



Comhairle Cathrach Phort Láirge  
Waterford City & County Council

# MANAGEMENT REPORT TO COUNCIL

COMHAIRLE CATHRACH & CONTAE PHORT LÁIRGE  
WATERFORD CITY & COUNTY COUNCIL

MANAGEMENT REPORT PLENARY  
NOVEMBER 8<sup>th</sup> 2021

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**November 2021**

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**Príomhfheidhmeannach**  
**Samhain 2021**

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## Seirbhísí Corparáirdeacha / Corporate

### Plenary Mayor October Engagements

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1  Launch of Encounter Memoirs Book in Medieval Museum (Metropolitan Mayor)	2
3	4	5	6  Winterval Photocall in the Viking Triangle  Piker Pals Launch in Presentation	7	8  Unveiling of Plaque at Japanese Gardens Tramore Visit of HIH Princess Takamado	9
10	11	12	13	14  Lifesaving Foundation Medal Ceremony Christchurch Cathedral	15  Greenway Extension Photocall – Bilberry  Photocall With US Firefighter – Bishops Palace	16  Opening of Creative Cluster Exhibition in Theatre Royal
17	18	19	20  Meeting Waterford Youth Art Erasmus – The Quay Waterford	21  Opening of Ferrybank Neighbourhood Park  Presentation Secondary School Annual Awards Ceremony	22	23  Henry II Crooke 1171 Recalled Passage Community Hall and City
24  Officially Start Nire Valley Drop in Ballymacarbry	25	26	27	28	29  Big Belly Bins Photocall on The Mall  Officially Opening of 8 <sup>th</sup> International Celtic Boxing Cup in Dungarvan - - Deputy Mayor	30

All meetings in November are to be On Line.

## Forbairt Eacnamaíoch / Economic Development

### North Quays

- a. **SDZ Developer.**
  - i) Work is ongoing on reappraisal of the proposed North Quays development.
- b. **Main contract.**
  - i) The main construction tender for the Waterford North Quays infrastructural contract comprising the development of a Sustainable Transport Bridge, Transport Hub and SDZ Access Infrastructure Works has undergone an external peer review and currently with NTA for approval through Gateway 5A. The tender is expected to be issued imminently.
- c. **Planning applications.**
  - i) A planning application for the western flood defence works was submitted to An Bord Pleanála on 22<sup>nd</sup> October (on public display from 26th October to 7th December).
- d. **Tender stage - advanced contracts/ enabling works.**
  - i) The Tender Assessments for the relocation of the Ferrybank Pump Station and South Plaza enabling works are progressing, it is proposed to commence the South Plaza enabling works post Christmas.
  - ii) The tender for Rock Stabilisation works to the north of Plunkett Station was issued on tenders on 15<sup>th</sup> October.
  - iii) Works are due to commence on the Greenway access ramp at Abbey Bridge.

### Greenways Development

#### 1. Bilberry to City Centre Greenway Link

- Contractor John Cradock Ltd commenced works on site October 4<sup>th</sup> 2021
- Formal Contract Signing took place on 15<sup>th</sup> October.
- To date works on site have involved confirmation of existing services locations, public lighting ducting and site clearance works at the Foundry Site.
- A road closure for Bilberry Road has been applied for by JCL and confirmed for period November 7<sup>th</sup> to December 26<sup>th</sup> 2021.
- Site Progress meetings are being held every two weeks
- Expected contract duration is 18 months.



#### 2. Tramore to Waterford Greenway Link – Feasibility Study

- Consultant has been formally appointed.
- Approval to proceed has been given by the National Transport Authority (NTA) and works have commenced.

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- First phase of works in accordance with NTA Project Approval Guidelines i.e. ‘Scope & Purpose’ has commenced.
- Anticipated duration for completion of the study is 9/12 months.

#### Local Enterprise Office

LEO Figures year to date (2021) and comparison of current month with previous year										
Indicator	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Aug-21	Sept-21	Oct-21	Oct-20
<b>Measure 1</b>										
No. of clients applying	0	6	6	6	15	23	23	27	27	34
No. of clients securing	0	6	6	6	14	22	22	26	26	32
Value of support approved	-	€137,308	€137,308	€137,308	€337,777	€629,104	€629,104	€733,251	€733,251	€680,151
<b>Measure 2</b>										
No. of clients receiving	219	375	659	1,052	1,317	1,363	1,592	1,918	2,089	2,801
Value of support given	€20,147	€81,907	€137,884	€298,202	€397,047	€448,324	€522,768	€590,583	€627,577	€1,102,307

Support		Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Aug-21	Sept-21	Oct-21
<b>Trading Online Voucher</b>	<b>No. of Approvals</b>	34	46	53	67	78	85
	<b>Value of Approvals €</b>	€66,364	€88,941	€100,101	€135,113	€156,108	€171,240
<b>LEO Client Stimulus Scheme</b>	<b>No. of Approvals</b>	37	43	49	53	54	57
	<b>Value of Approvals €</b>	€95,552	€110,176	€125,263	€135,053	€137,753	€140,453
<i>Figures included in cumulative table</i>							

#### National Women’s Enterprise Day 2021

National Women’s Enterprise Day was celebrated exclusively online on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> October. The aim of the event was not only to promote LEO supports and to signpost and stimulate applications for LEO Programmes from female entrepreneurs but also to showcase the achievements of female entrepreneurs across Ireland. LEO Waterford’s Leading Light representative was Tracy Cullen, co-founder and owner of HandHeld Technologies which provides high tech software systems for mobile workers in food and beverage production, waste management and medical sectors. Over 1,000 attended the event which included keynote speakers, networking opportunities and workshops. 723



participants availed of unique networking sessions and 638 attended various workshops throughout the day.

## **Rural Economic Development**

### **Town & Villages Updates**

Details of allocations in relevant Municipal District Report.

