

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING (HYBRID) OF WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON
MONDAY 12th MAY 2025, COMMENCING 2.00 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AND VIA
MICROSOFT TEAMS**

PRESENT:

COUNCILLORS P. O'BRIEN CATHAOIRLEACH, D, ALVEY, M. BARRY, S. BOURKE, M. CORRIGAN, A. CRONIN, E. DOYLE, G. DUNNE, L. FENELON GASKIN, O. FINN, P. FITZGERALD, T. FORTUNE, P. GLENNON, P. KENNEDY, S. LANGRELL, P. LEONARD, P. MAHON, J. MULHALL, M. MURPHY, I. NEARY, D. O'BRIEN, G. O'NEILL, W. O'TOOLE, G. RICHMOND, L. SCOTT, J. SNELL, P. STAPLETON, S. STOKES AND C. WINSTANLEY (29)

APOLOGIES

CLLRS. J. BEHAN AND M. DUDDY (2)

IN ATTENDANCE:

**MS. E. O'GORMAN, CHIEF EXECUTIVE
MS. C. FOX, A/DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MS. L. GALLAGHER, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MS. M. QUINN, A/DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MS. L. EARLS, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MR. J. LANE, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MR. B. GLEESON, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MS. D. KENNEDY, LAW AGENT
MR. M. DEVEREUX, T/DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MS. R. GILLESPIE, A/SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER/MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR
MS. L. HEALY, SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER
MS. S. NICHOLS, SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER
MR. J. BOWES, SENIOR ENGINEER
MR. M. FLYNN, SENIOR ENGINEER
MR. F. KEOGH, SENIOR ENGINEER
MS. B. HARVEY, SENIOR EXECUTIVE PLANNER
MS. E. BERMINGHAM, SENIOR EXECUTIVE PLANNER
MS. P. RYAN, SENIOR EXECUTIVE PLANNER
MR. M. WOODS O'ROURKE, ASSISTANT PLANNER
MS. S. SWEENEY, SENIOR ASSISTANT FIRE OFFICER
MR. S. DOYLE, IS PROJECT LEADER
MR. B. WILDES, ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
MS. K. BOYLE, ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
MR. G. HICKEY, DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR**

MS. A. HUBBARD, SPORTS CO-ORDINATOR
MS. A. SHORTT, SENIOR STAFF OFFICER
MS. A. RUSSELL, STAFF OFFICER
MS. I. WINTERS, ASSISTANT STAFF OFFICER
MS. T. BYRNE, ASSISTANT STAFF OFFICER

At the commencement of the meeting a roll call was taken. The Meetings Administrator advised of meetings etiquette for online meetings and that the press and some members of the public were also present.

Votes of Sympathy

Elected Members passed a vote of sympathy to the families of the late Mr, Michael Nicholson Snr., Ms. Brooke Carey, Ms. Anne Blake, Ms. Veronica Carroll, Ms. Aileen Finucane and Ms. Ann Carroll. A minutes silence was observed for the deceased.

The Cathaoirleach P. O'Brien proposed to move Item no. 6 following Item no. 1.

ITEM NO. 1

To confirm and sign minutes of ordinary meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 7th April 2025.

It was proposed by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald, seconded by Cllr. J. Snell and agreed by all to confirm and sign minutes of ordinary meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 7th April 2025.

Following her resignation the Cathaoirleach, Elected Members and the Chief Executive all paid tribute to former Cllr. A. Flynn Kennedy on her hard work, commitment, integrity and knowledge. The Cathaoirleach made a small presentation to Ms. Flynn Kennedy and wished her every success in her future endeavours.

ITEM NO. 6

To consider the casual vacancy arising from the resignation of Cllr. A. Flynn Kennedy in accordance with Section 19 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended).

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Bourke, seconded by Cllr. S. Langrell and agreed by all to co-opt Mr. Ned Whelan onto the council.

The Elected Members welcomed Cllr. Whelan and wished him well and looked forward to working with him.

Cllr. Whelan thanked the Elected Members for their kind words and stated he looked forward to working with everyone.

ITEM NO. 2

To consider the disposal of 0.0421Ha or thereabouts in the townland of Knockieran Lower being the property known as 6 Knockieran Cottages, Blessington, Co. Wicklow to Ciaran & Kate Gallagher.

It was proposed by Cllr. P. Glennon, seconded by Cllr. A. Cronin and agreed by all to consider the disposal of 0.0421Ha or thereabouts in the townland of Knockieran Lower being the property known as 6 Knockieran Cottages, Blessington, Co. Wicklow to Ciaran & Kate Gallagher, as set out in statutory notice circulated.

ITEM NO. 3

To consider the disposal of 0.0331Ha or thereabouts in the townland of Knockanrahan Lower Td. being the property known as 24 Fernhill, Arklow, Co. Wicklow to Ms. Eimear Kenny.

