

OCTOBER 2023



Wicklow County Council Chief Executive's Monthly Report



W I C K L O W

ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES

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This month:

Clermont Screen Hub Opens for Business

Clermont Screen Hub, a new facility for content creators located at Wicklow County Campus in Rathnew, was officially opened on Thursday 26th October by Mr Simon Coveney, TD, Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment in the presence of Cathaoirleach, Cllr Aoife Flynn Kennedy and Chief Executive, Emer O’Gorman.

The Screen Hub is part of a strategy by Wicklow County Council to boost job creation in the film, TV and content creation industry in County Wicklow and the surrounding Mid East region. It is already being used by well-known Irish actor, Chris O’Dowd, for a new production.

Clermont Screen Hub offers a mix of private and co-working spaces attractively set around a suite of social spaces, a conference centre, podcast studio, and screening facilities, along with access to a range of meeting spaces and training facilities on the larger Wicklow County Campus.

The Content Creation Hub was built with support from the Department of Enterprise, Trade & Employment’s Regional Enterprise Development Fund administered by Enterprise Ireland, along with match funding provided by Wicklow County Council.

Wicklow County Council showcase Solar Car Port at NOAC Local Authority Event

A solar car port project installed at Wicklow County Council’s headquarters in Wicklow town was showcased at the annual Good Practice Seminar organised by the National Oversight and Audit Commission (NOAC) in Kilkenny on 26th October.

The car port is generating renewable energy and is assisting with achieving climate change targets in County Wicklow. This innovative project is the largest solar car port project in Ireland covering 107 car park spaces and circa 1600m² at County Buildings. The 300kWp of solar panel capacity commenced energy production during the summer of 2022.

Wicklow County Council has identified the use of renewable energy and energy efficiency as a key goal in meeting the national targets and in reducing long-term energy costs in our public buildings.

The Council is the Lead Authority for the Mid-East Energy Unit, established in December 2022 in partnership with Meath and Kildare County Councils and under the SEAI Pathfinder Programme. The Energy Unit will assist all three local authorities in achieving their combined public sector climate action.

The 6th annual *Good Practice in Local Government Seminar*, organised by NOAC in collaboration with the Local Government Management Agency and the County and City Management Association, presented a wide range of local authority innovations across numerous areas such as renewable technology, building on crisis management, recruitment, education, tourism, strategy development and accommodation assistance for vulnerable persons.

Housing & Community

1. Housing

	September 2023	September 2022
No. on list for Social Housing Support – (includes RAS & HAP)*	4273	4570
No. availing of Rental Assistance Scheme (RAS)	158	208
No. availing of Housing Assistance Payment	2800	2599
No. in Long Term Leasing Accommodation	23	22
No. in Short Term Leasing Accommodation	28	30

Allocation of Social Housing

	September 2022	September 2023
Wicklow County Council	36	15
Approved Housing Bodies	32	29

Social Housing Stock

	September 2023	September 2022
Tenancies occupied	4863	4797
Total weekly rental accrual	321,558.93	314,901.11
Arrears	3,062,476.85	2,769,253.66

Re- Let's

	Completed in 2023	In progress	Not started	Not tenanted	Vacant
Arklow	10	11	8	2	21
Baltinglass	27	7	9	8	24
Bray	37	13	19	20	52
Greystones	9	2	5	0	7
Wicklow	21	6	28	0	34
	104	39	69	30	138

Housing Supply – Programme of Delivery

Schemes Recently Completed	UNITS	CURRENT STATUS
Ard na Greine, Bray	31	Completed and allocated
Delany Park Arklow (Phase 2 + 3)	47	Completed and allocated
Hawkstown Park (Ashtown Lane), Wicklow Design & Build	40	Completed and allocated
Mountainview, NTMK Design & Build	22	Completed and allocated
Sheehan Court Arklow	7	Completed and allocated
Avondale Phase 2 Design & Build	20	Completed and allocated
Cedar Court Bray Design & Build	14	Completed
Greenhills Road (Affordable)	36	Completed
Schemes on Site	Units	Current Status
Cois Droichead, Greystones	41	Completion anticipated Q1 2024
Ballard Shillelagh	20	Completion anticipated Q4 2023
Lugduff Tinahely	20	Contractor on site
Merrymeeting Rathnew Phase 2	21	Construction on going
Liam Kavanagh Park Ballynerrin	10	On site completion anticipated Q3 2023
Pipeline Schemes	Units	Current Status
Merrymeeting, Rathnew, Phase 3	7	About to commence Section 179a
Fassaroe, Bray	15	Preparing tender documents
Burgage More Blessington	106	Part of PPP bundle 3 with NDFA. Tender stage
Lott Lane, Kilcoole	75	Tenders being analysed
Rehills, Bray	80	PPP bundle 5
Burnaby, Greystones	75	PPP Bundle 5
Ballinahinch Ashford	25	About to commence Section 179a
Tinahask, Arklow	75	Design stage.
Sheephouse Arklow	30	Design Stage

Part V

Location	No. of Units	Due for Delivery	Method
Bray	2	18 Delivered, 2 Units delivered June 2023	CALF
Rathnew	3	3 Delivered Q1 2023	WCC
Delgany	3	Delivered June 2023	WCC
Rathdrum	3	Delivered Q3 2023	WCC
Rathdrum	7	Delivered May 2023	WCC
Rathdrum	6	Scheduled Q4 2023	CALF
Arklow	16	Delivered August 2023	CALF
Blessington	5	Delivery Due Q3 2023	CALF
Bray	1	Delivery due Q1 2024	CALF
Delgany	3	Delivered May 2023	WCC
Greystones	1	Delivered Q1 2023	WCC
Rathnew	1	Scheduled Q4 2023	WCC
Bray	4	Delivered 2 2023	WCC
Ashford	4	Scheduled Q4 2023	CALF
Ashford	8	Scheduled Q1 2024	CALF

Potential units

Wicklow County Council currently has agreements in place for units in Greystones, Ashford, Newtownmountkennedy, Blessington, Baltinglass and Wicklow with delivery ranging from 2023-2025. 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

Location	No. of Units	Due for Delivery	Method
Bray	78	Delivered June 2023	CALF
Rathdum	13	Delivered Q1 2023	WCC
Rathdrum	30	Scheduled Q4 2023	CALF
Arklow	32	Due for delivery by Q4 2023	CALF
Blessington	41	Delivery Due Q4 2023	CALF
Bray	17	Delivery Date Q1 2024	CALF
Ashford	51	Delivered Q3 2023	CALF
Ashford	34	Scheduled Q4 2023	CALF
Ashford	10	Scheduled Q1 2024	CALF

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

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

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

Expressions of Interest – Social Housing on Council lands

Parnell Road (Central Garage site) Tuath have submitted the revised CAS application and it is currently being assessed. The Department had some queries which have been responded to.

Kilbride Lodge and Sutton Villas All land registration issues have now been resolved. Respond are in the process of appointing a project manager.

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

› Grant funding for private house - €2,352,438.16 - €1,96,717.71 spent to date

› Grant funding for social house - €818,793.00 - € 389,650.65 spent to date

2023 - 69 open applications (Also have some additional grants open from 2022 due to contractor delays)

2023 - 164 approvals (Also have some additional grants open from 2022 due to contractor delays)

2023 –176 applications paid and closed

Year	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Number of Grants Received/Processed	249	216	266	327	281	338

Co. Wicklow Strategic Plan for Housing People with a Disability

The Housing and Disability Steering Group has prepared the new draft Co. Wicklow Strategic Plan for Housing People with Disability 2022-2027. The next meeting of the HDSG is due to take place in September 2023. The Implementation plan for Housing People with a disability was launched on 22nd June and workshops are taking place nationwide facilitated by the housing agency regarding the implementation plan. This workshop will take place at the next HDSG meeting to be held in December 2023

Housing for Older People - Age Friendly Schemes

Millbank, Mill Road – 2 x 2 bed properties	Completed and ready for allocation
Castle Villas - Two 2 bed properties	Contact on site - expected completion date November 2023
Carrig Eden - 14 units x 1 bed age friendly units	Part 8 complete – design team is being procured at present
Kilcoole Health Centre - 4 no 1 bed apartments	Contact on site - expected completion date September 2024

Vacant Homes Scheme

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

8 Sycamore Drive, Newtownmountkenny	House allocated and tenant in situ.
5 Ashwood, Roundwood	House allocated and tenant in situ.
33 Connolly Street, Arklow	House allocated and tenant in situ
100 Wicklow Heights, Wicklow Town	Refurbishment complete.
2 Lakeview Grove, Wicklow Town	Refurbishment complete.
18 Delgany Glen, Greystones	Refurbishment complete.
30 South Green, Arklow	Refurbishment to start shortly.
5 Priory Way, Delgany	Refurbishment to start shortly.
6 Ashleigh, Ashford	Refurbishment to start shortly.
114 Hillside, Greystones	Refurbishment to start shortly.
41 Kilgarron Park, Enniskerry	Refurbishment to start shortly.
108 Charnwood, Bray	Notice to Enter served July 2023.
10 Liam Mellows Avenue, Arklow	Compensation now agreed.
88 Wicklow Heights, Wicklow Town	Compensation now agreed.
53 South Green, Arklow	Compensation now agreed.
53A South Green, Arklow	Compensation now agreed.
2 Harbour Road (“Merdenville”), Arklow	Compensation now agreed.
36 Wheatfield Bray	CPO published March 2023. Currently engaging with owner with a view to purchase by agreement.
27 Wolfe Tone Square South, Bray.	Negotiations under way
1 further CPOs (further house in Bray and Wicklow Town) to be published.	

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

Derelict Properties

The following four derelict properties have been approved for sale:

Property	Progress
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Croneyhorn	Sale approved by the members a the June meeting held on 12/06/2023 – final stages in progress
Killacloran	Valuation done, application being progressed
Rednagh Rd	Sale approved by the members a the June meeting held on 12/06/2023 – final stages in progress
Borkhill	No interested parties

Affordable Housing

Greenhill Road Affordable Housing Scheme was launched to the public for applications on 09/01/2023, and closed on 30/01/2023. There was a lot of interest from the public and Wicklow County Council received over 140 applications for the 36 properties. Wicklow County Council are currently 'sale agreed' on all the 36 units. – 10 of the sales have now closed.

Wicklow County Council also received approval for future affordable housing schemes in the county in the past month – one development in Rathnew(44) and another in Baltinglass(22),

Baltinglass - Portal closing on 4th October for these 22 units

Rathnew - Site to be completd approx. August 2024 – properties will be advertised for sale in early 2024

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

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.

A grant of up to €70,000 is available.

If the refurbishment costs exceed the standard grant of up to €50,000, a top-up grant amount of up to €20,000 is available.

To qualify for the grant, applicants must:

- have proof of ownership or evidence of active negotiations to buy the property (that is, confirmation of engagement from the estate agent or owner of the property) where you are seeking approval in principle for a grant.
- live in the property as your principal private residence or make it available for rent.
- have proof that the property has been vacant for at least 2 years and that it was built up to and including 2007.

Number of Applications	62
Applications in progress/information requested	14
Applications finalised	44
Applications withdrawn	4

Infill Sites

- Knockroe – Two 4 bed fully accessible homes in progress - expected completion date Q4 2023
- 5a Rednagh Rd – One 4 bed house – Part 8 to commence shortly

Housing Maintenance – Boiler servicing & safety checking campaign

The focus now is on servicing and safety checking of 1416 Oil and 2269 Gas boilers around the county. Contractors are reporting **access rates as low as 60%** which is surprising given the current “Cost of Living” crisis with high fuel costs. It is in tenants’ interests to ensure that they provide access to contractors to service and safety check boilers. Oil boilers in particular will consume more fuel if soot build up is not removed at the annual service. Also important checks and replacement of components such as fuel hoses are carried out on oil boilers which prevents expensive loss of fuel and environmental damage which is extremely expensive to clean up. All new boilers fitted now are condensing boilers which have higher thermal efficiency and use less fuel.

Local Authority Home loans up to September 2023

Received	Approved in principle
45	14

2016 Tenant (Incremental) Purchase Scheme

	To date	September 2023
Applications Received	406	4
Completed	101	2
Declined	280	2
Ongoing	17	17

Homeless figures for October 2023

Addressing Homelessness			
	As at 31/10/2023	Year To Date	As at 31/10/2022
No of New Presentations	28	264	50
No. of Repeat Presentations	1	10	0
No. of Families (Minimum 1 Adult + One Child)	3	109	15
No. of Individuals (Single Adult, no children)	28	295	52

	2	17	0
No. Of Couples (2 Adults, no children)			
No. of Children	22	216	18
NTQ/Asked to Leave/Landlord selling	3	80	0
Family Circumstances	11	77	8
Leaving Prison/Hospital Care	4	17	2
Mental Health	10	22	3
Risk of Homelessness	17	50	0
Arrears/Loss of Income	0	6	1
Addiction Issues	1	23	7
DV/DA	0	18	8
Medical Issues	17	16	0
Overcrowding	7	31	1
Unsuitable/Voluntarily Left	4	17	5
ASB:	0	6	2
Rough Sleeping*	2	19	2
Sofa Surfing*	0	33	7
Staying with Family*	8	62	7
Staying with Friends*	1	11	2

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

Own Door Temporary Accommodation at 31/07/23	
Families	15
Adults	34
Children	37
Single individual	0

Bed & Breakfast Accommodation - No. of Homeless Emergency Accommodation Placements & Duration @ 30/09/2023								
	No. of Households	No. of Adults	No. of Children	< 3 mths	3-6 mths	6-9 mths	9-12 mths	>12mths
Household breakdown	19	27	50	9	15	4	49	10
Bed & Breakfast Accommodation - No. of Homeless Emergency Accommodation Placements & Duration @ 30/09/22								
	No. of Households	No. of Adults	No. of Children	< 3 mths	3-6 mths	6-9 mths	9-12 mths	>12mths

Household breakdown	23	35	57	15	19	10	54	10
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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, 478 households (338 families & 135 singles) have been assisted under the Homeless HAP Scheme in Wicklow County Council from the inception on 1st October 2018 to 31st October 2023. (200 homeless cases, 266 prevention cases to date and 11 direct provision). 132 properties were sourced by WCC.

Addressing Homelessness in partnership with Approved Housing Bodies

Homeless Supported Temporary Accommodation – Kilmantin Hill, Wicklow

Kilmantain 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, with continuing transition by the clients to suitable, alternative accommodation at the moment.

Homeless Family Service – Fitzwilliam Road, Wicklow

Dublin Simon has been engaged by Wicklow County Council to operate and manage the facility at Fitzwilliam Road, Wicklow as a Family Homeless Service. The building comprises of 3 x 1 bed units 2 x 2 bed units and 2 x 3 bed units – Six of the 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-month STA (Supported Temporary Accommodation) with key working support to enable family's transition from homelessness into Homeless HAP or alternative longer term accommodation.

