

# MANAGEMENT REPORT TO COUNCIL

COMHAIRLE CATHRACH & CONTAE PHORT LÁIRGE  
WATERFORD CITY & COUNTY COUNCIL.



Comhairle Cathrach & Contae Phort Láirge  
Waterford City & County Council



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February 2023

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Príomhfheidhmeannach  
Feabhra 2023

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# Management Report Plenary 09th February 2023.

## Seirbhísí Corparáirdeacha / Corporate. Mayors Official Engagements January 2023.

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**SUNDAY 1st:**

**MONDAY 2nd:**

**TUESDAY 3rd:**

**WEDNESDAY 4th:**

**THURSDAY 5th:**

**FRIDAY 6th:**

**SATURDAY 7th:**

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**SUNDAY 8th:** Meeting with Pakistani Ambassador- Tracey's Hotel, Waterford.

**MONDAY 9th:**

**TUESDAY 10th:**

**WEDNESDAY 11th:**

**THURSDAY 12th:**

**FRIDAY 13th:**

**SATURDAY 14th:** WLRfm/ Granville Hotel GAA Gala Dinner- Granvilla Hotel, Waterford

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**SUNDAY 15th:** Enthronement of Rt. Rev. Adrian Mark Wilkinson- Cathedral Church of Saint Carthage, Lismore, Co. Waterford.

**MONDAY 16th:**

**TUESDAY 17th:** Irish Danish Exchange- Mayors Parlour, City Hall, The Mall, Waterford.

**WEDNESDAY 18th:** Symphony Club of Waterford Concert- The Large Room, City Hall, The Mall, Waterford.

**THURSDAY 19th:**

**FRIDAY 20th:**

**SATURDAY 21st:**

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**SUNDAY 22nd:**

**MONDAY 23rd:**

**TUESDAY 24th:**

**WEDNESDAY 25th:** St. Patricks Day Promotional Video- Spraoi Studios, Carrickpherish, Co. Waterford.

**THURSDAY 26th:**

**FRIDAY 27th:**

**SATURDAY 28th:**

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**SUNDAY 29th:**

**MONDAY 30th:**

**TUESDAY 31th:**

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Attended by Mayor:

Attended by Deputy Mayor:

Attended by Mayor of the Metropolitan District:

Attended by Metro Deputy:

Attended by a Representative:

## Forbairt Eacnamaíoch / Economic Development

### North Quays

BAM Civil Ltd will commence the main contract works on site in February 2023 with initial site clearance and compound set up, with more extensive works developing in March and April 2023.

The private developer for the North Quays site, Harcourt Development, is commencing pre planning discussions with Waterford City and County Council.

#### CONTRACTS:

Ferrybank Pump station contract and enabling works contract - David Walsh Civil Engineering contractor has been awarded both contracts. The pump station works are progressing well on site while the pump station enabling works will commence imminently.

South Plaza enabling works – Enabling works are complete and BAM will take possession of the site from 7th February 2023.

Rock Stabilisation contract - Cumnor Construction Ltd is close to completion of works and should commence demobilization from the site in the coming weeks.

Abbey Road footpath widening contract - Mallwood Construction is also close to completion of footpath widening works.

### Local Enterprise Office

#### LEO Figures year to date (2023) and comparison of current month with previous year

Indicator	At end of Jan 2022	At end of Jan 2023
<b>Measure 1</b>		
<i>No. of Clients applying</i>	0	0
<i>No. of Clients securing</i>	0	0
<i>Value of support approved</i>	€0	€0
<b>Measure 2</b>		
<i>No. of clients receiving</i>	78	176
<i>Value of support given</i>	€17,523	€14,210

No Evaluation Committee meeting took place in January 2023. Next meeting is February 2023.

#### Support – Trading Online Voucher

##### Trading Online Voucher

<i>No. of Approvals</i>	1
<i>Value of Approvals</i>	€1,310

Figures not included in cumulative table.

# Management Report Plenary 09th February 2023.

## WATERFORD LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE

has joined forces with Boxworks Co.Work.Space again this year to offer a scholarship desk programme. Boxworks Co.Work.Space is an innovative space based in Waterford City and designed to enable the sharing of knowledge, resources and facilities for emerging entrepreneurs and start-ups.

## THE LEO DESK PROGRAMME

will provide a desk space for six months to chosen businesses who will participate in the programme. This will facilitate potential start-ups by providing a coworking creative and networking environment while putting specific goals in place with the aid of monthly meetings with a LEO appointed mentor. This Coworking spaces offers those on the programme the opportunity to connect with other individuals, increase productivity and is a great alternative to working from their living room. This opportunity is aimed at those with a business idea or who have recently started up their business.



