachel Duffy, which opened with a piece by Turlough O'Carolan. The library also welcomed Irish-language author Sadhbh Devlin, who delivered a bilingual workshop for students from St Cronan's School based on her book *An Fia sa Choill*. In addition, a special Irish-language toddler story time session was hosted by Denise O'Leary from Library HQ, further enriching the programme.

The local Chapter of Ladybirds visited the library with colleague and Ladybird leader Kiva Brady from County Buildings.

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Creative engagement continued with initiatives such as the Afterschool Comic Club. Adult and lifelong learning opportunities included an Easter-themed knitting workshop led by Pauline Duffy. The library continues its partnerships with Festina Lente, including its popular monthly Film Club

Carnew Library: A key highlight for March was the participation in the local St. Patrick's Day celebrations, with the library entering the Window Display element of the town parade. Central to the display was a beautifully crafted knitted street scene, generously donated by the Knitting Group from Carnew Community Care. The installation was complemented by additional window art, creating a vibrant showcase that contributed to the festive atmosphere in the town.

Regular weekly programming continues to be well supported. Digi-Lit sessions now take place every Thursday afternoon from 2pm to 4pm, offering opportunities for participants to develop digital skills in a relaxed and supportive environment. The library also hosts a popular LEGO Club every Friday evening from 7pm to 8pm, encouraging creativity, problem-solving, and social interaction among younger members of the community.

Enniskerry Library continues to support learning and community engagement through a range of educational and cultural initiatives. A highlight for the month is an upcoming biodiversity talk for second class students from St Mary's National School Enniskerry and St Gerard's School, focusing on toadstools, mushrooms, and biodiversity. The speaker will also visit St Patrick's National School Curtlestown, supporting outreach to more rural schools.

Spanish Conversation classes have resumed following a seasonal break, while activities linked to Seachtain na Gaeilge include workshops and themed events such as Croiséail as Gaeilge le Bríghid.

Greystones Library highlight was the publication of a video commemorating the 25th anniversary of the library's longest-running book club, recorded and edited by Librarian David Forde, with interviews conducted by staff member Treasa Houlihan. Children and family programming was particularly active with a Young Engineers STEM workshop and the launch of a new Young Adult Manga Book Club on March 7th both proving highly popular. Additional activities included a Fungi Fun workshop exploring mushrooms and their ecological role, and a seed-planting workshop for families. The library also celebrated World Book Day with a talk by author Eilish Fisher for pupils from Greystones Community College, highlighting the joys of reading and writing.

Rathdrum Library had an active March 2026, with regular Storytime, class visits, an Adult Book Club, and knitting and crocheting sessions supporting both children and adult engagement. The library marked Seachtain na Gaeilge with a Bird Bingo event for 3rd and 4th class students, alongside an art exhibition showcasing work by local schoolchildren, highlighting strong community and school partnerships.

Wicklow Town Library was the Climate Change talk on "How to Create a Greener Kitchen & Sustainability Within a Budget," which sparked plenty of discussion and interest. The library also welcomed two new groups this month: the Wicklow Creative Coop, bringing together local makers and artists, and an Adult Chess Club, launched following the success of a recent workshop. Both groups will now meet regularly, further strengthening community connections.

Overall, all the libraries remain an active and welcoming spaces, supporting creativity, learning, and community engagement through both its regular activities and participation in local events.

WICKLOW COUNTY ARCHIVES SERVICE

County Archives collections continue to be catalogued on our collections management platform Axiell Collections. Collections catalogued to date include private estate collections; Wicklow business collections; Grand Jury and Boards of Guardians. Cataloguing of county council records series is ongoing. Current private collections in progress include the Wicklow Choral Society Collection and the Moores of Grangecon.

Digitisation programme: Digitisation completed for Labourers Cottages Ledgers (1880s to the 1920s), and Rathdrum Rural District Council minutes (1899-1925), supported by the Commemorations Programme of the Department of Culture, Communications and Sport. Both collections will be uploaded to Wicklow.ie shortly. Next project county burial registers.

Special projects/Outreach activities: The Arklow Street Preachers publication is at final proof stage with Wordwell Publishers. Research continues for the Wicklow Historic Towns Atlas project. Schools programme, Wicklow Community Archives ICAN network and Genealogy Service continues.

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Conservation programme: The next items identified for conservation treatment are two Wicklow Town maps dated 1850s and two Wicklow Corporation rental rolls dated 1850 and 1860. Awaiting result of funding application from Heritage Council for the Heritage Stewardship Grant 2026.

ARTS OFFICE AND CREATIVE IRELAND

Artist Development Programme - Applications opened for the 2026 Artist One-to-One Coaching scheme. These personalised coaching sessions are designed to support personal, professional, and artistic growth by providing a safe and open environment for artists to explore their experiences, aspirations, and areas for development. Participants will collaborate with their coach to identify goals, create informed and sustainable plans, and gain the confidence to implement their strategies.

The initiative is open to artists at any career level, aiming to energise and enhance the creative resilience of those seeking positive change and growth in their artistic journeys. This scheme is open to artists and arts professionals across all art forms and genres. Applicants must be native to Co. Wicklow or residing in Co. Wicklow for the past three consecutive years.

The deadline to apply is **Tuesday 31st March 2026 at 4:00pm.**

Creative Places Baltinglass Creative Community Activation Fund: Round 2 will open in March and close 4pm on Friday, 17th April 2026

Creative Places Baltinglass and Wicklow Arts Office are delighted to announce the three projects awarded funding under Round 1 of the Community Creative Activation Fund.

Echoes from the Hills – A Neolithic Mosaic for Scoil Naomh Íosaf - Led by Liliia Kyrchenko and Mairéad Kelly at Scoil Naomh Íosaf, primary school students will create a large-scale mosaic from recycled bottle caps, inspired by Baltinglass's rich Neolithic heritage and hillforts — fostering pride, creativity and connection to place.

Our Songs – Baltinglass Hospital - Led by soprano Stephanie Behan, this participatory music project invites residents of Baltinglass Hospital to share favourite songs and memories, culminating in a special live performance celebrating music, connection and wellbeing.

Moves of Belonging – Slaney Court IPAS Centre - Led by Karen Aguiar of Go Dance for Change, this weekly hip hop and breakdance programme supports children at Slaney Court IPAS Centre, creating a joyful space for expression, belonging and community connection, ending in a celebratory sharing event.

Culture Night Wicklow 2026 – Open Call for Funding Announced in March - Culture Night 2026 will take place on Friday 18th September. Wicklow County Arts Office are actively planning the Culture Night Wicklow 2026 programme and are issuing an open call for funding towards the costs of projects / events / activities taking place in Co. Wicklow

County Wicklow Creative Ireland Team

Arklow Afterschool Comic Club pilot project has been developed following on from the great success of the Bray Afterschool Comic Club programme launched in 2021. It is a weekly inclusive after school programme for children aged 9-12 years. The aim of the project is to build self-esteem and encourage self-expression through creativity and anti-perfectionism. With an emphasis on play, the group are guided by the artist facilitator, through the process of comic-making and, in sessions with the librarian, discuss graphic novels, and play drawing games.

The launch of the 10 week programme will take place on Tuesday, 31st March in the Arklow Library.

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The final group session of the Music Residency in **Clermont** in collaboration with Music Network took place on Friday, 13th March. Sixteen participants received their certificates of accomplishment in the official ceremony that took place in Clermont, Co. Wicklow.

Awardees of the 2026 Creative Ireland Funding Schemes announced (total of €72,260 allocated). The assessment process was carried out by an independent panel consisting of six members from the Wicklow County Culture & Creativity Team.

