



Comhairle Cathrach & Contae Phort Láirge Waterford City & County Council

Waterford City & County Council Planning Report to Metropolitan Meeting – September 2021

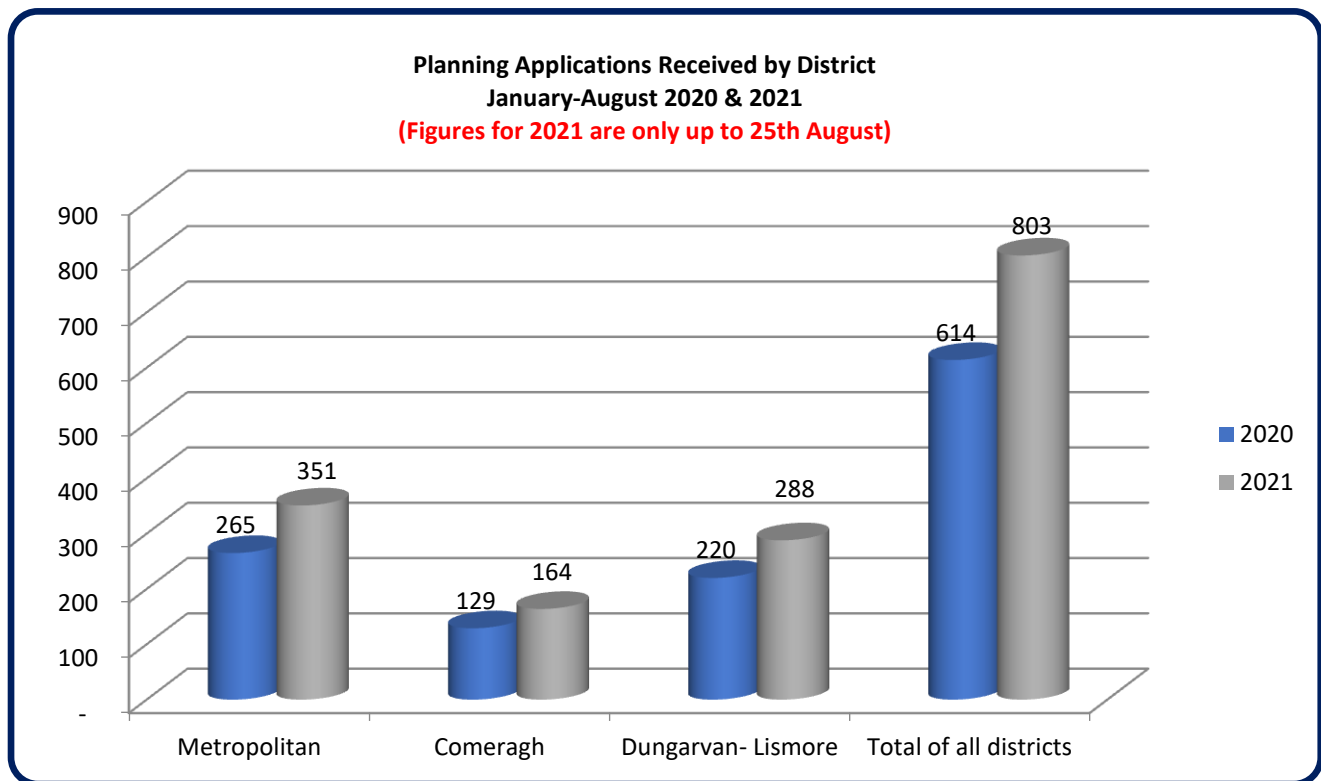
DO: GACH BALL DE CHEANTAR CATHRACH PHORT LÁIRGE

TO: EACH MEMBER OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF WATERFORD