## Communications

### Public relations

Public Relations: 10 Press releases issued in January 2023.

- Harty Family acknowledged for mine contribution
- Waterford ranked as Ireland's Cleanest City
- Statement on the death of Cllr Davy Daniels
- Pride of Place award for Tramore residents' group
- Local business growth with LEO supports
- Jam packed three day St. Patrick's Day celebrations
- WCCC supporting Communities Fund
- Call for supply of Waterford Corporate gifts
- Irish Water celebrating 10 years of Green Schools Water Theme
- New exhibition at Old Market House Arts Centre

Communication Mayoral Speeches for.

- WLRFM / Granville Hotel GAA Gala Dinner
- Symphony Club of Waterford 2023 Concert Season Launch
- Waterford Area Partnerships Special Screening of Aisha
- St.Patrick's Day Message



### Social Media Stats (WCCC and Shop Waterford FB/ Twitter/ LinkedIn combined): 2023

	Reach	% Change	Posts	% Change	Followers	% Change
2021	5,782,800		4,040		40,312	
2022	8,817,471	52.5%	5,085	25.9%	45,758	13.5%



## WCCC Website stats: January 1st to January 30th 2023

Year over year page views increased by 35%

	Page Views	Unique page views	Avg. Time on Page
	100,797	78,438	00:01:34
1. Online Planning Enquiries	10,289	8,423	00:03:13
2. Choice Based Lettings	6,912	5,295	00:01:37
3. Index	6,103	4,833	00:00:48
4. Online Payments	3,781	3,319	00:03:09
5. Job Vacancies	4,025	3,386	00:01:37
6. Departments Index	3,190	2,549	00:00:12
7. Planning Enquiries	3,827	2,645	00:00:12
8. Planning Index	2,710	2,144	00:00:33
9. Planning Lists Index	3,011	2,482	00:02:51
10. Parking	4,025	3,386	00:01:37

\*Page views represent the total amount of 'hits' to any given webpage - one person can make multiple page views

\*\*Unique Page views count unique views of a page only once, regardless of how many pages they have visited during one visit.

## TOURISM

Mount Congreve Gardens will have their grand opening on the 1st March. The launch follows the most recent renovations and restorations to the House & Gardens. As well as the beautiful gardens The Stables Café will deliver its delicious breakfast, lunch & light bite options throughout the day & The Secret Garden Shop offers a unique range of gift ideas inspired by the beauty of the gardens. It is easy to see why Mount Congreve has been described as 'A Great Garden of the World'

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & ENTERPRISE SPC

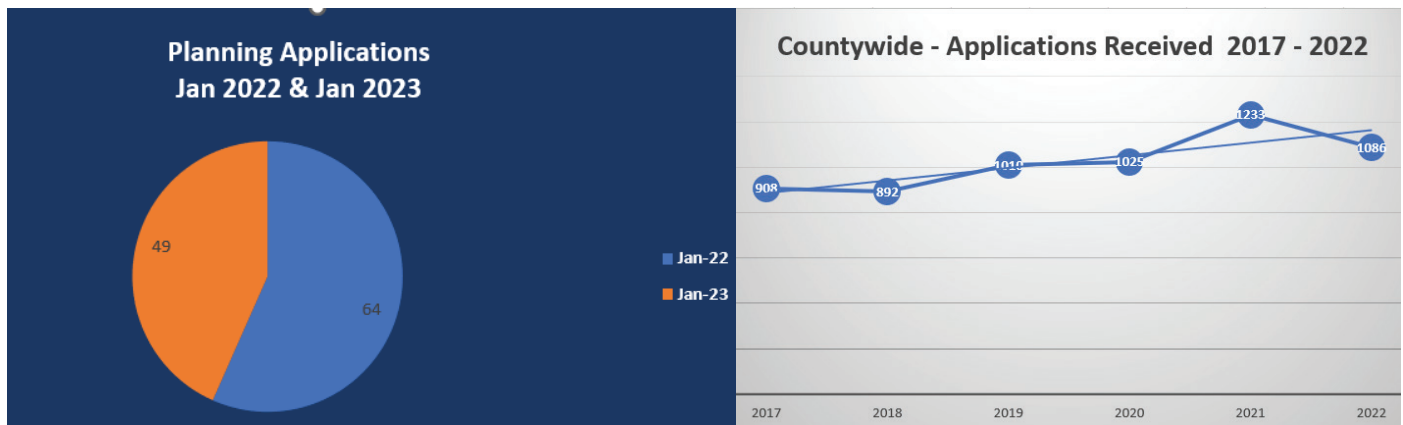
The next Economic Development & Enterprise SPC is scheduled on February 22nd.