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Transportation & Infrastructure Delivery

Transportation

Public Lighting Maintenance

Please find attached the latest update on the outstanding public faults. The total number of faults currently (23/03/2026) outstanding stands at **339 – 2.11%** of total stock of 16,099. Please note that some of these faults are dependent on ESB attendance and co-operation and we have ongoing liaison with the ESB to repair these faults, and progress has been made to repair long standing faults. A large number of faults also require civil works or infrastructure installations to undertake the repair; a number of these faults have been completed, and others are currently in progress. A total of 173 faults were attended in February, while 164 faults were reported during the month.

Status	ARKLOW MD	BALTINGLASS MD	BRAY MD	GREYSTONES MD	WICKLOW MD	Grand Total
Faults Reported – February	9	8	45	56	46	164
Faults Attended – February	26	15	57	32	43	173
No Supply			1			1
Access Issues (Attended)	1	1	12	3	4	21
Cable Fault (Attended)			3	4	1	8
Civils	2		6		8	16
Council Approval	1		1	4	2	8
ESB Notified	12	26	11	7	19	75
ESB Required	5	7	15	9	8	44
On Hold	2	4	32	7	6	51
Submitted	7	18	18	7	10	60
TMR	8	1	5	10	6	30
Tree Cutting Required	2	1	14	5	3	25
Grand Total	40	58	118	56	67	339
Percentage not working	1.23%	2.38%	3.39%	1.85%	1.71%	2.11%
No. of Lamps	3246	2435	3479	3025	3914	16099
Percentage of Total Lamps	20%	15%	22%	19%	24%	100%

Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project (PLEEP)

The retrofitting of lanterns has commenced in all MDs with c. 1,567 lanterns upgraded to date (13/03/2026).

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Transportation Statistics

	Total 2024	Total 2025	Total 2026	January 2026	February 2025
Solicitors Queries	1014	1065	176	85	91
Road closure applications	50	56	14	9	5
Road Opening licences	1254	1494	193	106	87
Abnormal Load applications	50	33	193	0	0

National Roads, Greenways and Projects

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

TII approval was received on 18/12/2025 to appoint Technical Consultants to progress the scheme through Phase 3 and 4 of the TII Project Management Guidelines. Following the mandatory stand still period the letter of acceptance was issued to the successful tenderer on 16/01/2026. The Phase 3 design work will commence shortly and could take up to two years to complete.

TII confirmed that the approval to appoint the technical consultants is subject to certain revisions. The revisions require that the following preliminary intervention measures, that are considered to provide relatively lower bus priority benefits, will not be progressed at this point in time:

- Junction 6 to Junction 7 Southbound (bus priority measures, active travel facility & junction closures including junction of N11 and Herbert Road)
- Junction 8 to Junction 9 Southbound (active travel facilities)
- Junction 9 to Junction 8 Northbound (bus priority measures)

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

N11 Junction 12 Road Safety Improvement Scheme

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

N11 Kilpedder ‘Rat-Run’ Road Safety Improvement Scheme

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

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The Phase 3 Design Report has been approved by TII on 09/02/26. A public consultation under Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) is proposed.

N11/M11 Strategic Bus Park & Ride Facilities

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

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

N81 Hollywood Cross to Tallaght Road Improvement Scheme

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

N81 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 Preferred Option was published in October 2025 on the project website www.N81whitestownandtuckmill.ie. The project team is currently progressing at Phase 3 (Design & Environmental Evaluation).

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

The construction contractor was appointed and commenced in July 2025. The current programmed completion date is in March 2026.

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, that 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 also approved funding to proceed with the design phase in accordance with TII Standards. Wicklow County Council are progressing this project at the design phase (Phase 3) to be followed by any necessary statutory approvals process (Phase 4).

N81 Baltinglass South Gateway Project

The Feasibility and Options report (Phase 2) for the proposed scheme on the southern approach to Baltinglass was approved by TII on 22nd October 2025. The tender to procure a Technical Consultant to progress the scheme through to next phases was published in December 2025. Tenders have now been received and are under evaluation.

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N81 Hearn's Cross

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

Arklow to Shillelagh Greenway

The Preferred Route for the Arklow Shillelagh Greenway was published in December 2025. The Phase 2 Options Study Phase of the project concluded with the confirmation of the preferred options to be brought forward to the design and environmental evaluation phase. The Options Study Report and plan drawings of the preferred option are available on the project website. The preferred route option will be further refined and developed into preliminary designs over the coming months. The tender process for the appointment of a consultant for Phase 3 (Design and Environmental Considerations) and Phase 4 (Statutory/Planning Process) will be completed in April 2026.

Blessington Inner Relief Road

On 22nd August an Bord Pleanála (ABP) granted permission for the full development of the residential units and northern section of the Blessington Inner Relief Road. Details of the road design have been submitted to Wicklow County Council for review and approval.

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

Construction work commenced on Section 1 of the Scheme in April 2025. The main footpath, cycle lane and road surfacing works was completed in Section 1 in December 2025 and are fully open to the public. The full road closure for Section 2 is currently in operation up to 31st July 2026. The completion of the full scheme is expected Q3 2026.

Wicklow Greystones Greenway

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

Blessington eGreenway

Wicklow County Council was notified by letter dated 04/12/2024 that An Bord Pleanála has refused permission for the Blessington Greenway. Wicklow County Council has examined the decision by An Bord Pleanála. In consideration of the time and resources that would be necessary to prepare a new and/or revised submission and the uncertainty regarding the potential for a successful outcome, Wicklow County Council is not currently in a position to dedicate resources to the progression of a greenway scheme at this location. Wicklow County Council's priority in the short term is to consider opportunities to progress with shorter locally based trails to extend on the existing routes. These trail

schemes can build on and benefit from the work completed to date for the Blessington Greenway. However, these trails would not meet the criteria for TII Greenway Schemes and therefore are unlikely to attract TII funding. Accordingly, any such trails will need to be progressed at Municipal District level.

Kilmacanogue to Bray Southern Cross Active Travel Scheme

TII instructed Wicklow Country Council to issue tender documents for design services for the development of the Kilmacanogue to Southern Cross Active Travel Scheme. The tender process was completed in September 2025, and

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the contract was awarded on 23rd September 2025. The appointed consultant is advancing the scheme in line with TII requirements. Landowner meetings are currently underway for this project.

Active Travel Updates

Project Updates

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

New pedestrian and cycle bridge to be provided at Wicklow Train Station, linking Station Road to the Port Access Road. Bus and vehicle set down to be provided along with cycle parking. The acquisition of lands on northern side of rail line has been completed. Archaeological Testing completed. Detail design work to continue. Ongoing liaison with Irish Rail on the detail design.

Wicklow Active Travel Pathfinder Project (Wicklow MD)

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

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

New footbridges and alterations to the road to make provision for cyclists. Atkins are progressing with the preliminary design phase. An inspection of the existing Fran O'Toole bridge structure has been carried out, Topographic survey and traffic surveys to be completed. Atkins to complete the Options Report for the new pedestrian bridge structures. Preliminary design for scheme to be progressed.

Baltinglass Bridge Active Travel Scheme (Baltinglass MD)

Provision of improved facilities for pedestrians and cyclists at Baltinglass Bridge. Atkins Realis have completed the Options Selection Phase, and an emerging preferred option has been selected. The emerging preferred option is for the provision of a new pedestrian bridge structure on the north side of the existing bridge. This option has been progressed forward to the preliminary design phase.

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

Provision of pedestrian and cycle improvement works to be completed along the public road linking Greystones Train Station with the Marina to the north and Charlesland to the south. AtkinsRealis appointed as consultants to manage the project through Phases 4 -7. Preliminary design drawings to be issued to NTA.