Homeless Supported Temporary Accommodation – San Remo, Bray

San Remo is operated by Dublin Simon, incorporates a service model where 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. CWI (Cold Weather Initiative) beds will be in operation in San Remo from October 2023 until April 2024.

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

The facility providing 35 ensuite bedrooms with associated kitchens and common areas 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 Arklow, leased to AHBs, 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 create space to move further people out of homelessness.

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

Housing First

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

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

Wicklow County Council has, to date, successfully accommodated 18 clients under Housing First and it is hoped that at least three further allocations will take place before the end of 2023. Other clients proposed for Housing First have been assessed by the team and are availing of key support work pending finalisation of sourcing of accommodation – the main issue facing this programme is the availability of one bed units in suitable locations with easy access to services etc.

Youth Homeless Strategy 2023-2025

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

Traveller Accommodation

Capital Programme

Ballintreskin – 3 houses	Contractor on site- expected completion date Nov 2023
Avondale Heights, Rathdrum – 3 houses	Contractor appointed and is due to start in October 2023
Barndarrig Group Housing scheme for 3 houses	Due to change in the family circumstances – new site selection is being investigated

Fire safety annual checks on Halting sites for 2022 have been carried out and the 2023 will commence in September 2023.

Energy Efficiency

Energy Efficiency Fabric Upgrade Phase 2

All 71 properties given approval for energy efficiency fabric upgrade works in 2022 have been completed. Surveying of the houses identified for 2023 Programme is substantially completed and approx 35 have commenced on site.

Ukrainian Response

- As of 16th October, the numbers of Ukrainians Displaced Persons in emergency type accommodation is 1,737 (although we know that there are considerably more in the County)

This number is broken down as follows –

- | | |
|------------------|---------|
| • Arklow MD | 273 No. |
| • Baltinglass MD | 368 No. |
| • Bray MD | 739 No. |
| • Greystones MD | 171 No. |
| • Wicklow MD | 186 No. |
- WCC are currently assessing all Displaced Ukrainians persons in the County in order to identify their accommodation needs as well linking them in with all the relevant services and supports within the community.
 - WCC are working through a list of pledged properties within the County and matching families accordingly. As of the 21st September we will have housed 236 number displaced Ukrainian people into pledged stand-alone Offer a Home properties
Larger buildings and vacant units are also being identified and explored as potential options for medium to long term accommodation.
 - The Community Response Forum continues to meet on a monthly basis

2. Community

County Wicklow Age Friendly Programme

National Age Friendly Achievement and Recognition Awards

Beyond the Trees Avondale has been shortlisted for the National Age Friendly Achievement and Recognition Awards, in the Business Innovation Category. The judges visited Avondale 2nd October. The decision of the judging panel will be announced at the annual Awards Ceremony, which will be held on 30th November 2023, at Clayton Whites Hotel Wexford.

Beyond the Trees Avondale, located in Avondale Forest Park, County Wicklow, was acknowledged as the first age friendly tourist destination in the country. It received its official Age Friendly Charter, from Age Friendly Ireland, at a launch event in November 2022, and Beyond the Trees Avondale is now also recognised by the World Health Organisation (WHO) as an international model of good practice for age friendly development.



Photo: Age Friendly Ireland Walkability Audit, at Beyond The Trees Avondale, July 2022

Disability and Inclusion Steering Committee

The first Disability and Inclusion Strategy for County Wicklow was approved by the Disability and Inclusion Steering Committee (DISC) and presented to the full Council on 2nd October, by Laura O'Callaghan, Disability Information Officer (Disability Federation of Ireland). The official launch of the strategy took place at the Arklow Bay Hotel on Friday 20th October.

County Wicklow Archives

The project *Wicklow Gaol Comrades: A Civil War Autograph Book* is a collaboration of the Wicklow and Wexford County Council Archive services. This project tells the stories of the men held in Wicklow Gaol during the Civil War and consists of a publication, exhibition and video. See https://heritage.wicklowheritage.org/topics/wicklow_1916-1923/launch-of-wicklow-gaol-comrades-a-civil-war-autograph-book

The prisoners feature in a 1923 autograph book, which was donated to Wexford County Archives many years ago. It consists of rhymes, messages, sketches and cartoons, all recalling the men's humanity,

courage and humour in the grim surroundings of Wicklow Gaol, where they faced an uncertain future. The men hailed from Wicklow, Wexford, Carlow, Kildare, Westmeath and Dublin. As part of the project, relatives of the prisoners were traced and were welcomed to Wicklow Gaol on the night of the launch and thanked for their invaluable contributions to the publication, video and exhibition.

This project is one of several Decade of Centenary projects by the Wicklow County Archives service, which is located at Wicklow Library in Wicklow Town. It offers a rich resource for researchers of wide and varying interests - students, teachers, local and family historians, academic researchers and those interested in the story of County Wicklow, the history and development of the county, of local communities, and the authorities who served them.

The project was supported by Wicklow and Wexford County Councils and the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media under their Decade of Centenaries funding. A special thanks also to Jenny Sherwin and her team at the Arts Office of Wicklow County Council for all their assistance and support with this project.

Cllr Aoife Flynn Kennedy, Cathaoirleach, Wicklow County Council, said: *“County archives have proved a rich and fruitful source for Decade of Centenary research, particularly in relation to the stories of the ordinary men and women who were so much impacted during this time. This demonstrates the key role of archives in reassessing and understanding this pivotal period in our history.”*

Cllr Shay Cullen, Leas Cathaoirleach of Wicklow Municipal District stated: *“In his ‘Machnamh 100’ address, President Michael D. Higgins challenges us to ‘engage with our shared past in a manner that is honest, authentic and inclusive, and as might assist a healing of conflicts that cannot be forgotten.’ I believe this project Wicklow Gaol Comrades: A Civil War Autograph Book has risen to that challenge, and I congratulate all involved.”*

Chief Executive, Emer O’Gorman, added: *“The Wicklow Gaol Civil War Prisoners Autograph Book, tells their story beautifully. This little item – measuring just five inches by four - is brimming with salutations, sketches and poetry - evoking the personalities, humour and resilience of the men imprisoned in this very building 100 years ago.”*

The exhibition will be on display in the foyer of Wicklow County Buildings for the month of October and will then travel to Wicklow library branches. The video was produced for the project by <https://mckennacreative.ie/> is shared on YouTube and on social media.

There will be a number of copies of the publication available to the public, as well as libraries, history groups and schools. For further information, please contact Catherine Wright, Wicklow County Archives at archives@wicklowcoco.ie



Wicklow Arts Office

Creative Places Baltinglass Mural

Baltinglass is getting its train back with a mural depicting the town's once-active railway station nearing completion on the 58-metre-long hoarding at Belan Street and Mill Street.

The concept was conceived by B.A.R.T., the Baltinglass Art Group, a group of local artists who have been working for some time on the design and development of this project.

'Sing in Wicklow' Awards Scheme

The Sing in Wicklow Awards supports collective singing across County Wicklow. Specifically created to advance the professional development of choirs, singing groups, and musical directors, the scheme aims to extend valuable opportunities for community participation in choral singing.

The Sing in Wicklow Awards form part of a wider set of actions created by Wicklow County Council and funded by Creative Ireland to support the existing community choral infrastructure and enhance participation levels under the Creative Wicklow Strategy 2023 – 2027.

A callout for applications was circulated on 4th September 2023. The deadline for receipt of applications was Friday 29th September 2023. A total of 13 applications were received of which 6 were successful.

The applications were assessed by panel members Katherine Zeserson, independent consultant, and Síle Stewart, Arts Service Coordinator.

Culture Night 2023

Culture Night (Oíche Chultúir) returned to Wicklow on Friday, 22nd September 2023.

To celebrate Culture Night this year, Wicklow County Arts Office commissioned, collaborated and supported an extensive programme of events and activities in over 12 locations across the County Wicklow.

With an estimated 3,700 people in attendance across all 20 events, the Wicklow County programme featured a diverse range of events and happenings purposefully selected to open up pathways to creativity.

OCTOBER 2023



The Wicklow Culture Night programme regularly featured in local press with over 10 articles published in the lead up to Friday 22nd September.

The Harp Concert Series

This September and October, in every library across County Wicklow, harpist Aisling Ennis performed a very special harp concert inspired by fairies and their frolics.

Funded by the Arts Council and Wicklow Arts Office through the Strategic Projects Award Scheme and supported by Wicklow Library Services, the concert series programme has featured The Fairies by William Allingham, Follets by Alphonse Hasselmans, Story: The Daghdha and his magical harp Uaithne, Sí Beag Sí Mór & Carolan's Concerto, by Turlough O'Carolan, arranged by Aisling Ennis and many more.

Artist Connect Blog Series

The thirteenth Artist Connect blog entry is by Eoin O'Malley. Eoin is a Wicklow-based artist who has been developing his practice since 2008 working alongside facilitator Orla Callaghan. Artists Connect seeks to support artists across all art forms who reside, in or are from County Wicklow, to connect, share and learn from each other.

'Way with Words' Returns to Blessington Library

Wicklow Arts Office and Wicklow County Library Services announced the full programme for the 'Way with Words' Literature Festival, which took place on 13th and 14th October 2023 in Blessington Library.

Funded by Creative Ireland, the programme featured a range of events that included a performance of 'My delicious Hat' by Paul Timoney; a graphic novel workshop specifically for children and young people by award-winning writer by award-winning Aoife Dooley; writing workshops by Jane Clarke, William Ryan, and Tanya Farrelly, and an evening reading by Eithne Hand, David Butler and Jane Clarke.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the in-conversation with Edel Coffey moderated by local writer Olivia Fitzsimons will be rescheduled to a later date.

Wicklow Music Teaching Residency

The Wicklow Music Teaching Residency is a partnership between the Wicklow County Arts Office and Music Network. County Wicklow residents aged 55 and over are invited to pick up musical instruments they used to play in times gone by and start playing again under the guidance of 'The Rossana Trio'.

This year's participants will receive tuition on uilleann pipes, whistle, flute, violin/fiddle or bodhrán with The Rossana Trio, comprising renowned musicians Mark Redmond (uilleann pipes, whistles, flute), Lynda O'Connor (violin/fiddle) and Robbie Walsh (bodhrán).

The closing date for applications was Wednesday 1st November 2023 at 2pm.

Creative Places Baltinglass: Capacity Building Session

Creative Places Baltinglass hosted a free 'Capacity Building' event for artists and creatives based in the Baltinglass area on Friday, 3rd November in Baltinglass.

The session provided an opportunity to network and learn about the upcoming Artist One-to-One Coaching scheme which will open for applications on Monday 6th November 2023.

Wicklow Artist Salon

On Saturday 4th November 2023 in Kilruddery House, Wicklow Artist Salon presented the final event in the 2023 series.

With the theme of 'Influences', this session will explore experimental circus, dream pop, lens-based art, fiction and documentary film. Five early career Wicklow Artists will share their work and the art, people and places that have helped shape their vision.

Blessington Greenway

Planning documents were submitted to An Bord Pleanála under Section 177AE of the Planning and Development Act, with a deadline of 4th March 2022.

On 16th of March 2023, WCC received a request for further information (RFI) from An Bord Pleanála. The Board had sought a response to this RFI request by the 8th June 2023. However, due to the significant information sought by ABP, an extension to the 29th January 2024 was granted by ABP.

WCC staff, in conjunction with Aecom, the consultants, are continuing to prepare a full comprehensive response to this RFI to meet this new deadline.

Community Recognition Fund

We currently have seven active projects, please see below:

	Project Description
Bray Community Centre	Internal works including electrical upgrade, painting, flooring and heating system improvement works
	External works including windows and doors replacement, safe removal of asbestos, exterior painting,
	Other works will include accessible lift, protected stairway works, insulation upgrade, landscaping and signage
Baltinglass Community Park	Riverside Walking Path
	New Playground
	MUGA Refurbishment
Bray Parish Centre	Internal works including electrical upgrade, painting and fittings
Wicklow Town Placemaking Project	Refurbishment of Assembly Hall (total area 2,000 sq. ft) to include new heating system, Internal painting, insulation, install 3 phase, refurbish kitchen, toilets and meeting room areas. Make universally accessible
	Installation of universally accessible outdoor community gym facility along the Murrough, in order to extend upon and complement the existing community facilities present.

	Improvements to the seafront promenade linking Wicklow Harbour to the existing Murrough community facilities and beyond to the Murrough coastal walk.
Arklow Playing Pitch	Groundworks and surfacing works
	Multi use pitch and fencing
	Landscaping
Rathdrum Community Park	Groundworks, Fencing, Gates
	Landscaping, large planters and benches
Greystones Community Park	Boules/petanque playing ground
	Landscaping and Community Placemaking

Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme

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

Seven **Funding applications** were made under Measure 1 on the 5th September 2023, with a project timeline of around 18 months.

Two **Project Development Measure** applications were also submitted.

Measure 2 applications are due for submission on the 27th October next, with an approval date of Qtr. 1 2024 and a project timeline of around 24 months.

Measure 3 applications are also due for submission on the 27th October next, with an approval date of Qtr. 1 2024 and a project timeline of around 24 months.

The table below is a list of current projects which are being progressed and were funded under the ORIS funding stream:

ORIS Project	Present Position
North Wicklow Trails	New connection almost completed linking the Sugar Loaf to the Vartry Trails
Clogherna Access, Glenmalure	Works to improve surface and increase traffic safety at the Clogherna access to Baravore Bridge, Glenmalure. Works due to start at the end of September.
Avonmore Kayak Project	This project is near completion. An extension until March 2024 has been requested from the Department. Railings are being fitted at Rathdrum bridge and privacy screens are now in place at the Meetings of The Waters in Avoca.
Kilmacanogue Nature Trail	Completed. Enhanced links between Wicklow Uplands and the Sugarloaf Way. New signage to be added.

Wicklow Coastal Blueway	A new boardwalk is installed at Greystones South Beach which will make the beach more accessible to all individuals including those with varying degrees of ability. An upgrade of existing facilities is planned for Brittas Bay along with new information boards in conjunction with the guidance of the Heritage Officer. Arklow - Bicycle stands, privacy screens for changing, planting, information boards and cleaning of graffiti are some of the features of the plan in place for The Cove, Arklow Rock and South Beach Arklow.
Cliff Walk Protection Scheme	The project has been paused briefly to allow for finalising the purchase of third-party land.
Sugarloaf Repair	This project entails the manual pitching of stone at the Sugarloaf to create ascent and decent points, work scheduled to commence soon.
Three Trout Route Project Developments	Now at project design stage following the identification of two crossing points connecting the stream with existing infrastructure.
Ballyboy Equestrian Trail	Completed with new signage to be added.
Miner's Way	Upgrading and resurfacing completed with new signage being added.
Glen Turn Cliff Walk	Completed with new signage being added.
Red Kite Loop Wild Play Area, Avoca	Play structures have been identified and design is currently under way. An extension until March 2024 has been requested from the Department.
Wicklow Uplands	Project completed with the airlifting of surface materials to the sensitive site in the Wicklow Uplands.
Russborough Parklands and House Trail	It is planned to enhance the existing walking trails and install a cycle hub.
Glenmalure Recreation Area	The project will include the upgrading of the existing trail, removal of damaged boardwalk and replacement with a sustainable surface.
Coolkenno Equestrian Trail	The aim of this project is to construct an 8km equestrian trail and associated access points.
Roundwood Recreation Area	This multi-use family facility project will include the provision of a bike hub, natural play area, way-marking and information boards. Part VIII process to commence on 18 th October 2023.
Jubilee Loop and Avonmore Way link 2021 Scheme	Accessibility improvement works will be tendered shortly for this project.