## Pleanáil / Planning

### PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED – COUNTYWIDE

49 Planning applications were received countywide in January 2023. This compares with 64 planning applications received for the same period in 2022.

Of these applications 23 were received via eplanning with 26 paper applications



## Heritage Officer Report

### Decade of Commemorations

Waterford's Decade of Commemorations website [www.Waterford1916to1922.ie](http://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](http://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.



## Tithíocht / Housing

### Housing Applications

Housing Applications				
	Jan 2022	Year 2021	Jan 2023	Year to date 2023
<i>* inc files from carried forward</i>				
Applications received	70	959	177	177
Applications assessed *	18	434	44	44
Applications Validated*	N/A	N/A	119	119
Approved for social housing supports following interview	N/A	N/A	14	14

### Housing Allocations

Housing Allocations					
	New Tenancies Jan 2022	Cumulative Tenancies 2022	New Tenancies Jan 2023	Refusal of new Tenancies	Cumulative Tenancies 2023
Total	65	621	26	7	26

### CHOICE BASED LETTING (CBL) SCHEME

The total number of properties advertised on the CBL system to date is 1147. There have been 353 refusals on properties

### Housing Loans applications

Housing Loans applications					
	Applications received	Applications awaiting info	Applications refused	Applications approved	Applications with housing agency/Deferred for 6 months
2023 Housing Loans					
January	4	2	2	0	0
Year to date	4	2	2	0	0

### Tenant Purchase applications

	Applications received	Applications awaiting info	Applications refused	Applications approved	Sales Closed
2023 Tenant Purchase					
January	0	0	0	0	0
Year to date 2022	67	9	21	29	24
Year to date 2023	8	6	2	0	2

### Housing Assistance Payment

	Jan 202 HAP Tenancies	Jan 2023 HAP Tenancies	2023 No. of active HAP Tenancies set up	Applications approved	Sales Closed
HAP Tenancies	19	21	-13	4,568	1796

## Inspections of Dwellings

### Inspections of Dwellings

<i>HAP</i>	40
<i>HAP Non- Compliant</i>	37
<i>Total</i>	40

In January, Waterford City & County Council carried out 212 planned and reactive inspections of our housing stock. As a result of these inspections 24 properties has had improvement works carried out to meet the standards for rented accommodation.

### Housing Adaptation for People with a Disability, Housing Aid for Older People and Mobility Aid Grants

Grant Scheme amount	No of applications approved Jan 2023	Value of applications Jan 2023	Cumulative number of applications approved 2023	Cumulative value of 2023 applications
<i>Housing Adaptation for People with a Disability. Max. €30,000</i>	8	€60,797.80	8	€60,797.00
<i>Mobility Aids Scheme Maximum €6,000</i>	3	€6,870.00	3	€6,870.00
<i>Housing Aid for Older People Maximum €8,000</i>	10	€49,486.75	10	€49,486.75
<i>Total</i>	21	€117,154.55	21	€117,154.55

*Housing Grant Applications Received & Validated:*

36

*Housing Grant Applications Incomplete & Returned:*

40

*Housing Grant Applications Incomplete & Returned:*

21

## Homeless Services

### Homeless Services

<i>Waterford Integrated Homeless Services (WIHS)</i>	<i>19th Dec 22 – 22nd Jan 23</i>	<i>Cumulative 2023</i>	<i>Total 2022</i>
<i>Number of Callers to WIHS seeking a service</i>	220	183	3,618
<i>Assessments by a Homeless Officer</i>	75	58	954

### Breakdown of Persons in Emergency Accommodation

	22nd Jan 2023	22nd Jan 2022
<i>Number of Single Persons</i>	43	49
<i>Number of Families</i>	13	12
<i>Number of Adults in Families</i>	14	14
<i>Number of Children</i>	23	25



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## HAP PlaceFinder Service

	19th Dec – 22nd Jan 2023	Cumulative 2023
Number of Assessments by the Homeless HAP Officer	14	12
Number of HAP PlaceFinder Tenancies HUB Complete	18	17

## Housing First Programme

	Tenancies 2023
Number of Tenancies in place at 22nd Jan 2023 with Housing First supports.	32

