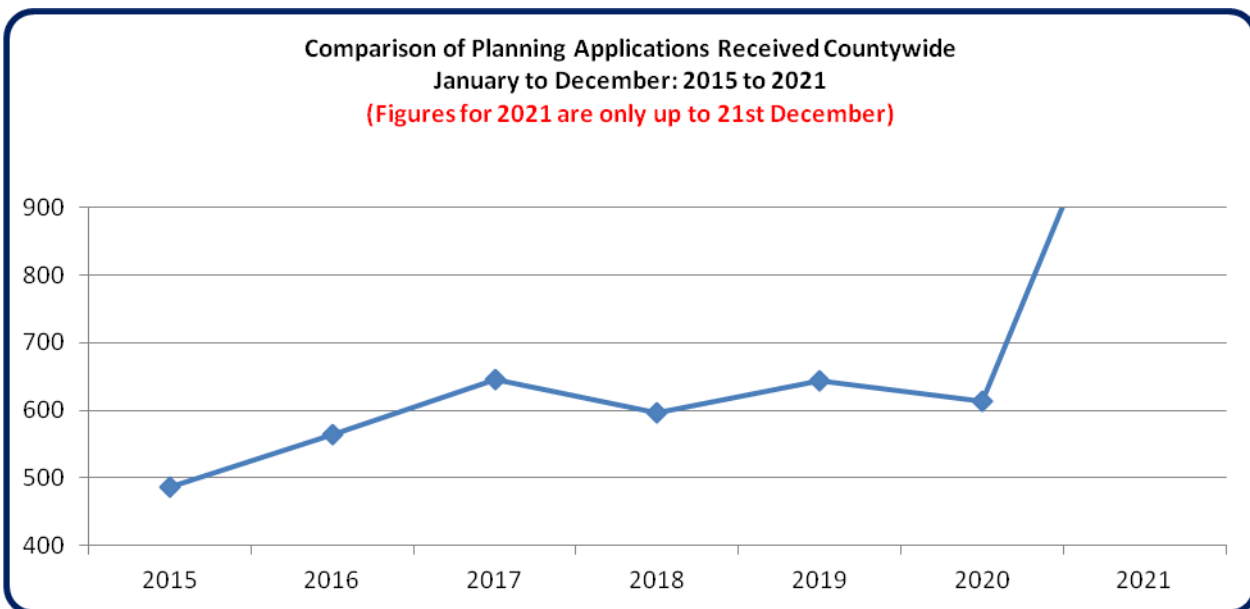
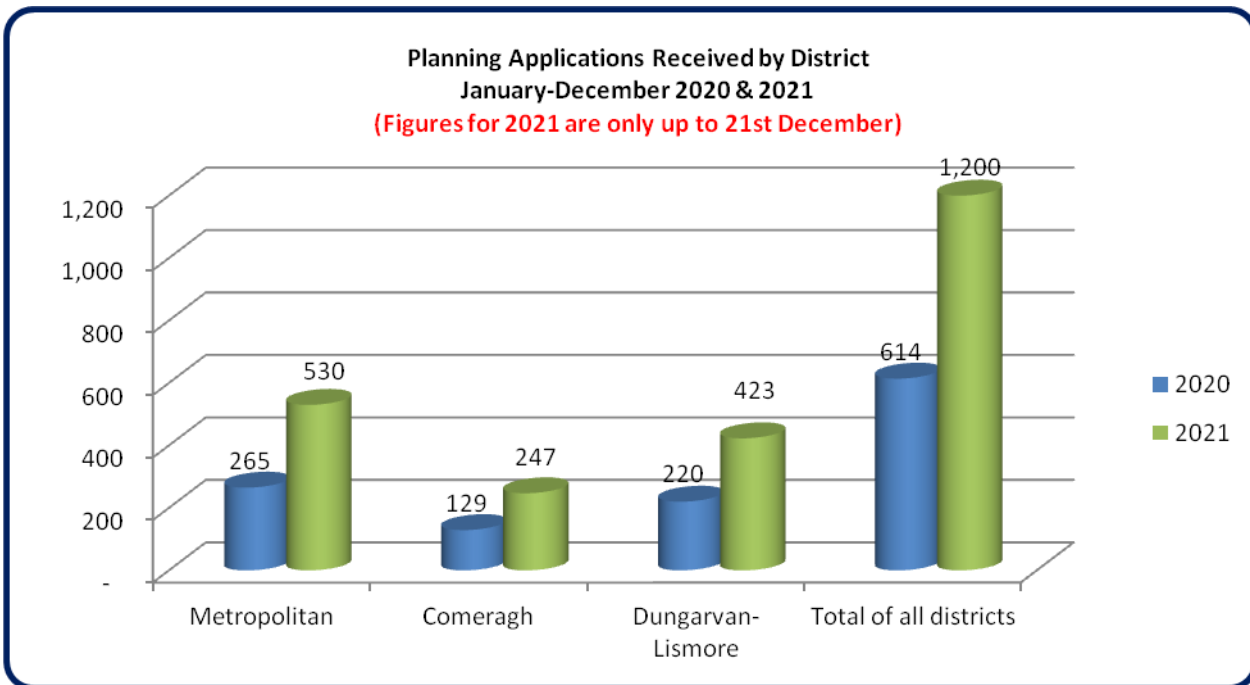