Healthy
Wicklow



Sláintecare.
Healthy
Communities

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Healthy Wicklow

Disco Yoga

Exciting new 6-week programme started in Gaelscoil Chill Mhantáin, Rathnew on 4th October facilitated by Joga Yoga. Disco Yoga is a unique yoga class inspired by those who simply want fitness to be fun and uplifting but also looking for a new way to unwind and socialise.

Active Ageing Week 1st – 7th October

Carnew Community Care Centre – activator walking pole session held on 2nd October for residents and day care visitors.

Shillelagh Courthouse – 5-week activator pole programme commenced on 3rd October.

Tinahely Community Hall – 8-week low mobility programme with physio David Blake started 4th October. The aim of these classes will be to improve strength and increase movement for participants over the 8 weeks.

Sláintecare Healthy Communities

Little Bray Feasibility Study: The first in-person meeting of the Feasibility Project Group took place on the 4th October. Membership of the group includes the Cathaoirleach, Bray District Administrator, SHC LDO, two reps from the HSE and the consultation team from S3Solutions. Community consultations are expected to start in October, with a draft of the report to be available by the end of November, and the final report completed by mid-December.

Wicklow Sports & Recreation Partnership

European Week of Sport

Give it a Go Multisport Event

Our Give it a Go multisport event took place Friday 29th September on Bray promenade. There were various pop-up sports for everyone to try out such as volleyball, tennis, football, face painting, music and more. The event gave people the opportunity to try out a new sport and have fun while doing it. Over 100+ people attended the event.

Learn to Cycle Taster Sessions

Free Learn to Cycle Taster Sessions took place on Saturday 23rd and Saturday 30th September in two locations Blessington and Greystones. The participants included children with a neurodiverse diagnosis and or a disability.



Men on the Move

This instructor led programme is aimed at men who are absolute beginners to exercise. We have extended the programme for another eight weeks with six men currently taking part. The programme commenced Monday 2nd October in Bray Wheelers Clubhouse at 7.30pm - 8.30pm.



Squash coaching for beginners at Coral Leisure Arklow

8 participants are attending beginner squash coaching with Irish Squash coach Vincent Pippet at Coral Leisure Arklow. They are learning how to the different shots, how to rally and play matches. Classes take place on Wednesday.



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Sports First Aid

12 participants attended the Sports First Aid course facilitated by Premier First Aid at Wicklow Tennis Club on 23rd September.



Rowing programme in Glenart College Arklow

Wicklow Sports and Recreation Partnership in collaboration with Rowing Ireland are funding a 6 week rowing programme at Glenart College Arklow. Rowing Ireland instructors are teaching the first year students proper rowing technique and giving the students an opportunity to practise time trials. This is a great opportunity to try out a new sport.



Learn to Cycle in Autism Unit – Tinahely NS

Wicklow Sports and Recreation Partnership are running a six week Learn to Cycle programme with Tinahely Primary Schools Autism units throughout September and October. The 16 children age 5 to 12 with a neurodiverse diagnosis are learning the lifeskill of cycling with cycling ireland qualified tutors with funding from CYPSC and Healthy Ireland.



Learn to Cycle – Community Programme – Enniskerry – Primary Care Disability Networks Teams

Wicklow Sports and Recreation Partnership have a community five week programme for Learn to Cycle targeting the Bray MD and Greystones MD. Collaborating with the HSE CDNT teams to target children with a disability to take part. This programme is also funded by CYPSC and Healthy Ireland. There are 15 participants in this programme.

Inclusive Dance Fit and Yoga– Arklow Coral Leisure Centre

Wicklow Sports and Recreation Partnership continued the Dance Fit programme for Adults who attend HSE Day care services in the Arklow area. Yoga was added to the activity when the Dance tutor was not available. Both activities are very popular with the max capacity of 20 participants attending. This programme will continue to the end of 2023 each week on a Friday morning.

Training & Education

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>When</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Safeguarding 1	3 Hours Online	12 th September	14 Attendees
Safeguarding 1	Greystones FC	12 th September	16 Attendees
Safeguarding 1	3 Hours Online	18 th September	14 Attendees
Safeguarding 2	3 Hours Online	26 th September	9 Attendees
Inclusive Fitness Training	3.5 hr Online Workshop	18 th September	9 Attendees of Fitness Centres

County Wicklow Library Service

Capital Programme Update

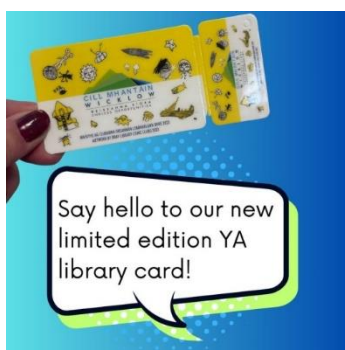
The Part 8 process for the proposed new Ballywaltrim Library was successfully completed in August, with a positive report from WCC Planning. The Chief Executive's report on the process was presented to Bray Municipal District Cllrs at their October meeting (October 3rd). The project was welcomed by all and the Part 8 Process was formally passed. "As Build Drawings" are now being prepared by the architect, which will be completed by end of year. These will then be forwarded to the Quantity Surveyor with the instruction to produce a Bill of Quantities, for construction tender purposes. It is anticipated that the construction tender will issue in March, and builders will be on site in summer 2024.

Limited Edition Young Adult Cards introduced by Wicklow County Council Library Service

Wicklow County Council Library Service is delighted to introduce a limited-edition Young Adult library card for patrons aged 12-17.

The distinctive and playful card was designed by participants in the Bray Library Comic Clubs alongside comic book artist Elida Maiques. It reflects the creativity, talent and enormous interest in comics, graphic novels and art present in our community.

To upgrade a Junior library account to Young Adult, it is necessary for a young person's guardian to fill out a Young Adult Membership form. These are available at the desk of every library in Wicklow County Council, and the process should take less than 5 minutes.



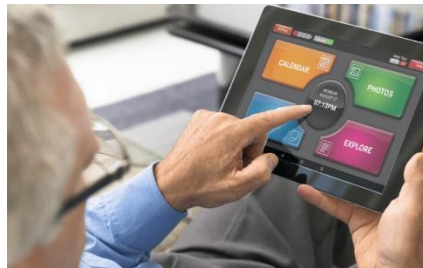
Exciting News for Wicklow's Seniors: ACORN Tablets Available for Loan!

Wicklow County Council Library Service has introduced a new initiative for older residents. Thanks to Dormant Account Funding and generous support from Age Friendly Wicklow, the library has acquired ACORN smart tablets tailored for seniors. These tablets, available on a 3-week loan basis, offer a 'taster' experience, allowing seniors to familiarise themselves with technology before making a decision to buy.

The ACORN tablets feature an easy-to-use interface, senior-focused content, and built-in safety features. Each tablet also offers its own mobile data service, via an integrated SIM card, which may be useful for those who haven't quite made the jump to always-on internet in their home.

This effort aims to bridge the digital gap, foster community connections, and promote lifelong learning among seniors. Wicklow County Council's Age Friendly Strategy 2023-2027 emphasises the importance of digital engagement, and this initiative reflects the commitment to supporting older community members.

The introduction of ACORN tablets is more than just providing technology; it signifies the council's dedication to enhancing connectivity, knowledge, and accessibility in the lives of seniors. This initiative represents a positive step toward a more connected future for Wicklow's senior community.



Books at Bedtime - Free Bedtime Picture Book for Every Child aged 0-4

Wicklow County Council Library is excited to announce a new national initiative aimed at fostering a love for reading and early literacy skills in the youngest members of our community. From October 3rd every child aged from birth to 4 in the county is invited to visit their local library with their parent, guardian or minder and receive a free bedtime story book.

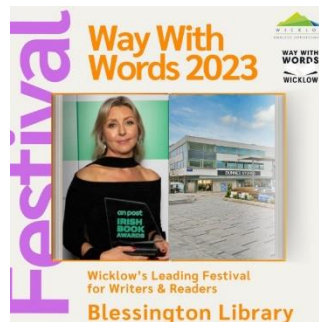
Wicklow's Library staff are very much looking forward to meeting lots of very young babies and toddlers in the coming weeks and have planned extra activities in their branches. These include tummy times, rhyme times and story times. Reading rhymes and stories together will give them a flying start!



Way With Words 2023, Blessington Library

The 'Way with Words' Literature Festival, funded by Creative Ireland, returned on October 13th and 14th at Blessington Library in Wicklow County. The fifth edition offered a diverse program catering to all ages, including workshops, readings, and interactive sessions. Award-winning writers like Colm Keegan, Helena Duggan, and Jane Clarke lead creative writing workshops for students, exploring themes from magical realms to environmental consciousness. Acclaimed Wicklow writers Eithne Hand, David Butler, and Jane Clarke shared their poetry and short stories. The festival also featured interactive sessions on creating graphic novels with Aoife Dooley, criminal creativity with William Ryan, and character development in fiction with Tanya Farrelly. Journalist Edel Coffey read from her debut novel 'Breaking Point' followed by a conversation moderated by local writer Olivia Fitzsimons. 'My Delicious Hat,' an

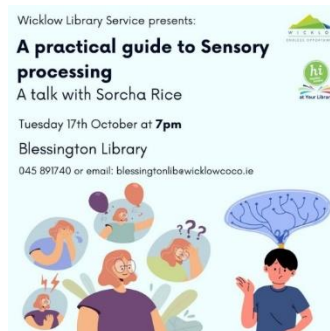
interactive performance by Paul Timoney, provided fun and play for families. The festival supports and engages the vibrant community of writers and readers in Wicklow.



A Practical Guide to sensory Processing with Sorcha Rice- at Blessington Library

Occupational Therapist Sorcha Rice hosted a presentation in Blessington Library called “A Practical Guide to Sensory Processing.” The talk covered sensory processing difficulties and provided practical examples of how best to support your child. For example:

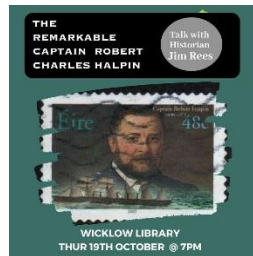
- If your child has difficulty with self-care tasks such as brushing teeth, washing hair or getting dressed
- If your child is a picky eater
- If your child comes home from school and is having big reactions to small things



The Remarkable Captain Robert Charles Halpin, Talk with Jim Rees at Wicklow Library

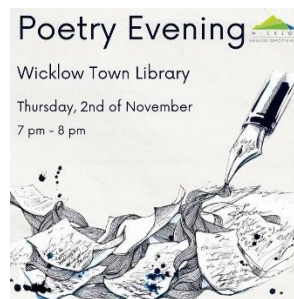
Renowned author and historian Jim Rees’ delivered a captivating talk on the life of Captain Robert Halpin in his very own birthplace of Wicklow Town at Wicklow Library on 19th October.

Robert Halpin was born at the Bridge Tavern in Wicklow Town in 1836. He went to sea aged 11 and became a Master Mariner at 22. In his career, he captained the SS Great Eastern and laid marine telegraph cables linking four continents. He died at his home in Tinakilly House in Rathnew in 1894 at the age of 57.



Evening of Poetry with Retired Teachers Association at Wicklow Library

Wicklow Library held an Evening of Poetry with 'The Retired Teachers Association of Ireland' on 2nd of November. Contributors on the evening were Seamus Kavanagh, John Chambers, Andy Gallagher and Margaret Bloomer.



Halloween Costume Swap Shop at Greystones Library

A 'Halloween Costume Swap Shop' took place in Greystones Library this on 14th of October where preloved costumes were brought and traded in for something different.

This event was held with the support of Cllr Lourda Scott, Barbara Greenthread and parents from GETNS.



Exhibition of Photos featuring Culture of Ukraine at Arklow Library

Arklow Library hosted a captivating photo exhibition showcasing the vibrant culture of Ukraine on 19th October. This project featured 12 remarkable women from different backgrounds, all with unique stories, who now call Wicklow their home. Their inspiring journeys were shared, offering a glimpse into their lives

and the rich tapestry of Ukrainian heritage. This was an insightful event with opportunities to engage with the participants, and the chance to browse through beautiful photographs capturing the Ukrainian heritage.



Chess at Arklow and Greystones Libraries for Children & families

Arklow Library is on the hunt for Chess Club members aged 7 - 12 yrs.

If you know children who would be interested in joining, please contact the library at 0404 39977 or email arklowlibrary@wicklowcoco.ie.

Greystones Library hosted 3 Family Chess sessions on October 17th, 19th and 26th from 6.30- 8 pm.

Chess gives children the chance to dive into the exciting world of chess. They learn the rules, practice moves, and challenge each other in matches. It's not just a game; it's a mental workout that sharpens their brains and teaches them valuable life skills like patience and critical thinking.



Emily Hourican Author Event at Ballywaltrim Library

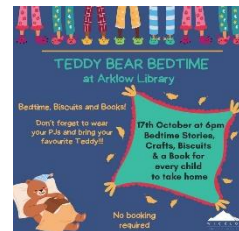
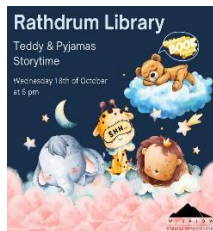
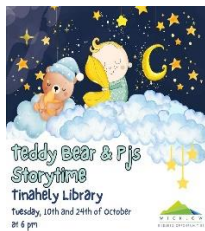
Ballywaltrim Library welcomed author, Emily Hourican to do a reading and engage with an audience Q&A on 18th of October. Emily read from her latest novel *An Invitation to the Kennedys*. This was a most enjoyable evening as Emily chatted about her captivating story of high society, forbidden love and a world on the cusp of change.

Emily is the author of six novels, *The Guinness Girls A Hint of Scandal*, *The Glorious Guinness Girls*, *The Privileged*, *White Villa*, *The Blamed* and *The Outsider*, and one book of non-fiction, *How To Really Be A Mother*.



Pyjama Story Times at Wicklow's libraries this October

Keep an eye out for these fun Pyjama Bedtime Story Events at Wicklow's libraries this October. Children can arrive in their comfiest pyjamas and snuggle up with their favourite toy or sleeptime comfort. Arklow, Rathdrum, Ballywaltrim & Tinahely Libraries are hosting delightful Pyjama Storytime sessions, bringing the magic of books to life in the snuggest way possible. Suitable for Children under 4 years.