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. Principal has confirmed that The Board of Management's position is that it is impractical and outside of the school's remit for school staff to be involved in closing off the car park area during arrival and collection periods. The area in question is a significant distance from the school and is outside of school grounds. Review scope on the public roads' areas for upgraded foot path and crossing point. Designer drawing updates to be completed and discuss carpark works with district.

Convent Road Active Travel Scheme (Greystones MD)

The provision of new and improved pedestrian facilities on Convent Road, Delgany. The Preliminary Design Phase has been completed, and the project has progressed to Phase 4 – Statutory Processes. The Part 8 was advertised on the 25th February. Submission can be received up until the 10th April.

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Killincarrig Village Enhancement Scheme (Greystones MD)

The provision of new and improved pedestrian facilities on the R761 Kindlestown Lower Road, with new Public Lighting, and Public Realm improvements in Killincarrig Village. The Detailed Design phase is ongoing. Construction works are scheduled to commence when the Chapel Road Scheme has been completed. Expected start date is Q3 2026.

Blessington Main Street to Deerpark

WCC and NTA met to review preliminary design. NTA comments have been noted and under review with the consultant who is preparing the Gateway 2 / 3 report for submission. Consultant to issue gateway 2- 3 pack week commencing 23/03 and fee proposal for new crossing on N81

Delgany Village Accessibility Scheme – Mill Road (Greystones MD)

The provision of new and improved pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure along Church Road, Delgany. The Scheme is at Phase 5 – Detailed Design and Procurement. It is planned to complete the Detailed Design and Procurement Phase in 2026, and progress to the Construction Phase in 2027.

Safe Routes to Schools – Blacklion Manor Schools Campus

The Official Launch of the Safe Routes to Schools improvement works at Greystones Educate together, Temple Carrig School, Gaelscoil na gCloch Liath was held on the 6th March 2026.



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Other Projects -

- **SRTS Round 3: Scoil Mhuire Realt na Mara HSRR*, Brittas Bay.**
The school zone (NTA Project) is now being progressed with the Brittas footpath project. Consultant appointed. An Taisce have circulated the delivery plan to the school. The project will be divided into two phases. Phase 1 from the junction of the L5108 to past the school and will include the school zone works under Section 38. Public consultation will close on 25th of March. Submissions will be considered and a report prepared for consideration and approval.
- **SRTS Round 3: Scoil Mhuire na n-Aird**
Provide infrastructure for schools to increase walking and cycling as the preferred travel mode where possible and improve safety at front of school. Meeting with School and District Engineer took place in March. Traffic Count and Speed Surveys have been completed. Stakeholder meeting held with school on the 21st of November 2025. Further meeting to be scheduled once revised outline delivery plan has been issued. Delivery plan is currently with Active travel for review.
- **Scalp Road Footpath, Enniskerry**
Provision of footpath along Scalp Road, Enniskerry. Topographical survey is complete. Consultant to be appointed to carry out feasibility study.
- **Aughrim Road Pedestrian Crossing, Tinahely**
Provision of a new Zebra/Controlled Crossing and upgraded footpath to link Kilcommon National School to residential areas. Topographic survey completed. Works extended to include two additional pedestrian crossings on School Road Section 38 consultation completed. Construction works ongoing.
- **Kiltegan Road Pedestrian Crossing, Baltinglass**
Provision of a new Zebra Pedestrian Crossing and footpath extension at Baltinglass GAA Club Grounds to link to residential areas. Topographic survey completed. Gateway 5 approval received from NTA and construction works ongoing.
- **Vale Road Pedestrian Improvement Scheme, Arklow**
Project extended to include 560m footpath, pedestrian crossing and access ramp at link to Coolgreaney Road. WCC to fund cost of ramp construction. Works ongoing.
- **Redford Park Junction, Greystones**
Redford Park Junction upgrade to provide improved pedestrian and cycle facilities. Second meeting had with Lidl on 11/03/2026. DBFL preparing response to Lidl questions.
- **Bus Priority Little Bray**
Consultant review of options assessment completed. Meeting held with the NTA and stakeholders. Meeting also held with WCC planning dept and developers for Fassaroe to review BETS and Upper Dargle Road status, Consultant issued blue line drawing showing CPO requirement for minimum path and cycle path provision. Review drawing and options assessment.
- **Wicklow MD Pedestrian Improvement Scheme**
Construction work to continue at Kilpedder. 2026 list of locations to be listed in PGAF and issued to NTA for approval.
- **Arklow MD Pedestrian Improvement Scheme**
Construction work to be completed at Rathdrum and Avoca. 2026 list of locations to be listed in PGAF and issued to NTA for approval.
- **Greystones MD Pedestrian Improvement Scheme**
Construction work to be completed in Kilcoole. 2026 list of locations to be listed in PGAF and issued to NTA for approval.

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- **Baltinglass MD Pedestrian Improvement Scheme**
2026 list of locations to be listed in PGAF and issued to NTA for approval.

Bus Enhancement Scheme

- **Baltinglass MD.**
4 new stops from The Connecting Ireland/Blessington Repts list are currently being progressed one site by David Walsh Civil Engineering. Additional items in Stratford and Dunlavin will have works commenced following completion of surveys. 2026 works across MD's will be tendered through the districts i.e. as is currently ongoing in Wicklow & Baltinglass MD. (Wicklow Town / Blessington / Dunlavin / Stratford). All requests for upgrades and shelters are being collated on the new NTA tracker.
- **Wicklow MD**
4 new stops from The Connecting Ireland/Wicklow MD Repts list are currently being progressed and commence on site by David Walsh Civil Engineering following completion of Baltinglass MD items All requests for upgrades and shelters are being populated on new BSEP tracker including locations identified by SPC. These will be discussed with MDs for suitability & progressed through NTA process to construction.
- **Other districts**
The Connecting Ireland list is currently being prioritised and progressing of works across MD's will be tendered through the districts e.g. as it currently ongoing in Wicklow & Baltinglass MD. All requests for upgrades and shelters are being populated on new BSEP tracker including locations identified by SPC. These will be discussed with MDs for suitability.

New Projects in 2026

- **SRTS Round 4 Scoil Naomh Brid, Talbotstown**
An Taisce travel surveys completed. An Taisce and WCC met with the school and board of management on March 19th to outline the process and complete site audits. An Taisce will prepare the delivery plan and issue to WCC for review.
- **SRTS Round 4 St. Brigid's NS, Greystones**
An Taisce travel surveys completed. An Taisce and WCC met with the school and board of management on March 20th to outline the process and complete site audits. An Taisce will prepare the delivery plan and issue to WCC for review.
- **SRTS Round 4 St Brigid's NS. Manor Kilbride**
An Taisce travel surveys completed. An Taisce and WCC will meet with the school and board of management on March 24th to outline the process and complete site audits. An Taisce will prepare the delivery plan and issue to WCC for review.
- **SRTS Round 4 Wicklow Educate Together**
An Taisce travel surveys completed, and school visit scheduled for March with LA. Prepare brief Design support for round 4 schools
- **Deerpark Cycle Link, Bray –**
Phase 1 – PGAF approval to be sought from NTA
- **Giltspur to Charnwood Active Travel Link -**
Phase 1 – PGAF approval to be sought from NTA
- **Arklow MD Permeability Link**
Phase 1 - 2026 list of locations to be listed in PGAF and issued to NTA for approval.

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- **Arklow MD Junction Tightening works –**

Phase 1 2026 list of locations to be listed in PGAF and issued to NTA for approval.

Bridge Rehabilitation (Local and Regional Roads)

Culvert reconstruction at Aughavannagh completed following storm damage.

Works completed at Knockanree Bridge.

Works commenced at Ballinavilla Culvert and Sleamaine Bridge

Winter Maintenance

The season continues.