It was proposed by Cllr. W. O'Toole, seconded by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald and agreed by all to consider the disposal of 0.0331Ha or thereabouts in the townland of Knockanrahan Lower Td. being the property known as 24 Fernhill, Arklow, Co. Wicklow to Ms. Eimear Kenny as set out in statutory notice circulated.

ITEM NO. 4

To consider the disposal of 2 Woodleigh Close, Blessington, Co. Wicklow to Ms. Patricia Wiffen.

It was proposed by Cllr. P. Glennon, seconded by Cllr. A. Cronin and agreed by all to consider the disposal of 2 Woodleigh Close, Blessington, Co. Wicklow to Ms. Patricia Wiffen as set out in statutory notice circulated.

ITEM NO. 5

To consider the disposal of 0.0057Ha or thereabouts in the townland of Bray Td. being the property known as 3 Connolly Square, Bray, Co. Wicklow to Jane O'Sullivan and Teresa O'Sullivan as Legal personal representatives in the estate of John O'Sullivan.

It was proposed by Cllr. M. Corrigan, seconded by Cllr. D. O'Brien and agreed by all to consider the disposal of 0.0057Ha or thereabouts in the townland of Bray Td. being the property known as 3 Connolly Square, Bray, Co. Wicklow to Jane O'Sullivan and Teresa

O'Sullivan as Legal personal representatives in the estate of John O'Sullivan as set out in statutory notice circulated.

ITEM NO. 7

To consider the vacancy on the Community & Social Development Strategic Policy Committee arising from the resignation of Cllr. A. Flynn Kennedy.

Cllr. S. Bourke proposed Cllr. N. Whelan to fill the vacancy to the Community & Social Development Strategic Policy Committee arising from the resignation of Cllr. A. Flynn Kennedy; this was seconded by Cllr. L. Fenelon Gaskin and agreed by all. Cllr. Whelan agreed to fill the vacancy.

ITEM NO. 8

To consider the vacancy on the Economic Development & Enterprise Support Strategic Policy Committee arising from the resignation of Cllr. A. Flynn Kennedy.

Cllr. S. Bourke proposed Cllr. N. Whelan to fill the vacancy on the Economic Development & Enterprise Support Strategic Policy Committee arising from the resignation of Cllr. A. Flynn Kennedy; this was seconded by Cllr. M. Corrigan and agreed by all. Cllr. Whelan agreed to fill the vacancy.

ITEM NO. 9

To consider the vacancy on the Kildare Wicklow Education Training Board arising from the resignation of Cllr. A. Flynn Kennedy.

Cllr. L. Fenelon Gaskin proposed Cllr. A. Cronin to fill the vacancy on the Kildare Wicklow Education Training Board arising from the resignation of Cllr. A. Flynn Kennedy, this was seconded by Cllr. S. Bourke and agreed by all. Cllr. Cronin agreed to fill the vacancy.

ITEM NO. 10

To consider the vacancy on the Board of Mermaid County Wicklow Arts Centre CLG arising from the resignation of Cllr. A. Flynn Kennedy.

It was agreed by the Elected Members to refer this item to Bray Municipal District to revert to the Council for ratification.

ITEM NO. 11

To consider the vacancy to the Bray Area Partnership arising from the resignation of Cllr. A. Flynn Kennedy.

It was agreed by the Elected Members to refer this item to Bray Municipal District to revert to the Council for ratification.

ITEM NO. 12

To consider the vacancy to the Greystones/Bray Cliff Walk Management Plan sub-committee arising from the resignation of Cllr. A. Flynn Kennedy.

It was agreed by the Elected Members to refer this item to Bray Municipal District to revert to the Council for ratification.

ITEM NO. 13

To consider the vacancy to the Bray Harbour Joint Development Committee arising from the resignation of Cllr. A. Flynn Kennedy.

It was agreed by the Elected Members to refer this item to Bray Municipal District to revert to the Council for ratification.

ITEM NO. 14

To consider the vacancy to the Special Amenity Area Order Committee for Bray Head arising from the resignation of Cllr. A. Flynn Kennedy.

It was agreed by the Elected Members to refer this item to Bray Municipal District to revert to the Council for ratification.

ITEM NO. 15

To consider the vacancy on the Housing Strategic Policy Committee arising from the resignation of Cllr. G. Dunne.

Cllr. C. Winstanley proposed herself, to fill the vacancy on the Housing Strategic Policy Committee arising from the resignation of Cllr. A. Flynn Kennedy, this was seconded by Cllr. P. O'Brien and agreed by all. Cllr. Winstanley agreed to fill the vacancy.

ITEM NO. 16

To consider the Proposed Material Amendments to the draft Wicklow Town – Rathnew Local Area Plan 2025, to consider the Chief Executive's Report on submissions to the

Proposed Material Amendments to the draft plan and to consider making, not making or modifying the Wicklow Town – Rathnew Local Area Plan 2025 – 2031, all in accordance with Section 20 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended).