## Capital Projects

### Housing Capital Schemes - WCCC Projects

Project Type	Units	Area	Current Position	Comment
<b>Total WCCC Projects</b>	<b>344</b>	Countywide	Various Stages	
Part V	30	Countywide	Various Stages	Delivery On-going 2021 – 10 (est)
Repair and Lease	125	Countywide	Various Stages	Delivery on-going 2020 – 41 2021 – 50 (est) 2022 – 50 (est)
Leasing	0	Countywide	Various Stages	Delivery on-going 2020 – 30 From end of 2021 scheme closed to new applicants
Buy & Renew- Countywide	48	Countywide	Tender Preparation	In progress – Refurbishment Contractor Framework Appointed

**Total units including WCCC Projects: 547**

There are 115 units in progress under the Housing Capital Schemes for Approved Housing Body projects.

## ENERGY EFFICIENCY RETROFITTING 2022:

Consideration is under way for submission relating to properties for 2023.

## REFURBISHING OF HOUSES BECOMING VACANT FOR RE LET:

Jan 2023	Total
Handed over/	
Works completed	7
Newley Vacant	9

92 Units approved by the Department for Refurbishment in 2022.

## Seirbhísí Pobail / Community Services

### RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME:

- The programme is fully allocated.
- One Letter of Offer still to issue. Finalising total programme decommitals of €50K to facilitate the issuing of the offer to the applicant.
- From January 2023 to May 2023 focusing on paying out the final 14% or €1m of Project Funds that remain to be paid. €2.2m was paid out in 2022. The drawdown and payout of LEADER Funds to applicants is both very advanced and very complete. There are very few decommitals. €6.8m paid out up to Christmas 2022.
- Waterford LCDC, in partnership with Waterford LEADER Partnership, were successful in their expression of interest application to develop a Local Development Strategy.
- The LDS must be submitted by 14th July 2023 for September launch of the new programme.
- The focus of the next programme will be narrowed down due to a reduction in LEADER Funding (25% Nationally) and the advent 12 new Government Schemes by DRCD for Halls, Town and Village, etc.

### COMHAIRLE NA NÓG:

The topic for 2023 has been identified as Relationships and Sexual Education in schools. All vacancies for young people have been filled following the AGM. Progress on 2023 activities is being made weekly by the young people. Funding application for 2023 and 2022 Annual Report have been completed and submitted to Pobal. The next steering committee meeting is taking place on Tuesday January 31st.

### WATERFORD AGE FRIENDLY PROGRAMME:

Preparation of the new strategy document continues. A first draft of the new strategy was represented to the Steering Group for review with the recommendations resulting from that meeting being addressed currently with a view to a final draft being ready by end January. Completion is on target for end February 2023

### HEALTHY WATERFORD:

Throughout the last number of weeks, we have been finalising the local strategy, online application and activities plan for the Healthy Ireland fund through Pobal. The documents have been submitted and are now under review. We expect to hear back by early March on the outcome and status of our application for €75,000.

Current work includes reporting on the Interim Healthy Ireland Fund from 2022 by making returns to Pobal along with engaging with the identified target groups and stakeholders to ensure we can begin spending the funding, pending the outcome of our application. Several pilot projects are envisaged to begin in March / April as part of year one funding with others

The following initiatives have been identified to be built into our local strategy.

- Research on Perceived Health in a local area plans in Waterford (Health Impact Assessment)
- Development of an online directory of services for Wellbeing in Waterford
- SHEP Training for Partner organisations
- Social Farming to target populations
- Community & Family Wellbeing Education
- Healthy Waterford Conference/Seminars/Roadshows events.

## **WATERFORD COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP (WCSP):**

The Community Safety Draft Plan has now been circulated to all members of the Partnership for their review. The next steps then, is-a review of the comments and observations, a workshop on the 21st February to review the Safety Plan and then develop actions for it's implementation in addition to developing the last Chapter on monitoring, evaluation and reporting by the Partnership. The Minister for Justice, Simon Harris TD has confirmed a launch date for the morning of Monday 27th March 2023.

The Education, Training & Awareness and Building Community Capacity Working Group, and The Crime & Reducing Criminality and Safe Environment & Infrastructure Working Group both met in January with continued work on the projects in hand including Consent/ByStander Intervention Training, supporting a Domestic Violence Resource Pack and review of the Community Safety Plan amongst others.

