



Comhairle Cathrach & Contae Phort Láirge Waterford City & County Council

Waterford City & County Council Planning Report to Metropolitan District Council– February 2023

DO: GACH BALL DE CHEANTAR CATHRACH PHORT LÁIRGE

TO: EACH MEMBER OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF WATERFORD

Planning Applications Received – Metropolitan District

24 Planning applications were received in the Metropolitan District in January 2023. This compares with 30 planning applications received for the same period in 2022.



Heritage Officer Report

Decade of Commemorations

Waterford's Decade of Commemorations website www.Waterford1916to1922.ie will be launched in February. The website will host all material relating to the Decade of Commemorations Programme in Waterford from the past 8 years including history publications, school resources, GIS maps of War of Independence and Civil War events and talks by the local authority and community organisations. A documentary film on the Siege of Waterford developed by historian James Doherty is available to view on YouTube <https://bit.ly/siegeofwaterford> and John Foley's film on Liam Lynch and the end of the Civil War will be premiered on 9th February in Dungarvan SGC with further public screenings to be announced <https://johnfoleyimages.com/the-dying-days-film/>. A publication on Cumann na mBan in Waterford by Christina O'Connor, Eddie Cantwell will be launched in March.

Community Heritage Fund 2023

The Heritage Council have opened the Community Heritage Fund for applications which should be submitted via The Heritage Council's [Online Grants System](#) by **Monday 20th February 2023 at 5pm.**

The aim of this scheme is to support capital projects that improve access and inclusion to heritage sites; that apply good heritage practice to the management of places, collections, or objects (including buildings). The scheme also supports the purchase of essential equipment. This scheme is intended to enable communities and heritage non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to continue their work in this area or to start new initiatives. Further details are available on;

www.heritagecouncil.ie/funding/community-heritage-grant-scheme-2023

World Wetlands Day February 2nd

World Wetlands Day takes place every year on February 2nd, marking the date of the adoption of the Convention on Wetlands signed in Ramsar, Iran on February 2 in 1971. Waterford has two Ramsar sites- Tramore Backstrand and Dungarvan Harbour which attract 1000s of wintering birdlife every year. Come along to the bird hide at Tramore Nature Park on Thursday February 2nd at 10.30 a.m. where well known nature enthusiast Denis Cullen of the Irish Wildlife Trust will explain the value of the Backstrand for birds and the threats from climate change and invasive species. Find out more on other WWD nationwide events on <https://irishwetlands.ie/events/>.

Community Water Development Fund 2023

The Community Water Development Fund 2023 is now open for applications. Administered by the Local Authorities Waters Programme the scheme funds community groups to enhance the quality of local streams, rivers, lakes and coastal areas. Closing date for applications is 7th February and applications will be accepted via an online portal at <https://consult.watersandcommunities.ie/en/content/community-water-development-fund-grant-application-form-2023>. Details on the fund available at <https://lawaters.ie/community-water-development-fund-2023/>.

Conservation Officer Report

Built Heritage Investment Scheme (BHIS) 2023 and the Historic Structures Fund (HSF) 2023.

Since 2016, Waterford City and County Council has received funding of over €1.6 million for conservation projects under these schemes. This has supported over 140 projects. Currently 37 applications for BHIS and HSF for 2023 are being assessed with €223,468 in funding has been received thus far for BHIS.

