



Comhairle Cathrach & Contae Phort Láirge Waterford City & County Council

Waterford City & County Council Planning Report to Metropolitan Meeting – September 2020

DO: GACH BALL DE CHEANTAR CATHRACH PHORT LÁIRGE

TO: EACH MEMBER OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF WATERFORD

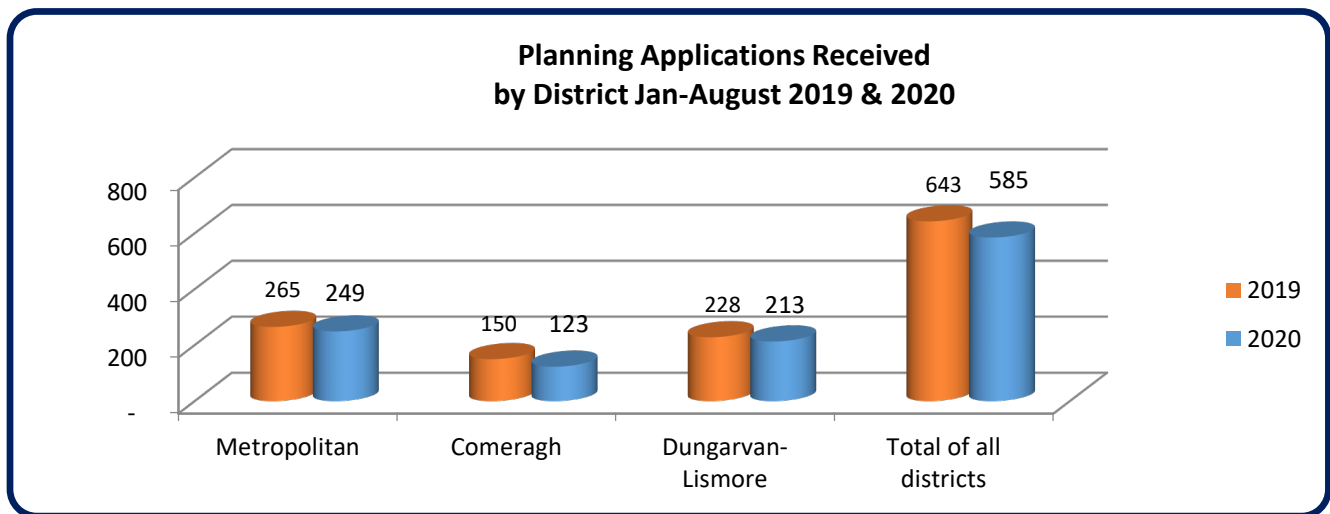
Development Management

Planning Applications Received – Countywide

64 Planning applications were received in the month of August countywide (up to 26th August). This compares with 73 planning applications received in the same month in 2019. Additional responses are also being received to further information requests.

August - Planning Applications in this District

34 Planning Applications were received in this district in the month (up to 26th August), compared to 25 which were lodged in the same month in 2019.



Pre Planning Update

The analysis of pre planning applications received per district from the beginning of the year to end of August was as follows:

Comeragh	Dungarvan - Lismore	Waterford Metropolitan Area	Grand Total
56	80	125	261

These pre planning applications are currently being addressed.

Waterford City & County Development Plan 2022 – 2028 (Pre-Draft Public Consultation)

The process to prepare the new unitary Waterford City and County Development Plan commenced on the week beginning 20th July. The initial phase of this process consists of an 8 week period during which written public submissions or observations can be made.

In order to facilitate public engagement and discussion, virtual town hall meetings were held on the evenings of the 18th/19th/20th August 2020. These meetings highlighted a broad range of issues such as Environment & Heritage, Local Placemaking, Economy, Agriculture Education, Research and Future Opportunities and helped to inform members of the public and community groups of the role that the Development Plan has in directing, facilitating and managing such development. The meetings also gave an overview of the development plan and its process and provided the 220 people who attended the opportunity to question the speakers which consisted of Waterford City & County Council staff, Dungarvan and Waterford City Chambers and WIT. A link to the full recordings of each public meeting, along with reports on each questions and answers session can be found on consult.wewaterfordcouncil.ie.

At time of writing, a total of 31 written submissions had been received as part of the pre-draft public consultation process. These submissions are published on the website of Waterford City & County Council within 10 days of their receipt. The written submissions will form the basis of the report by the Chief Executive to the Plenary Council on which further dialogue with the Council will inform the draft development plan in due course. While date(s) have not yet been identified to engage with the Plenary Council in this regard, it is intended to hold a series of seminars with the Plenary Council throughout Q4 to discuss the content of the Report and how best to inform the draft development plan. The Chief Executive Report will be issued to the Plenary Council on or before the 19th November and the Plenary Council will then have a period of 10 weeks to deliberate on the content and recommendations of the report. A resolution by the Plenary Council will be required in January 2021 to enable the process move to the next stage of writing the draft development plan. A broad timetable for the development plan preparation process is provided below for ease of reference.