A Meeting of the plenary Waterford Community Safety Partnership took place on Monday 9th January 2023 at 7pm in City Hall. The Agenda included an update on DRIVE (Drug related Intimidation & Violence Engagement) by Lisa Robson HSE and the findings of the Community Safety Plan Public Consultation presentation by Maria Hall of Hub Planning. The next Meeting is a public Meeting, proposed for 13th March 2023.

## **UKRAINIAN COMMUNITY RESPONSE FORUM:**

The Ukrainian CRF is in place to assist with housing, supporting and integrating Ukrainian refugees into our communities. All key agencies are working in collaboration to provide services and supports to all Ukrainians arriving into Waterford. Approximately 1,900 Ukrainian refugees have been registered in Waterford to date with over 1,150 Ukrainians having been received directly into Waterford Council run Rest Centres in Dungarvan and Waterford City. To date 904 Ukrainians have been matched with pledged and other accommodation sourced by Waterford Council. Waterford Area Partnership are supporting those who have moved with integration into our communities.

A new 'offer a home' pledge call for vacant properties went live on 24th November. Any queries on same should be directed to offerahome@waterfordcouncil.ie or 058 22059.

## **PRIDE OF PLACE:**

The Pride of Place awards took place on January 21st 2023 at the Clayton Hotel, Burlington Road, Dublin with two strong entrants, Surprise Surprise Dungarvan & West Waterford and the An Garran Residents Group from Tramore attending. The An Garran Residents Group came runners up in their category with Surprise Surprise unfortunately missing out on this occasion. Preparation for the 2023 competition has begun and entrants will be identified in January.

## **SOCIAL INCLUSION:**

### **MIGRANT INTEGRATION**

Various initiatives are being followed up on to progress the Strategy adopted by Council in 2020.

### **SICAP**

Work in ongoing with Waterford Area Partnership continuing to implement the SICAP programme on behalf of the LCDC. SICAP Budget allocations for 2023 have now been confirmed and the budget for Waterford City & County (24-1) is €1,319,399 excluding the Ukrainian budget allocation which has been set as €232,758 by the Department.

The SICAP Annual Report 2022 and the 2023 Annual Plan will be presented to the LCDC for approval during February as per schedule.



## **TIG**

The Community Department continue to support the Waterford Traveller Interagency Group which continues to meet regularly.

## **LECP**

Progress on the preparation of the new LECP is ongoing. The Socio-Economic Statement has been prepared in line with Department issued guidelines. The first phase data collection stage has been completed with a survey having been issued to in excess of 70 relevant groups/agencies during November/December. The next phase of data gathering and public consultations will begin during the first week of February.

## **COMMUNITY SUPPORT FUND 2022**

The closing date to submit application form was 20th January. The LCDC Assessment group shall meet on 1st February to assess the 212 applications received. The Assessment Group's recommendations shall go before the LCDC on 9th February for their approval. All applicants shall be notified by mid February.

## **THE SUPPORTING WATERFORD COMMUNITY FUND 2023**

The annual Supporting Waterford Community Fund grant scheme for 2023 has been launched, closing date to submit applications is 4pm on Friday 24th February.

## **COMMUNITY RECOGNITION FUND 2023**

Minister Humphreys and Minister O' Brien on 24th January launched the Community Recognition Fund 2023. It is designed specifically to support the development of public service needs arising from the significant number of arrivals from Ukraine. Waterford has been allocated €1,421,869.

## **COMMUNITY FESTIVAL GRANTS**

€80,729 was allocated in 2022 under the Community Festival Grants. For 2023 the budget is increased to €121,208 with 17 festival grant applications received for approval at the January Plenary Council meeting.



## Seirbhísi Éigeandála / Emergency Services

### FIRE SERVICE OPERATIONAL ACTIVITY:

Total call outs to incidents attended by the 10 fire stations of the Fire Authority are shown for the year to date and for the month of January. Emergency response has continued uninterrupted throughout the Covid 19 crisis with significant precautionary measures put in place to ensure the safety of fire crews and the community served.

#### Fire Service Operational Activity:

Area	Fires	Special Services	False alarm/ Good intent	False alarm /Malicious
Total for January	55	53	22	0
Year to date	51	53	21	0
Total for January 2022	41	31	25	0
Total for 2022	672	460	184	3

### FIRE SAFETY:

The following applications for fire safety certificates have been received with comparison shown for the same period last year

#### Fire Safety:

	Jan 2023	2023 YTD	Jan 2022	2022 YTD
Fire Safety Certificates	5	5	6	6

### BUILDING CONTROL:

#### Building Control:

Applications received	Jan 2023	2023 YTD	Jan 2022	2022 YTD
Commencement Notices	16	16	24	310
Completion Certificates	12	12	21	204
Disability Access Certs	5	5	6	57

### CIVIL DEFENCE:

Civil Defence activities during the month of January 2023 continues with assistance in the response to the urgent needs of the Displaced Persons (DP's) fleeing from the effects of the Ukraine Crisis.