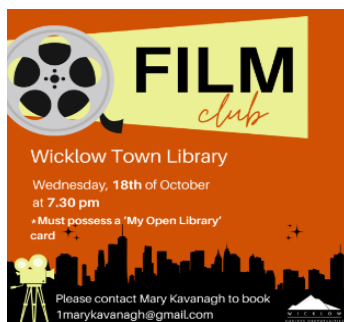
New Film Club at Wicklow Town Library

Cllr. Mary Kavanagh recently expressed interest in bringing back the Wicklow Film Club, a monthly or bi-monthly screening of films in the town.

Without a cinema in the town for many, many years, Wicklow Town has been unable to host such events in the past, however, with the new Wicklow Library – who are licensed to have film screenings – this is now to become a reality.

Wicklow Library already have collection of films which can be viewed there for free, meaning that there would be no costs associated with the events. Anyone wishing to join in on the event would have to register for “My Open Library” in order to stay on the premises past 8.30pm.

The first date took place on 18th of October.



Hallowe'en Activities at Wicklow's Libraries

Halloween extravaganza at Wicklow's libraries!

Events featured Spooky Storytimes at Arklow, Blessington, Bray and other libraries, A Spooky Film at Wicklow Library and Spooky Food at Arklow Library, Face painting at Wicklow Library.



Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP):

Bray Area Partnership awarded an additional €44,995 from DRCD to provide enhanced supports and services to the Ukrainian community in the Bray & Greystones MD areas.

The tendering process for the new SICAP contracts continues with an evaluation with negotiation process now underway. New contracts to be in place by end December.

Co. Wicklow Public Participation Network (PPN):

Co. Wicklow PPN hosted the very successful 2023 National PPN Conference in Arklow Bay Hotel on Oct. 5th/6th. Over 200 delegates from all over Ireland in attendance, including Minister Joe O'Brien.

Consultations: Wicklow Town & Rathnew Local Area Plan, Blessington Town Centre Masterplan, Killincarrig Village Enhancement Scheme, Regional Water Resources Plan, Local Property Tax – Local Adjustment Factor, Arklow to Shillelagh Greenway, All Ireland Coastwatch Survey.

Training Opportunities: Dementia Understand Together in Communities, Social Media for Community Groups- Get Creative with Canva, Charities Regulator Governance Code-GDPR.

Funding Opportunities/Competitions: Town & Village Renewal Scheme, WCC Tree Grant, Be Inclusive EU Sport Awards, Biodiversity Fund, Community Climate Action Fund, Climate Emergency Fund, St Stephen's Green Trust Funding Programme, Community Food Initiative.

See www.countywicklowppn.ie and Wicklow PPN social media channels for further information on above and more.

Economic Development, Planning, and Infrastructure

1. Economic Development

Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP)

LECP 2023 – 2029

The Local Economic and Community Plan Framework (LECP) was approved by the elected members of Wicklow County Council on 2nd October 2023. The first two-year implementation plan is currently being finalised.

Town Regeneration

Blessington Town Centre First Masterplan

Blessington is a pathfinder town and is the first to receive funding for a Town Centre First Masterplan. The development of the plan is underway with an expected completion date for mid-November. Consultation with the public has taken place through pop-up events and online surveys.

The themes emerging from the plan are:

- Community
- Accessibility
- Urban Realm
- Natural Environment
- Economy

Town Teams Networking

The Town Team Networking Event which took place in Brockagh Resource Centre, Laragh was very well attended; Wessel from Urban Mode facilitated a workshop with Town Teams to introduce the placemaking approach and its relevance for Town Teams.

Blessington Town Team

The Town Centre First Policy was launched at a recent Town Team meeting held in September. Ms. Deirdre Whitfield, Wicklow County Council Town Regeneration Officer, gave a presentation on the Town

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Centre First Policy. The committee were advised that consultants have been engaged to carry out the process with work to commence immediately and with an expected completion date of the document expected to be eight weeks. There will be an extensive public consultation process during this period with input sought from community, sports and social groups as well as the wider community of Blessington.

A working group made up of members of the Blessington Town team has been established to oversee the implementation of the Town First Policy.

Arklow Town Team

Arklow Town Team is delighted to receive an invitation to take part in the upcoming PPN National Conference in the Arklow Bay Hotel. The Town Team will have a stand at the event which will showcase a range of projects undertaken by the Team. Members of the Town Team have also been asked to organise walks around Arklow which will allow conference attendees to visit and see first-hand many of the projects.

Bray Town Team

A working group is overseeing the development of the Bray Town Team.

Greystones Town Team

At the recent meeting of Greystones Town Team, updates were provided on the activities and priority areas of all subgroups. Preparations are well underway for events coming up in November.

Wicklow Town Team

The Wicklow Murals – South Quay Connectivity Project is currently underway with three out of six murals completed. The mural on Anchor House, South Quay was completed by Irish artist, Shane O'Driscoll. The Scouts Hall was next to be painted by international artist Curtis Hylton who has incorporated his trademark fusion of nature, flora and fauna. The French street artist, Zabou, created a large scale mural on the upper end of Salthouse Lane featuring the iconic lighthouse on the Old Pier and the Black Castle.

The final three murals at Quarantine Hill, the Doctors Steps and the lower end of Salthouse Lane will be completed by early November.

Rural and Urban Regeneration Development Fund Grant Applications

Blessington RRDF

Blessington has been awarded just over €1m funding under the Rural Regeneration Development Fund (RRDF). This will be used for the regeneration of Blessington Town Centre, the development of plans for

public realm works, the redevelopment of a vacant/derelict property to create an eHub and a Visitor Centre for the forthcoming Blessington Lakes eGreenway. Combined with the proposals for developing a Masterplan for Blessington, this project will add to the quality of life of the entire community by optimising digital connectivity, supporting employment and skills and enhancing the public realm in line with the objectives that underpin “Our Rural Future” Ireland’s Rural Development policy.

Baltinglass RRDF

The costings for Baltinglass Gateway to Southwest Wicklow have come in over budget on both the public realm and the Courthouse refurbishment. The proposals have been revised and the revised works are due to begin Q3 2023. Works on the public park and playground are underway.

Newtownmountkennedy RRDF

The project is under review at present due to revisions necessary to the public realm, due to contested issues regarding the design of the public realm. Following the necessary revisions it is hoped that agreement will be reached, the plans will be signed off and submitted for Category 1 funding.

URDF: Urban Regeneration Development Fund

The Urban Regeneration Development Fund announced recently that Wicklow will receive €2.5 million to assist long term vacancy and dereliction in the towns of Wicklow and Arklow, thus promoting vibrant communities. The fund will be administered through the Town Regeneration Office and covers the entire cost of acquiring suitable properties identified within Arklow and Wicklow towns which can then be developed. Four properties have been chosen (two in Arklow and two in Wicklow). The process to acquire these sites will commence soon.

Bray Harbour Improvements

A feasibility study and screening reports were completed last year for the Bray Harbour Improvements. Work has commenced on preparing tender documents for the procurement of engineering consultancy services for the purpose of producing detailed designs, an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR), a Natura Impact Statement and an application to An Bord Pleanála for the proposed improvement works at Bray Harbour. The tender will be issued when the URDF funding has been confirmed for the next phase of the project.

Tourism

Fáilte Ireland met recently with Senior Management in relation to a Destination Experience Development Plan (DEDP) for County Wicklow.

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Wicklow Tourism continues to promote County Wicklow as a premier tourism destination utilising various methods including Facebook, Instagram and Website including articles on Life Inspiring Stories at EcoTrail Wicklow, Wicklow's newest passport ambassadors and Wicklow's family friendly Halloween.

EcoTrail Wicklow

- Over 1400 participants registered to the event that took place from Thursday the 28th to Saturday the 30th of September. Despite the elements, the event was a success, attracting visitors from all over the world. The race enjoyed extensive level of media attraction including an interview with professional US athlete Hillary Allen at the Ray D'Arcy show on RTE Radio 1.
- Plans are being finalised to reopen entries for 2024.
- Planning has already begun on the 2024 marketing campaign to maximise Failte Ireland's support to EcoTrail
- Failte Ireland is organising a fact finding trip to the South of France to attend the Festival des Templiers in Millau. The objective of this trip is to study and learn from one of the most successful trail running events in Europe, and understand the tourism potential around trail running.

Wicklow Naturally

The October Feast Festival launched on Sunday, October 1st, 2023 at the Powerscourt Distillery during the Harvest Festival.

- Funding received by DAFM under the RDIF scheme has been used to coordinate Wicklow Naturally activities for OctoberFeast;
- The Festival of Food took place at Brooklodge on October 14th with workshops and discussion panels with Chef Conor Spacey, Dr JP McMahon from Food on the Edge, Darina Allen of Ballymaloe Cookery School and Hermione Winters from Slow Food Ireland.
- On Thursday, October 19th and Friday, October 20th, the Hen's Teeth venue in Dublin showcased the finest food from County Wicklow at Beár Bia.
- Other events include an interactive kid's Halloween-themed cooking class on Saturday, October 28th with Cool Food School while you can enjoy Halloween in the Woods with Tipi Adventures on Sunday, October 29th providing a perfect conclusion to the month of festivities.

Abbey Grounds, Wicklow

Regular meetings are taking place with the Project Management Team for the Abbey Grounds. The redesign for the Coach House/Café has been approved. A structural engineer and quantity surveyor has been appointed to progress the works on this building. Works including public lighting design, mechanical and electrical works for the project is advancing also.

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A detailed archaeological survey of the existing ruins is being carried out at present.

Wicklow County Campus Masterplan

The Wicklow County Campus Masterplan will focus on developing Wicklow County Campus as a Centre of Excellence in Enterprise, Education, and Innovation. Wicklow County Council will use the Masterplan to act as a catalyst for economic development in the county and attract investment and further development.

Special Projects

Greystones Enterprise Centre

Wicklow County Council Economic Development Unit are progressing the acquisition of Enterprise Space in Greystones from Cairn. The purchase of the high specification property is expected to be completed by the end of October 2023.

Sites on the Mill Road Greystones

Progress on the Mill Road sites is on hold pending PRA confirmation of site registration.

Carnew Remote Working Hub

It is anticipated that a contractor will be appointed in Q4 of 2023 for the design of the former Bank of Ireland building in Carnew for the provision of a remote working hub and ancillary facilities.

Marketing Plan

The procurement process has begun to find a consultant to develop a Marketing Plan for County Wicklow, highlighting the availability of Remote Working Hubs and Broadband Connection Points in Wicklow. The procurement process will complete before the end of 2023.

Offshore Renewable Energy

Wicklow County Council has established an Offshore Renewable Energy (ORE) Network with representatives from local businesses, chamber of commerce and the education sector.

Engagement continues with the offshore renewable energy companies who are developing proposals off the coast of County Wicklow.

Representatives from the ORE Network attended the recent Wind Energy Trade Show 2023, held in the Sport Ireland Campus. The show provided networking opportunities with companies operating in the

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offshore renewable energy sector, as well as a range of informative talks covering education, skills, innovations and experiences from other established projects.

Skills Strategy

The Skills Taskforce has members from Wicklow County Council, the training and development sectors, as well as members representing the Film, Food and Renewables sectors.

The contract for a Skills Audit and Strategy was awarded to KPMG Ireland. This project is currently finalising its public consultation to seek employer, employee, and education provider's views on what skills and/or skills shortages exist in County Wicklow. A baseline report, provided by KPMG, will be presented to the Skills Taskforce in November.

Food and Beverage Strategy

Wicklow County Council appointed James Burke Associates (JBA) to carry out a review of the Wicklow Food and Beverage Strategy 2019-2021 and to develop an Action Plan going forward. Work continues on the preparation of an Action Plan.

Regional Enterprise Innovation Scoping Scheme (REISS)

A Priming Grant of €199,600 has been awarded to Clermont Enterprise Hub CLG from Enterprise Ireland's Regional Enterprise Innovation Scoping Scheme (REISS) for the provision of Architectural Design Services & Project Design Preparation (including Part VIII) for a Food Incubation Development Hub at Wicklow County Campus comprising regional infrastructure of scale for agri-food and drinks SMEs including specialist food production units, co-working innovation kitchens, and scaling and growth support services.

Local Enterprise Office

To foster an enterprise culture and stimulate enterprise at local level by:

- 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
	2022	2023	2023
Grants Approved (number/ value) - Measure 1 - Technical Assistance for Micro Exporters	-35/ €950,895 -8/ €12,829.95	- Meet Demand - Meet Demand	23/ € 612,327 2/ € 2,642
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
	2022	2023	2023
Total number of participants at Management Development type programmes.	44	60	31
Start Your Own Business Participant numbers (included in total training programmes)	84 / 7 programmes	120	58
Total No. of all Participants participating in training Programmes (all programmes except SYOB and MDP)	653	1200	495
Women in Business Network Number of Meetings	8	20	18

METRICS: Business Advice & Mentoring	HISTORICAL	TARGETS	YEAR TO DATE
	2022	2023	2023
Number of new clients added to database *Criteria have been amended for this metric	498	500	395
Number of One-to-One Business Advice meetings including Businesses assigned a mentor	426	390	372

METRICS: Student Enterprise Programmes	HISTORICAL	TARGETS	
Academic Year	2021/2022	2022/2023	Year to Date 23-24
No. of Secondary Student Participants	900	1100	1028

METRICS: Irelands Best Young Entrepreneur	HISTORICAL	TARGETS	
Academic Year	2022	2023	Year to Date 2023
Number of Applications	Programme review	Programme review	Programme review

Trading Online Voucher	HISTORICAL	TARGETS	
No of Trading Online Vouchers approved	2022	2023	Year to Date 2023
Trading Online Vouchers	67 Total value: € 138,464	38 (meet demand)	55

Lean, Green & Digital Start for Micro Projects	HISTORICAL	TARGETS	YEAR TO DATE
	2022	2023	2023
No. of Companies who have undertaken a Lean for Micro Assessment by a Lean Expert	11	11	11
No. of Companies who have undertaken a Green for Micro Assessment by a Green Expert	9	17	3
No. of Companies who have undertaken a DigitalStart Assessment by a Digital Expert	4	6	1

Microfinance Ireland	HISTORICAL	TARGETS	YEAR TO DATE
	2022	2023	2023
No. of Companies who have submitted a MFI loan application through the LEO	15	11	5

October 2023 Activities

- Social media and LEO website updates are carried out several times a week to raise awareness and promote the LEO supports.
- Business Advice Clinics continue to run 3 days per week to provide advice to those individuals hoping to start a business and to assist existing businesses grow and develop.
- Organisation ongoing of an event to celebrate National Women’s Enterprise Day on Thursday 19th October.
- Organisation ongoing of the official launch of Clermont Screen Hub on Thursday 26th October by Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council and Minister Simon Coveney.