### **Funding Year: 2020 Accelerated Measure**

Waterford City & County Council was allocated €451,918 funding for 16 projects under the above scheme. All projects completed and claims to be submitted for funding to the DRCD this month.

### **Funding Year: 2021**

Waterford City & County Council applied for over €1.44m in funding for 8 projects under the 2021 DRCD Town & Village Renewal Scheme to assist Rural Towns & Villages – a response from the Department of Rural & Community Development is expected in late November 2021

## **Trails**

Funding of €57,370 was allocated under ORIS Measure 1 which is being delivered in partnership with Fáilte Ireland; €17,370 is for the development of promotional material for Waterford Trails.

Details of funding under ORIS Measures 2 and 3 are expected in the coming weeks.

## **Communications**

### **Public relations**

- Greenway European Silver in Europe
- Grant Applications deadline for Arts Practice and Venue Grants
- Picker Pals Litter Picking School Programme
- Waterford Businesses become Age Friendly Business Charter
- Tramore Public Realm Works update
- Imagine Arts Festival opens / Osclaítear an 20ú Féile Ealaíon bhliantúil Imagine
- National Reuse Month
- WCCC urges safe and bonfire free Halloween
- Works commence on Waterford Greenway (Bilberry Extension)
- Ferrybank Neighbourhood Park officially opened (via KK CoCo)
- Business in Community partnership with Dungarvan College

### **Radio:**

- Ad Bank: 1014 X 30" adverts to be used during the specified timeframe.  
+ Winterval Outside Broadcast
- Announcements: Emergency service announcements  
FYI Added value, sponsorship of the FYI/community notes on WLR – Total of 1,664 branded stings per year.

**Waterford City and County Council Radio Campaigns / Public Service messages to date:**

14/01/2021	Community Call
01/02/2021	Hedge Cutting
05/02/2021	Commemorations Grant
23/03/2021	Dog Fouling
14/05/2021	Library Digital Ambassadors
14/05/2021	Tramore Permits
03/06/2021	Green your Picnic
23/06/2021	Community Safety
30/06/2021	Summer Stars
21/07/2021	Greenway Message
13/08/2021	Development Plan
13/08/2021	Summer Reading programme
16/08/2021	Dog Licenses
01/09/2021	Hedge Cutting
12/09/2021	Culture Night
12/09/2021	Bike Week
20/09/2021	Retained Fire Fighter recruitment
04/10/2021	Fire Safety Week
04/10/2021	Reuse Month
11/10/2021	Electoral Roll Revision
13/10/2021	Age Friendly Business Recognition
18/10/2021	Waterford Treasures Spooky Tour
23/10/2021	Social Housing Needs Assessment
25/10/2021	Community Safety Plan
25/10/2021	Bonfire Safety / Hallowe'en

**Pending Campaigns:**

19/11/2021	OB Christmas Lights + Winterval O/B
22/11/2021	Shop Local Campaign LEO
29/11/2021	Williamstown Golf Course Library Opening Hours
<b>December</b>	WCCC Opening Hours Customer service number change

**Best Place to Live in Ireland Awards**

**Local media print feature**

(Half page ad and editorial feature in all local news publications)



**Ancillary local press advertising**

Notifications regarding public road infrastructure (roadworks / diversions), Arts development notifications / COVID-19 safety awareness messages / Recruitment campaigns

**Social Media**

**Social Media Stats (combined WCCC and Shop Waterford FB and Twitter)**

- Followers 39, 543 + 720 (up 2%)
  - Reach / Impressions 621, 821 -168,661 (down 21%)
- Note: On the back of September's exceptional performance due to Best Place to Live boost, figures have now returned to expected levels.

**Website Traffic (October 2021)**



## 4. MANAGEMENT REPORT PLENARY 11TH NOVEMBER 2021



Page	Page Views	Unique Page Views	Avg. Time on Page	Entrances	Bounce Rate
	145,420 % of Total: 100.00% (145,420)	90,854 % of Total: 100.00% (90,854)	00:02:16 Avg for View: 00:02:16 (0.00%)	51,903 % of Total: 100.00% (51,903)	56.31% Avg for View: 56.31% (0.00%)
1. /index.htm	40,035 (27.53%)	14,386 (15.83%)	00:03:26	11,818 (22.77%)	35.34%
2. /departments/planning/planning-enquiries/online-planning-enquiries.htm	12,201 (8.39%)	9,425 (10.37%)	00:03:11	5,885 (11.34%)	73.10%
3. /departments/housing/choice-based-lettings.htm	8,895 (6.12%)	6,617 (7.28%)	00:02:27	5,224 (10.06%)	58.02%
4. /media/planninglists/index.htm	4,463 (3.07%)	2,834 (3.12%)	00:02:35	1,611 (3.10%)	71.45%
5. /departments/human-resources/vacancies.htm	4,105 (2.82%)	3,533 (3.89%)	00:01:42	2,578 (4.97%)	84.13%
6. /departments/planning/planning-enquiries/viewing.htm	3,761 (2.59%)	2,406 (2.65%)	00:00:14	1,862 (3.59%)	4.08%
7. /onlinepayments/onlinepayments.htm	3,620 (2.49%)	2,962 (3.26%)	00:03:03	1,150 (2.22%)	47.65%
8. /departments/planning/index.htm	3,588 (2.47%)	2,536 (2.79%)	00:00:27	934 (1.80%)	18.42%
9. /departments/index.htm	3,392 (2.33%)	2,499 (2.75%)	00:00:15	312 (0.60%)	22.76%
10. /departments/housing/index.htm	2,696 (1.85%)	1,884 (2.07%)	00:00:42	619 (1.19%)	37.64%

### Pending National radio campaigns - Best Place to Live in Ireland Awards

A quasi-national campaign to highlight the merits of Waterford city as the recipient of Irish Times Best Place to Live Award 2021, citing affordability, standard of living, historical significance and community spirit.