Planning Applications Received – Countywide

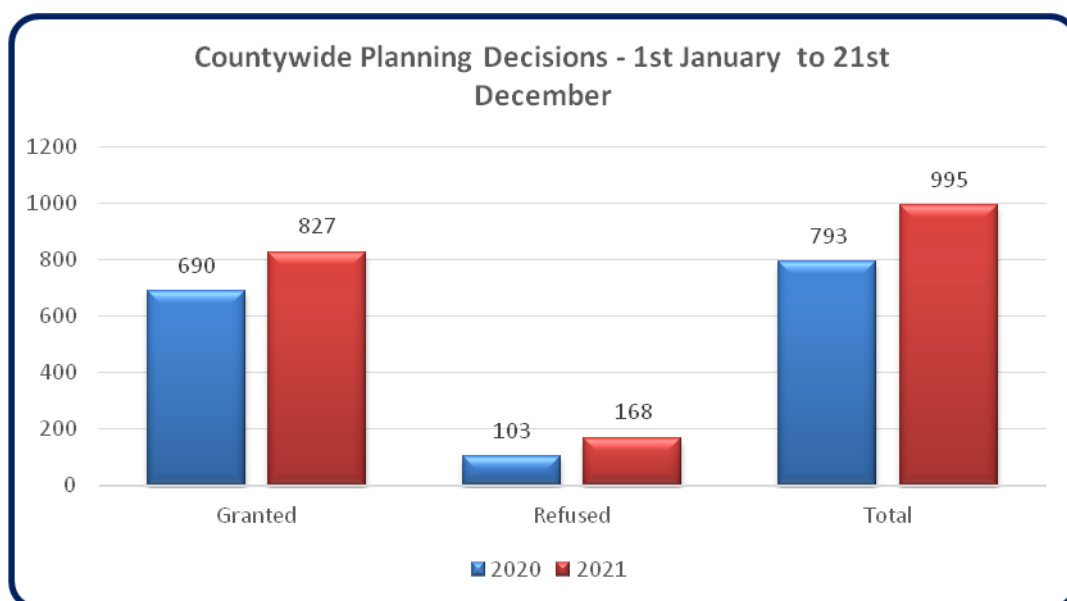
92 Planning applications were received in the month of December countywide (to 21st December). This compares with 133 planning applications received in the full calendar month in 2020. In November, 107 planning applications were received in the calendar month, compared to 93 received in November 2020.

A total of 1200 planning applications were received in the year to 21st December 2021. This compares to 987 planning applications which were received to the 21st of December 2020.



Planning Decisions

137 applications were decided from the 1st of November to 21st December 2021 compared to 133 for the same period in 2020. The number of applications which have been decided to date in 2021 has increased significantly, as seen below.



Forward Planning January 2022 Comeragh Report

Update on preparation of the draft Waterford City and County Development Plan 2022-2028.

The Chief Executive Report on the draft development plan public consultation phase has now been submitted to the elected members on the 22nd November and is available for public view on the consult.waterfordcouncil.ie website. Hard copies of the report and book of maps have also been issued. A number of successful workshops have been held with the Dungarvan and Lismore MD and the Comeragh MD in December and similar workshops with the Metropolitan MD are continuing during January. The focus of the workshops heretofore has been on issues such as strategic flood risk assessment, wind energy, rural housing area types, rural villages and other local matters.