Between 13/02 and 24/03, over 40 nights there were 14 callouts. 4 of these were double runs.

Machinery Yard

Framework Circle K cards usage is increasing and final cards to be delivered next week.

New 26 tonne trucks 3 and 4 are due for delivery in the coming weeks.

Surface Dressing Phoenix machine has been delivered and remaining items due in the coming weeks.

New 7.5 tonne pickup trucks ordered from Framework this week.

Parking Income

January to February 2026

Parking Income by Municipal District	EURO
Bray Municipal District	90,375.29
Greystones Municipal District	36,737.65
Wicklow Municipal District	42,801.50
Arklow Municipal District	35,052.50
Parking Permits	16,120.00
Parking Fines	103,242.50
Wicklow County Council Total	324,329.44

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Infrastructure Delivery

Affordable Housing Information as of 28th February 2026

Mariner's Point, Wicklow – 4 x Affordable Houses

- 4 x two-bedroom houses are currently advertised. Portal opened 17th February 2026 and will close 10th March 2026

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sheephouse, Arklow, Co. Wicklow

- AHF application for 4 x 2-bedroom Affordable Houses at Sheephouse, Arklow will be submitted this quarter.

Housing Supply – Programme of Delivery

Schemes Recently Completed	UNITS	CURRENT STATUS
Ballard, Shillelagh	20	Completed and allocated
Merrymeeting, Rathnew Phase 2	21	Completed and allocated
Liam Kavanagh Park, Ballynerrin	10	Completed and allocated
Cois Droichead, Greystones	41	Completed, allocation in progress
Lugduff, Tinahely	20	Completed, allocation in progress
5A Rednagh Road, Aughrim	1	Completed, allocation in progress
Scheme on Site	Units	Current Status
Fassaroe, Bray	11	Contractor on site.
Lott Lane, Kilcoole	75	Contractor on site.
1A Mill Road, Greystones	3	Completion expected Q1 2026
Merrymeeting, Rathnew, Phase 3	7	Contractor on site.
Ballinahinch, Ashford	19	Contractor on site.

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Pipeline Schemes	Units	Current Status
Burgage More, Blessington PPP	106	Tendered by WCC due back March 26
Rehills, Bray Phase 1	140	Options being considered
Rockbrae, Bray	53	Tender docs being completed
Carrig Eden Tiglin	14	On hold
Ballyguile Rd, Wicklow	16	Stage 1 approved.
Burnaby, Greystones PPP	262	PPP Bundle 5 continuing
Tinahask, Arklow	74	Tender docs being completed
Tinahask PPP, Arklow	128	PPP Bundle 6 continuing
Sheephouse, Arklow	48	Design Stage
Mountainview, Blessington	10	Tendered by WCC due back March 26
Hawkstown Park Phase 2, Wicklow Design & Build	54	Detailed design and tender docs underway
Barndarrig Group Housing scheme for 3 houses and 17 social houses	20	Part 8 approved Oct 25
18 Old Conna, Bray	3	Part 8 approved Dec 25

Traveller accommodation

Capital Programme

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

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

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

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

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

Energy Efficiency upgrades to Council Stock

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

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Part V

The following Part V units are due during 2026:

Location	No. of Units	Due for Delivery	Method
Wicklow	4	Delivery due Q2 2026	WCC
Roundwood	6	Delivery due Q2 2026	WCC
Baltinglass	7	Delivery due Q1 to Q2 2026	WCC
Delgany	3	Delivery due Q1 2026	WCC
Dunlavin	14	Delivery due Q2 to Q4 2026	WCC
Wicklow	7	Delivery due Q2 to Q3 2026	WCC
Newcastle	1	Delivered Q1 2026	WCC
Delgany	6	Delivery due Q2 to Q3 2026	WCC
Wicklow	4	Delivery due Q2 2026	WCC
Bray	12	Delivery due Q2 2026	WCC
Arklow	2	Delivery due Q1 2027	WCC
Delgany	11	Delivery due Q1 2026	WCC
Rathnew	9	Delivery due Q2 2026	WCC
Rathdrum	7	Delivery due Q2 2026	CALF
Rathnew	15	Delivered Q1 2026	CALF
Wicklow	13	Delivery due Q1 2026	CALF
Newcastle	5	Delivery due Q2 2026	CALF

Potential units

Wicklow County Council currently has agreements in place for units in Delgany, Rathnew, Bray, Roundwood, Newtownmountkennedy, Baltinglass, Wicklow, Rathdrum, Newcastle and Arklow with delivery in 2026. This includes the units listed above. WCC is in negotiations in respect of over 100 further units with delivery dates yet to be confirmed. Wicklow County Council is currently holding discussions with a number of developers at preplanning and planning stage. There are over 100 potential Part V units with planning permission but it's difficult to determine whether they will all proceed or even on what timescale.

Turnkey

The following Turnkey units are due during 2026:

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

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Vacant Homes Scheme

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

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

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

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

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

There are 2 types of Grants available:

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

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

To qualify for the grant, applicants must:

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

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

Number of Applications to date	304
Applications in progress/information requested from applicants to date	11
Applications Approved in Principle to date	151
Number of Applications paid to date	78
Value of 78 Grants paid out to date	€4,242,484.90
Applications withdrawn/Rejected to date	64

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Integration and Emergency Response

Fire Service

There were **94** incidents attended during the month of February 2026. Due to laid down procedures to mobilise two stations to potentially serious incident types, individual Fire Stations were mobilised on a total of **123 occasions** including **7** 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 February 2026 **decreased by 13% (-18 mobilisations) on the preceding month January 2026 (141 mobilisations)**. Month on month there was a reduction in flooding incidents (-19 mobilisations).

Operational activity for the month of February 2026 **increased by 23% (+23 mobilisations) on the equivalent month in 2025** (February 2025, 100 mobilisations). There was an increase in mobilisations to RTCs (+12) and an increase in malicious fires in urban areas (+10).

During the month of February 19% of overall activity across the county was Automatic Alarm Activations with 26% of all incidents in Bray and 29% of all incidents in Greystones being alarm activations.

11% of incidents across the county were malicious fires in urban areas.

Incidents in County Kildare (5-incidents total, examples):

- 05/02/2026 Dunlavin Crew attended a car fire on the old N9 at Kilgowan.
- 06/02/2026 Baltinglass Crew supported crews from Carlow Town at a domestic house fire at Knocknacree.
- 07/02/2026 Blessington Crew supported crews from Naas at a single car RTC at Baltracey.
- 20/02/2026 Blessington Crew supported crews from Naas at an industrial fire in Ballymore Eustace.

Incidents in County Wexford (1-incident total):

- 08/02/2026 Carnew crew supported crews from Gorey at a domestic house fire at Craanford.

Incidents in County Carlow (1-incident total):

- 11/02/2026 Tinahely crew responded to an RTC involving a car and a tractor at Knockloe, Ardoyne.

Fire Prevention Statistics February 2026

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

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Application type	Received	Deemed Invalid, or withdrawn	Requested additional information	Inspections	Recommended for Grant
FSCs	10	0	6	0	5
Revised FSCs	0	0	0	0	0
FSC 7-Day Notice	2	0	2	0	1
Regularisation FSCs	1	0	1	0	0
DACs	8	0	6	0	9
Revised DACs	0	0	0	0	0
Dispensations / Relaxations	0	0	0	0	0

31 planning files were referred to the Chief Fire Officer for comment. Observations were made on 29 files received.

