

MANAGEMENT REPORT TO COUNCIL

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



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Chief Executive
April 2023

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Príomhfheidhmeannach
Aibreán 2023

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Management Report Plenary 13th April 2023.

Seirbhísí Corparáirdeacha / Corporate. Mayors Official Engagements March 2023.

WEDNESDAY 1st:	Official Opening of Mount Congreve Gardens, Kilmeaden, Co. Waterford. Celebratory Dinner for the Launch of Mount Congreve Gardens, Kilmeaden, Co. Waterford. Waterford VTOS, WWETB Annual Awards Ceremony, The Tower Hotel, Co. Waterford.
THURSDAY 2nd:	The Launch of the West Waterford Festival of Food Dungarvan
FRIDAY 3rd:	Canadian Ambassador, Mayors Parlour, City Hall, The Mall, Co. Waterford. Community Climate Action Programme, -'Top of the City' Garden, St Carthage's Ave, Co. Waterford. Maya Quinn Mayoral Reception, Mayors Parlour, City Hall, The Mall, Co. Waterford. Presentation to DSI South East, Mayors Parlour, City Hall, The Mall, Co. Waterford.
SATURDAY 4th:	South East Jobs and Skills Fair, Large Room, City Hall, The Mall, Co. Waterford. Thomas Francis Meagher Tri Colour Gala Dinner, Granville Hotel, Co. Waterford.
SUNDAY 5th:	Tri Colour Commemoration Guests Welcome, Large Room, City Hall, The Mall, Co. Waterford. Flag Raising Ceremony with due Military Honours, The Mall, Co. Waterford. Dungarvan & District Soroptimist Club International Women's Day Celebration Lunch, Lawlors Hotel, Dungarvan, Attended by Cllr. Damien Geoghegan.
MONDAY 6th:	Official Sod Turning for the North Quays, South Plaza Ground breaking Site, Co. Waterford.
TUESDAY 7th:	Student Enterprise Awards - County Final, The Park Hotel, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford.
WEDNESDAY 8th:	4th Global Women's Conference, Theatre Royal, Co. Waterford. Vicky Phelan Triptych Portrait Legacy Event, Main Auditorium, Cork Road, Co. Waterford. National Enterprise Awards, Mayors Parlour, City Hall, The Mall, Co. Waterford. Launch of the Waterford Women of the Revolution book Cumann na mBan, The Park Hotel, Dungarvan.
THURSDAY 9th:	Gala screening of the film An Cailín Ciúin, SGC Cinema, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford.
FRIDAY 10th:	D&WW Chamber Strategy 2023 – 2026 Launch, TOTEM, The Brewery, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford. Waterford Credit Union - 60th Anniversary Mayoral Reception, City Hall, The Mall, Co. Waterford. Movies and Musicals- RTE Concert Orchestra, SETU Arena, Co. Waterford.
SATURDAY 11th:	Central Avenue Community Garden Official Opening, Co. Waterford
SUNDAY 12th:	
MONDAY 13th:	
TUESDAY 14th:	
WEDNESDAY 15th:	
THURSDAY 16th:	Presentation for Frances Daunt's 100th Birthday, Mawlam Helthcare, Co. Waterford.
FRIDAY 17th:	Saint Patricks Day Mass & Saint Patricks Day Parade, City Hall, The Mall, Co. Waterford. Tramore Parade, Tramore Co. Waterford. Dungarvan Parade, Dungarvan Co. Waterford. Attended by Cllr. Declan Doocey.
SATURDAY 18th:	Ceathrú Chultúrtha -The spoken word event, Barronstand Street, Co. Waterford. Meeting with Mayor and his officials from Cadoujak, Bishops Palace, Co. Waterford.
SUNDAY 19th:	
MONDAY 20th:	Launch of National Tree Week, N25 Youghal Road, Co. Waterford.
TUESDAY 21st:	Probus Club Annual Lunch, The Tower Hotel, Co. Waterford.
WEDNESDAY 22nd:	
THURSDAY 23rd:	
FRIDAY 24th:	An Garran Residents Association, Mayoral Reception, City Hall, The Mall, Co. Waterford.
SATURDAY 25th:	
SUNDAY 26th:	
MONDAY 27th:	Launch of Waterford Community Safety Plan, Large Room, City Hall, The Mall, Co. Waterford. Austrian Ambassador, Mayors Parlour, City Hall, The Mall, Co. Waterford.
TUESDAY 28th:	VTOS Art Craft & Design Exhibition Opening, Waterford Library, Lady Lane, Co. Waterford.
WEDNESDAY 29th:	
THURSDAY 30th:	
FRIDAY 31st:	Civic Reception for WRLfm, Chamber, City Hall, The Mall, Co. Waterford. City of Opportunity, The Garden Room, The Mall, Co. Waterford.