Targeted areas to include national, Dublin Urban, Galway, Limerick and Cork Urban.

### Pending National print - Public Sector Magazine:

The Public Sector Awards Magazine is a key title in the public sector arena

The aim of the magazine is to inform and recommend to the key strategic decision makers throughout the Public Sector.

### Excellence in Supporting Local Communities award

Full page adverts plus 500 word editorial

### Economic Development & Enterprise SPC

The next meeting of the SPC is scheduled for Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2021. The main agenda item will be a presentation on the South East Economic Monitor.

### Festival & Events

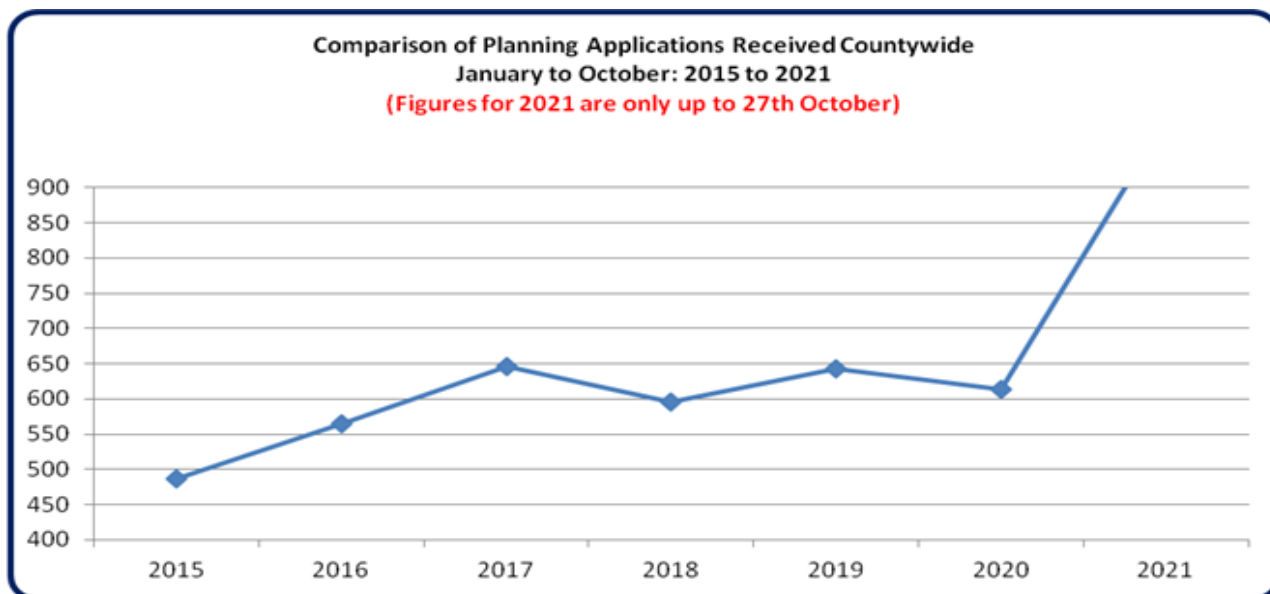
The closing date for applications for festival and event funding is **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2021**. All applications are to be made online at [www.waterfordfestivals.ie](http://www.waterfordfestivals.ie).

## Pleanáil / Planning

### **Planning Applications Received – Countywide**

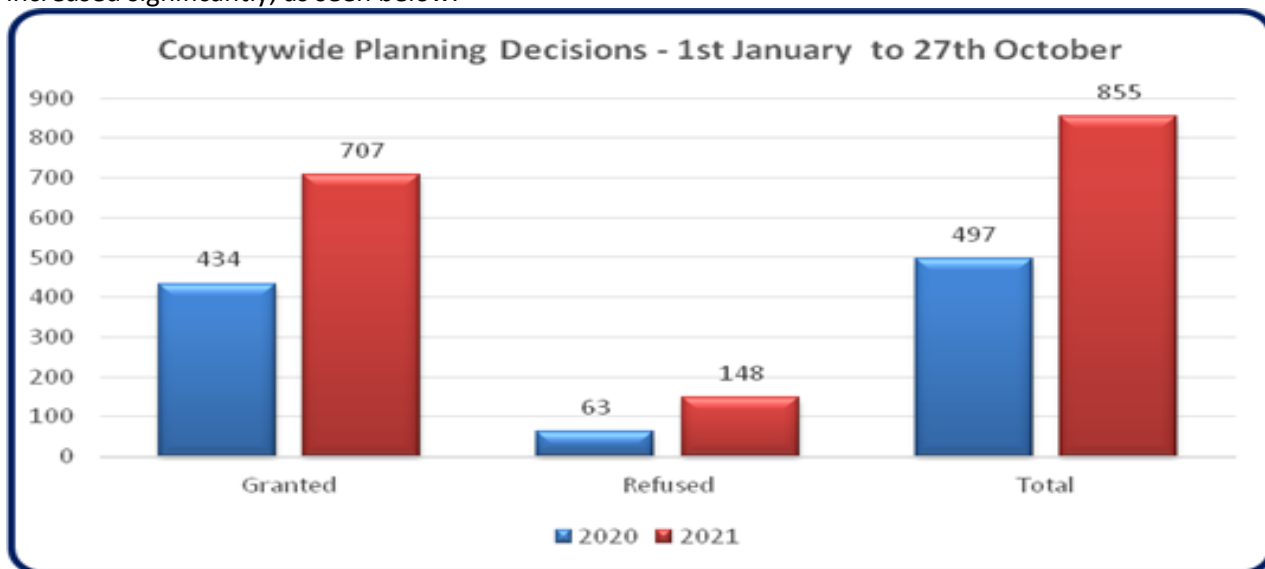
85 Planning applications were received in the month of October countywide (to 27<sup>th</sup> October). This compares with 94 planning applications received in the full calendar month in 2020. In September, 78 planning applications were received in the calendar month, compared to 86 received in September 2020.

