

## Economic Development & Planning Department – Plenary Report: July 2020

### 1. North Quays

#### 1. SDZ Development

On 10<sup>th</sup> July 2020 Falcon Real Estate Development Ireland Ltd was granted planning permission by Waterford City and County Council for almost 130,000 sq m of development within the Waterford North Quays Strategic Development Zone, comprising mixed use commercial building for tourism, retail, food & beverage and leisure, 15,000 sq m of office space, five residential buildings with 300 riverside apartments, 220-room 4-star hotel and conference centre, public open space, public realm and greenway connectivity.

#### 2. Sustainable Transport Bridge, Transport Hub and SDZ Access Infrastructure

Detailed design for the Sustainable Transport Bridge, Transport Hub and SDZ Access Infrastructure Works are currently being finalised and are due to be completed in the coming weeks. These elements will form part of the Main Construction Works as outlined below.

#### 3. Tender processes

##### a. Main contract

On 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2020 tenders were received for the Waterford North Quays Project Suitability Assessment Questionnaire (SAQ) for the Main Construction Works. The tenders received have been reviewed and reported on by Roughan O'Donovan (ROD), Consulting Engineers. On 9<sup>th</sup> July 2020 a qualitative assessment was undertaken by an Independent Assessment Board. The top 5 qualified submissions based on the recommendations of the Board will be invited to stage 2 of the Restricted Procedure Process.

##### b. Advanced contracts

MJS Civil Engineering commenced the Utility Diversion Works Contract and works are currently progressing on site. The Demolition Contract is also expected to commence shortly. On 28<sup>th</sup> April 2020 tenders for Waterford North Quays Transport Hub Independent Design Safety Certification by a Notified Body (NoBo) were received and have been assessed by ROD. It is expected to appoint a contractor later this month.

On 8<sup>th</sup> May tenders were received for the Sustainable Transport Bridge Cat 3 Independent Design Check. ROD has assessed the tenders received and it is anticipated that the contractor will be appointed in early August 2020.

It is planned to issue the South East Greenway Connectivity works Contract on tenders in September 2020.

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### 2. Local Enterprise Office

Indicator	At end of June 2019 Cumulative Figure	At end of June 2020 Cumulative Figure
No. of Clients Met	150	275
No. of clients applying for Measure 1 support	22	17
No. of clients securing Measure 1 support	19	17
Value of Measure 1 support approved	€487,846	€375,485
No. of clients receiving Measure 2 support	833	1504
Value of Measure 2 support given	€229,092	€472,554

#### Other Main Supports (from 16<sup>th</sup> March to 26<sup>th</sup> June)

Support	Applications Submitted	No. of Approvals	Value of Approvals	No. of Vouchers Fully Paid	Value of Payments
Business Continuity Voucher	682	594	€1,418,335	49	€114,912

Support	Applications Submitted	No. of Approvals	Value of Approvals €
Trading Online Voucher <i>40 applications awaiting final sign off</i>	160	120	€276,299

Support	Applications Submitted to MFI	No. of Approvals	Value of Approvals €
Microfinance Ireland Applications <i>4 pending approval</i>	16	12	€266,000

Support	No. of Participants
COVID Mentoring	303
COVID Training	635

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### 3. Rural Development Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2018

Projects:

- Estuary Coastal Trail –(Portally to Ballymacaw) – nearing completion

### Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2019

Following applications being tendered in July 2020:

- Fenor road surfacing and amenity enhancements

### Town & Village Renewal Scheme Accelerated Measure - 2020

10 applications being forwarded to assist towns and villages in recovery effort from Covid-19 under 2 calls in July & August: Dunmore East application has already been submitted

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### 4. Tourism Visit Waterford

The Visit Waterford campaign is currently airing on national and local media for six weeks starting at the end of June. The campaign “You’re invited, come and see” will be aired on national TV channels, national and local radio stations and print media and across social media platforms throughout July.

The campaign highlights the extent of what the city and county has to offer in terms of culture, scenery, adventure, activities and entertainment and is aimed at the domestic market.

“The strapline is “Waterford, you’re invited, come and see.”