Business Skills and IT skills Training Programme

The Autumn/Winter Business and IT Skills training programme has been published on the LEO website and is now open for booking. A wide range of core business skills training courses are on offer from September through to December. Courses are open for bookings through our online portal on www.localenterprise.ie/wicklow.

Upcoming courses include:

- Content Creation & Copywriting 18/10/2023
- Costing and pricing for Your Business 24/10
- Trading Online Voucher Seminar 24/10/2023
- Bookkeeping using Excel 26/10/2023.

2. Planning & Development

Forward Planning

Wicklow County Development Plan 2022-2028

Healthy Placemaking, Climate Action and **Economic Opportunity** are the three overarching cross-cutting themes that inform and shape all aspects of the plan. The plan also includes the Core Strategy and the Settlement Strategy for the County. The plan also includes the **Town Plans** for the following settlements: - Baltinglass, Newtownmountkennedy, Rathdrum, Ashford, Aughrim, Carnew, Dunlavin, Tinahely, Avoca, Donard, Newcastle, Roundwood, Shillelagh and Laragh-Glendalough. The Wicklow County Development Plan 2022 – 2028 as altered is available to view here - <https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Planning/Development-Plans-Strategies/National-Regional-County-Plans/Wicklow-County-Development-Plan-2022-2028/Stage-7>

Proposed Variation No. 1 to the CDP (Rathdrum Town Plan)

It is proposed to rezone 0.81ha of land at Ballygannon, Rathdrum, from 'RN – New Residential' to 'OS2 – Passive Open Space' and amend the written text of the Rathdrum Town Plan to reflect the changes consequent from the rezoning. The proposed variation is out on public display until **03 October 2023**, with submissions invited. Details are on the website. <https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Planning/Development-Plans-Strategies/National-Regional-County-Plans/Wicklow-County-Development-Plan-2022-2028/Variation-to-the-County-Development-Plan-2022-2028>

Local Area Plans

Work has commenced on the preparation on three new LAPs for '**Wicklow Town & Rathnew**', '**Greystones – Delgany & Kilcoole**' and '**Blessington**'. The team are at the data gathering and surveying stage for all three plans and are in the process of preparing the online consultation web portal for the pre-draft consultations for Greystones – Delgany and Kilcoole as well as Blessington. It is intended to start pre-draft plan public consultation for Greystones – Delgany & Kilcoole and Blessington in Q4 2023.

Consultants have been appointed to carry out the SEA and AA for the three LAPs and they have commenced their preliminary work. All other studies / assessments are intended at this time to be carried out in-house.

The current LAP's for these three settlements, as well as the Arklow LAP and Bray MD LAP are available to view here <https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Planning/Development-Plans-Strategies/Local-Area-Town-Settlement-Plans>

Wicklow Town & Rathnew Local Area Plan

Pre-draft consultation is coming to a close for the new Wicklow Town & Rathnew Local Area Plan. Submissions are invited up to 28th September 2023. Details are on the portal and website.

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

RZLT – Residential Zoned Land Tax

This is a new tax to activate vacant land for residential purposes, and which will in time replace the Vacant Site Levy, it was enacted as a part of the Finance Act 2021, as referred to in Circular NRUP 06/2021 of 22 December 2021.

The aim of the tax is to activate and bring forward the development of housing on lands which are suitably zoned and serviced, as indicated on maps that have been prepared and published by local authorities for their respective functional areas. These maps were published on Wicklow County Councils website on 01 November 2022. The legislation also sets out certain lands which are to be excluded from the scope of the tax. The tax measure is intended to encourage activation of existing planning permissions on lands which are identified as being in scope and to incentivise owners of suitable lands without planning permission to commence the process of engagement with Planning Authorities.

While residential zonings which include existing dwellings are to be included on the map(s), where connected or able to be connected to services, permanently occupied residential premises which are liable for Local Property Tax will not be liable for the tax.

The Minister has issued guidelines under Section 28 of the PDA to provide guidance to planning authorities in the preparation and publication of maps to identify lands in the scope for this new RZLT.

The 'in scope' maps went on display from 01 November 2022 to 01 January 2023, with submissions invited. Advertisements were placed in local papers and on the local radio station as well as Wicklow County Council social media. 75 submissions were received and all submissions have been published on the Wicklow County Council website. All 75 submissions have been assessed and responded to, before 01 April 2023, with a determination letter as to whether the lands in question are to remain in scope or be removed from the final map. Land owners had the option to appeal the determination decision to ABP, with 18 appeals made in relation to RZLT sites in Wicklow. All queries on appeals should be referred to ABP. A few decisions have been received from ABP, which agree with Wicklow County Council's decision.

Supplemental RZLT maps were published on 01 June 2023 (identifying additional land in scope), however, Wicklow County Council did not publish a supplemental. The final maps will be published on 1st December 2023.!

More information can be found online at the following link <https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Planning/Residential-Zoned-Land-Tax>

Vacant Site Levy

This programme is still ongoing as it will not be replaced by the RZLT until January 2024. All sites currently on the register will be inspected in 2023, and if they remain vacant, will be issued with a 'demand for payment' for the calendar year 2022.

More information can be found online at the following link <https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Planning/Residential-Zoned-Land-Tax>

Heritage & Biodiversity Office

National Biodiversity Action Plan Funded projects

- Brittas Bay Biodiversity Project: €34,170 funding received. Project underway (conservation grazing and ecological monitoring). Community engagement programme running Aug- October. Butterfly identification workshop held 17th Aug, Dynamic Dune workshop on 16th Sept, Bird Migration field trip 30th Sept. Invasive species control scheduled Oct-Dec.
- County Wicklow Hedgerow survey €20,000 funding received. Deborah D'Arcy ecology engaged. Final report due Q4.
- Woodland Monitoring project (bats) €7,000; Project underway with Bat Conservation Ireland and NPWS staff. Final report due Q4.
- Wicklow Pond Restoration project €20,000; Surveys at Clermont House & Mill Lane, Killincarrig.

County Heritage Plan (CHP): Funding allocation of €57,000 confirmed from The Heritage Council for the following actions in 2023:

- Glendalough Community Excavation and outreach: Community (Volunteer) excavation and programme of community engagement complete.
- Wicklow Barn Owl Project: Survey work largely complete
- Seasonal nature workshops; Programme of monthly, free, family friendly events at East Coast Nature. Next 'Hide & Seek' family event held Sat 16th Sept, next event 21st October
- Heritage and Biodiversity Plan reviews: Agreement from SMT to commence review.
- Our Wicklow Heritage communications: Wicklow Irish Community Archive Network (iCAN) public open event held for Tinahely on 7th Sept whereby expressions of interest sought from Wicklow groups to join the network by end of September.
- Community Archaeologist Part Time post. De Faoite Archaeology engaged for 2023. Ongoing liaison with community groups from March to Dec. GIS database created to document Early Medieval Church Sites and Historic graves and headstones. Public talk held in Tinahely on 10th September, event scheduled in Rathdangan 16th October.

Conservation Management of Council owned lands (Climate Action): Conservation Management prescriptions and recommendations drafted in consultation with local stakeholders to increase the climate resilience of Council owned land at Bray Head and address recreational and other pressures. Presented at the Bray MD meeting on 3rd October and officially adopted by members.

Archaeology: Community Monuments Fund- CMF 2023 is co-ordinated on behalf of Wicklow County Council by the Heritage Office. Applications received from private landowners, community groups, public authorities and other custodians of archaeological heritage. Five projects were approved for a total budget of €108,174 as follows; Drumgoff

Barracks €5,000; Kilpipe Church and Graveyard €30,523; Newcastle Castle €29,982; West Wicklow Historic Graveyards €30,000; Derralossary Church and graveyard interpretation €12,669. All projects underway. Recoupments due 17th November.

Built Heritage Capital Funds (Architecture): The allocation for Wicklow under the Built Heritage Investment Scheme (BHIS) is €101,000 with 2 approved projects under the Historic Structures Fund (HSF)- Crusher House, Barravore (stream1) €35,000 and Cronroe Gardeners cottage (vernacular) €10,000. Recoupment claims due 3rd November.

Development Management

Planning Applications

Total valid applications received	To 30 th September 2023	To 30 th September 2022	% difference
Received (Valid)	1064	1058	-0.6%

A total of 111 valid applications were received during September as follows:

Type of Development	30 th September 2023 - Number Received
Individual Houses	26 (18 refer to a rural house)
Housing Developments*	03
Agricultural Structures	06
Commercial	05
Other Developments**	71
Total	111

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

Housing Developments

PRR23/716, Dryslin Limited, 10 dwellings, Ballinacor East, Bardarrig, Co. Wicklow.

PRR23/60305, 13 dwellings, Westwings, Church Road, Bray, Co. Wicklow

Large Scale Residential Development

PRR23/689, Cairn Homes Properties Ltd, 329 dwellings, Blessington Demesne, Newpaddocks and Santryhill, Blessington, Co. Wicklow

Decisions issued in respect of applications in September 2023

Type of Development	Number of Decisions
Housing Developments	01
Individual Houses	4 (3 refer to a rural house)
Other Developments	68
Other Developments Requiring EIA	01
Total	74

Decisions issued between January to September 2023, in comparison to the same period for 2022:

	30/09/2022	30/09/2023
Total Number of decisions issued	817	773
Total Number of decisions to grant	684	649
% Grant Rate	84%	84%
No of applications withdrawn		4 (4 refer to rural house)

Applications Lodged with An Bord Pleanala

Strategic Housing Development

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

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

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

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

Strategic Infrastructure Development

An Bord Pleanala has received an application for approval under section 182A(1) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 as amended -ABP-310090-21- Proposed development will comprise the onshore grid infrastructure including

220kV export cable circuits and fibre optic cables, new 220kV GIS substation at Shelton Abbey and overhead line connection and all associated ancillary works. In the townlands of Johnstown North, Johnstown South, Seabank, Ballymoney, Killiniskyduff, Templerainy, Coolboy, Kilbride, Shelton Abbey, Ballyraine Lower and Ballyraine Middle, in Co. Wicklow – approved with conditions 27/5

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

An Bord Pleanala has received an application for proposed development primarily comprising of the provision of a new 110 KV substation with Gas Insulator Switchgear (GIS) technology and two 110kV underground transmission cables (connecting to existing 220kV overhead lines to the northwest of the proposed substation) along with associated and ancillary works at Bogland, Kish, Cooladangan, Ballintombay, Ballyroonaun and Ballynattin, Co. Wicklow – ABP determined application without an oral hearing.

Substitute Consent

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

An Bord Pleanala 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, banded 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, Redcorss, Co. Wicklow.

E-Planning Project.

The ePlanning system went live on 17th April 2023 with applications being submitted online almost immediately. Since going live **47.87%** of applications have been received online (658 received in total: 315 through eplanning and 343 hard copy). The month of September showed for the first time, online applications exceeding hard copy applications 53.03% to 46.97%.

There has been a mix of application types including:

- One off houses/extensions

- 26 apartments in Bray
- 68 dwellings in Rathnew
- 7 new houses in Greystones
- Coastal defence works and commercial units
- 12 residential apartments in bray
- Installation of an aircraft noise monitoring terminal at Roundwood
- Change of use of Boswell House Ancillary Building and The Stables to 7 apartments providing short stay residential accommodation
- Construction of 131 parking spaces which includes 24 electrical charging points at Templarainey, Arklow
- Construction of 30 no. dwellings, Wicklow Town
- 397sqm industrial unit in Kilcoole
- Erect 14,500m² of photovoltaic panels, Arklow
- Large Scale Residential Development – 352 residential units, Tinakilly, Rathnew
- Erecting a 21m high multi-user monopole structure together with antennas, dishes & associated telecommunications equipment, Delgany
- Construction in 2 phases of three storey split level school building at Loreto Secondary School, Bray.

Planning Enforcement

New Files	13
Advisory Letters	40
Warning Letters	20
Enforcement Notices	1
Legal Files	0
Closed	16

Short Term Letting – 01/09/23 – 30/09/23

Applications received for Registration in September 2023	0
Complaints received in September 2023	0
Warning Letters issued in September 2023	2
Enforcement Notices issued in September 2023	0
Legal proceedings in September 2023	0
Files under investigation as of 30/09/2023	60

Vacant Sites

Municipal District	No. of Sites on Register
Arklow	7
Baltinglass	1
Bray	3

Greystones	4
Wicklow	6

- 02 sites on appeal to ABP – Section 9 (Notice of Entry)
- 05 sites on appeal to ABP - Section 18 (Demand Levy)

Derelict Sites

Municipal District	No sites on Register
Wicklow	1
Baltinglass	1

3. Environment

Litter/Waste Management

No. of Complaints Created during the month	123
No. of Cases Closed, Resolved or Completed	101
No of Litter Fines Issued	9
No. of Waste Management Files Opened	1
No. of Warning Letters Issued	4
No of Abandoned Car Notices Issued	17
No. of Burning Applications Granted	0
No. of Temporary Signs Granted	1
No. of Notices Issued under Section 14 of the Waste Management Act	4
No. of Notices Issued under Section 18 of the Waste Management Act	1
No. of Notices Issued under Section 55 of the Waste Management Act	0
No. of Fixed Penalty Notices issued	0
No. of files prepared for Court and included in Court Lists	15
No. of Cases in Court under the Litter Pollution Act	0
No. of Cases in Court under the Waste Management Act	0
Income - Litter	€1,050.00
Income- Waste Management	€7,006.92

Whitestown Remediation

The draft remediation plan has been presented to the court. A contractor has been appointed to carry out advance works on the site. This entails the excavation and disposal of waste material, which lies in the vicinity of a pylon on the site, and the work is being carried out while ESB Networks has the line de-energised.

Climate Action

Climate Action Plan.

The draft Climate Action Plan was presented to full Council on 2nd October.

Public consultation of the Plan commenced on the 3rd October and will run until the 15th November 2023 inclusive.

Arklow Energy Awareness Day An Energy Awareness Day will be held on the 9th of September where Arklow SEC launched their Energy Master Plan.

Presentation of CYP Biodiversity Report to Chief Executive

A presentation was made by the Children and Young People's Assembly of the Biodiversity Loss Report to the Chief Executive on the 26th September.

Link to report is as follows: [available here](#).

The 58 actions contained within same have been reviewed as part of the stakeholder engagement for the Wicklow draft Climate Action Plan (CAP).

A number of actions have been added to the draft Wicklow CAP based on same.

Update on posts for the Climate Action Team

Recruitment is underway for the following positions:

- Biodiversity Officer
- Environment Awareness Officer

Mid-East Energy Unit

The Mid East Energy Unit Steering Group meeting took place in September in Clermont Campus followed by site visit of energy improvements and biomass heating system.

