



# Comhairle Cathrach & Contae Phort Láirge Waterford City & County Council

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

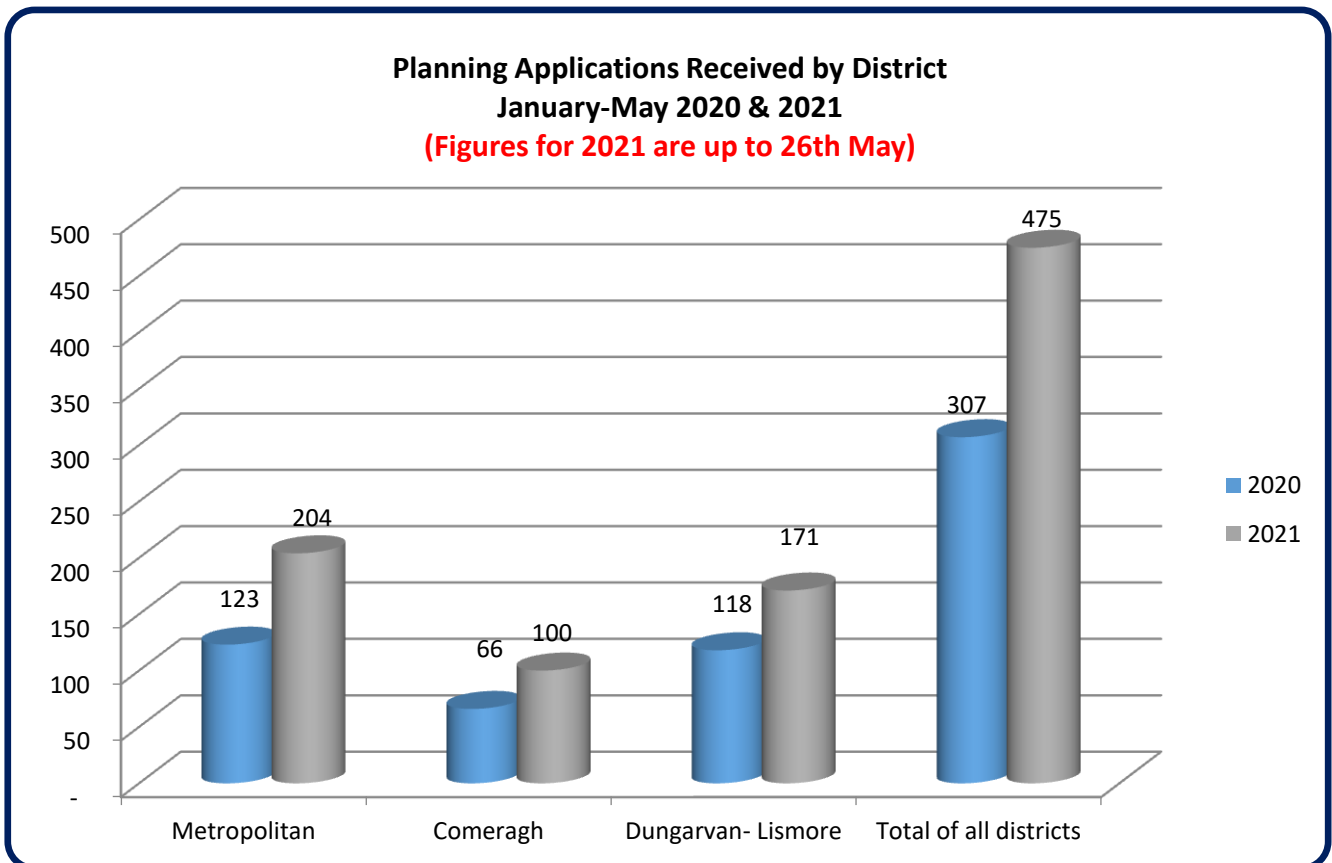
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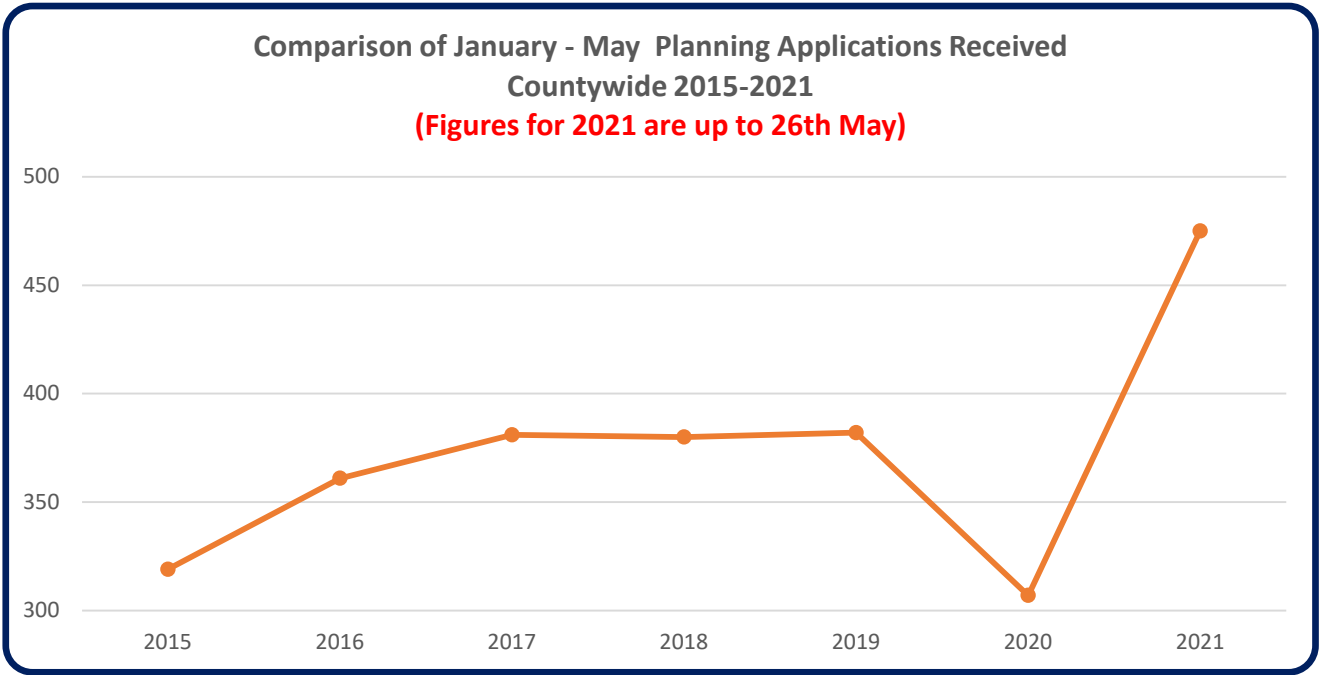
TO: EACH MEMBER OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF WATERFORD