- Logistical support & Transport of over 38 Ukraine related calls
- Transportation to Medical appointments such as Hospital Visits, GPs, Dentists etc

The Civil Defence volunteers are also working on retraining and recertifying their core skills in their different service area's like Communications, First Aid, Search etc.

## Seirbhísí Comhshaoil / Environmental Services

### Environmental Enforcement Statistics

#### ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS:

1ST JANUARY 2023 – 25TH JANUARY 2023

<b>ENFORCEMENT UNDER THE LITTER POLLUTION ACTS 1997 (AS AMENDED)</b>	
Legal Action Initiated	0
On the Spot Litter Fines Issued (Pending Payment or Prosecution)	10
On the Spot Litter Fines Paid (Includes Fines from previous year)	9
No of Notices Issued 9,16,17,20	0

<b>ENFORCEMENT UNDER THE WASTE MANAGEMENT ACTS 1996 (AS AMENDED)</b>	
No of Complaints	231
Legal Actions	0
Section 18's Statutory Notices Served (asking for info on Waste Issues)	0
Section 55's Statutory Notices Served (asking for Waste to be removed in a 2 week period)	0
Section 71's (Abandoned Vehicle Notices)	1
Warning Letters Sent (Packaging Info & Notice Follow Up)	8
Section 14 Directions	0
Section 107 EPA (Noise)	0
Fixed Penalty Notices on Waste Collectors	1
Regulation 33 - Requirement on a Registered Owner to deposit an End-of-Life Vehicle at an Authorised Treatment Facility. (European Union End-of-Life Vehicles)	
Regulations 2014 – Fixed Penalty Notice.	0
Regulation 25 of the European Union (Packaging) Regulations 2014 (S.I. No. 282 of 2014) as amended	0

#### CLIMATE ACTION

##### **Community Climate Action Fund**

The Climate Team expect the Community Climate Action Fund to open in the next month for Expressions of Interest. The fund is to finance community projects of up to €20,000, between €20,000 and €50,000 and between €50,000 and €100,000. The projects will be in one of the following 5 areas: Home & Energy, Travel, Food & Waste, Shopping and Recycling, Local Climate and Environmental Action. The Climate Team will hold in person and online workshops for communities across the City and County once the fund is launched and will publicise it through the PPN network. There is also a second strand within this fund for communities who would like to partner with communities in the North of Ireland to share experiences and develop skills.

##### **Climate Action Plan**

The statutory process for creating the Climate Action Plan commences in March. Data required for decision making within the Climate Action Plan is currently being gathered. Once this data has been collated a pre-draft questionnaire to collect input from the Waterford public as to what they think should be included in the Climate Action Plan will be issued. The new Climate Action Plan will be implemented between 2024 and 2029. The Community Climate Action Officer commenced duty with the Council on 16th January.

#### ENERGY EFFICIENCY

The first of WCCC environmental inspector electrical vans have been delivered. Two further EV's are to be delivered in early February and will be operated by the environmental inspectors.





## ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION & AWARENESS

### ***IBAL results***

The Irish Business Against Litter (IBAL) Litter League results were released in January. Waterford was placed 12th out of 40 towns / cities surveyed, with judges making the following comments; 'A typically strong result for Waterford City, again Ireland's cleanest city. What is so encouraging is that a previously highlighted site has since been addressed – the Miscellaneous site at the Bridge. The shopping area of Broad Street / Barronstrand was excellent in terms of overall streetscape e.g. paving, seating, planting, signage etc and very much deserving of the top litter grade. The Viking Triangle was spotless throughout. Based on the amount of litter / cigarette butt notices and the lack of litter at Bus Eireann Bus Station, it is clear that litter is taken very seriously. The People's Park and the grounds of the Court House were excellent. By far the most heavily littered site surveyed – a litter blackpost - was the Bring Centre at Tesco, Ardkeen – it wasn't just casually littered but subject to dumping.' Ballybeg was placed 24th out of 40 towns / cities surveyed, and considered to be Clean to European Norms. Judges commented that this is 'a very strong performance from Ballybeg. A couple of sites which had previous been heavily littered have since been addressed / demolished e.g. Ryan's had been a heavily littered site, frequently subject to dumping – the site no longer exists. The main access routes were all top ranking, along with Tesco and Ballybeg Park / Playground – the latter is a lovely amenity which was very well presented and maintained. By far the most heavily littered site was the green space in front of Ardmore Terrace – it wasn't just littered but subject to dumping.