2	CE		Add new objective re residential development types, tenures & sizes
Reasons			As set out in the CE Reports and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 2 proposed by Cllr. J. Snell, seconded by Cllr. G. Richmond and agreed by all.

3	CE		Add new objective re Wicklow Town & Rathnew Village priority location (new employment)
Reasons			As set out in the CE Reports and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 3 proposed by Cllr. J. Snell, seconded by Cllr. S. Langrell and agreed by all.

4	CE		Add new objective re Wicklow Town priority location (redevelopment)
Reasons			As set out in the CE Reports and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 4 proposed by Cllr. S. Langrell, seconded by Cllr. J. Snell and agreed by all.

5	CE		Add new objective re Rathnew Village priority location (redevelopment)
Reasons			As set out in the CE Reports and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 5 proposed by Cllr. J. Snell, seconded by Cllr. G. Richmond and agreed by all.

6	CE		Add new objective re Rathnew Village priority location (investment / new development)
Reasons			As set out in the CE Reports and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 6 proposed by Cllr. G. Richmond, seconded by Cllr. J. Snell and agreed by all.

7	CE		Update Rathnew Village Strategy text (omit County Campus lands)
Reasons			As set out in the CE Reports and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 7 proposed by Cllr. J. Snell, seconded by Cllr. G. Richmond and agreed by all.

8	CE		Update Rathnew Village Strategy Map
Reasons			As set out in the CE Reports and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 8 proposed by Cllr. J. Snell, seconded by Cllr. G. Richmond and agreed by all.

9	CE		Improve Wicklow town, Rathnew village, waterfront strategy maps
Reasons			As set out in the CE Reports and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 9 proposed by Cllr. G. Richmond, seconded by Cllr. S. Langrell and agreed by all.

10	CE		Add new Opportunity Site 5 – Charvey Lane
Reasons			As set out in the CE Reports and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Further modify and proceed.

Amendment No. 10 proposed by Cllr. J. Snell, seconded by Cllr. S. Langrell and agreed by all.

11	CE		Add new objective re preparing a LTP
Reasons			As set out in the CE Reports and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 11 proposed by Cllr. J. Snell, seconded by Cllr. S. Langrell and agreed by all.

12	CE		Add new objective re bus services
Reasons			As set out in the CE Reports and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 12 proposed by Cllr. P. O'Brien, seconded by Cllr. S. Langrell and agreed by all.

13	CE		Add new objective re Transit Oriented Development
Reasons			As set out in the CE Reports and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 13 proposed by Cllr. S. Langrell, seconded by Cllr. J. Snell and agreed by all.

14	CE		Add to Wicklow County Campus objectives, FRA text
Reasons			As set out in the CE Reports and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 14 proposed by Cllr. J. Snell, seconded by Cllr. S. Langrell and agreed by all.

15	CE		Amend Zoning objectives lands uses to include childcare/ crèche
Reasons			As set out in the CE Reports and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 15 proposed by Cllr. S. Langrell, seconded by Cllr. J. Snell and agreed by all.

16	CE		Amend OS1 lands uses to include allotments
Reasons			As set out in the CE Reports and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 16 proposed by Cllr. J. Snell, seconded by Cllr. G. Richmond and agreed by all.

17	CE		Add to zoning objectives – infrastructure in OS1 & OS2 lands
Reasons			As set out in the CE Reports and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 17 proposed by Cllr. J. Snell, seconded by Cllr. S. Langrell and agreed by all.

37	CE		Rezone lands from unzoned/OS2 to WZ/OS2 at rear old Veba factory (PMA 18)
Reasons			As set out in the CE Reports and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 37 proposed by Cllr. P. O’Brien, seconded by Cllr. S. Langrell and agreed by all.

18	CE		Amend Waterfront Zone text and map to extend ‘regeneration area’ at rear of old Veba factory. (PMA 37)
Reasons			As set out in the CE Reports and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 18 proposed by Cllr. P. O’Brien, seconded by Cllr. S. Langrell and agreed by all.

19	CE	EM	SLO 2 Tinakilly / Newrath, EM -extend boundary and add MUGA & pitch objective, CE -LTP objective
Reasons			As set out in the CE Reports and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

To further modify with the Chief Executive’s modifications and the Elected Members modifications and proceed to make PMA no. 19.

Amendment No. 19 proposed by Cllr. S. Langrell, seconded by Cllr. P. O’Brien and agreed by all.

20a	CE		SLO 3 Milltown Nth, amend boundary at Tighe’s Ave
Reasons			As set out in the CE Reports and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 20a proposed by Cllr. J. Snell, seconded by Cllr. G. Richmond and agreed by all.