## Planning Applications Received – Countywide

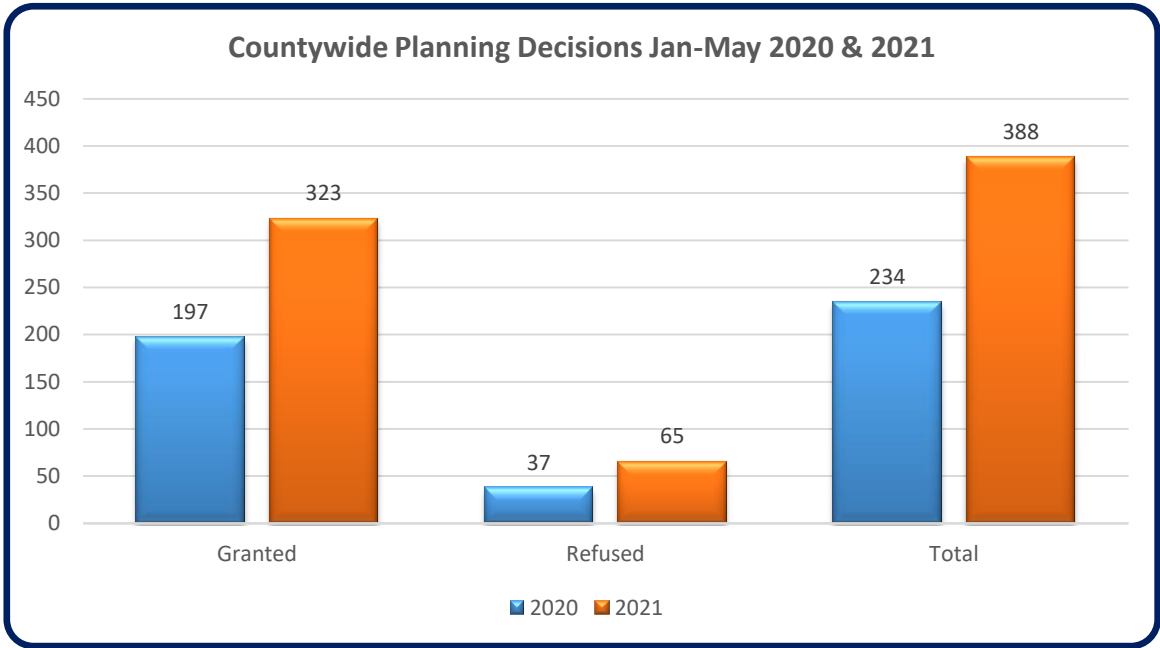
108 Planning applications were received in the month of May countywide (to 26<sup>th</sup> May). This compares with 63 planning applications received in the same month in 2020. Additional responses are also being received to further information requests.