Licensing	Received	Inspected	Request further info	Letter / Licence Issued	No objection entered on Courts on-line Service
District	2	2	2	2	2
Circuit	3	0	0	0	0
Dangerous Substances Act	0	0	0	0	0
Explosive Act	4	3	2	1	0

Activities during the month of February included:

- Initial and Refresher Hydraulic Platform training took place in Wicklow Town.
- One candidate undertook a National Managing Fire Services Incidents, Module 1 Course held in Tullamore.
- Six personnel from across the county undertook Emergency Services Driving Standard (ESDS) Training.
- Three new recruits completed their LASNTG QQI Firefighting Skills Course held in Longford and have joined their respective brigades during February.

Building Control

Commencement Notices for February 2026:

Commencement Notices Submitted: 25

- 5 Commencement Notices with Compliance Documents
- 12 Opt Out Declarations
- 7 Commencement Notices without Compliance Documents
- 1 Seven Day Notice

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Submission Statistics

- 64 % of Commencement Notices - Opt Out
- 64 % of Commencement Notices Revised Information required & requested = 16 No. Commencement Notices (CN) of which
 - 5 with Compliance Documentation (31%)
 - 8 are Opt Out (50%)
 - 2 Without Compliance Documentation (13%)
 - 1 Seven Day Notice (6%)
- 23 Valid Commencement Notices
- 12 new build residential units
- 22 Apartments
- 10 domestic extensions
- 2 Non Res new builds
- 1 Invalidated CNs from February

Certificates of Completion processed in February 2026

- 11 New No. of CCC submitted
- 9 Required Revised Information (81%)
- 15 No. Validated
- 0 No. Invalid
- 56 new Residential units & 12 Apartments
- 0 Non Res. Builds

Submission Statistics

15 No. Validated CCCs related to;

4 No. CCCs submitted in January

10 No. CCCs submitted in February

**BCA not notified on completion of opt out developments

12 new residential houses, 22 apartments, 10 residential extensions and 2 Non-res buildings were notified to LA for Commencement & 56 newly residential units with an additional 12 apartments were for completion submitted, assessed

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and validated in February. This commencement figures would indicate that construction activity in Wicklow will continue to rise in 2026.

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

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

Building Control continued with multiple site inspections in February to identify non-compliances with Building Regs onsite and 4 Section 11 Compliance Requests were issued.

Revised Information requests remained high in February for both Commencement Notices and Certificates of Compliance on Completion, 64% of Commencement Notice submissions & 81% 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.

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

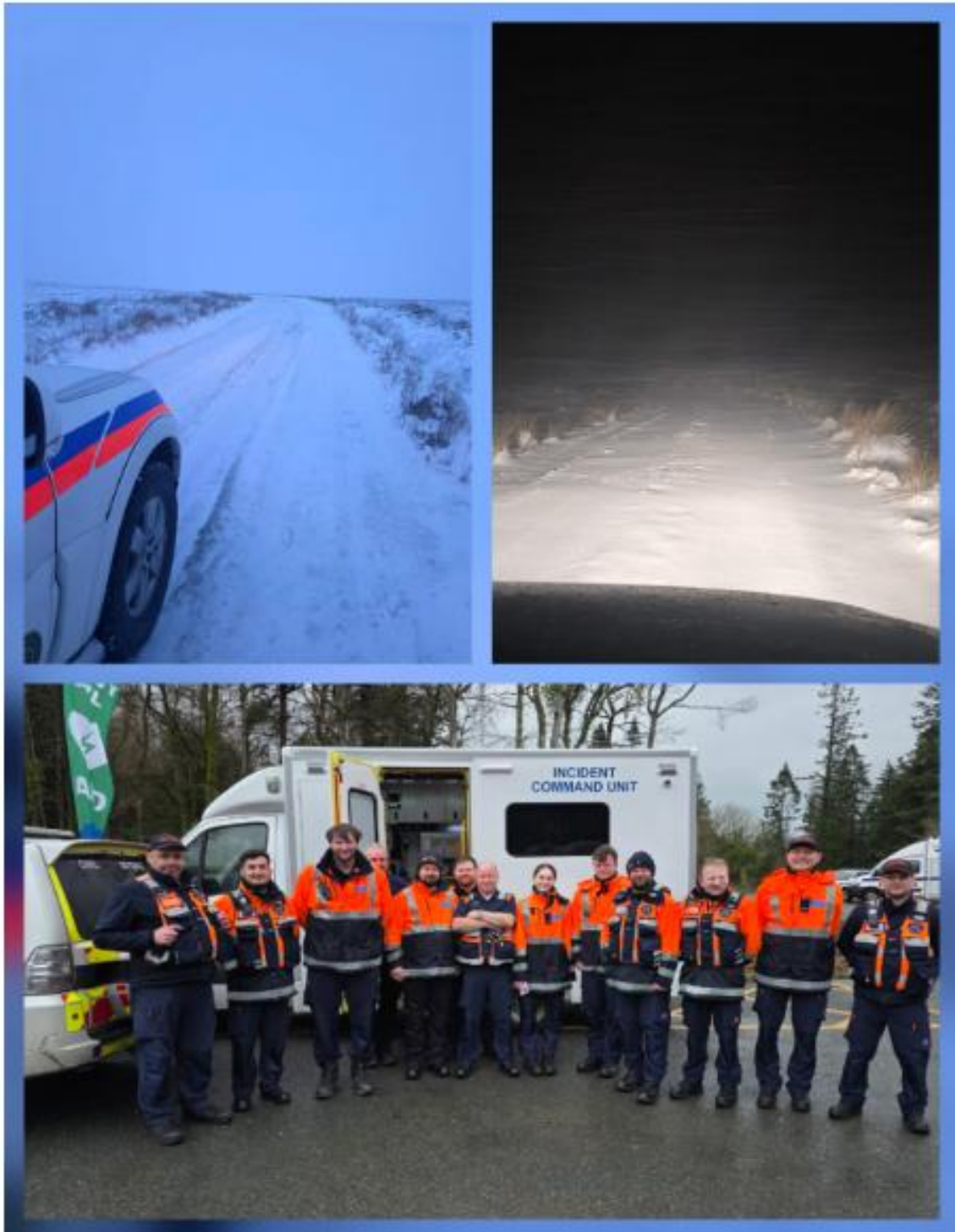
Civil Defence

Our volunteers were out once again supporting the community across the county.

During the recent snowfall in the Sally Gap, our crews responded to callouts to assist persons who had become stuck in the snow and required rescuing. Working in challenging conditions, volunteers helped ensure everyone was safely assisted off the mountain roads.

Our crews were on duty at Avondale House, Rathdrum, providing medical cover for the Wicklow Hospice 10km and half Marathon Run. It was a fantastic event supporting such an important cause, and we were delighted to play our part in helping keep participants safe once again.

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LAIT WICKLOW

Foireann Udaráis Aitiúil um Imeascad
Local Authority Integration Team

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Top Line Data

Totals per Municipal District (in Department run emergency accommodation only)			
MD	IPAS	Ukrainian Response	Total
Arklow	36	16	52
Baltinglass	669	31	700
Bray	198	524	722
Greystones	0	105	105
Wicklow	199	91	290
Total	1,102	767	1,869

IPAS Centre information	
Current number of IPAS centres in County Wicklow	9
Number of new centres opened	0
Total number of residents	1,102
Of which are children	383

IPAS Totals per MD	
Arklow	36
Baltinglass	370
Bray	195
Greystones	0
Wicklow	210

WCC LAIT Activity to date in 2026	
Total number of Integration Clinics delivered	45
Total number of face-to-face support sessions	161
Total number of sessions with single adults	63
Total number of sessions with couples	5
Total number of sessions with families	84

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LAIT Integration Support Data Recorded for December