20b		EM	SLO 3 Milltown Nth, rezone OS to RN2 along stream
Reasons			As set out at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 20b proposed by Cllr. J. Snell, seconded by Cllr G. O'Neill was put to a vote and following a roll call was passed by a margin of 20 votes for, 8 against and 4 not present viz:-

FOR (20)	CLLRs. S. BOURKE, M. CORRIGAN, A. CRONIN, L. FENELON GASKIN, P. FITZGERALD, T. FORTUNE, P. GLENNON, P. KENNEDY, S. LANGRELL, P. MAHON, I. NEARY, D. O'BRIEN, P. O'BRIEN, G. O'NEILL, W. O'TOOLE, G. RICHMOND, J. SNELL, P. STAPLETON, S. STOKES AND N. WHELAN		
AGAINST (8)	CLLRs. D. ALVEY, M. BARRY, E. DOYLE, O. FINN, P. LEONARD, J. MULHALL, L. SCOTT AND C. WINSTANLEY		
NOT PRESENT (4)	CLLR. J. BEHAN, M. DUDDY, G. DUNNE AND M. MURPHY,		

21	CE		SLO 3 Milltown Nth, add text to refer to LTP
Reasons			As set out in the CE Reports and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 21 proposed by Cllr. J. Snell, seconded by Cllr. G. Richmond and agreed by all.

22a	CE		SLO 4 Bollarney Nth, Rezone from PU to RN2, Rezone RN2 to OS1 and add AA objective
Reasons			As set out in the CE Reports and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 22a proposed by Cllr. J. Snell, seconded by Cllr. S. Langrell and agreed by all.

22b		EM	SLO 4 Bollarney Nth, Rezone from RN2 to RN1
Reasons			As set out at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 22b proposed by Cllr. P. O'Brien, seconded by Cllr. G. Richmond and agreed by all.

23	CE		SLO 6 Ballynerrin, Rezone land from RN2 to RN1
Reasons			As set out in the CE Reports and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 23 proposed by Cllr. P. O'Brien, seconded by Cllr. G. Richmond and agreed by all.

24	CE	EM	SLO 7 (Rosanna Lwr) CE - Amend map and text and to include some of the lands originally in SLO 8, rezone RN1 to RE EM - relocate CE zone
Reasons			As set out in the CE Reports and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 24 proposed by Cllr. G. Richmond, seconded by Cllr. P. O'Brien and agreed by all.

25	CE		Delete SLO 8 map boundary and text, Rosanna Lower
Reasons			As set out in the CE Reports and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 25 proposed by Cllr. G. Richmond, seconded by Cllr. S. Langrell and agreed by all.

26		EM	New SLO 9 Glebe Rezone from CE to RN1 / RN2
Reasons			As set out at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

To further modify and proceed to make PMA no. 26.

Amendment No. 26 proposed by Cllr. G. Richmond, seconded by Cllr. P. O'Brien and agreed by all.

27		EM	New SLO 10 Ashtown Lane and rezone 3.5ha from RN2 to RN1
Reasons			As set out at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 27 proposed by Cllr. P. O'Brien, seconded by Cllr. G. Richmond and agreed by all.

28		EM	New SLO 11 Marlton – Ballynerrin Lower Rezoned 3.6ha from CE to RN1, Rezoned 3.82ha from E/OS1 to CE (at grain store) and 0.5ha from E/RN1 to CE
Reasons			As set out at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 28 proposed by Cllr. G. Richmond, seconded by Cllr. P. O’Brien and agreed by all.

29		EM	New SLO 12 Broomhall Rezoned 7.35ha from RN2 to RN1, c.1.7ha from unzoned to AOS
Reasons			As set out at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 29 proposed by Cllr. J. Snell, seconded by Cllr. P. O’Brien and agreed by all.

30		EM	New SLO 13 Broomhall- Hawks Bay Rezoned c.2.7ha from RN2 to RN1, c.2.8 from unzoned to AOS
Reasons			As set out at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 30 proposed by Cllr. J. Snell, seconded by Cllr. P. O’Brien and agreed by all.

31		EM	New SLO14 Ballynabarny Rezoned lands from AOS to E/CE
Reasons			As set out at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

To further modify and proceed to make PMA no. 31.

Amendment No. 31 proposed by Cllr. J. Snell, seconded by Cllr. P. O’Brien and agreed by all.

32	CE		Rezoned lands from VC to WCC at Clermont
Reasons			As set out in the CE Reports and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 32 proposed by Cllr. P. O’Brien, seconded by Cllr. J. Snell and agreed by all.

33	CE		Rezone lands from RE to VC at Charvey Lane, Rathnew Village
Reasons			As set out in the CE Reports and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 33 proposed by Cllr. J. Snell, seconded by Cllr. P. O'Brien and agreed by all.

34	CE		Rezone lands from OS1 to CE at Knockrobin
Reasons			As set out in the CE Reports and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 34 proposed by Cllr. P. O'Brien, seconded by Cllr. S. Langrell and agreed by all.

35	CE		Rezone lands from OS1 to RN1 at Bollarney
Reasons			As set out in the CE Reports and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 35 proposed by Cllr. J. Snell, seconded by Cllr. P. O'Brien and agreed by all.