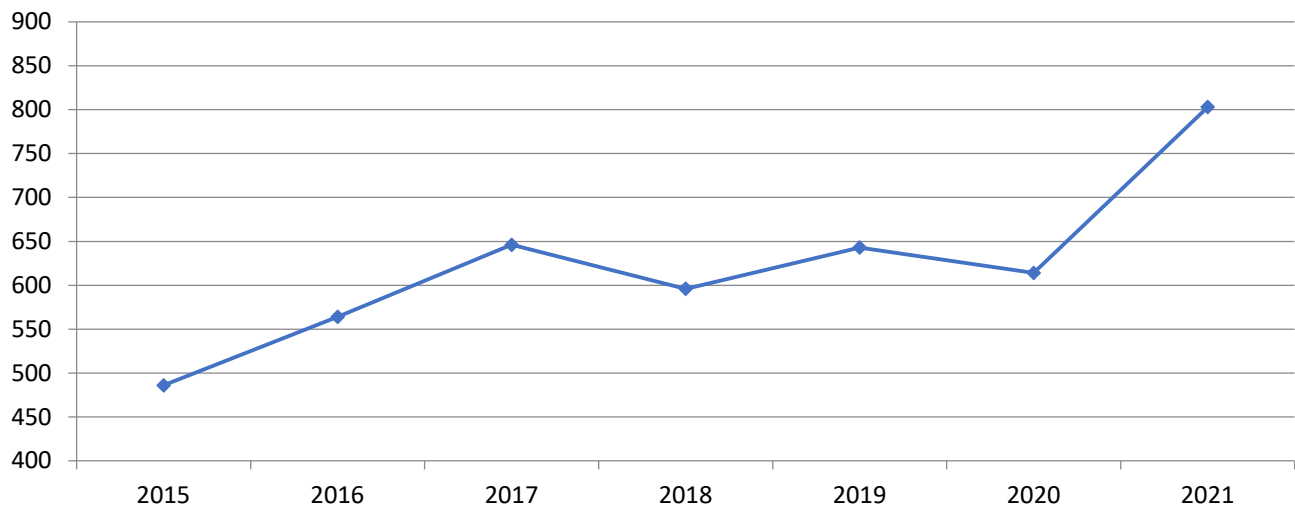
Planning Applications Received – Countywide

56 Planning applications were received in the month of August countywide (to 25th August). This compares with 93 planning applications received in the full calendar month in 2020. In July, 116 planning applications were received in the calendar month, compared to 107 received in July 2020.

A total of 803 planning applications were received in the year to 25th August 2021. This compares to 593 planning applications which were received to the 25th of August 2020.

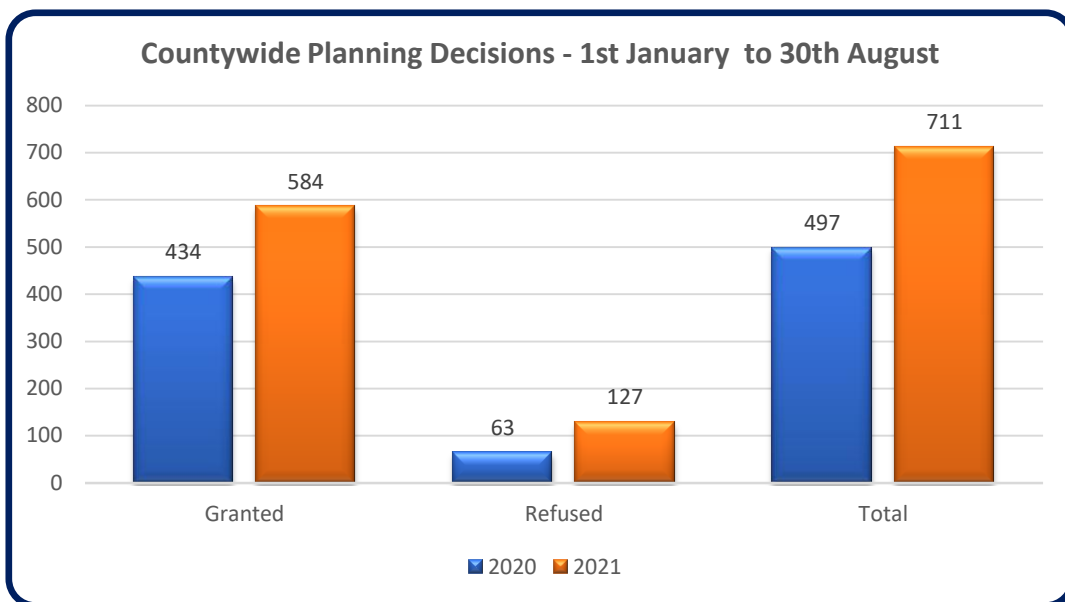


**Comparison of Planning Applications Received Countywide
January to August: 2015 to 2021
(Figures for 2021 are up to 25th August)**



Planning Decisions

196 applications were decided from the 1st of July to 30th August 2021 compared to 183 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 September Plenary Report

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

The draft development plan has now been prepared and has just completed the statutory period of public consultation. At time of writing this report (30th August) circa 400 submissions have been received covering a broad range of policy issues and land use zoning provisions of the Draft Development Plan.