A total of 996 planning applications were received in the year to 27<sup>th</sup> October 2021. This compares to 786 planning applications which were received to the 27<sup>th</sup> of October 2020.



### Planning Decisions

131 applications were decided from the 1<sup>st</sup> of September to 27<sup>th</sup> October 2021 compared to 152 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

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

The public consultation for the Draft City and County Development Plan closed on 30<sup>th</sup> August and a total of 485 submissions were received covering a broad range of policy issues and land use zoning provisions.



The Planning Department is reviewing all the written submissions received and will prepare a Chief Executive Report for consideration by the Plenary Council at the end of November. This CE 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 are arranged over the coming weeks and months to facilitate further debate with the Plenary/Municipal Council on the submissions received and any amendments arising to the Draft Development Plan.

### 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 5<sup>th</sup> October:*

- Enforcement cases under active investigation – 113
- Warning letters issued – 115
- Enforcement Notices issued – 14
- Cases closed – 99.

### Heritage

### **Waterford Commemorations Programme**

Approximately €30,000 was allocated to Waterford's commemoration of the centenary of 1921. Projects included the development of a commemoration website [Waterford2016to2023.ie](http://Waterford2016to2023.ie), a GIS Story Map on the War of Independence in Waterford, publications on the East Waterford Brigade and the Big House 1921-1923 and a community grant scheme which was awarded to 8 projects.

### **Community Monuments Fund**

Waterford City and County Council received an allocation of over €100,000 under the Community Monuments Fund towards conservation repairs of Knockboy Medieval Church, Molana Abbey, analysis of Ground Radar Data at the Woodstown Viking Site., repair of historic stonework at Kilgobinet Church and a Conservation Management Plan for Ardmore Graveyard. All projects are nearing completion by mid November.

### **Swift Survey 2021**

Funding was received from the Biodiversity Action Plan Fund and allocated to a Swift Survey of East Waterford carried out by Birdwatch Ireland. The survey has recorded 47 nest sites to date and final report is available from the Heritage Officer.

### **Wetland Survey**

Funding was received from the Biodiversity Action Plan Fund and allocated to a wetland survey carried out by Wetland Surveys Ireland. There are over 200 wetland sites in Waterford which are very important for wildlife, carbon sinks and flood attenuation but unfortunately are under continual threat of drainage and reclamation. The 2021 survey has mapped 35 sites across the county which will be protected in the Waterford City and County Development Plan 2022-2028.

### **New Placenames Website**

Waterford City & County Council's Placenames Committee launched a new Waterford Placenames website 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 [www.deiselogainm.ie](http://www.deiselogainm.ie)

### **Conservation**

#### **Built Heritage Investment Scheme and the Historic Structures Fund**

In 2021 Waterford City and County Council was allocated €301,800 for 21 projects around the city and county and the applicants are now completing the works.

## **Bóithre agus Iompar / Roads and Transportation**

### **Road Works Programme Update**

The Road Works Programme Strengthening and Surface Dressing works are now complete. Overall this year the Machinery Yard has successfully completed over 130 separate roads projects throughout the County.

In addition to this the Machinery Yard has a total of 12 Local Improvement Schemes - 8 complete, 1 underway, 3 outstanding to be completed this week. It also has 9 Community Involvement Schemes - 2 complete, 7 outstanding to be completed by the end of November.

### **Hedgecutting Season**

The Council is currently contacting landowners with overgrown hedges/trees onto public roads to carry out trimming of roadside hedges. This is to ensure that motorists, cyclists and pedestrians can travel safely on our roads and footpaths. Issues with overgrown hedges/trees can be reported to the Roads Department and will be followed up.

### **Winter Service Plan 2021/22**

The Winter Service Plan is currently being reviewed. The plan deals with ice and snow conditions and is a sub plan of the Major Emergency Plan. The Council's objective is to provide an effective and efficient response within the resources available and to minimise the negative impact of severe frost or heavy snow on the travelling public on the road network. Pre winter preparation is ongoing to ensure all plant is fully serviced and available and salt spreaders are calibrated, ensure adequate supplies of salt and grit are available and ensure arrangements are in place for responding to road based emergencies resulting from severe frost or snow. This Plan runs from October to the end of April, 2022.



## Tithíocht / Housing

### Housing Applications

Housing applications	Oct 2020	Total Number of Applications Year 2020	Oct 2021	Total Number of Applications Year To Date 2021
Applications received	78	942	57	727
Applications assessed (incl files carried forward from previous month(s))	103	1107	75	893
Applications validated (incl files carried forward from previous month(s))	72	670	28	470
Approved for social housing supports following interview with applicant	72	606	29	475

### Housing Allocations

	Tenancies during Oct 2020	Cumulative No. of Tenancies 2020	New Tenancies during Oct 2021	Refusal No. of New Tenancy offer	Cumulative No. of New Tenancies 2021
Total Municipal Districts	35	207	35	2	378
Voluntary Bodies	0	89	8	3	29
<b>Totals</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>407</b>

### Choice Based Letting (CBL) Scheme

The total number of properties advertised on the CBL system to date is 904. There have been 245 refusals on properties .