36	CE		Rezone lands from RE to CE at Greenhills Road (Convent)
Reasons			As set out in the CE Reports and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 36 proposed by Cllr. S. Langrell, seconded by Cllr. J. Snell and agreed by all.

38		EM	Rezone c.0.06ha from OS2 to RN1 at Charvey Court, Rathnew
Reasons			As set out at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 38 proposed by Cllr. J. Snell, seconded by Cllr. S. Langrell was put to a vote and following a roll call was passed by a margin of 23 votes for, 5 against, 3 not present and 1 abstained viz:-

FOR (23)	CLLRs. S. BOURKE, M. CORRIGAN, A. CRONIN, L. FENELON GASKIN, O. FINN, P. FITZGERALD, T. FORTUNE, P. GLENNON, P. KENNEDY, S. LANGRELL, P. LEONARD, P. MAHON, J. MULHALL, I. NEARY, D.
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	O'BRIEN, P. O'BRIEN, G. O'NEILL, W. O'TOOLE, G. RICHMOND, J. SNELL, P. STAPLETON, S. STOKES AND N. WHELAN
AGAINST (5)	CLLRS. D. ALVEY, M. BARRY, E. DOYLE, L. SCOTT AND C. WINSTANLEY
NOT PRESENT (3)	CLLR. J. BEHAN, M. DUDDY AND G. DUNNE
ABSTAIN (1)	CLLR. M. MURPHY

39		EM	Rezone c.0.673ha from unzoned to RN1 at Ballyguile Beg
Reasons			As set out at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 39 proposed by Cllr. P. O'Brien, seconded by Cllr. J. Snell and agreed by all.

40		EM	Rezone c.3ha from RN2 to RN1 at Greenhill's Rd (Mariner's Point)
Reasons			As set out at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 40 proposed by Cllr. S. Langrell, seconded by Cllr. J. Snell and agreed by all.

41		EM	Rezone c.1ha from OS2 to 'E' at Murrough
Reasons			As set out at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

To further modify with the inclusion of the following objective and proceed to make PMA no. 41

'All proposed projects at this site shall: have full regard to the Habitats Directive (with particular regard for the Murrough SPA and the Murrough Wetlands SAC), including being subject to AA that identifies and addresses any likely significant effects. In doing so, proposed projects and associated AAs in this area shall, as relevant:

• Be informed by appropriately targeted ecological survey(s) and assessment(s) of the Qualifying Interests of the SAC and SPA that consider issues including:

i Bird usage of the adjacent wetland areas (river corridor and intertidal), including spatial and behavioural considerations and associated role in supporting the QIs of the site as a whole.

ii Use of the area adjacent during darkness, including a consideration of lighting effects on spatial and behavioural considerations.

iii Use of the area for fish and mammal movements – notably Otter, Atlantic salmon, bats – to have consideration of lighting effects on connectivity for these mobile species.

and

- Give due consideration to any requirement for project level mitigation that arises from the surveying and assessment described above, ensuring that prescribed mitigation measures are proven, robust and address the need for certainty in achievement of mitigation of potentially significant adverse effects. Notably this should include a presumption to achieve significant net benefit to the features which may otherwise be impacted.

To avoid the potential for impacts on the aquatic environment and associated species, key components of nearby European sites, any development must adequately address the management of surface water run-off and drainage at the construction and operational phases to ensure that no adverse impacts may occur to the sites. It should be recognised that this may require significant exceedance of any existing measures to ensure that any development provides a net benefit over its life, to the nearby sites and wider aquatic environment.'

Amendment No. 41 proposed by Cllr. S. Langrell, seconded by Cllr. G. Richmond was put to a vote and following a roll call was passed by a margin of 19 votes for, 6 against, 5 not present and 2 abstained viz:-

FOR (19)	CLLRs. S. BOURKE, M. CORRIGAN, A. CRONIN, L. FENELON GASKIN, P. FITZGERALD, P. GLENNON, P. KENNEDY, S. LANGRELL, P. LEONARD, P. MAHON, I. NEARY, D. O'BRIEN, P. O'BRIEN, W. O'TOOLE, G. RICHMOND, J. SNELL, P. STAPLETON, S. STOKES AND N. WHELAN
AGAINST (6)	CLLRs. D. ALVEY, M. BARRY, E. DOYLE, J. MULHALL, L. SCOTT AND C. WINSTANLEY
NOT PRESENT (5)	CLLR. J. BEHAN, M. DUDDY, G. DUNNE, T. FORTUNE AND G. O'NEILL
ABSTAIN (2)	CLLRs. O. FINN AND M. MURPHY

42	CE		Land Use Map - Amend OS1 to OS2
Reasons			As set out in the CE Reports and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 42 proposed by Cllr. J. Snell, seconded by Cllr. P. O'Brien and agreed by all.

43	CE		Updated Transport Strategy Map
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Reasons			As set out in the CE Reports and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025
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Amendment No. 43 proposed by Cllr. G. Richmond, seconded by Cllr. P. O'Brien and agreed by all.