- A meeting was held with SEAI and CODEMA to discuss pilot project for swimming pool energy upgrades, separate meetings held with leisure centre operators in Kildare and Wicklow
- Ongoing energy review and collaboration with Wicklow, Kildare and Meath Energy Officers. Monitoring and Reporting review now completed for Kildare, Meath and Wicklow.
- Fortnightly meetings held with Energy Officers (Meath, Kildare & Wicklow)
- ISO 50001 training ongoing for the 3 local authorities
- Participation in Manage Energy masterclasses for energy project financing

Wicklow County Council Energy

- SEAI ISO 50001 - Wicklow County Council has signed up to the SEAI ISO 50001 Accelerator Programme, a year-long programme which will allow the Council to apply for ISO 50001 accreditation and hosted the last meeting of the SEAI ISO 50001 Accelerator Programme. The Energy Team completed day 8 & 9 in Sligo and is preparing for final day in December, working with appointed ISO mentor on action plan.
- The Energy Office is currently working with its energy partners CODEMA to develop a pipeline of projects to reach our 2030 targets.
- Meeting held with Coral Leisure & Shoreline Leisure, presentation made on energy and carbon targets to 2030/2050 and challenge of decarbonising the swimming pools
- Tender issued for the Decarbonising project for Bray Fire Station
- Updating Energy Elephant to include all energy users

Environmental Awareness

The Environmental Awareness team participated in the Arklow energy awareness day on Saturday 9th September including event coordination and the inclusion of a Climate Action stand. The event was a success, with good attendance and a high level of interest in the Climate Action stand.

Entries for the Tidy Towns and the Sustainable Development Awards schools section closed on the 8th of September. Judging took place throughout September, with over 50 entries received, representing an increase on last year.

A series of workshops are being planned, focusing on the repair and maintenance of bicycles. The first workshop was held in Wicklow. Seven more are planned in Bray, Greystones, Arklow and Blessington. The aim is to encourage active travel and also to facilitate longevity in products, thereby promoting the principles of a circular economy.

Wicklow County Council had a stand promoting green gardening, energy efficiency in the home, and reducing food waste, at the Ashford Honey Fair on Saturday 23rd September.

Green Hubs - 2GoCups scheme launched in Enniskerry, all four outlets joined up to scheme. Currently being rolled out in Blessington, with hopes for full participation.

Relove Fashion - 6 secondary schools from Wicklow registered - students only design a one-of-a-kind sustainable fashion piece. Currently promoting to encourage more schools to enter.

Ark Sewing Campaign - Sewing classes for beginners and intermediate, funded by Wicklow County Council, using training room in Bray.

Love This Place Campaign - Sponsored by Wicklow County Council, linked to Leave No Trace,

Tree Grant – applications closed, modest uptake on the grant this year.

Cloth Nappy Loan Scheme - New scheme funded by Wicklow County Council. Run by Cloth Nappy Loan Ireland (CNLI), a charity promoting use of cloth nappies through loaning of kit, introduced to Wicklow Library service and they will now be working together to promote the initiative

Healthy Eating Campaign - The Environmental Awareness Team will give a talk on Food Waste and Budgeting on 2nd November, as part of Health Food Made easy training course (run by Co. Wicklow Partnership)

Pollution Control

Pollution Response & Investigation

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

Septic Tank Inspections - National Inspection Plan 2022-2026

- 1 Verification inspection to confirm compliance with Advisory notice was carried out.

Licensed discharges to Waters

- 1 licence application for discharge to water was assessed and discharge licence was issued.

Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plants – Ambient Monitoring

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

Private Water Supplies

- 26 Private water supplies monitored deemed compliant with drinking water limits
- 7 Private water supplies deemed non-compliant and requested in writing to address microbiological/chemical non-compliances.
- 3 Boil water/Do not consume restrictions placed on private water supplies
- 4 Boil water /Do not consume restrictions lifted from private water supplies after remedial actions and compliant verification testing were undertaken.

Water Framework Directive National Monitoring Programme

- 2 Lakes monitored for checking compliance with environmental quality standards
- 52 Rivers monitored for compliance with environmental quality standards.

Water Framework Directive River Management Engagement and Investigations

- 1 Catchment engagement activities were undertaken.

Bathing Waters

- 13 Bathing Water samples taken – 13 Good or excellent.
- 1 Bathing Water Prohibitions were issued for Silver Strand on 06/09/23 because of poor water quality and subsequently lifted on 09/09/23 when it returned to good water quality.
- The public are invited to give their opinions on bathing waters in popular use that they would like to see designated (regulated) as official bathing waters in the 2024 season.
- Nominations for new designated bathing areas closed on 29th September 2023. A total of 12 submissions were made by the general public, some with a list of areas and/or requests for improving an area.
- 2 beaches were nominated the most, Travelahawk in Wicklow Town and The Cove in Greystones. Other areas nominated includes Newcastle/Blackditch, Magheramore, Costello's Bridge, Brittas Bay, The Cove in Arklow and Naylor's Cove in Bray.
- All submissions will be considered in the context of available resources and assessments for the 2024 season.

Well Grants

- 10 New Water Grant applications received
- 1 New Well granted
- 8 New Pumps granted
- 11 Water Treatment/Disinfection Equipment Units granted

- 21 inspections in advance/completion of works

Petrol Vapour Recovery Regulations

- 0 Stage II Petrol Vapour Recovery pump installation issued with certificate of testing.
- 2 Stage I Petrol Vapour Recovery underground tank applications assessed.
- 1 Stage II Petrol Vapour Recovery pump installation were inspected.
- 4 Stage Petrol Vapour Recovery underground tank were inspected

Deco Paint Solvent Regulations

- 1 Vehicle refinisher installations issued with certificate of compliance.

Planning & Development

- 15 environmental reports on referred planning applications/consultations were completed concerning agricultural, commercial and forestry development.

Harbours and Ports

Harbour Projects

Arklow Harbour	Grant Available	Project Update
Inner Harbour Arklow pontoon	€286,355	Additional funding received of €86,355 Contractor appointed for supply and installation of pontoon. Installation to commence in November
South Quay Arklow Storage facilities	€391,025	Additional funding received of €82,275 Contractor has commenced on site. Approx build time 3 months.
Arklow Harbour welfare facilities	€100,000.00	Unit to be installed in the coming weeks. .
Wicklow Harbour Navigation aids	€50,000	Main structure completed. Awaiting fitting of new light.
South Quay Wicklow Harbour pontoon	€52,000	Installation is complete

North Quay, Wicklow - additional quay space	€120,000.00	Contractor appointed, works have commenced
Wicklow Harbour - concrete works	€150,000	Works completed on surface of Packet Pier. Concrete pumped into West (new) Pier to repair damage under water level.
Wicklow - welfare facilities	€100,000	Awaiting delivery of unit.

Harbour Movements

Month / Year	Ships	Single (Import or Export)	Double (Import & Export)	Transactions	Imports	Exports
Jan-23	7	4	3	10	7	3
Feb-23	9	6	3	12	7	5
Mar-23	7	5	2	9	6	3
Apr-23	7	6	1	8	6	2
May-23	7	5	2	9	6	3
Jun-23	5	4	1	6	4	2
Jul-23	8	4	4	11	7	4
Aug-23	8	7	1	9	8	4
Sep-23	8	4	4	12	8	4

2023 Total	66	45	21	86	58	28
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Control of Dogs - Dog Licences

Dog Licences

339 dog licences were renewed during the month of September 2023, with 39.5% of all licences renewed online. 395 reminder letters were sent to dog owners who were due to renew their licence in September.

Caravan Parks

Caravan park season closed in recent weeks. Generally all parks close after the October bank holiday weekend and reopen during the month of March. 25 caravan parks renewed their licences for 2023 and reminders have been sent to 3 sites who have to date failed to renew their licence for 2023.

Beaches/Blue Flag

The Blue Flag/beach lifeguard season finished on the 15th September. There is no lifeguard cover on any of the beaches during the winter months. Testing of bathing waters also finished during September 2023.

Avoca Mines Remediation Project

The Council is working in Partnership with DECC to advance the Remediation of the Avoca Mines project

Coastal Protection

Wicklow County Council continues to reduce and manage the risk of flooding in developed areas by cooperating with other agencies in implementing government policy in respect of the management of Coastal and Fluvial Flood Risk and Coastal Erosion Risk

It is a priority of Wicklow County Council to work in conjunction with Irish Rail on the East Coast Coastal Erosion Study and seek funding from OPW as appropriate

To progress an application implementation of a Coastal Erosion Risk Management Study for Brittas Bay and Ennereilly Beaches.

Wicklow County Council is tendering for consultants to carry out a Coastal Erosion Risk Management Study for Brittas Bay and Ennereilly Beaches and is progressing applications for funding for

- Arklow North Beach
- Wicklow (The Murrough)
- Brittas Bay Dune Management Coastal Zone Management Plan

Transportation, Water & Emergency Services

1. Transportation

Public Lighting Maintenance

A tender for the maintenance of public lighting in Co. Wicklow has been issued, and it is hoped that a new PL maintenance contract will be in place by the end of November.

Please find attached the latest update on the outstanding public faults. The total number of faults currently outstanding stands at **283 – 1.85%** of total stock of 15,268. Please note that some of these faults are dependent on ESB attendance and co-operation and we are currently drawing up a program with the ESB to repair these faults. For your information below is a comparison on the number of outstanding faults over the previous weeks.

Status	ARKLOW MD	BALTINGLASS MD	BRAY MD	GREYSTONES MD	WICKLOW MD	Grand Total
Access Issues (Attended)	2	1	6	2		11
Cable Fault (Attended)	2	1	4		3	10
ESB Interface Required	4	4	14	9	2	33
ESB Required (Attended)	7	14	15	14	11	61
Knock Down (Attended)						0
Materials Required		4	3		1	8
No Supply		1	1	1		3
On Hold	4	1	4	1	5	15
Submitted	28	37	26	23	17	131
TMR		3	2			5
Tree Cutting Required	1	2	1		2	6
Grand Total	48	68	76	50	41	283
Percentage Not Working	1.61%	2.81%	2.27%	1.78%	1.11%	1.85%

Date	25/09/2023	02/10/2023	09/10/2023	16/10/2023
Access Issues (Attended)	10	10	11	11
Cable Fault (Attended)	8	8	9	10
ESB Interface Required	32	32	32	33
ESB Required (Attended)	67	65	66	61

Knock Down (Attended)	0	0	0	0
Materials Required	8	8	8	8
No Supply	3	3	3	3
On Hold	23	23	23	15
Submitted	103	80	172	131
Traffic Management Required	11	11	9	5
Tree Cutting Required	5	5	6	6
TOTAL	270	245	339	283
PERCENTAGE NOT WORKING	1.77%	1.60%	2.22%	1.85%

Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project (PLEEP)

The above project is due to commence surveys of the existing public lighting network in Wicklow towards the end of the month. This is the initial phase of the project, and the fitting of lanterns will follow on in due course.

Speed Limits

The speed limit signage is currently being erected by each Municipal District throughout the County. The tender for the periodic speed limit signs at school was won by PWS Signs Ltd. and have commenced their work, with the signs due to be erected by Christmas.

Transportation Statistics

	Total 2021	Total 2022	Total 2023	August 2023	September 2023
Solicitors Queries	923	838	781	92	96
Road closure applications	53	78	33	3	4
Road Opening licences	1575	1414	1679	162	119
Abnormal Load applications	54	60	38	7	3

M11N11 Junction 4 to 14 Improvement Scheme

The Option Selection report was published along with Bulletin #11 on the project website www.n11m11.ie on 14 December 2021. The publication followed the review of submissions received during public display in 2021. Phase 3 Design and Environmental Evaluation was due to commence in Q1 2022. The scheme is currently suspended as no funding was provided to continue during 2022 or 2023. The Wicklow County Council project team are continuing to meet with the public and any interested parties.

M11N11 Bus Priority Interim Scheme

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

A non-statutory public display on the emerging preferred options for sections A and C took place in November 2022. Following further analysis, an emerging preferred option for the provision of bus priority measures between Junction 6 (Fassaroe) and Junction 8 (Kilmacanogue) have now been identified. A Public Display event was held in the Glenview Hotel on 12th September 2023. The display presented the overall preferred option for the BPIS between Loughlinstown Roundabout and Junction 9 (Glenview). The public display documents are available to view on the project website www.n11m11bpis.ie. The deadline for receipt of Submissions on the emerging preferred option has been extended by 3 weeks to Friday 3rd November 2023.

N11 Parallel Service Road at Kilmacanogue

A noise assessment for the 7 no residential properties to the east of the new Parallel Service Road Scheme was carried out during April and May 2022. The options review and design commenced in March 2023 following confirmation of funding from TII. Site investigation works will commence shortly at some of the locations. This information is necessary to inform the final design option selected.

N81 Knockroe Bend Realignment

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

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

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

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

The Phase 2 Options Selection work is currently progressing under TII's Project Management Guidelines.

N81 Pavement Capital Works

Resurfacing works of 1km of the N81 between Tuckmill and Saundersgrove is expected to be carried out in 2023.

N81 Rural Traffic Calming & Bus Stop at Hollywood

The Feasibility and Options report is being finalised for submission to TII for approval and funding to proceed to the design stage.

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 current scheme. A way forward is to consider suitable parking locations that can be accessed from the regional/local road network.

N11 Pavement Resurfacing Works

N11 surfacing works between junctions 7 and 16 will be carried out by the N11 maintenance contractor over the period from May to September 2023. Surfacing works have been between Junction 5 and Junction 7 on the M11 southbound and northbound were completed during September and October 2023. These works were carried out at night to minimise traffic disruption.

N11/M11 Park & Ride Facilities

Proposals for bus based Park & Ride facilities are being progressed adjacent to the N11/M11 at Junctions 6, 11 and 16. A part 8 for the Park and Ride at Junction 6 Fassaroe commenced on Wednesday 23rd August 2023 with plans and documents on public display until Wednesday 20th September 2023. Submissions or observations were accepted on or before 12 noon on Wednesday 4th October 2023.

Arklow Public Realm

The Parade Ground Public Realm works have reached a significant milestone, with substantial completion and successful snagging. Currently, the project is in the 12-month defects period, during which any necessary remedial works are addressed. The contractor has approached the conciliator to discuss the appointment and agree on a mutually acceptable timeline for the resolution of any remaining issues. David O'Leary MKM Dispute Resolution appointed as conciliator. Conciliation scheduled to take place on the 17th and 18th October.

Arklow to Shillelagh Greenway

We are currently in the process of reviewing route options for specific sections of the proposed greenway route. As part of this review, updated ecological surveys have been conducted for those sections. Currently, Wicklow County Council is in the final stages of Phase 2 Options Selection, which will determine the preferred route for the Greenway before moving on to Phase 3, involving Design and Environmental Evaluation.

In line with our commitment to stakeholder engagement and transparency, we are planning a non-statutory public consultation on the emerging preferred route before. This consultation was completed in late September and early October 2023. However the online consultation continues until early November 2023.