### Housing Loans applications

2021 Housing Loans	Applications received	Applications awaiting further info	Applications refused	Applications approved	Applications with Housing Agency/deferred for 6 months
Oct	6	0	0	2	5
YTD	69	6	18	19	5

### Tenant Purchase applications

2021 Tenant Purchase	Applications received	Applications awaiting further info	Applications refused	Applications approved	Sales Closed
<b>Oct</b>	4	0	0	9	1
<b>YTD 2021</b>	60	2	5	52	13
<b>YTD 2020</b>	51	3	18	30	11

1 Tenant Purchase sales closed in Oct -

### Housing Assistance Payment

Housing Assistance Payment	Oct 2020 HAP tenancies	Oct 2021 HAP tenancies set up	2021 no. of Active HAP Tenancies set up	Cumulative no. of HAP Tenancies Set up to date	Cumulative no. of Active HAP Tenancies to date
<b>HAP Tenancies</b>	63	25	-68	4,155	2,059

### Inspections of Dwellings

2021	Oct-21
<b>HAP</b>	7
(HAP) Compliant	0
(HAP) Non-Compliant	7
<i>(HAP) of which were Re Inspections</i>	0
<b>LTL</b>	28
(LTL) Compliant	10
(LTL) Non-Compliant	18
<i>(LTL) of which were Re Inspections</i>	1
<b>MTR</b>	1
(MTR) Non-Compliant	1
<b>Total</b>	36

In October, Waterford City & County Council carried out 216\_ planned and reactive inspections of our housing stock. As a result of these inspections 42 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	Number	of	Value	of	Cumulative	Cumulative
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Amount	applications approved 2021	Oct	applications Oct 2021	number of applications approved 2021	of value of 2021 applications
Housing Adaptation for People with a Disability. Max. €30,000	7		104,250.80	30	446,334.52
Mobility Aids Scheme Maximum €6,000	10		48,845.57	36	185,249.02
Housing Aid for Older People Maximum €8,000	7		39658.75	55	236,718.78
<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>		<b>192,755.12</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>868,302.32</b>

#### Homeless Services

Waterford Integrated Homeless Services (WIHS) (Opened 25 <sup>th</sup> June 2019)	Oct 2021	Oct 2020
Number of callers seeking services in WIHS 1 <sup>st</sup> to 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2021 (Up to the end of 2020, the Service has had over 7,100 visitors since opening on 25 <sup>th</sup> February 2019).	238	286
Number of presentations to WCCC Homeless Services 1 <sup>st</sup> to 31 <sup>st</sup> Oct 2021 (1,671 presentations in total in 2020)	75	98
Number of Formal Homeless Assessments	52	97
Breakdown of Persons in Emergency Accommodation on the last night of the month	31 <sup>st</sup> Oct 2021	31 <sup>st</sup> Oct 2020
Number of Single Persons in EA	60	57
Number of Families in EA	12	16
Number of children in EA	31	45

HAP Place Finder Service 6/11/18 to 26/10/21	Oct 2021	Cumulative
Number of approval letters issued 25 <sup>th</sup> Sept to 29 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2021 (565 approval letters issued to 31/12/2020)	40	842
Number of HAP Place Finder Tenancies HUB Complete 1 <sup>st</sup> Oct to 30 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2021 (312 tenancies set up to 31/12/2020)	7	457
Number of HAP Place Finder Tenancies currently being processed (as at 29/10/2021)	15	N/A

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Housing First Programme	Tenancies
<b>Number of Housing First tenancies in place at 31<sup>st</sup> Oct 2021</b>	29
<b>(Target = 30 by December 2021)</b>	

Homeless preventions, supported exits and sustained tenancies continue to be the priorities for Homeless Services in 2021. This will be achieved by continuing our partnership and collaborative working with the HSE and the various Homeless Service Providers in Waterford and by utilising our various projects in WIHS including our Homeless Prevention & Support Service, Advice & Information Service, Tenancy Support & Sustainment Service, HAP PlaceFinder and the Housing First Service.

#### Capital Projects

Housing Capital Schemes - WCCC Projects				
<b>WCCC Projects</b>	<b>424</b>	Countywide	Various Stages	
<b>Part V</b>	26	Countywide	Various Stages	Delivery On-going 2021 – 10 (est)
<b>Repair and Lease</b>	151	Countywide	Various Stages	Delivery on-going 2020 – 41 2021 – 50 (est) 2022 – 50 (est)
<b>Leasing</b>	130	Countywide	Various Stages	Delivery on-going 2020 – 30 From end of 2021 scheme closed to new applicants
<b>Buy &amp; Renew Countywide</b>	– 60	Countywide	Tender Preparation	In progress – Refurbishment Contractor Framework Appointed
<b>Total Units in WCCC Projects 788</b>				

Housing Capital Schemes - Approved Housing Body Projects
<b>Total Units in Approved Housing Body Projects 88</b>
<b>Housing Efficiency Retrofit</b>
<b>60 Units in total for 2021</b>

#### Refurbishing of houses becoming vacant for re let:

October 2021	TOTAL
<b>Handed Over / Works Completed</b>	7
<b>Newly vacant</b>	14

## Seirbhísí Pobail / Community Services

### **Rural Development Programme:**

There was a Call for Projects in September.

- Arising from that, actual applications should be 15 in total.
- Expected requests for assistance will reach €1.47m
- Available budget between LEADER Transitional Funding and E.U.R.I.(European Union Recovery Initiative) will be €1.2m.
- The May Call Projects have been Evaluated.
- The Total Projects before the November LCDC Meeting will be in the region of €350,000.(Just under €450K approved in September)
- The May Call (if all projects are approved) will total nearly €400,000.
- This will leave €1.2m between LEADER and E.U.R.I to be allocated.
- The September Call for Equipment and Feasibility Studies has a closing date in November 2021
- The Closing Date for Capital Projects is in December 2021
- The next Call for Projects will be in early January 2022.
- Payments from LEADER/RDP1420 are progressing well, with very few decommitments

### **Social Enterprise Capital Grant Scheme 2021.**

The Social Enterprise Capital Grant Scheme closed for applications on the 6<sup>th</sup> October. The LCDC Assessment Group met on 12<sup>th</sup> October to evaluate the applications. The LCDC submitted their recommendation to awarding funding to 8 eligible groups to the Minister on the 14<sup>th</sup> October. Once the Minister approves the recommendation, the successful applicants shall be notified.