44	CE		Infrastructure Delivery Schedule Appendix Insert table on implementation/timeframe for all objectives
Reasons			As set out in the CE Reports and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 44 proposed by Cllr. P. O'Brien, seconded by Cllr. J. Snell and agreed by all.

45	CE		Add SFRA Addendum (updated flood maps)
Reasons			As set out in the CE Reports and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Amendment No. 45 proposed by Cllr. J. Snell, seconded by Cllr. G. Richmond and agreed by all.

1	CE	EM	Amend Table 3.1 New Residential Zonings to include all new & amended PMA's re new residential zonings.
Reasons			As set out in the CE Reports and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Proceed and update with any changes consequent.

Amendment No. 1 proposed by Cllr. P. O'Brien, seconded by Cllr. J. Snell and agreed by all.

Proposed by Cllr. P. O'Brien and seconded by Cllr. G. Richmond that '*Having considered the Plan, the Proposed Material Amendments, the Chief Executive's Reports on Consultations and the*

- *The Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Environmental Report for the Draft Plan*
- *The Appropriate Assessment (AA) Natura Impact Report for the Draft Plan*
- *The Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) for the Draft Plan*
- *The SEA Environmental Report for the Proposed Material Amendments*
- *The Natura Impact Report for the Proposed Material Amendments*
- *Written submissions relating to SEA, AA and SFRA made during the Plan preparation process*

- Ongoing advice on SEA, AA and SFRA from the Council's agents / staff
- The final, consolidated Natura Impact Report
- The final AA Determination

in accordance with the provisions of Section 20 (3) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), the members agree, by resolution, to make the Wicklow Town – Rathnew Local Area Plan 2025 - 2031:

- *with those proposed amendments that have been agreed today,*
- *with those proposed amendments that have been agreed to make with minor modifications today,*
- *without those proposed amendments that were not agreed today,*
- *with any changes consequent required as result of the agreed amendments and with any minor data or document updates that have arisen during the adoption of the plan'.*

Was put to a vote and following a role call was passed by a margin of 25 for and 7 not present Viz:-

FOR (25)	CLLRS. D. ALVEY, M. BARRY, M. CORRIGAN, A. CRONIN, E. DOYLE, L. FENELON GASKIN, O. FINN, P. FITZGERALD, P. GLENNON, S. LANGRELL, P. LEONARD, P. MAHON, J. MULHALL, I. NEARY, D. O'BRIEN, P. O'BRIEN, G. O'NEILL, W. O'TOOLE, G. RICHMOND, L. SCOTT, J. SNELL, P. STAPLETON, S. STOKES, C. WINSTANLEY AND N. WHELAN
AGAINST (0)	
NOT PRESENT (7)	CLLR. J. BEHAN, S. BOURKE, M. DUDDY, G. DUNNE, T. FORTUNE , P. KENNEDY AND M. MURPHY

ITEM NO. 17

To consider the Proposed Material Alterations to the proposed Variation No. 2 to the Wicklow County Development Plan 2022 – 2028 (Wicklow Town – Rathnew LAP), to consider the Chief Executive's Report on submissions to the Proposed Material Alterations to the proposed variation and to consider making, not making or modify Variation No. 2 to the Wicklow County Development Plan 2022 – 2028, all in accordance with Section 13 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

1	CE	Alter Map 17.09 Landscape Category map
Reasons		As set out in the CE Report and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Proceed subject to any amendments/modifications from LAP adoption process.

Amendment No. 1 proposed by Cllr. S. Langrell, seconded by Cllr. G. Richmond and agreed by all.

2	CE	Alter Map 1 - Land use Zoning Map for Wicklow Town & Rathnew LAP
Reasons		As set out in the CE Report and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Proceed subject to any amendments/modifications from LAP adoption process.

Amendment No. 2 proposed by Cllr. P. O'Brien, seconded by Cllr. J. Snell and agreed by all.

3	CE	Alter Map 4 Indicative Flood Zones Maps for Wicklow Town & Rathnew LAP
Reasons		As set out in the CE Report and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Proceed subject to any amendments/modifications from LAP adoption process.

Amendment No. 3 proposed by Cllr. J. Snell, seconded by Cllr. G. Richmond and agreed by all.

4	CE	Alter Map 5 Transport Strategy Map for Wicklow Town & Rathnew LAP
Reasons		As set out in the CE Report and at the Council meeting of 10 th February 2025

Proceed subject to any amendments/modifications from LAP adoption process.

Amendment No. 4 proposed by Cllr. S. Langrell, seconded by Cllr. P. O'Brien and agreed by all.