### ***Lost Fishing Gear Pilot Project***

Waste gets washed onto our coastline and beaches ... but it's not always litter. Some of these are fishing items that still have value and can be put to good use again, contributing to the circular economy. We have been working with The Harbour Master in Dunmore East, Bord Iascaigh Mhara and the Clean Technology Centre about a potential reuse project that would involve recovering usable fishing items from local beach cleans taking place between Cheekpoint and Tramore. This would involve local communities, the fishing industry, BIM and Waterford City and County Council. The idea is to take fishing equipment that is collected during regular beach cleans by existing groups and putting them to one side at our depots in Tramore and Dunmore until they can be collected/dropped to the harbour in Dunmore East for repair or reuse. We are will be holding an information session for groups to learn more about what this initiative involves, the types of fishing materials suitable for reuse/repair, etc. in early February.

### ***Community Clean-Ups***

Waterford City & County Council facilitates community clean ups throughout the year to clean up litter and illegally dumped waste from approach roads, local beauty spots, beaches and general public areas. National Spring Clean takes place throughout the month of April; registrations have commenced at [www.nationalspringclean.org](http://www.nationalspringclean.org) As part of this we supply bags, gloves and litter pickers to many of the groups taking part, as well as collecting the bags of litter afterwards. Groups are encouraged to register their clean up as a National Spring Clean event to receive additional resources from An Taisce.

### ***Green Flag Programme***

Green-Schools is Ireland's leading environmental management and award programme, working with primary and secondary schools across the country. School renewal visits and assessments are underway for green flag renewals and first time applications. There are 61 schools in Waterford City and County due to renew their Green Flag this year. The deadline for renewal applications is on Friday, March 24th for the 2022/2023 academic year.

## Ealaíona & Cultúr / Arts & Culture

### Libraries

In January, Waterford City & County Libraries ushered in a New Year of bustling activity in our branches. Statistics: figures represent 30 days of activity from December to January 29th.

<i>No. of Visitors this month</i>	22,014
<i>Active members</i>	26,658
<i>Issues in Branch</i>	28,370
<i>On Line Borrowing including, ebooks &amp; emagazines</i>	8,036
<i>Events &amp; Activities</i>	280

#### EVENT HIGHLIGHTS FROM JANUARY:

Chair Yoga classes run in association with Healthy Ireland and the Waterford Sports partnership are running bimonthly in both Dungarvan and Ardkeen Libraries, with 30 attendees overall, these popular classes promote health and wellbeing in an accessible location.

Waterford Libraries supports the lessening of the Digital divide in our communities. Digital connectivity classes are running in association with WWETB in Dungarvan, Central, Cappoquin, Lismore, Tramore and Tallow Libraries. While both Carrickpherish and Browns Road Libraries are hosting beginner's smartphone classes with Access IT CLG.

Ukrainian Little Christmas, a cultural celebration for the Ukrainian community in Waterford City was celebrated on January 6th in Central Library. This event marked the Irish tradition of Nollaig na mBan and celebrated Ukrainian Christmas Eve as Christmas is celebrated by many Ukrainians on January 7th each year. There were 45 attendees with performances by members of the Ukrainian community in Waterford. This event was supported by Waterford Integration Services, Waterford Libraries, Waterford Volunteer Centre and Europe Direct, Waterford.

Tramore Library is beginning its third set of targeted Dyslexia Workshops. As part of this Dormant Accounts funded initiative students identified by local schools participate in a focussed literacy support programme in the Library.

Healthy Ireland at your Library ran an online webinar, Healthy Eating Tips for tired and busy parents with registered Dietitian Jenny McNulty on Saturday 21st January at 11am with 31 attendees.

On 31st January the Waterford New community Women's Shed exhibition, 'Standing Shoulder to Shoulder' opened in the Index gallery, Central Library. Led by the talented Caroline O'Toole, this exhibition showcases the Shed's remarkable journey through photographs and exhibits of the incredible skills these ladies have learned and shared amongst each other.

In January, Waterford Libraries saw an encouraging growth in our Social Media marketing with the Waterford Library Facebook reach increasing by 35% and our engagement rates by 31%.

#### LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT:

- To encourage lifelong literacy skills the #WaterfordSchoolsRead challenge runs for the next month in secondary schools all over Waterford city and county. The challenge encourages students to increase their reading using traditional books or any other reading materials of their choice and to interact and share their reading experiences in a variety of ways designed to maintain the culture of reading.

# Management Report Plenary 09th February 2023.

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

- The Well Festival of mental health will take place in February 2023.
- The national Ireland Reads promotional campaign for Libraries will also run in late February.



## Arts

A new Arts Team Plan has been drawn up and covers 2023 and some elements of the 2024 programme.

A new Arts Strategy is due this year if budgets allow. 7 possible facilitators have been identified and we will seek quotations for their support to the Arts Office in preparation of the new strategy.

Summer in the City is being planned. It may require a top-up for insurance purposes. In 2022 insurance had increased threefold from its previous iteration in 2020. This year the theme will be "Dancing In The City". Again, the Arts Service will have a major part to play in the festival curated by Anna Jordan.

Waterford Music Generation is urgently in need of Practice, Meeting and Rehearsal space in the City. It is beginning to lag behind the work that is undertaken in the County. Rogue Gallery & Studios is still on the lookout for a permanent space. Like Music Generation their preference is for the Cultural Quarter.

The Portraits exhibition continues in WGOA. Outreach and schools packs are currently being translated into Ukrainian and Irish.

GOMA Gallery is continuing with its fine exhibition: I Brought The Dream Of Flying By Corina Duyn with Caroline Schofield. Theatre Royal and Garter Lane Arts Centre are continuing their busy programmes.

## Airgeadas / Finance Revenue Account

### Waterford City and County Council - Revenue Account Income & Expenditure Summary by Service Division Y.T.D. to December 31, 2022

	EXPENDITURE			INCOME		
	Expenditure €	Adopted Full Year Budget €	% Budget Spent to date	Income €	Adopted Full year Budget €	% Budget Raised
A Housing & Building	35,126,807	32,461,813	108%	37,244,490	35,042,973	106%
B Road Transport & Safety	42,082,917	46,030,418	91%	29,281,211	33,445,608	88%
C Water Services	10,764,835	11,141,683	97%	10,258,753	10,674,030	96%
D Development Management	25,166,010	17,678,810	142%	15,684,830	8,494,376	185%
E Environmental Services	21,483,843	20,905,703	103%	3,832,794	2,878,907	133%
F Recreation & Amenity	15,623,178	14,951,207	104%	1,973,298	1,750,939	113%
G Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	1,049,714	1,182,814	89%	410,336	501,962	82%
H Miscellaneous Services	9,832,176	9,360,886	105%	8,723,308	5,744,486	152%
LG Local Property Tax / GPG	0	0	0%	19,668,516	19,668,516	100%
RA Rates	0	0	0%	34,967,971	35,511,536	98%
	<b>161,129,478</b>	<b>153,713,333</b>	<b>105%</b>	<b>162,045,505</b>	<b>153,713,333</b>	<b>105%</b>

Surplus/Deficit

916,027 0

## Collections

### Summary of main collections Dec 2022 YTD

	A Gross Bal as at 1-1-2022	B Accrued ytd to Dec 2022	C Write Offs and Vacancies	D Waivers & Credits	E Total for Collection [1+2-3] €	F Collected ytd to Dec 2022 €	G' Gross Bal 31-12-2022 [4-5] €	Specific Provision	[6] % Collected ytd re Total for Collection [5/4] €	[7] % Collected ytd re 2022 Accrual [5/(4-1)]
Rates	6,132,653	34,967,971	- 3,217,538	- 1,037,667	36,845,419	33,800,550	3,044,869	1,000,000	94%	97%
Loans	1,702,320	3,354,922	-	-	5,057,242	3,533,204	1,524,038		70%	105%
Rents	3,938,392	15,697,426	- 26,945		19,608,873	15,670,608	3,938,265		80%	100%
<b>Aged Analysis :</b>										
				Less than 1 mth	2 to 6 mths	7 to 12 mths	greater than 12 mths			Net Balance
Rates				-		1,170,531	1,874,338			3,044,869
				0 to 3 mths	4 to 6 mths	7 to 12 mths	Greater than 12 mths			
Loans				169,922	76,443	105,015	1,172,658			1,524,038
				Less than 4 weeks	4-6 weeks	7-12 weeks	Greater than 12 wks			
Rents				111,407	92,140	142,777	3,591,941			3,938,265
<b>Overdraft Levels</b>										
Days in Overdraft in Dec 22'	0		Cost -	0	€0.00	verage Value when in O/D :	N/A			€ -