A total of 475 planning applications were received in the year to 26<sup>th</sup> May 2021. This compares to 307 planning applications which were received to the end of May in 2020.





The number of applications which have been decided to date in 2021 has increased significantly. 388 applications were decided in up to the end of May 2021 compared to 234 for the same period in 2020. This represents an increase of 66% between the two years.



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

The draft development plan has been presented to the Plenary Council as per the timetable outlined in the table below. The council has approved a resolution at a special meeting held on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021 to present the draft plan to the public for their input.

A 10 week phase of public consultation will now take place from late June to late August during which time written submissions will be invited from members of the public and other interested parties. It should be noted that written submissions regarding the zoning of land for particular purposes should only be made during this 10 week period.

In a manner similar to the initial phase of public consultation last summer, it is intended to have a dedicated online consultation portal available through which the draft development plan and support documentation can be accessed and through which written submissions can be made.

Activity	Duration	Start	Finish
Development Plan Preparation Period.	Max 104 wks	Mon 20/07/20	Fri 15/07/22
Pre Draft Plan Public Consultation. <b>NOW COMPLETED</b>	8 wks	Mon 20/07/20	Mon 14/09/20
Prepare CE Report on submissions and submit to Plenary Council. <b>NOW COMPLETED</b>	8 wks	Mon 14/09/20	Mon 09/11/20
Liaise and discuss with Plenary Council and obtain Resolution on CE Report. <b>NOW COMPLETED</b>	10 wks	Mon 09/11/20	Mon 18/01/21
Prepare a Draft Dev Plan. <b>NOW COMPLETED</b>	12 wks	Mon 18/01/21	Mon 12/04/21
Submit Draft Dev Plan to Plenary Council and obtain Resolution. <b>NOW COMPLETED</b>	8 wks	Mon 12/04/21	Mon 07/06/21
Notice of preparation of Draft Dev Plan. <b>CURRENT PHASE</b>	2 wks	Mon 07/06/21	Mon 21/06/21
Public Consultation on Draft Dev Plan.	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 in 2021 up to 27<sup>th</sup> May:

New enforcement cases opened:	63
Warning letters issued:	70
Enforcement notices issued:	11

### Irish Walled Towns Grant

Waterford City and County Council has received an offer of €10,000 from the Irish Walled Towns Network (IWTN) Interpretation and Events Fund 2021. This grant from the Heritage Council is for the “Preparation of an Interpretation Strategy for Waterford Medieval City Walls and Towers” This strategy will inform and guide the design and content of interpretation for the medieval walls of Waterford. It is also proposed to find innovative ways to bring the



story of the walls to life and define how the information can be communicated to the different audiences. It will focus on community engagement and the final plan will include a series of actions.

#### **Biodiversity Funding**

Three funding applications have been successful under the National Parks and Wildlife Service's Biodiversity Fund for funding towards a survey of swifts and survey of the Saltmarsh Habitat at Tramore Dunes and co-funding for the Waterford Wetlands Survey. A webinar on the Swift Survey will be hosted for the general public on June 3<sup>rd</sup> to encourage community involvement in the survey.

#### **Decade of Commemorations**

The Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sports and Media have allocated €50,000 to Waterford City & County Council for the 2021 programme of commemorations.

Ten applications were received under the Community Commemorations Grant Scheme with a total funding allocation of €23,000.

A Story Map on the War of Independence has been finalised and will be made available to view on-line in June.

**Séamus Doran,  
Administrative Officer,  
Planning Department  
31<sup>st</sup> May 2021**