Proposed by Cllr. J. Snell and seconded by Cllr. S. Langrell *that 'Having considered the Variation, the Proposed Material Alterations, the Chief Executive's Reports on Consultations and the*

- *Strategic Environmental Assessment screening report and associated determination for the Proposed Variation and the Addendum I to the SEA Screening Report*
- *Appropriate Assessment screening report and associated determination for the Proposed Variation and Addendum I to the AA Screening Report for the Proposed Variation*
- *Screening for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Determination for the Proposed Material Alterations*
- *Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA) Determination for Proposed Material Alterations*

- *Written submissions relating to SEA and AA made during the variation preparation process*
- *Ongoing advice on SEA and AA from the Council's agents / staff*
- *The final AA Determination*

in accordance with the provisions of Section 13 (6) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), the members agree, by resolution, to make Variation Number 2 to the Wicklow County Development Plan 2022 -2028:

- *with the proposed alterations that have been agreed today,*
- *with any proposed alterations that have been agreed to be made with minor modifications today,*
- *without any proposed alterations that were not agreed today,*
- *with any changes consequent required as result of the agreed alterations and with any minor data or document updates that have arisen during the adoption of the variation and to proceed in accordance with Section 13 (8) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) to publish notice of the making of the Variation’.*

Was put to a vote and following a role call was passed by a margin of 26 for and 6 not present Viz:-

FOR (26)	CLLRS. D. ALVEY, S. BOURKE, M. CORRIGAN, A. CRONIN, E. DOYLE, L. FENELON GASKIN, O. FINN, P. FITZGERALD, P. GLENNON, P. KENNEDY, S. LANGRELL, P. LEONARD, P. MAHON, J. MULHALL, I. NEARY, D. O'BRIEN, P. O'BRIEN, G. O'NEILL, W. O'TOOLE, G. RICHMOND, L. SCOTT, J. SNELL, P. STAPLETON, S. STOKES, C. WINSTANLEY AND N. WHELAN
AGAINST (0)	
NOT PRESENT (6)	CLLR. M. BARRY, J. BEHAN, M. DUDDY, G. DUNNE, T. FORTUNE AND M. MURPHY

ITEM NO. 18

To note the Annual Financial Statement 2024 and to approve by resolution (i) additional net expenditure in excess of budget in accordance with Section 104(7) of the Local Government Act 2001 and (ii) additional transfers to and from capital.

Mr. B. Gleeson, Director of Services gave an overview of the Annual Financial Statement 2024 as follows:

- The financial accounts for Wicklow County Council for 2024 have been prepared in accordance with the Local Authority Accounting in Ireland Code of Practice Accounting Regulations and the directions of the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

- The Council's overall financial position remained strong throughout 2024.
- Total expenditure that occurred in the revenue account after transfers was €172 million which was an increase of €22 million on 2023.
- A surplus of €601,000 which has fully cleared the reserve deficit in the revenue account leaving the account with a small surplus of €2,782 at year end.
- The capital account expenditure, including transfers, was €114 million in 2024. The vast majority of this expenditure was under the housing programme.
- The commercial rates collection rate increased again from 91% up to 93% which is the highest collection rate Wicklow has ever received, and also housing rents have improved their collection rate increasing from 84% up to 85%.
- While the AFS itself is just for noting by the members, under section 147 of the Local Government Act approval of the members is sought for the net expenditure in excess of budget in the revenue account and for transfers to and from the capital account.
- Net expenditure in excess of budgets these amounts are outlined by division on page 5 of the AFS as well as in Note 16 on page 26, and they are as follows: Housing and building 2,235,936; environmental services, 817,741; and agriculture, educational, health and welfare, 84,638.
- Total transfers to capital are 5,713,463 and from capital, 1,399,374. Transfers to capital are in respect of past expenditure which has resulted in deficits in the capital account as well as the provision of specific reserves for future expenditure and commitments. Some of the most significant transfers in 2024 include capital reserve for fabric upgrade works and conditional surveys, half a million, which is charged to the Housing Improvement Programme; capital provision for match funding requirements, charged to development management; provision of just under half a million for harbour works, including dredging; 300,000 for a capital reserve for County Buildings refurbishment works; and 200,000 for the Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project.
- The most significant transfers from capital are the rates revaluation provision of 700,000 that covers rate income reductions from tribunal decisions, also quarter of a million for funding of Local Footpath Renewal Scheme, and our insurance dividend of 300,000.

It was proposed by Cllr. L. Fenelon Gaskin, seconded by Cllr. P. O'Brien and agreed by all to approve:

- (i) Additional net expenditure in excess of budget in accordance with Section 104(7) of the Local Government Act 2001 and;

It was proposed by Cllr. P. O'Brien, seconded by Cllr. J. Snell and agreed by all to approve:

- (ii) Additional transfers to and from capital in excess of budget.

ITEM NO. 19

To consider the Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report, April 2025.

Elected Members were circulated with the Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report, April 2025.