### **Comhairle na nÓg:**

The Steering Committee met on October 7<sup>th</sup> to review current activities. Progress on 2021 activities is being made weekly by the young people and these are reviewed regularly by the steering committee members. The Communitree app is being launched shortly, and additionally, phase one of the multi-annual tree planting programme has been completed at the WIT Arena with additional sites being identified currently with a working group including WCCC, WIT and the Lions club having been formed.

### **Waterford Age Friendly Programme:**

Work continues through the Thematic sub-groups to progress the objectives of the AF Strategy. The AF Business Recognition Programme for Waterford City and County has begun with the initial training session having taken place on October 28th (41 businesses registered their interest with approx. 26 attending the training). Preliminary works beginning for the preparation of a new 5 year strategy in 2022. The next meeting of the AF Alliance will take place on November 24<sup>th</sup>.

### **Healthy Waterford:**

Current priorities include: Oversight of Healthy Ireland projects and active travel/ active communities. Extension of Healthy Ireland Round 3 funding deadline to 2022. Presentation on the work of Healthy Waterford to be made to Plenary Council in Q4 2021.

### **Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme (SHCP):**

Under the SHCP, socially disadvantaged areas in Waterford City have been designated for interventions to improve the health and wellbeing of people living in these areas. The purpose of the Programme is to reduce health inequalities by addressing the wider social determinants of health in communities experiencing high levels of deprivation. The Council through the LCDC has been tasked with the oversight and implementation at local level of elements of the Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme. These include the employment of a SHCP Local Development Officer which has been advertised; the setting up of a SHCP Local Implementation Team (LIT) and under the Enhancement Funding Scheme, the submission for funding of projects that would positively impact on the health and wellbeing of those who live within the Programme Area. An application for €250k funding was successful.

### **Local Community Safety Partnership:**

The Partnership held an additional meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> October and established a Steering and Oversight Group to guide the development of a Community Safety Plan. The group intends to meet regularly to oversee the development of the Plan. As Waterford is a pilot project its progress is being consistently evaluated by CES, appointed by the Department of Justice, and they made a presentation to the CSP on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2021. The next meeting of the Partnership will be on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

### **Covid 19 Community Response Forum:**

Various agencies and organisations working together to address Covid-related issues & meet monthly.

### **Pride of Place:**

The 2021 judging concluded with The Deise Women's Shed being Waterford's final group and they were judged on Friday October 22nd. The three entrants from Waterford for 2021 all showcased their work extremely effectively. The National Awards will take place in Killarney on February 21<sup>st</sup> 2022, subject to Covid restrictions.

### **Social Inclusion:**

**Migrant Integration:** Part-time support worker for Migrant Strategy commenced employment through Waterford Area Partnership on 11<sup>th</sup> October.

**SICAP:** Waterford Area Partnership continue to implement the SICAP programme on behalf of the LCDC with 79 local community groups and 953 individuals in Waterford expected to benefit in 2021.

Priorities for 2022 and the remainder of the Programme currently being determined by the LCDC and Annual Plan 2022 being developed by WAP for consideration by the LCDC.

**TIG:** The Waterford Traveller Interagency Group continues to meet regularly by way of Zoom. Needs Analysis being finalised.



## 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 October. 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.

City and County	Fires	Special Service	False Alarm Good Intent	False Alarm Malicious
<b>Total for October</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Year to date</b>	<b>571</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Total for October 2020</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Total for 2020</b>	<b>707</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>16</b>

### **Fire Safety:**

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

Applications Received	October 2021	2021 Year to date	Total for October 2020	Total for 2020
<b>Fire Safety Certificates</b>	10	60	4	84

### **Building Control:**

New functions associated with the Building Control Regulations, introduced on 1st March 2014, are being delivered within Emergency Services. Notices and applications associated with these regulations are shown below.

Application/Notification	Oct 2021	Cumulative for 2021	Total	Total for Oct 2020	Total for 2020
<b>Commencement Notices</b>	23	305		28	285
<b>Completion Certificates</b>	10	165		21	224
<b>Disability Access Certificates</b>	6	47		7	45

### **Civil Defence:**

Civil Defence activities during the month of October 2021 consisted mostly of Covid-19 Response duties.

Essential Tasks undertaken were:

- PPE training.
- Vehicle preparation.
- Vehicle Cleaning and Decontamination.

- Patient Transportation for cancer treatments.
- Vaccination Centre Transport Requests and Coordination of Humanitarian Requests for Transport.

Patient Transportation was provided by Civil Defence volunteers to members of the community with no other available means of transport. This was only made possible by the cooperation and dedication of Civil Defence Volunteers.

Transportation tasks included to and from:

- Clinical appointments (e.g. doctors, dental, radiotherapy, etc).
- Hospital Appointments in South Tipperary General Hospital Clonmel, Cork CUH, Waterford UHW and Whitfield.
- Vaccination Centre Transport's to WIT Arena.

At all times stringent measures were put in place to ensure the safety of Civil Defence volunteers and those members of the community served.

Plans are in place for the Autumn as we see a return to Training under Covid 19 restrictions. Classes are smaller but are designed with the safety of all involved. Remote Training on line via Zoom is used where possible for theory related content.