Basic Clinic Data	
No. of clinics	25
No. of Individuals	92
No. of Couples	3
No. of Families	39
No. in Ireland less than 1 month	9
No. in Ireland 1-3 months	20
No. in Ireland 3-6 months	24
No. In Ireland more than 6 months	33
No. of International Protection Applicants	78
No. Persons with Status	9
No. of BOTPs	0
Total number of Referrals to outside agencies	25

Integration Supports – Key Enablers

In Session Support	Incidence
Accommodation	2
Community/Family	25
Culture/Religion	0
Education/Training	37
Employment/Enterprise	22
Events	0
Finance/Welfare	29
Health/Wellbeing	65
Language/Communication	7
Legal/Justice/Civic	49
Transportation	2
Miscellaneous	28

Follow up Support	Incidence
Accommodation	0
Community/Family	3
Culture/Religion	0
Education/Training	13
Employment/Enterprise	6
Events	0

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Finance/Welfare	6
Health/Wellbeing	21
Language/Communication	5
Legal/Justice/Civic	15
Transportation	0
Miscellaneous	7

Overall Support December	
Emails sent for Clinic work	238
Emails Received	276
Emails Sent	397
Contacts with stakeholders	57
Referrals	25

Additional Activities





- 1) The LAIT is increasingly providing tailored and client-centred support to individual clients to facilitate community integration. In some circumstances, funding for these supports has been provided via the LAIT project fund. In other circumstances, the team have approached another organisation (e.g. the local school) to advocate for the support required. The table below provides illustrative examples of this work and the integration outcomes achieved.

Support/ initiative	Support Description	Cost (€)	Funded By	Target Demographic	Outcome/ Impact
Playball	Afterschool physical activity	€170	Playball	Lone Parent family recently moved into old social housing	Transition for two children from IPAS to new home not a negative effect on not being able to afford afterschool programme.
Soccer Membership	Yearly youth membership	€200	Ashford Rovers Soccer Club	Teenager in IPAS, family low income	Teenager taking part in training and matches, as a positive physical and mental activity outside of their IPAS centre
Schools Fees	Leaving year fees	€150	Educate Together Secondary School	Teenager in IPAS, family low income	Teenager getting same opportunity as his peers and not impacted by low income family
Coral Leisure Gym	Student membership	€295	LAIT Wicklow	Teenager in IPAS, family low income	Teenager going to gym as a positive physical and mental activity outside of their IPAS centre


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Transportation	TFI Public transport vouchers	€400	LAIT Wicklow	Seven young people & one older adult, very low income	Transport for English language classes & school. Where no other transport provided.
Basketball Equipment	Purchase basketball net and backboard	€1018	LAIT Wicklow	Residents of Baltinglass IPAS centre	99 people including 54 children have a physical activity with a community focus with positive physical and mental activity benefits.



2) The LAIT has delivered a range of group information sessions for IPAS residents as follows:

2026 Information Workshops			
Date	Organisation	Topic	Areas of information
Tuesday 17th February @ 10.00AM	Workplace Relations Commission 	Your Rights in the Workplace	Work of the WRC Minimum wage Leave entitlements Your Rights in the Workplace
Tuesday 24th February @ 10.00am	Irish Refugee Council 	Housing and Renting Information Session	Renting in Ireland HAP Identifying Scams Understanding Your Rights as a Tenant
Tuesday 24th February @ 2.00PM	Irish Refugee Council 	Information & Advocacy Service	Overview of Irish Refugee Council The International Protection Process Reception Conditions Family Reunification
Wednesday 18th March @10.00AM	KWETB 	Adult Education Guidance	Adult Education Guidance Service National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ) Access to Education Further Education and Training (FET) Pathways to Higher Education Higher Education Options and Fees Upskilling and Retraining Funding Support Useful Information Resources


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Thursday 26th March @ 2.00PM	Revenue 	Navigating the Income Tax System	How to Register for My Account Registering a First Employment How Taxation Works (Emergency, Week 1 Cumulative) A Review of Common Credits Claimed How to Submit an Online Tax Return
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3) The LAIT delivered a Women's Health Series for IPAS residents as follows:

2026 Women's Health Series			
Date	Organisation	Topic	Notes
Friday 30th January - Wicklow Library 10.00AM	Irish Heart Foundation 	Her Heart Matters Campaign	Overview of 'Her Heart Matters' Campaign Symptoms of Heart Attack in Women / How They Can Differ to Men Importance of Early Detection and Management Impact of Menopause on Risk of Heart Disease and Stroke How to Reduce Risks and Protect the Heart When and How to Check Blood Pressure Suggestions for Lifestyle Changes Impact of Stress on the Heart and How to Manage Stress Irish Heart Foundation - Supports Available
Tuesday 10th February - Wicklow Library 10.00AM	Nicola Woodworth Callan Medical Centre 	Mental Health Awareness	A culturally sensitive, accessible explanation of why the body reacts to stress and danger, designed for participants with limited English, utilising strong visual metaphors to explain the "Mind-Body Connection" without relying on complex psychological terminology or the stigmatising label of "Trauma." Participants from conflict zones often experience severe physical symptoms (sleeplessness, headaches, chronic pain) but may lack the framework to connect these to their past experiences. Outcomes 1. De-stigmatisation: Participants leave understanding that their physical pain is a biological injury, not a mental weakness. 2. Normalisation: Understanding that "flashbacks" (The Linen Cupboard) are just unorganised

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			<p>memories, not a sign of madness.</p> <p>3. Connection: Reducing the sense of isolation by seeing others in agreement with the symptoms and sharing of experience.</p>
<p>Friday 27th February Wicklow Library 10.00AM</p>	<p>Anu Wicklow Domestic Violence Supports</p> 	<p>Healthy Relationships</p>	<p>Overview of Anu Outreach Services Definitions of Abuse Laws in Ireland - Coercive Control Positive, Unhealthy and Toxic Traits Supports Available</p>

Ukrainian Response

BOTP in State Contracted Emergency Accommodation

As of the end of February 2026, there are **767** Ukrainian displaced persons in emergency accommodation, although it is known that there are significantly more in the county.

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

- Arklow MD: **16**
- Baltinglass MD: **31**
- Bray MD: **524**
- Greystones MD: **105**
- Wicklow MD: **91**

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

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BOTP Centre information in Wicklow	
Current number of BOTP centres in County Wicklow	14
Number of new centres opened	0
Total number of residents	767
Of which are children	189

Offer a Home programme

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

We are currently waiting for an update from the Department of Justice, Home Affairs and Migration in relation to the ARP as the scheme is due to expire 31st March 2026.



Wicklow CIF

After hosting an End of Year Review of the Wicklow CIF in 2025, a new structure was agreed by all members for 2026 to improve our ways of working together. The adoption of this new structure was to ensure effective collaboration across the entire county. During the End of Year Review, it was highlighted that the needs of West Wicklow and East Wicklow differ significantly, due to location and availability of services. Thus, resulting in the formation of the regional groups, West and East Wicklow. The new structure aims to address demographic needs of each region and presenting their work to the CIF Management group quarterly.

The initial task of the regional groups was to discuss **Good Practices** that are already happening in Wicklow and identify their **Shared Memberships**. They then continued to examine the **Gaps** and **Challenges** both in their control and out of their control. The goal of this work is to develop a workplan designed around agreed thematic areas such as, Children / Young People, Education / Employment, English Language, Therapeutic / Mental Health, Family Support, Diversity and Inclusion, Legal Welfare / Human Rights, Health / Wellbeing and the IRPP.

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Organisational Development

Recruitment

The following interviews were held in February 2026:

- General Operative Interviews
- Technician Grade 1 (Environmental) Interviews
- Executive Technician (Environmental) Interviews
- Senior Executive Technician (Environmental) Interviews

Employee Numbers

Employee Numbers	Q1 2025	Q2 2025	Q3 2025	Q4 2025
Managerial/Administrative	343	356	365	361
Professional/Technical	147	150	144	146
Outdoor	250	246	245	238
Temporary/Seasonal	66	95	96	58
Non DoHPLG	2	2	2	2
Total	808	849	852	805

* Decrease in Temp/Seasonal category due to end dating of Lifeguard appointments.