Baltinglass Town Centre Plan

The consultants are actively engaged in preparing documents for the delivery of a revised tender package for the town centre works, focusing on a reduced scope. Simultaneously, they are conducting a value engineering exercise specifically targeted at this aspect of the project. The objective is to bring the scheme within the budget limits currently in place. Reduced scope town centre works presented at Baltinglass Municipal District meeting. Final tender package issued by Arup. The direct labour crew have met regarding the undergrounding of utilities to de-risk project. Setting out of services by direct labour crew has been carried out. Meeting took place with ESB, Eir, and Enevero to check provisions for utilities Arup to make design changes to advance undergrounding.

Blessington Inner Relief Road

The current focus of the project is on the detailed design phase, including the preparation of associated documents such as the Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) documentation. These efforts are crucial in order to advance the scheme towards obtaining statutory approval. Given the potential impact of the project on the Poulaphuca Special Protection Area (SPA), it is necessary to prepare a Natura Impact Statement (NIS) to assess and document any potential effects on the SPA. Once the detailed design and associated documents, including the NIS, are completed, the project will proceed to seek statutory approval from An Bord Pleanála.

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

The consultants are making steady progress in the detailed design phase and are currently focused on preparing the tender documents for the construction phase which are anticipated to be issued in October of 2023.

Wicklow Greystones Greenway

Wicklow County Council has recently engaged consultants Atkins for the project and their work is already in progress, focusing on data gathering. Additionally, the consultants are actively organizing detailed environmental surveys, which will play a vital role in shaping the route options and conducting constraint studies.

In April, a productive meeting took place with Irish Rail concerning the East Coast Rail Infrastructure Protection Project. During this meeting, an agreement was reached to facilitate the sharing of environmental data, fostering collaboration between the involved parties.

Meeting with the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) took place in June. The meeting provided an opportunity to engage with the NPWS and discuss important aspects related to the project.

Atkins and Irish Rail consultants Jacobs are in communication regarding environmental surveys. Constraints Report has been finalised. Landownership maps are being completed. Stage 1 Route Corridor Assessment is being progressed. Draft public consultation material is being developed.

Blessington eGreenway

Under Section 177AE of the Planning and Development Act, we have formally submitted our planning documents to An Bord Pleanála. Given the need to conduct comprehensive additional surveys and generate a substantial volume of supporting material, An Bord Pleanála has agreed to extend the submission deadline to January 2024. We are diligently working on preparing our response to meet this revised deadline.

Active Travel Updates – September 2023

Projects Under Construction

Arklow North Cycle and Pedestrian Scheme (Arklow MD)

The construction of cycle and pedestrian facilities on the R-772 Dublin Road. The scheme involves construction of a footpath and segregated cycle facilities on the R-772 between the M11 Junction 11. Works are progressing well on site, with the footpath and cycle track surfacing nearing completion. Accommodation works are ongoing and the remaining surfacing works are scheduled to be completed in October. It's anticipated that the works will be completed by the end of October.

Arklow South Cycle and Pedestrian Scheme (Arklow MD)

Provision of 2.8km of segregated cycle track along the R-772 Wexford Road, Arklow between Knockmore Roundabout and M11 Junction 21. The scheme will also construct 1.4km approx. of pedestrian footpath. Progressing well, the kerbing installation has been completed on the southbound carriageway. Construction of the footpath is ongoing on southbound carriageway, along with preparation works for cycle track surfacing. Awaiting Eircom/Eir to move services. Construction will be ongoing during October for the footpath and cycle track on the southbound carriageway.

Bellevue Junction Improvement works in Delgany (Greystones MD)

Upgrading of the junction of the R-762 and Bellevue Hill. The project will improve pedestrian accessibility and safety and enhance village centre aesthetics by widening and landscaping the paved pedestrian areas, upgrading public transport facilities, undergrounding services, and upgrading public lighting. Construction work on Bellevue Hill junction to be completed.

Kilcoole Road Pedestrian and Cycle Improvements (Greystones MD)

Provision of 500m of new footpath and 500m of cycle track along the R-761. Works are being progressed by the NTA deliverables team. Footpath and cycle track works have been substantially completed. The cycle track surfacing and other outstanding works to be completed following road resurfacing, which is being undertaken by Greystones Municipal District.

Non-Statutory Consultations

Safe Routes to Schools: SS Michael and Peter Junior School and St. John's SNS (Arklow MD)

Proposals to improve road safety and make the areas adjacent to the schools safer, so that children can be encouraged and facilitated to walk and cycle to the schools safely. The report following the non-statutory public consultation with a recommendation to proceed was with Senior Management for review and sign off. This has been shared with the NTA for review, before informing Elected Members of the outcome. A meeting with the School Principal re-iterated their support for the scheme.

Part 8 Consultations

Killincarrig Village Enhancement Scheme (Greystones MD)

Provision of improved pedestrian facilities and public realm improvements. The works will take place along the R-761 Lower Kindlestown Road and at the junction with Carrig Villas. The scheme includes for signalised junction, new footpaths, new zebra crossing, improved junction layouts, improved footpaths, cycle climbing lane, a loading bay in front of commercial properties, and realignment of road carriageway. Part 8 documents were presented to members who approved the advertising of the scheme. Submissions can be made up until Friday 22nd September.

Ballyguilemore Active Travel Facilities (Wicklow MD)

Provision of new pedestrian facilities and road safety improvements. The works will take place along the Ballyguilemore Road between Carrig View and the entrance to the proposed new St. Patricks GAA Pitch. The scheme includes for new

footpaths and road widening works. Part 8 documents were presented to members who approved the advertising of the scheme. Submissions can be made up until Wednesday 20th September.

Greystones Active Travel Pathfinder Project (Greystones MD)

Provision of new and improved pedestrian and cycle links to Greystones Train Station. The spine route extends from Greystones Marina to Shoreline Sports Centre. The project will include improved pedestrian and cycle crossings along the Charlesland Dual Carriageway. Approval received from members to advertise a non-statutory consultation for the Charlesland Dual Carriageway ped/cycle crossing improvements. Submissions can be made until Friday 22nd September. Detail design to be prepared for pedestrian crossings along Charlesland Dual Carriageway to be agreed with NTA.

Project Updates

Bray Dart Interchange (Bray MD)

New plaza and public transport interchange in front of Bray DART station, with revised car parking, set down and taxi rank arrangements. Tender assessment has been completed and approval to appoint received. Meeting held with contractor and a letter of intent to be issued. Liaison will continue with landowners to complete agreements.

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

Provide infrastructure for schools to increase walking and cycling as the preferred travel mode where possible and improve safety at front of schools. Front of school works are planned for September weather permitting. A meeting with the school on the design for the link from Church Lane was held and the designs are being updated to reflect the schools feedback.

Safe Routes to Schools: St. Johns Senior National School, Arklow (Arklow MD)

Provide infrastructure for schools to increase walking and cycling as the preferred travel mode where possible and improve safety at front of schools. Installation of bollards at the front of the school has been completed, along with road surfacing works and line marking. Junction tightening has also been completed at Coolgreaney Park. High friction surfacing works to be completed in October.

Wicklow Active Travel Pathfinder Project (Wicklow MD)

Provision of new and improved pedestrian and cycle facilities along Marlton Road, Rocky Road, R-750 and Station Road to provide strategic routes to Wicklow Train Station. Baseline Assessment and Rapid Build Options Report to be prepared by DBFL and issued to NTA.

Bridge Rehab works

The Bridge crew has completed repair and maintenance works at 10 bridges and another has commenced in Arklow in recent days.

The seasonal window for in water works has closed. The crew completed works at 4 bridges despite the very wet summer.

The 2024 Works Plan has been sent to DTTAS for approval.

Machinery Yard

Works continue on the maintenance of council vehicles, plant and machinery. Winter maintenance machines are currently out in the districts as the season starts this week.

Service records and CVRT/RSA reports are currently being moved to ProWork digital system. We are being assisted by Waterford and Kilkenny CoCo to complete the process.

A consultant is about to be appointed to compile the licence application for Dangerous Substances (oil, fuel, etc.). All the relevant paperwork is currently being prepared.

Surface Dressing

Works in all Districts, by the WCC Direct Labour Crew, is complete. The process of accounting and paying for all aspects of the work is continuing.

Invasive Species (Japanese Knotweed)

The contract to treat 110 sites on regional and local roads throughout the county is complete. The successful Contractor carried out the works and recording sites at the end of September.

Winter Maintenance

The season started on Monday 15th October. No call outs to date. Machinery Yard is finalising maintenance on some gritters. Winter Service Plan is being finalised in the coming days.

DTTAS Funding Applications for 2024

Three applications for 2024 have been made in the past week. Community Involvement Schemes, Bridges and Safety Improvement Works have been submitted.

Two more are due in the coming weeks. Former National Roads and Climate Change and Resilience.

OGP Frameworks

There are several Frameworks, ran by the OGP and SupplyGov, relating to 8 sections of TWES. We have commenced the process of assessing the current financial spend and how the Frameworks can assist us in each section. Two have been initially chosen for assessment. These are Tyres and Fuel in the Machinery Yard.

Parking Income

Parking Income by Municipal District	EURO
Bray Municipal District	810,505
Greystones Municipal District	234,698
Wicklow Municipal District	322,440
Arklow Municipal District	175,136
Parking Permits	68,710
Parking Fines	381,201
Wicklow County Council	1,992,689

2. Fire Service

There were **97 incidents** attended during the month of September 2023. Due to laid down procedures to mobilise two stations to potentially serious incident types, individual Fire Stations were mobilised on a total of **118 occasions** including **8** mobilisations in other counties. On no occasion did an incident commander request additional resources over what was prescribed in the Pre-Determined Attendance.

Operational activity for the month of September 2023 **decreased by 14% (20 mobilisations) on the preceding month** (August 2023: 138 mobilisations). There was an increase in mobilisations to RTCs (+8) and motorway fires (+4), also an increase in gorse fires (+2) and chimney fires (+2). There was a decrease in Automatic Fire Alarm Activations (-9), a reduction in maliciously set fires in urban areas (-20) and Garda Assists (-6).

Operational activity for the month of September 2023 **was down 10% (13 mobilisations) on the equivalent month in 2022** (September 2022: 131 mobilisations). There was a decrease in domestic fires (-7), a decrease in gorse fires (-10), maliciously set fires in urban areas (-20). There as an increase in RTCs (+15 mobilisations).

Sample Incidents (September 2023)

- 16/09/2023 Rathdrum and Wicklow Town crews attended a single vehicle RTC near Glenealy, 1 car overturned with occupant trapped.
- 18/09/2023 Rathdrum and Wicklow Town crews attended a two vehicle RTC near Junction 14 on the M11. One car rolled over.

Incidents in County Kildare (2-incidents total):

- 14/09/2023 Baltinglass Crew supported units from Carlow Town at a single vehicle RTC at Davidstown Upper.
- 25/09/2023 Blessington crew supported Newbridge at a 3-vehicle RTC at Jigginstown, Naas.

Incidents in County Wexford (4-incidents total):

- 04/09/2023 Carnew crew supported Gorey Fire Station at a domestic fire in Camolin.
- 08/09/2023 Arklow Crew supported Gorey crews at a 2-vehicle RTC near Courtown.
- 12/09/2023 Arklow crew attended an outdoor fire on the beach at Castletown.
- 14/09/2023 Arklow crew attended an outdoor fire at Ballytegan, Gorey.

Incidents in County Carlow (1-incident total):

- 07/09/2023 Tinahely fire crew and the tanker from Baltinglass supported Hacketstown at a hay barn fire at Kilcarney Cross, Knockananna.

Fire Prevention Statistics September 2023

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

Application type	Received	Deemed Invalid, refused or withdrawn	Requested additional information	Inspections	Recommended for Grant
FSCs	8		7		12
Revised FSCs	2		1		0
FSC 7-Day Notice	9		7		3
Regularisation FSCs	1	1	0		0
DACs	10		0		9
Revised DACs	1		0		0
Dispensations / Relaxations	0		0		0

The Chief Fire Officer was forwarded correspondence in relation to 20 planning files during the month of September 2023.

The Chief Fire Officer made recommendations in relation to 14 of these files.

Licensing	Received	Inspected	Request further info	Letter / Licence Issued	No objection entered on Courts on-line Service
District	9	52	15	33	55
Circuit	1				
Dangerous Substances Act	2	1	1	1	
Explosive Act					

3. Building Control

Commencement Notices for September 2023:

Commencement Notices Submitted: 48

- 10 Commencement Notices with Compliance Documents
- 20 Opt Out Declarations
- 6 Commencement Notices without Compliance Documents
- 12 Seven Day Notice

Submission Statistics

- 41 % of Commencement Notices - Opt Out
- 79 % of Commencement Notices Revised Information required & requested = 38 No. Commencement Notices (CN) of which
 - 8 are Compliance Documentation (21%)
 - 16 are Opt Out (42%)
 - 2 Without Compliance Documentation (5%)
 - 12 Seven Day Notice (32%)
- 39 Valid Commencement Notices
- 77 new build residential Units and additional 10 Apartments
- 23 Non Res new builds
- Invalidated CNs for September = 3

Certificates of Completion processed in September 2023

- 28 New No. of CCC submitted
- 19 Required Revised Information
- 37 No. Validated

- 0 No. Invalid
- 128 new Residential units
- 5 Non Res. Builds

Submission Statistics

37 No. Validated CCCs related to;

19 No. CCCs submitted in August 2023

18 No. CCCs submitted in September 2023

**BCA not notified on completion of opt out developments

77 new residential houses and 10 apartments were notified to LA for Commencement & 128 newly completed residential units plus 5 non-residential units were submitted, assessed and validated in September. 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.

There has been a 60% increase in Commencement Notice Submissions & a 16% increase in Certificate of Compliance on Completion submissions compared to the same period in 2022.

Building Control continued with site inspections in September to identify non-compliances with Building Regs onsite and 3 Section 11 Compliance Requests were issued.

Revised Information requests were high in September for both Commencement Notices and Certificates of Compliance on Completion, 79% of Commencement Notice submissions & 64% of Certificate of Compliance on Completion submissions required revised information. It should be further noted that some Opt Out Submissions are requiring 2 to 3 Revised information requests which results in submissions being assessed 2 to 3 times to ensure compliance prior to commencement. Of the 20 Opt out Submissions in September, 16 required Revised Information due to submissions lacking detail to demonstrate compliance with Building Regs.

Opt Out submissions are both extensions and single unit dwellings, generally from BCMS users who are unfamiliar with both BCMS and Building Regulations which leads to Building Control resources being directed to resolving both administration and technical issues with Opt-Out Submissions. Wicklow Building Control continues to perform rigorous assessment of submissions at commencement stage and onsite presence during construction. These methods remain the best way to promote compliance with Building Regs.

In September, BC staff also attended a NBC&MS Office CPD Day on Building Control Inspection in Athlone.