## Seirbhísí Comhshaoil / Environmental Services

### Environmental Enforcement Statistics

1<sup>st</sup> January 2021 – 19<sup>th</sup> October 2021

#### Enforcement under the Litter Pollution Acts 1997 (as amended)

Legal Action Initiated	0
On the Spot Litter Fines Issued (Pending Payment or Prosecution)	178
On the Spot Litter Fines Paid (Includes Fines from previous year)	65
No of Notices Issued 9,16,17,20	0

#### Enforcement under the Waste Management Acts 1996 (as amended)

No of Complaints	2171
Legal Actions	1
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)	14
Section 71's (Abandoned Vehicle Notices)	75
Warning Letters Sent (Packaging Info & Notice Follow Up)	132
Section 14 Directions	26
Section 107 EPA (Noise)	0
Fixed Penalty Notices on Waste Collectors	0
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	1

### Environmental Education & Awareness

#### Waste prevention

October was National Reuse Month. A full calendar of events was scheduled around the country, from online tutorials and workshops to videos and podcasts. All events were listed on [www.mywaste.ie](http://www.mywaste.ie). Events in Waterford included:

- Secondary schools competition to tackle the high number of single use water bottles used in their community. To be in with a chance to win a contactless water dispenser and reusable bottles for their school, classes must attend an online workshop to learn more about the issue and encourage local businesses to offer water refills.
- Sports Clubs involved in reducing the number of single use plastic bottles at their club grounds too by taking a pledge to reduce single use plastic. By signing up to Refill's Tap Map, sports clubs can receive a free sign for their tap and be in with a chance to win 100 branded reusable bottles

for their members. Clubs can also opt to learn more about a range of ways for their club to reduce their impact on the environment.

- Community groups, Tidy Towns groups, businesses and general public were invited to attend an online workshop with Conscious Cup to learn more about how to encourage the use of reusable cups at cafes, etc. to learn how simple it is for any business to get involved and in the campaign and how we in our communities can encourage this positive climate action.
- A Fast Fashion resource has been created for use by teachers in Secondary Schools and is available to download from the Council's website [www.waterfordcouncil.ie/departments/environment/awareness.htm](http://www.waterfordcouncil.ie/departments/environment/awareness.htm). This includes a teachers pack, presentation for use in class and an online workshop for teachers took place to inform them further about fashion and the environment on 13th October. This resource will allow classes to take action on a range of environmental issues such as waste, climate change and water pollution by discussing issues around fast fashion.
- A virtual furniture up-cycling workshop took place on 21st October to give tips and advice on how to prepare and upcycle pieces of old furniture.
- A 2-hour interactive workshop about Sustainable living took place on 2nd November to help people find easy and enjoyable ways to move towards more sustainable living.

LAPN funding was recently granted by the EPA for a project to encourage the use of reusable water bottles in place of single use plastic bottles. The first part of this funding covers the cost of the contactless water dispenser prize for the schools competition and the second funds a water refill station at each of the 2021 Blue Flag Beaches in Waterford.

#### **Green Schools**

This year's Green Schools Seminars were held online on in October and November, with a seminar for each theme to accommodate schools on the various themes i.e. litter & waste, energy, water, travel, biodiversity, etc. Anyone who couldn't attend the seminars on the night can access the presentation afterwards.

#### **Litter**

- We continue to receive requests for clean up materials and collection of litter. Waterford City & County Council offers assistance throughout the year for groups/individuals who volunteer to clean up litter and illegally dumped waste from their local environs e.g. approach roads, local beauty spots, beaches and general public areas.
- Picker Pals – 36 school classes will take part in this litter education programme this school year. Aimed at 1st & 2nd classes, Picker Pals combines storytelling, environmental learning and real world action in the local community. Picker Packs are created from old sails gathered from sailing clubs. This encourages students and their families to take action against litter and to become more conscious of the sources and types of litter locally.

## Ealaíona & Cultúr / Arts & Culture

### **Library**

In October, all 12 library branches were open for browsing, newspaper, study, public computer and printing services. During the month 15,611 people visited libraries throughout the county and borrowed 22,847 items along with 6,900 online resources including eMagazines, eBooks and eAudiobooks. Active membership of the Library Service for October was 10,377 and during the month 72 service wide activities and events took place including;

- Launch of 'Diverse Creatives' exhibition running until 5<sup>th</sup> November in Central Library
- EDIC sponsored events including 'Mapping a Social Economy' virtual and in person workshop with WIT on 7<sup>th</sup> October attended by 82 people and 'Hidden Migrants – The Undocumented' webinar on 19<sup>th</sup> October attended by 40 people
- Children's Book Festival events including 'Design your Favourite Characters Bedroom' Children's Competition ran throughout October with entries from over 50 children and online events from Niall de Burca, Dave Rudden, Wayne O'Connor and Arran Towers attended by over 861 children in schools across the county
- 'Well Festival: The Earthquake Event' on 8<sup>th</sup> October in Garter Lane organised by WHAT, Waterford Libraries and Garter Lane attended by 30 people
- Two events on October 22<sup>nd</sup> for Waterford Writer's weekend at Imagine Festival with Author Rónán Hessian and Observer Columnist Seamus O'Reilly with 72 people attending the events
- Healthy Ireland 'Mindfulness for Children' Workshops attended by 173 children in schools across the county and online 'Human Library Coffee Morning' With Mental Health Ireland on 15<sup>th</sup> October with 13 people attending, Literacy talk with Healthy Ireland funded 'First Time Parents Group' on 27<sup>th</sup> October
- Information Displays for Space Week, Dyslexia Awareness Month and Breastfeeding week
- Halloween events and activities throughout all the branches
- In branch groups met throughout October including YouthGroups with Gardai, bookclubs, Brothers of Charity Movie Screenings and WCCC Housing Meetings with tenants

### **Upcoming Events in November:**

- Events to mark Science Week 7-14<sup>th</sup> November
- Events to mark History Week from 22<sup>nd</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> November
- Healthy Ireland events on the topics of 'Mental Health in the Community' with Mental Health Ireland, 'Nutrition' workshop with Operation Transformation Nutritionist Aoife Hearne, and 8 'Exercise and Nutrition' workshops with Harley Barnes for Primary School children across the county
- Events to mark National Menopause Month with 'Menopause' webinar with Catherine O'Keefe on 3<sup>rd</sup> November

### **Library Development:**

- Waterford Libraries have been successful in achieving funding from the following sources in 2021:

**Dormant Accounts Funding** (€9,399.41) – funded projects include: Times Tables Rockstars (Maths Digital Literacy) and Sensory Garden for Carrickphierish Library.