Freedom of Information

February 2026: 21	February 2025: 7
January – February 2026: 42	January – February 2025: 10

Ombudsman Requests

February 2026: 2	February 2025: 4
January – February 2026: 3	January – February 2025: 9

Press Releases

February 2026 – 9

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Register of Electors

Wicklow County Council's Franchise Section has now completed all aspects of the Data Quality works which forms part of the move to a National Register of Electors Database.

As part of the 'Go Live' process for Wicklow online applications via www.checktheregister.ie continue to be received and processed along with hard copy forms continue to be processed. Prior to 'Go Live' date this work must be completed before the 20th April 2026. All applications that were parked due to their minor nature such as updating contact details etc. have now been followed up and completed.

Wicklow CoCo was selected for user accepted testing on the developer's behalf before it is rolled out to all local authorities. All testing and troubleshooting is now complete. Wicklow will be moving to www.voter.ie as part of Wave 2 along with 3 other local authorities. There will be a further amount of testing and backups of databases to be carried out from 24th April and we are on scheduled to 'Go Live' with www.voter.ie in early May 2026.

Customer Hub

Customer Service Innovation Hub			
Communication Channels	No.	Public Counters	No.
No. of Phone Calls received to (0404) 20100	7,955	Motor Taxation transactions in County Buildings	1,720
No. of Customer Service Emails received	4,065	Revenue Transactions	1,542
No. of Elected Members / Deputy Representatives Received	83	Housing Counter Visits	205

Energy Office

Wicklow County Council achieved ISO 50001 certification in September 2024. ISO 50001 is an international standard for establishing, implementing, maintaining, and improving our energy management system. In order to maintain the system an annual surveillance audit is carried out. Wicklow County Council appointed NSAI as external surveillance auditors to carry out the annual audit on Wicklow County Council's ISO 50001 energy management systems. The Energy Office is striving for continuous improvement of the energy management system identifying any non-conformances and corrective actions each month.

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

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

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

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

Planned SEAI Pathfinder Projects for 2026.

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

Other ongoing projects - District Heating Feasibility Study – Arklow Decarbonised Zone final version due Q1 2026

Mid-East Energy Unit

- Tender published to establish multi-party framework for smaller works outside EPC
 - One stop shop for SEAI Pathfinder projects for Mid-East Region
 - Finalising framework agreement with preferred contractors
- First EPC project for Kildare County Council anticipated contract signing Q1 2026
- Second EPC for Meath County Council anticipated contract signing Q1 2026
- Installing heat meters in leisure centres across the region to inform EPC process
- Third EPC for Wicklow County Council invitation to compete in competitive dialogue was issued

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Finance, Water & Information Systems

Finance

Revenue Account

Due to year-end adjustments that are currently being carried out as part of the 2025 Annual Financial Statement (AFS) process, we are not in a position to provide February 2026 expenditure figures in the normal format at this time. This situation will be regularised during the Quarter 1 period following the completion of the 2025 AFS. The below table outlines the 2026 adopted budget by service division.

REVENUE ACCOUNT			
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION AT 28th February 2026			
	Expenditure	Income	NET
	Adopted Full Year Budget	Adopted Full Year Budget	Adopted Expenditure / (Income)
	€	€	€
Housing and Building	62,990,719	(65,142,671)	(2,151,952)
Road Transport & Safety	28,055,651	(19,804,843)	8,250,808
Water Services	4,382,330	(5,354,831)	(972,501)
Development Management	19,296,387	(11,199,854)	8,096,533
Environmental Services	20,044,291	(6,082,483)	13,961,808
Recreation and Amenity	10,517,175	(1,393,762)	9,123,413
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	2,081,928	(694,328)	1,387,600
Miscellaneous Services	9,588,050	(17,287,651)	(7,699,601)
Central Management Charges	27,283,644	(1,050,000)	26,233,644
Local Government Fund		(21,810,080)	(21,810,080)
Commercial Rates		(34,419,672)	(34,419,672)
	184,240,175	(184,240,175)	0

Cashflow/Overdraft

Wicklow County Council manages its cashflow requirements daily and did not avail of its overdraft facility during the period 1st to 28th February 2026.

Capital Account

CAPITAL ACCOUNT					
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION AT 28th February 2026					
	Opening Balance at 01/01/2026	Actual Expenditure	Actual Income	Transfers to/from Reserves	Closing Balance at 28/02/2026
	€	€	€	€	€
Housing and Building	13,893,680	9,017,636	(4,876,265)	0	18,035,051
Road Transport & Safety	(28,735,082)	2,295,786	(40,850)	0	(26,480,146)
Water Services	(6,335,116)	95,171	(2,793)	0	(6,242,739)
Development Management	(62,471,196)	28,014	(1,325,791)	0	(63,768,973)
Environmental Services	4,789,215	804,835	(399,805)	0	5,194,245
Recreation and Amenity	3,204,595	260,256	(117,981)	0	3,346,870
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	(2,159,453)	2,286	0	23,988	(2,133,179)
Miscellaneous Services	(8,355,385)	53,262	(2,014)	2,757,530	(5,546,607)
	(86,168,743)	12,557,246	(6,765,499)	2,781,519	(77,595,477)

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Commercial Rates, Rents and Loan Collections

SUMMARY OF MAJOR COLLECTIONS AT 28th February 2026										
Income Collection Area	Opening Balance 01/01/2026	Accrued	Vacancy Property Adjustments	Write Offs	Waivers	Total for Collection	Collected	Closing Arrears 28/02/2026	Specific Doubtful Arrears	% Collection
Rates	2,830,108	34,519,593	0	0	121,396	37,349,701	(3,609,281)	33,740,419	609,986	10%
Rents & Annuities	2,760,539	3,315,905	0	0	0	6,076,444	(3,269,065)	2,807,379	0	54%
Housing Loans	447,005	411,488	0	0	0	858,493	(358,899)	499,594	0	42%