Civil Defence

- Civil Defence volunteers provided Medical Cover for the Gravity Enduro mountain bike event over 2 day on Carrick Mountain, Glenealy.
- Dublin Airport held its bi annual major emergency exercise on Thurs 28th Sept 11.00 to 13.00 hrs. This will be a joint Air Corps and Dublin Airport exercise and will involve Gardaí, DFB and NAS. Civil Defence volunteers will assist as passengers for the exercise
- Civil Defence In conjunction with Glen of Immal Mountain Rescue and local armature emergency radio network, testing of VHF and HF network across Wicklow in the event of cellular or tetra network blackouts.
- Civil Defence volunteers provided first aid for Wicklow LSP Pop up play event with garden games, mini tennis, soccer, balance bikes, tug of war and volleyball; this is in conjunction with the European week of sport on Bray Seafont.
- An open evening was held for people who had expressed in joining Civil Defence.

Organisational Development & Financial Matters

1. HR & Corporate Services

Access to Information

The following interviews were held in September 2023:

- Shortlisting – Staff Officer
- Shortlisting – Assistant Staff Officer
- Shortlisting – Clerical Officer
- Shortlisting – Integration Support Co-Ordinator
- Shortlisting – Integration Support Worker
- Sub-Station Officer Blessington Fire Brigade
- Staff Officer

Employee Numbers

Employee Numbers	Q4 2022	Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Q3 2023
Managerial/Administrative	301	304	316	318
Professional/Technical	126	131	134	143
Outdoor	262	260	260	263
Temporary/Seasonal	37	35	68 *	64
Non DoHPLG	5	5	5	5
Total	731	735	783	793

* Increase due to lifeguards (lifeguards retained for 1st week of Q3)

Freedom of Information Requests

September 2023: 8	September 2022: 6
January – September 2023: 85	January – September 2022: 59

Ombudsman Requests

September 2023: 3	September 2022: 5
January – September 2023: 23	January – September 2022: 32

Press Releases

September 2023 - 7

Register of Electors

Online applications via www.checktheregister.ie continue to be received and processed daily.

We are continuing with our weekly social media campaign. We also forwarded static images to TD’s, Councillors and Senators to share on their social media platforms. Letters, forms and posters have issued to all transition, fifth and sixth year heads to encourage voter registration from 18 year olds and pre-registration of 16 and 17 year olds. We have also liaised with all sports clubs in the county and requested that they put our media images on notice boards within the club facilities.

Wicklow County Council is the first local authority in Ireland to roll out the new software release of the new iReg database, having been involved in its development and testing and it is providing greater assistance in processing applications. This includes a quicker turnaround time and if there are queries regarding any aspect of the application we can contact the applicant much quicker to resolve any issues. This new system also provides for easier processing of applicants from other counties by automatically notifying the other local authority that the applicant has moved to Wicklow and to remove them from their database.

The Boundary Commission Report was issued at the end of August 2023, and we await the legalisation in relation to these changes.

Customer Service Innovation Hub

Customer Service Innovation Hub			
2023 - September			
Communication	No.	Public Counters	Transactions
No. of Phone Calls received to 0404 20100	10,560	Motor Taxation transactions in County Buildings	1290
No. of Customer Service Emails received	215	Revenue Transactions	1512
No. of Elected Members / Deputy Representatives Received	54	Housing Counter Visits	375

2. I.C.T.

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.
- Deployment of devices is continuing, upgrading of hardware stock and new starts.
- Ongoing streamlining of relevant business processes.

GIS & Systems Analysis

- **Local Area Plans** – Work has commenced on a consolidated LAP Geodatabase with a common data schema.
- **Blessington Town Centre Consultation Hub** – Consultation Hub has gone live for the Blessington Town Centre First Masterplan. Submissions are currently being extracted and analysed.
- Work is continuing on finalising the **RZLT** maps.
- Rollout of new ArcGIS Online and **ArcGIS Pro licences** to relevant staff.
- Map production for the Franchise Section in relation to amendments to Wicklow's Polling Districts.

Infrastructure

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

Applications

- New parking fines system work nearly complete and ready for user acceptance testing.
- Keyhouse – Law's case management system updated to new cloud version.

3. Finance

Revenue Account

DRAFT REVENUE ACCOUNT							
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION AT 30TH SEPTEMBER 2023							
	EXPENDITURE			INCOME			NET
	Actual Expenditure	Adopted Full Year Budget	% Budget Spent to Date	Actual Income	Adopted Full Year Budget	% Budget Spent to Date	Actual Expenditure / (Income)
	€	€	%	€	€	%	€
Housing and Building	32,895,637	42,194,421	78%	(36,158,296)	(46,575,078)	78%	(3,262,659)
Road Transport & Safety	13,724,729	24,371,150	56%	(7,995,055)	(16,722,878)	48%	5,729,674
Water Services	3,816,785	5,649,853	68%	(4,447,107)	(6,606,528)	67%	(630,322)
Development Management	12,075,712	14,288,049	85%	(7,848,909)	(8,574,520)	92%	4,226,803
Environmental Services	9,845,513	13,559,916	73%	(1,182,923)	(2,628,049)	45%	8,662,590
Recreation and Amenity	6,514,106	8,984,450	73%	(542,267)	(1,085,428)	50%	5,971,839
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	1,277,108	2,106,287	61%	(507,847)	(1,049,228)	48%	769,261
Miscellaneous Services	6,634,986	9,728,355	68%	(9,434,260)	(13,260,436)	71%	(2,799,274)
Central Management Charges	15,951,914	21,746,281	73%	(767,553)	(1,050,000)	73%	15,184,362
Local Government Fund				(10,366,178)	(13,821,571)	75%	(10,366,178)
Commercial Rates				(23,460,727)	(31,405,046)	75%	(23,460,727)
	102,736,491	142,628,762	72%	(102,711,123)	(142,778,762)	72%	25,368

Cashflow/Overdraft

Wicklow County Council manages its cashflow requirements on a daily basis and did not avail of its overdraft facility during the period 1st September 2023 to 30th September 2023.

Capital Account

CAPITAL ACCOUNT					
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION AT 30TH SEPTEMBER 2023					
	Opening Balance at 01/01/2023	Actual Expenditure	Actual Income	Transfers to/from Reserves	Closing Balance at 31/09/2023
	€	€	€	€	€
Housing and Building	17,814,239	66,647,695	(51,670,632)	(538,920)	32,252,382
Road Transport & Safety	(37,383,838)	7,860,329	(3,502,190)	(441,360)	(33,467,059)
Water Services	(13,023,496)	81,475	1,552,807	(105,140)	(11,494,353)
Development Management	(26,681,391)	455,417	(12,187,048)	(400,076)	(38,813,098)
Environmental Services	276,031	3,796,304	(1,874,232)	(551,250)	1,646,853
Recreation and Amenity	(2,034,378)	2,106,679	(280,619)	(322,587)	(530,905)
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	(2,040,366)	439,579	(251)	(346,924)	(1,947,961)
Miscellaneous Services	(10,515,300)	(3,027,281)	(854,266)	1,379,491	(13,017,356)
	(73,588,498)	78,360,196	(68,816,429)	(1,326,766)	(65,371,496)

Commercial Rates, Rents and Loan Collections

SUMMARY OF MAJOR COLLECTIONS AT 30TH SEPTEMBER 2023										
Income Collection Area	Opening Balance 01/01/2023	Accrued	Vacancy Property Adjustments	Write Offs	Waivers	Total for Collection	Collected	Closing Arrears 31/09/2023	Specific Doubtful Arrears	% Collection
Rates	4,598,635	31,429,924	(32,122)	(526,200)	(41,897)	35,428,339	(25,229,441)	10,198,898	404,186	72%
Rents & Annuities	3,281,584	13,097,261	0	(31,918)	0	16,346,927	(12,969,302)	3,377,625	0	79%
Housing Loans	440,112	1,792,246	0	0	0	2,232,358	(1,752,921)	479,437	0	79%

NB Rates accrual represents full year accruals while rents and loans are accruals year to date. The rates collection, rent collection and housing loan collection percentages are below normal levels due to the carry forward of arrears at the start of the new financial year. This situation will be regularised over the course of the year.

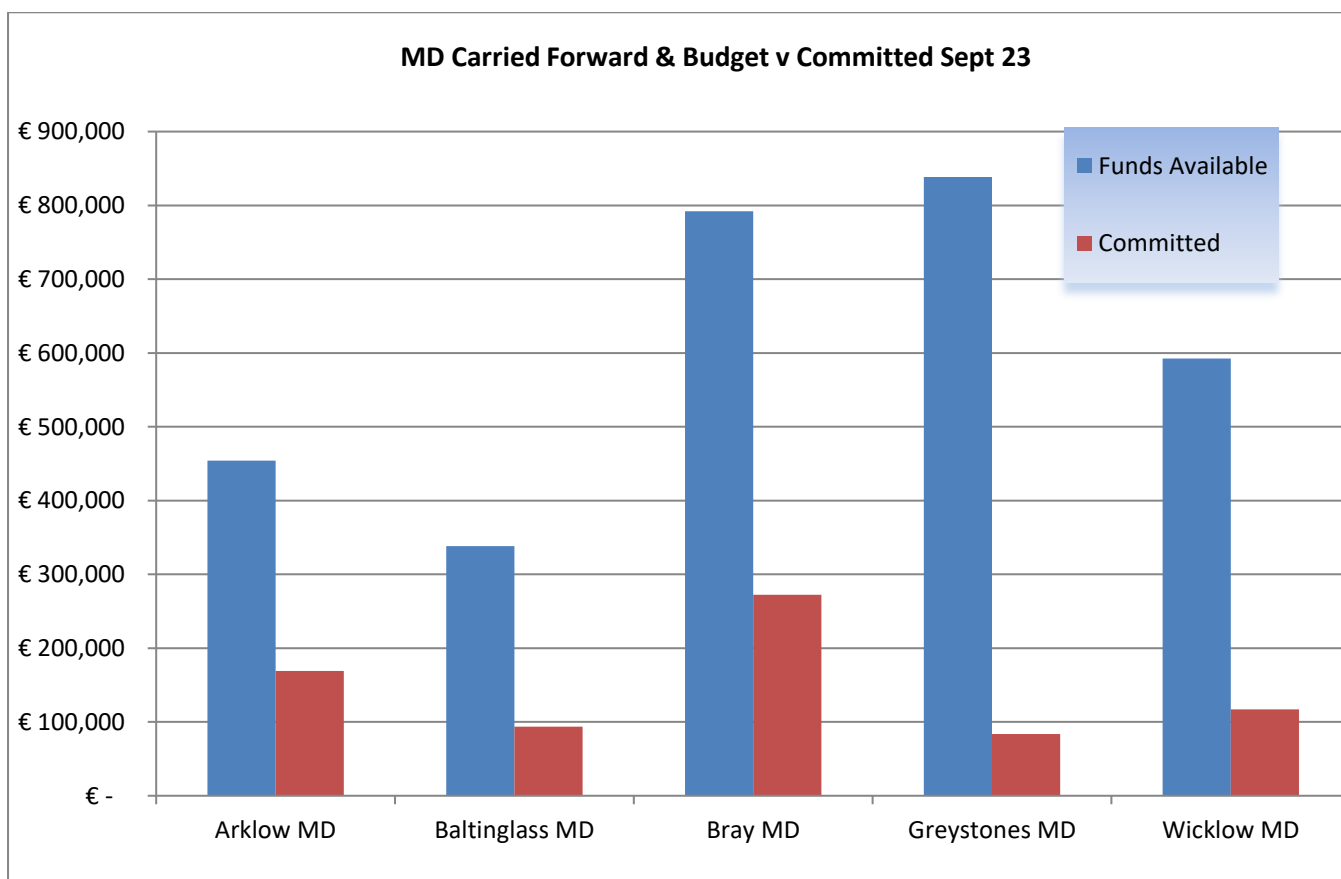
General Municipal Allocation and Discretionary Fund 2023

The decision taken by Members at the LPT meeting on October 10th 2022 to maintain the LPT basic rate increase at 6% resulted in an additional €1,110,384 in the Revenue Budget for 2023. This money was ring-fenced for Discretionary Funding in the Municipal Districts. The total Municipal District's General Municipal Allocation funding for 2023 is set out below:

Description	Arklow	Baltinglass	Bray	Greystones	Wicklow	Total
Town Twinning	6,000	6,000	10,000	6,000	6,000	34,000
Economic Development and Promotion	28,000	10,000	9,500	10,000	9,000	66,500
Christmas Festival	20,000	10,000	20,000	10,000	20,000	80,000
Festivals / Other	5,000	10,000	32,000	10,000	5,000	62,000
Civic Receptions	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	10,000
Discretionary Funding	208,197	208,197	353,278	208,197	208,197	1,186,066
Total	269,197	246,197	426,778	246,197	250,197	1,438,566

Municipal District carried forward allocation and budget '23 and expenditure for 2023 is as follows:

Municipal District	C/F from 2022	Adopted Budget 2023	Funds available to MD	Committed	Balance to Expend
	€	€	€	€	€
Arklow MD	184,779	269,197	453,976	169,173	284,803
Baltinglass MD	92,215	246,197	338,412	93,847	244,565
Bray MD	365,206	426,778	791,984	272,545	519,439
Greystones MD	592,012	246,197	838,209	83,711	754,498
Wicklow MD	342,471	250,197	592,668	116,963	475,705
Total	1,576,683	1,438,566	3,015,249	736,240	2,279,009



Capital Investment Programme 2023-2025

The Capital Investment Programme 2023-2025 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 3rd 2023. The table below outlines the proposed capital expenditure by programme group.

PROGRAMME GROUP	Expected Outlay				Proposed Funding				
	2023	2024	2025	TOTAL	Dev Charges ¹	Loan	Grant Aid ²	Other ³	TOTAL
	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€
HOUSING AND BUILDING	131,973,000	111,600,000	110,500,000	354,073,000	-	30,000,000	317,055,000	7,018,000	354,073,000
ROAD TRANSPORT & SAFETY	22,234,170	50,280,424	55,097,634	127,612,228	28,687,388	7,000,000	83,774,840	8,150,000	127,612,228
WATER SERVICES	100,000	100,000	100,000	300,000	-	-	300,000	-	300,000
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT	13,400,000	2,650,000	2,935,000	18,985,000	1,400,000	-	11,870,000	5,715,000	18,985,000
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	5,630,000	18,200,000	29,350,000	53,180,000	-	-	42,630,000	10,550,000	53,180,000
RECREATION AND AMENITY	9,420,327	10,297,355	13,975,000	33,692,682	13,370,536	-	19,522,146	800,000	33,692,682
AGRICULTURAL, EDUCATION, HEALTH & WELFARE	3,375,000	12,772,000	18,300,000	34,447,000	1,781,250	-	29,229,650	3,436,100	34,447,000
MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES	800,000	400,000	400,000	1,600,000	-	-	-	1,600,000	1,600,000
OVERALL TOTAL	186,932,497	206,299,779	230,657,634	623,889,910	45,239,174	37,000,000	504,381,636	37,269,100	623,889,910

Capital Funded Projects

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

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