Some of the issues raised included the following:

- Magheramore Beach.
- Update – outdoor staffing levels.
- Coastal protection – Clogga Beach.
- Arklow Flood Relief Scheme.
- Priority dredging – river – Arklow.
- Cost of car parking – Brittas Bay – residents .
- Farrankelly Estate.
- Homeless figures.
- Youth homelessness – figures for County Wicklow.
- Scope of Chief Executive monthly report to include progress of motions raised in the Chamber.
- Fire Service – percentage increase in call-outs.
- Request for a presentation to be given by the Fire Service.
- List of rent arrears.
- Update on two strategic documents – Age Friendly Strategy and Migrant Integration Strategy.
- Town teams – Baltinglass – role of Elected Members.
- RRDF funding, Baltinglass.
- Additional staffing – parks in Blessington and Baltinglass.
- Status update on new social houses, Tinahely.
- Detailed list of empty housing stock.
- Status of Arklow/Shillelagh Greenway.
- Changes – Tenants in situ Scheme.
- Clarification – bus stop – Hollywood Cross.
- Burgage, Blessington housing development.
- Proposed closure of Herbert Road Junction.
- Blessington Greenway project.
- Maintenance of parks.
- Casual trading licenses – Wicklow Town.

Elected Members raised questions which were responded to by the Chief Executive and the relevant Director of Services.

Following the discussion on the Monthly Management Report, The Cathaoirleach and the Chief Executive paid tribute to Ms. L. Gallagher, Director of Services on her forthcoming retirement and thanked her for her dedicated service to Wicklow County Council.

The Elected Members joined in wishing Ms. Gallagher well in her retirement.

Time Extension: It was proposed by Cllr. S. Langrell, seconded by Cllr. J. Snell and agreed by all to extend the meeting to 5.30 p.m.

ITEM NO. 20

To note and receive a presentation on Wicklow County Council 2025 Countywide Differential Rent Scheme for social housing tenants.

The Chief Executive reminded the Elected Members that this item was on the agenda and that the Elected Members had requested a second legal opinion. The Chief Executive confirmed that it is an executive function of the Council to make a Differential Rent Scheme

Mr. B. Wildes, Administrative Officer gave a presentation outlining the following:

- Wicklow County Council Countywide Differential Rent Scheme Review.
- Rent.
- Rent schemes explained.
- Why review and amalgamate schemes?
- How – schemes reviewed.
- Proposed changes.
- Examples given – Bray Municipal District.
- Examples given – Wicklow County Council.

The Elected Members raised queries which were responded to by Mr. Wildes.

ITEM NO. 21

Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

ITEM NO. 22

Notice of Motions

Notice of motion in the name of Cllr. M. Murphy (proposer), seconded by Cllr. L. Scott and supported by Cllrs. C. Winstanley, D. Alvey, J. Mulhall, W. O'Toole and M. Corrigan (7th March 2025)

'Recognising that 22% of the people in Ireland have a disability and that these people live in every community in our county,

Acknowledging that Ireland has ratified the UN CRPD on the 20th of March 2018, and has, as a state committed to disability inclusion through this treaty,

And

Understanding the crucial role played by local authorities in ensuring the accessibility of public space and amenities, and the delivery of vital services to people with disabilities,

We urge that members adopt the following motion:

- 1. Wicklow County Council will, agree in principle that, the Access officer role should be a full-time, dedicated role with appropriate seniority and training,***
- 2. A structured national approach should be developed to support a standardised approach to implementation of UN CRPD at local level, which is resourced and monitored to achieve consistency across all counties,***
- 3. Funding is allocated to each local authority from central Government to upgrade the access officer role, develop a standard national approach to UN CRPD implantation and to implement this approach, once agreed, at local level.***

Wicklow County Council will, work together as elected members, with our council colleagues and any other relevant stakeholders, including people with disabilities, to achieve the afore mentioned, by writing to An Taoiseach, An Tánaiste and the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality, Norma Foley, T.D and the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, James Browne, T.D.'

RESPONSE

Wicklow County Council is recognised as being an access and Disability champion in the Local Government sector, with our unique partnership with the Disability Federation of Ireland, the establishment of a Disability and Inclusion steering committee (DISC) in 2020 and the development of a Disability & Inclusion Strategy in 2023, to achieve a multi-departmental approach to making the services provided by the Council equitable and accessible to all. Our approach to access and disability is in line with the United Nations convention on human rights (UNCRPD). Our commitment to accessibility and disability is further enshrined in our other local strategies such as the Local Sports strategy, the outdoor recreation strategy, the Library strategy and the Wicklow age friendly strategy. It also aligns with the Councils Corporate plan and our Customer charter.

Within the Social Development Directorate of the Council, a dedicated staff member has responsibility as Access officer along with other duties as age friendly officer, disability officer and Comhairle Na nOg co-ordinator as there is symmetry between these activities as they focus primarily on the aged, the disabled, and the youth of the county. Provision has been made in the recently developed Workforce plan to continue with this position in the Social development directorate.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

**CLLR. PAUL O'BRIEN
CATHAOIRLEACH
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL**

**MS. RACHEL GILLESPIE
A/SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER/
MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR**

Confirmed at meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday the 9th June 2025