It is now intended to review all the written submissions received and prepare a Chief Executive Report which will be submitted to the Plenary Council for discussion by the end of November. This Report will summarise the submissions received and give the

response and recommendation of the Chief Executive to the various issues raised and in particular the submissions received from the Office of the Planning Regulator and the Southern Regional Assembly. A series of workshops will be arranged over the period late November 2021 to mid-February 2022 to facilitate further debate with the Plenary/Municipal Council on the submissions received and any amendments arising to the Draft Development Plan.

Activity	Duration	Start	Finish
Development Plan Preparation Period.	Max 104 wks	Mon 20/07/20	Fri 15/07/22
Pre Draft Plan Public Consultation. NOW COMPLETED	8 wks	Mon 20/07/20	Mon 14/09/20
Prepare CE Report on submissions and submit to Plenary Council. NOW COMPLETED	8 wks	Mon 14/09/20	Mon 09/11/20
Liaise and discuss with Plenary Council and obtain Resolution on CE Report. NOW COMPLETED	10 wks	Mon 09/11/20	Mon 18/01/21
Prepare a Draft Dev Plan. NOW COMPLETED	12 wks	Mon 18/01/21	Mon 12/04/21
Submit Draft Dev Plan to Plenary Council and obtain Resolution. NOW COMPLETED	8 wks	Mon 12/04/21	Mon 07/06/21
Notice of preparation of Draft Dev Plan. NOW COMPLETED	2 wks	Mon 07/06/21	Mon 21/06/21
Public Consultation on Draft Dev Plan. NOW COMPLETED	10 wks	Mon 21/06/21	Mon 30/08/21
Prepare CE Report on submissions received and submit to Plenary Council for consideration.	12 wks	Mon 30/08/21	Mon 22/11/21
Resolution of Plenary Council on CE Report and Draft Dev Plan.	12 wks	Mon 22/11/21	Mon 14/02/22
Notice of Material Alterations if necessary.	3 wks	Mon 14/02/22	Mon 07/03/22
Final Public Consultation on Material Alterations.	4 wks	Mon 07/03/22	Mon 04/04/22
Prepare C.E. Report on submissions.	8 wks	Mon 04/04/22	Mon 30/05/22
Plenary Council to consider CE Report and make Resolution.	6 wks	Mon 30/05/22	Mon 11/07/22
New Dev Plan comes into force.	6 wks	Mon 11/07/22	Mon 22/08/22

Planning Enforcement

The Planning Enforcement service of Waterford City & County Council continues to operate throughout the current lockdown as planning enforcement is deemed as an essential service. The following figures show the work undertaken countywide in 2021 up to 30th August:

- Enforcement cases under active investigation – 104
- Warning letters issued – 86
- Enforcement Notices Issued – 13.

Heritage

Heritage Week 2021

Heritage Week ran from Saturday 14th August– Sunday, 22nd August with a programme of 30 events in Waterford detailed on HeritageWeek.ie. Nationwide featured the conservation project on Knockboy Church in Ballinamult with interviews with local community group, stonemason, archaeologists and WCCC Heritage Officer.

Biodiversity Funding

A webinar on the Waterford Swift Survey was hosted by Birdwatch Ireland on June 21st to encourage community involvement in the survey funded by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. The survey has recorded 47 nest sites to date and final report will be completed in October. Further sightings can be emailed to swifts@birdwatchireland.ie.

New Placenames Website

Waterford City & County Council's Placenames Committee launched a new Waterford Placenames website - www.deiselogainm.ie - as a celebration of the importance of the naming of places, or toponomy, and as a showcase of the rich cultural heritage of the Placenames of the Déise. The website contains information on the work of the Placenames Committee and is a useful resource for developers seeking suitable names for estates, for schools who want to learn about their local placenames and for researchers of placenames in general.

Conservation**Built Heritage Investment Scheme**

Further to previous updates, 18 projects around the city and county have received funding under the scheme. Works are currently proceeding and due to be completed by the end of September.

Waterford City Walls

The Medieval City Walls and Towers form a prominent landmark that influence the character of Waterford , while also providing a tangible link to the story of Irelands first city. The Irish Walled Towns Network has provided funding of €10,000 towards an Interpretation Plan for the Medieval City Walls.

The Plan will involve engagement with various community groups and individuals, the Council and relevant bodies to assess how the Medieval City Walls can contribute to the social, artistic cultural and economic regeneration of the city for benefit of locals and visitors. The Plan is not just to interpret the obvious but to consider potential experiences for locals and visitors. The successful tender for the work is The Paul Hogarth Company who have extensive experience with similar plans around the country, further updates will follow.

**Melanie Cunningham,
Administrative Officer,
Planning Department
8th September 2021**