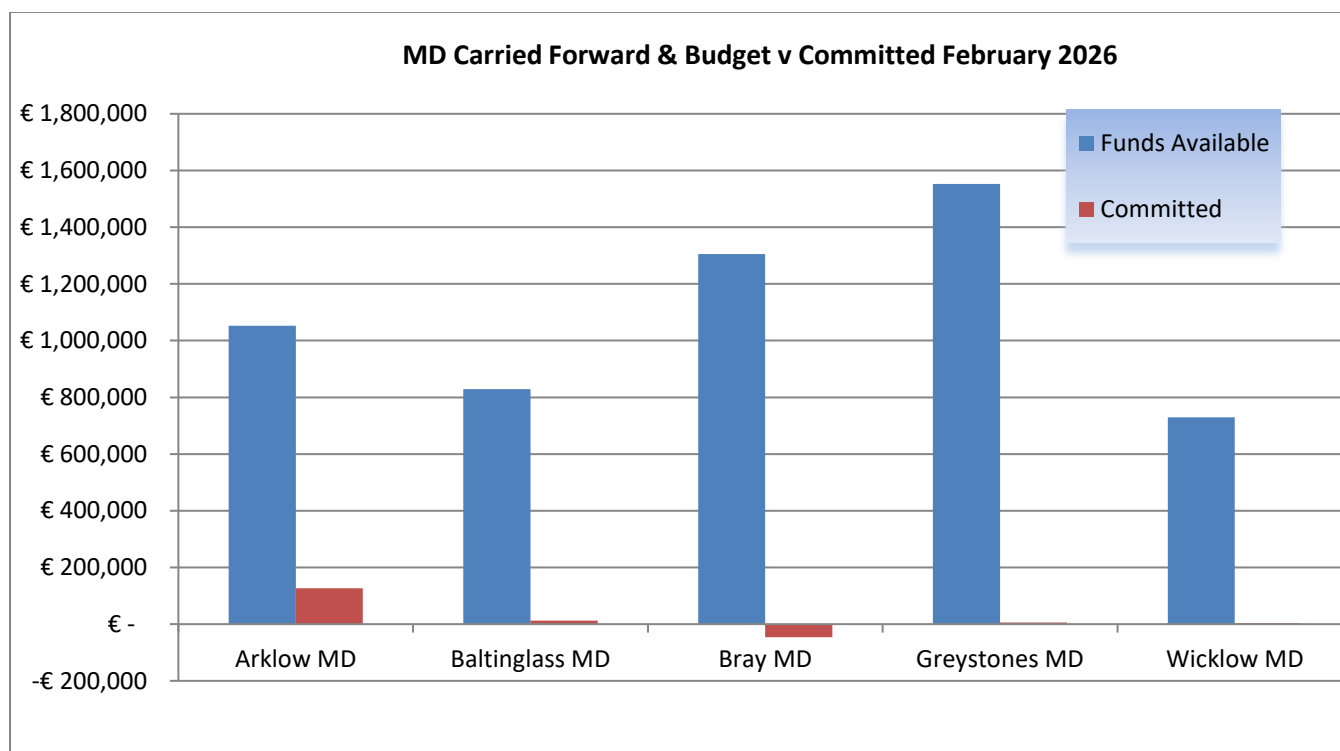
NB: Collection percentages are below normal levels due to the carry forward of arrears at the start of the new financial year. This situation will be regularised over the course of the year.

General Municipal Allocation and Discretionary Fund 2026

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

Municipal District	C/F from 2025	Adopted Budget 2026	Funds available to MD	Committed	Balance to Expend
	€	€	€	€	€
Arklow MD	517,434	534,901	1,052,335	126,254	926,081
Baltinglass MD	317,834	510,901	828,735	12,937	815,798
Bray MD	604,785	700,368	1,305,153	- 46,403	1,351,556
Greystones MD	1,040,878	511,901	1,552,779	6,037	1,546,742
Wicklow MD	213,125	515,901	729,026	3,658	725,368
Total	2,694,056	2,773,972	5,468,028	102,483	5,365,545

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Capital Investment Programme 2025-2027

The Capital Investment Programme 2025-2027 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 7th 2025. The table below outlines the proposed capital expenditure by programme group.

PROGRAMME GROUP	Expected Outlay				Proposed Funding				
	2025	2026	2027	TOTAL	Dev Charges ¹	Loan	Grant Aid ²	Other ³	TOTAL
	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€
HOUSING AND BUILDING	97,600,000	146,800,000	227,450,000	471,850,000	-	30,000,000	414,800,000	27,050,000	471,850,000
ROAD TRANSPORT & SAFETY	30,102,000	37,019,000	30,280,000	97,401,000	23,201,000	7,000,000	64,800,000	2,400,000	97,401,000
WATER SERVICES	255,000	140,000	140,000	535,000	-	-	535,000	-	535,000
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT	5,889,420	6,872,557	9,747,343	22,509,320	2,466,157	-	15,470,959	4,572,204	22,509,320
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	7,920,000	23,070,000	23,687,000	54,677,000	-	-	48,377,000	6,300,000	54,677,000
RECREATION AND AMENITY	7,960,000	13,875,000	21,313,572	43,148,572	13,692,072	-	25,486,500	3,970,000	43,148,572
AGRICULTURAL, EDUCATION, HEALTH & WELFARE	5,700,000	16,410,000	23,500,000	45,610,000	1,759,500	-	37,175,500	6,675,000	45,610,000
MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES	900,000	900,000	900,000	2,700,000	-	-	-	2,700,000	2,700,000
OVERALL TOTAL	156,326,420	245,086,557	337,017,915	738,430,892	41,118,729	37,000,000	606,644,959	53,667,204	738,430,892

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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)	Ballinaclash	€44,000	€4,400
T&V 2020 (Accelerated)	Enniskerry	€44,000	€4,400
T&V 2020 (Accelerated)	Laragh	€27,000	€2,700
T&V 2020 (Accelerated)	Tinahely	€5,500	€550
T&V 2020 (Accelerated)	Baltinglass	€10,000	€1,000
T&V 2020 (Accelerated)	Arklow	€39,500	€3,950
T&V 2020 (Accelerated)	Wicklow	€44,444	€4,444
T&V 2020 (Accelerated)	Greystones	€44,444	€4,444
T&V 2020 (Accelerated)	Rathdrum	€27,000	€2,700
T&V 2020 (Accelerated)	Broadband Connection Points	€44,444	€4,444
T&V 2020 (Accelerated)	Kilcoole	20,000	2,000
T&V 2020 Main	Stratford	€200,000	€22,222
T&V 2020 Main	Avoca	€100,000	€11,111
T&V 2020 Main	Enniskerry	€100,000	€11,111
T&V 2020 Main	Annamoe	€100,000	€11,111
T&V 2021	Ballinaclash	€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 Link & Recreation Area	€133,100	€13,310
ORIS 2022 M2	Coolkenno Equestrian Trail	€220,000	€22,000
ORIS 2022 M3	Roundwood Recreation Area	€550,000	€55,000
	Total to date	€63,955,710	€13,910,951

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Information Systems

Operations

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

GIS & Systems Analysis

- **MyPlan Data Preparation**
Work has continued on preparing zoning datasets for submission to the MyPlan system managed by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. This has included refining spatial data to ensure consistency and accuracy ahead of formal review. Supporting mapping updates have also commenced for the Blessington and Greystones-Delgany & Kilcoole Local Area Plans. These activities will help ensure alignment between local planning data and national systems.
- **Forward Planning and Data Updates**
Updates have been implemented to zoning and settlement boundaries in line with the recently adopted Greystones-Delgany & Kilcoole Local Planning Framework 2026. In addition, key County Development Plan mapping layers, including landscape categories and coastal cells, have been refreshed. Revised datasets have been published to internal systems and the Open Data portal. This ensures that staff and stakeholders have access to up-to-date and consistent planning information.
- **Call for Sites Portal Development**
Progress has been made on the development of a GIS-based Call for Sites assessment portal. Engagement has taken place with the Forward Planning team to define requirements and agree a structured approach. The portal is intended to support the submission, spatial analysis, and reporting of site proposals in a streamlined manner. This initiative will improve efficiency and transparency in managing future land-use submissions.
- **Broadband Mapping and Analysis**
Analysis of Fibre-to-the-Home (FtH) data has been undertaken to support broadband infrastructure insights. This included validation of address data and spatial review of connectivity coverage. A heatmap has been developed to highlight areas where premises are not yet connected. The outputs will assist in identifying gaps and informing future infrastructure planning.
- **Hydrant Mapping Initiative**
Work has progressed on the development of a hydrant mapping dataset in collaboration with internal stakeholders. Existing utility data has been extracted and prepared for use in mobile applications. The data has been uploaded to Field Maps for initial testing and review. This project aims to support improved access to infrastructure information in the field.
- **Mapping and Project Support**
Mapping support has been provided for ongoing local projects, including the Baltinglass Town Centre

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refurbishment scheme. This work involved the preparation of clear and accurate maps to assist with project planning and communication. Additional support has also been provided to internal teams through spatial data analysis and map production. These activities help ensure that projects are underpinned by reliable and accessible geographic information.

Infrastructure

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