Planning SPC

A meeting of the SPC was held in July which outlined the process for the development plan review and which discussed a number of forward planning and policy issues, namely the concept of land use zoning, the core and housing strategy including housing on the open countryside and the provision of service infrastructure across our settlements. These issues will be further discussed and explored at the next SPC.

Activity	Duration	Start	Finish
Development Plan Preparation Period.	Max 104 wks	Mon 20/07/20	Fri 15/07/22
Pre Draft Plan Public Consultation.	8 wks	Mon 20/07/20	Mon 14/09/20
Prepare CE Report on submissions and submit to Plenary Council.	8 wks	Mon 14/09/20	Mon 09/11/20
Liaise and discuss with Plenary Council and obtain Resolution on CE Report.	10 wks	Mon 09/11/20	Mon 18/01/21
Prepare a Draft Dev Plan.	12 wks	Mon 18/01/21	Mon 12/04/21
Submit Draft Dev Plan to Plenary Council and obtain Resolution.	8 wks	Mon 12/04/21	Mon 07/06/21
Notice of preparation of Draft Dev Plan.	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

Heritage

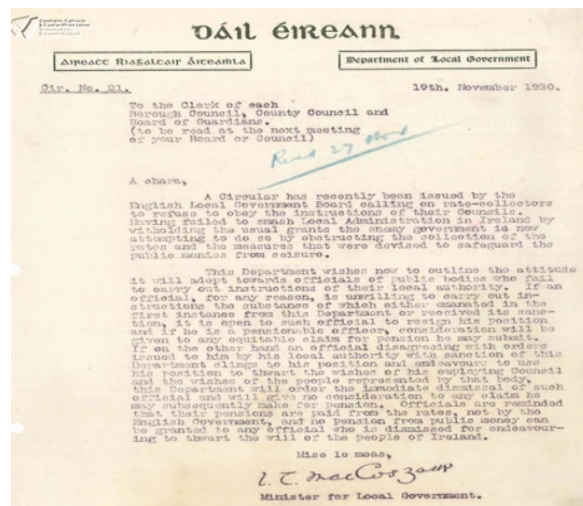
Woodstown Viking Site

A Conservation Management Plan for the Woodstown Viking Site has been completed and will be published in October. The Draft Plan was presented at the February meeting of the Waterford Metropolitan District Council. Funding was provided by The Heritage Council for development of the Plan.



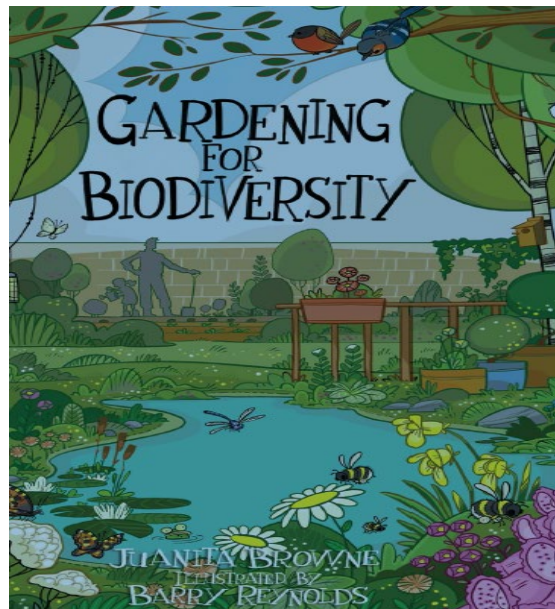
Decade of Commemorations

Live streaming of a conference on the 1920s Local Elections will take place on September 26th in accordance with public health restrictions. The conference *Waterford and the 1920 Local Elections- Fighting for a Voice and a New Ireland* will include presentations by Dr. Pat McCarthy, Emmett O'Connor, Joanne Rothwell, Christina Knight-O'Connor, Andrias O'Cathasaigh, Heather Laird and Sean Murphy



Biodiversity

Additional funding has been notified by the Biodiversity Policy Section of the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht under the July Stimulus Package and the outcome of Waterford's funding application will be known in September. Projects submitted include wildlife signage, invasive species awareness and Brent Geese monitoring.



Heritage Week

Heritage Week ran from August 15th-23rd with a focus on projects and virtual presentations rather than public events. A digital version of the Historic Towns Atlas for Dungarvan was launched by the Royal Irish Academy and the Irish Times Magazine included Waterford City in their feature on Architectural Gems around the country



Séamus Doran, Administrative Officer
Planning Department
27th August 2020