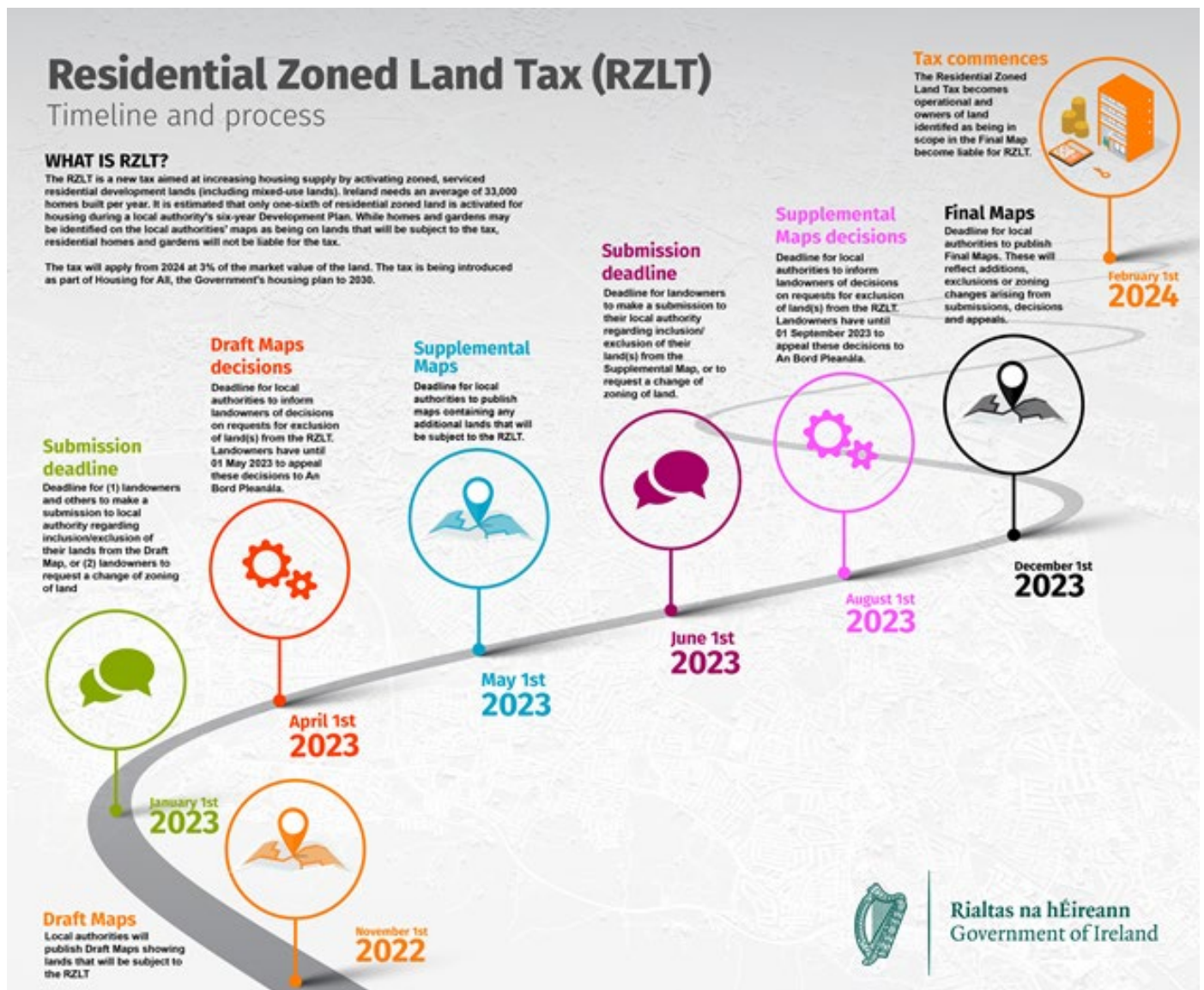
Forward Planning Plenary Report

Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT) Draft Map of land in-scope

A draft map indicating land considered in-scope for the purposes of the RZLT was prepared by Waterford City and County Council and was on display over the period November-December 2022. Persons were invited to make written submissions to address the following:

- Make a suggested correction to the Draft Residential Zoned Land Tax Map if they feel that the land included on the map does not meet the criteria, or they disagree with the date on which the maps states the land met the criteria
- Request a change of zoning of their land so that it is not subject to the tax (Any changes to land use zoning would be a matter for the plenary council to consider by way of a material variation to the development plan, where appropriate, and as such would be subject to a separate statutory procedure)
- Identify other land that should be subject to the tax.

A total of 66 submissions were received and are currently being considered. A timeline for the further provisions of the RZLT are set out below.



Local Area Plans

We are commencing a preparation of the Tramore and Dungarvan/Ballinroad Local Area Plans with a four-week period of public consultation, starting on the 7th February, during which public consultation events will take place and interested persons/groups can make written submissions. The Local Area Plans will consider local issues of relevance and importance to the residents and communities of the towns having regard to the strategic determinants for each already set out in the Waterford City and County Development Plan 2022 – 2028. As such no changes will be proposed to the underlying core strategy and associated land use zoning of the Development Plan. Further details of the LAP process can be found on consult.waterfordcouncil.ie.

Following the period for public submissions a draft LAP will be prepared in Q2 of 2023 and this will then undergo a further period of consultation with the public, the Council and relevant authorities with the intention to have a final LAP being adopted by Waterford City and County Council in Q4 of 2023.