Further to Section 12(5) & (6) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, no later than the 18th February 2022 the members of the council may, having considered the CE Report and the draft plan, make a resolution to accept or amend the draft plan. Where any amendment is considered to be a material alteration to the draft plan a further round of public consultation will be required, subject to Strategic Environmental Assessment and Appropriate Assessment as necessary as per the timeline below.

In order to assist the making of the resolution on or before the 18th February, it is intended that the plenary and metropolitan district workshops will provide the basis for an addendum to the CE Report, in particular where matters raised at the workshops have not already been included in the CE Report or where further consideration is required of any recommendation made by the CE in the report. This final addendum to the CE Report will be further discussed with the council prior to the meeting at which the resolution referred to above will be made.

It should be noted that Section 12(5)(aa) of the Act states that following consideration of the draft plan and the report of the chief executive where a planning authority, after considering a submission of, or observation or recommendation from the Minister, the Office of the Planning Regulator or from a regional assembly made to the authority, decides not to comply with any recommendation made in the draft plan and report, it shall so inform the Office of the Planning Regulator and the Minister or regional assembly, as the case may be, as soon as practicable by notice in writing which notice shall contain reasons for the decision.

Stage in the Development Plan Process	Duration	Target
Public Notice of Formal Commencement of Process		Commenced 20 th July 2020
Initial Public Consultation – Strategic Issues Paper	Not less than 8 weeks - Week 8	Closed 14 th September 2020
Chief Executives Report on Pre-Draft Consultation	Within 16 weeks of public notice - Week 16	Presented 5 th November 2020
Direction from Elected Members	Within 10 weeks of receiving the CE Report - Week 26	Adopted 14 th January 2021
Presentation of Working Draft to the Elected Members	Within 12 weeks of members direction - Week 38	8 th April 2021
Consideration, amendment and adoption (making) of Draft Plan	Within 8 weeks of receipt of Working Draft - Week 46	3 rd June 2021
Publish notice of commencement of public consultation	Within 2 weeks of Draft being made - Week 48	17 th June 2021
Public Consultation on Draft Plan	Not less than 10 weeks - Week 58	Closes on 30 th August 2021
Chief Executives Report on Public Consultation	Within 22 weeks of public notice - Week 70	22 nd November 2021
Consideration and adoption (making) of Material Amendments	Within 12 weeks of receiving the CE Report - Week 82	18 th February 2022
Publish notice of commencement of public consultation	Within 3 weeks of passing of resolution - Week 85	11 th March 2022
Public Consultation on Material Amendments	Not less than 4 weeks - Week 89	Closes on 8 th April 2022
Chief Executives Report on Public Consultation	Within 8 weeks of public notice - Week 93	6 th May 2022
Consideration of Chief Executives Report and Adoption of Plan	Within 6 weeks of receiving the CE Report - Week 99	17 th June 2022
Publication of notices and coming into operation of the Plan	Plan comes into operation 6 weeks later - Week 105	29 th July 2022

Heritage

Waterford Commemorations Programme

The Waterford Commemorations Committee is planning the 2022 programme of events which will mark the centenary of the Civil War. Events being considered include a living history commemoration of the Siege of Waterford in July, display of the National Archives Exhibition on the Signing of the Treaty, publication by Waterford County Museum on Cumann na mBan, a Community Commemorations Grant Scheme and mapping of Civil War events in Waterford. The programme will be submitted to the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sports, and Media for funding approval at the end of January.

Community Monuments Fund

Applications are being prepared for the 2022 Community Monuments Fund which are required to be submitted by March 1st. In 2021 Waterford City and County Council received an allocation of over €100,000 under this fund towards conservation works.

World Wetlands Day

World Wetlands Day takes place on February 2nd and events will be hosted in Tramore and Dungarvan to highlight the importance of these sites which are 2 of 45 wetland sites in Ireland designated under the 1971 Ramsar Convention. Details of the events will be included on the Irish Ramsar website <http://irishwetlands.ie/world-wetlands-day-2022/>

Conservation

Conservation is working with the elected members on protected structures as per the draft Waterford City and County Development Plan 2022-2028.

**Melanie Cunningham,
Administrative Officer,
Planning Department**

12th January 2022