**Healthy Ireland DRCD Funding** for Health Zones & Outdoor Equipment (€5,622.95) –Funded items includes Disinfecting Fogger machines for all branches, outdoor furniture for Lismore, Tallow and Dunmore East Libraries.

**Public Libraries Design Thinking Pilot 2021** (€1,500) - funded project is a Work Matters at the Library programme to address labour market inclusivity individuals and communities at risk of being disadvantaged, socially excluded or marginalised

- In October there were 363 subscriptions to the Touch Type Read Spell Software and 4333 users of the newly launched Times Tables Rockstars Software, both funded through Dormant Account Funding
- Training received included Raising Awareness on Climate Change , Regeneration and Creating Positive Spaces for our Towns with the Irish Heritage Council, Handling Rare Books, Archives, Manuscripts and Records with University College London, My Open Library training and Surfbox user training
- Landscaping for new Dormant Account funded Sensory Garden began in October and a Self Service ‘Surfbox’ printer and scanner was installed in Lismore Library in preparation for My Open Library services
- LGMA Design Thinking Workshop continued throughout October

**Library images from October include:**



*Pictured: Book and information display to support Dyslexia Awareness Month in Carrickphierish Library*





*Pictured: Women of the Shakti Group displaying their quilt created for the Creative Waterford funded 'Diverse Creatives' Exhibition at Central Library*

## **Arts**

Following on from the successful Outdoor Performance scheme in August the Arts Service was offered a similar scheme for December. The working title is 'Waterford Winter Fire Dance' and the intention is to have events in 5 to 7 individual towns leading up to fireworks displays on the Winter Solstice in each of those areas.

Arts Grants are being adjudicated this month with the professional adjudication assistance of Annette Moloney and Mike Finn.

The closing date for Arts Festival grants is pending on November 7<sup>th</sup>.

Applications are currently open for Waterford artists to attend the Tyrone Guthrie Centre, the artists workplace in Co. Monaghan.

The Waterford Film Festival has kicked off with films from 12 different countries. The Lit Festival by young Waterford Writers for Young Writers takes place this month.

This year's highly successful Imagine Festival has concluded – one of the many highlights was an exhibition by esteemed artist John Shinnors. The Waterford Writers weekend, which runs in parallel with the Imagine Festival saw Colm Keegan announce the winners of the national Waterford Poetry Prize. Also in attendance for the Weekend were Sophie White and Eddie Linehan and Waterford's Megan Nolan.

The Waterford Gallery of Art/City and Old Market House Arts Centre/Dungarvan are hosting exhibitions from the Waterford Art Collection at present.

The Artist in Schools programme is ongoing , as are online Literature courses for adults.

## Airgeadas / Finance

### Revenue Account

<b>Waterford City and County Council - Revenue Account Income &amp; Expenditure Summary by Service Division</b>							
<b>Y.T.D. to September 30, 2021</b>							
		<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			<b>INCOME</b>		
		Expenditure €	Adopted Full Year Budget €	% Budget Spent to date	Income €	Adopted Full year Budget €	% Budget Raised
A	Housing & Building	21,465,213	29,905,750	72%	23,063,823	32,231,369	72%
B	Road Transport & Safety	33,768,300	46,501,378	73%	24,320,248	34,342,105	71%
C	Water Services	7,966,661	10,831,808	74%	7,642,409	10,419,107	73%
D	Development Management	13,110,331	16,894,259	78%	6,972,635	8,467,777	82%
E	Environmental Services	13,576,147	19,210,509	71%	1,466,007	2,847,343	51%
F	Recreation & Amenity	10,210,678	14,454,154	71%	1,147,026	1,806,387	63%
G	Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	726,572	979,517	74%	405,082	528,623	77%
H	Miscellaneous Services	16,478,440	9,620,230	171%	12,920,211	4,668,005	277%
LG	Local Property Tax / GPG	0	0	0%	14,748,762	19,665,016	75%
RA	Rates	0	0	0%	25,066,405	33,421,873	75%
		<b>117,302,342</b>	<b>148,397,605</b>	<b>79%</b>	<b>117,752,608</b>	<b>148,397,605</b>	<b>79%</b>
Surplus/Deficit					450,266	0	

4. MANAGEMENT REPORT PLENARY 11TH NOVEMBER 2021

Collections

Summary of main collections Sept 2021 YTD											
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G'		[6]	[7]	
	Gross Bal as at 1-1-2021	Accrued ytd to Sept 2021	Write Offs and Vacancies	Waivers & Credits	Total for Collection [1+2-3]	Collected ytd to Sept 2021	Gross Bal 31-09-2021 [4-5]	Specific Provision	% Collected ytd re Total for Collection [5/4]	% Collected ytd re 2021 Accrual [5/(4-1)]	
		€	€		€	€	€		€		
Rates	#####	33,549,986	- 797,085	- 9,050,979	34,744,168	20,796,227	13,947,941	3,400,000	66%	62%	
Loans	1,912,249	2,509,014	- 1,391		4,419,872	2,586,314	1,833,558		59%	103%	
Rents	4,364,161	11,147,400	- 20,942		15,490,619	11,233,539	4,257,080		73%	101%	
<b>Aged Analysis :</b>											
				Less than 1 mth	2 to 6 mths	7 to 12 mths	greater than 12 mths				Net Balance
Rates				-	-	9,385,865	4,562,076				13,947,941
				0 to 3 mths	4 to 6 mths	7 to 12 mths	Greater than 12 mths				
Loans				162,998	77,551	154,526	1,438,483				1,833,558
				Less than 4 weeks	4-6 weeks	7-12 weeks	Greater than 12 wks				
Rents				121,367	89,807	137,196	3,908,710				4,257,080
<b>Overdraft Levels</b>											
Days in Overdraft in Sept	0		Cost -		€0.00	Average Value when in O/D : N/A					€ -