Forbairt Eacnamaíoch / Economic Development

North Quays

BAM Civil Ltd has commenced work on the North Quays Public Infrastructure Project and are currently engaging with key stakeholders and establishing their site compound on Frank Cassin Wharf.

Pre-planning meetings with the Planning section of Waterford City and County Council is continuing with Harcourt Developments, regarding development of the North Quays SDZ site.

CONTRACTS:

Ferrybank Pump station contract and enabling works - David Walsh Civil Engineering contractor is progressing works on Ferrybank Pump Station and the Pump Station enabling works contract. The pump station storage tanks are currently being installed.

Rock Stabilisation contract - Cumnor Construction Ltd is has completed the rock stabilization works to the North of Plunkett Station.

Abbey Road footpath widening contract - Mallwood Construction is 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 March 2022	At end of March 2023
Measure 1		
No. of Clients applying	0	5
No. of Clients securing	0	4
Value of support approved	€0	€116,220
Measure 2		
No. of clients receiving	772	983
Value of support given	€80,552	€108,709

Support – Trading Online Voucher

Trading Online Voucher

No. of Approvals	20
Value of Approvals	€42,681

Figures not included in cumulative table.

Management Report Plenary 13th April 2023.

Waterford Local Enterprise Office celebrates another successful Local Enterprise Week

Waterford's business community enjoyed and engaged in a large number of innovative business events throughout Waterford City and County during Local Enterprise Week, from March 6th to 10th.

The fifteen events across five days, compiled by Local Enterprise Office Waterford, drew hundreds of participants. Designed for pre-start, start-up and established businesses looking to grow, the programme focused on the issues that significantly impact enterprise in 2023.

Local Enterprise Week Waterford kicked off its jam-packed programme on Monday, March 6th with a free interactive session to learn more about how Digital and Lean solutions can help businesses work smarter.

International Women's Day was celebrated across two locations in conjunction with Dungarvan and West Waterford Chamber in Dungarvan and with Waterford Chamber in Waterford city.

The biggest events of the week were, Tuesday's Student Enterprise Final, Thursday's 'Waterford, Open for Business' seminar and Friday's 'Social Media Mash Up'. Hart Island, a business created and run by Nathan Sfendji of Waterpark College won the Student Enterprise County Final and will go forward to represent Waterford at the national final in Croke Park in May.

Waterford, Open for Business looked at Waterford's future in terms of work, enterprise and innovation. Facilitated by Nichola Beresford, with Gerry Duffy (Gerry Duffy Academy) as keynote speaker and some of Waterford's best known entrepreneurs, thinkers and policy makers.

Hopfully Brewing, a Waterford company producing high quality craft beer has been named as Waterford's Enterprise Award winner and will go on to represent Waterford at the 23rd National Enterprise Awards at The Mansion House in Dublin on the June 1st.

The announcement was made as part of the Local Enterprise Office's Local Enterprise Week at the Mayor's Parlour on Wednesday March 8th. Other winners on the day included Colin Brett of Player Stat Data who won best Start up.



Communications

Press Releases

- Waterford commits to new Creative Ireland Culture and Creativity Strategy
- Age-friendly living in iconic Waterford city building – St Joseph’s
- Waterford Local Enterprise Office is open for business during LEW
- Taoiseach Leo Varadkar breaks ground on NQ Public Infrastructure Project
- Waterford City and County Council launches Community Climate Action Programme
- David Daniels co-opted onto WCCC
- Screening of Writing Home in association with Waterford City Arts Office
- Tagann draíocht na Oscars go dtí an scáileán mór i nDún Garbhán
- Jam-packed St Patrick’s Festival programme
- Silver for residents of Tramore’s An Garrán
- St. Patrick’s Day Festivities in Waterford at a glance
- Jubilee Memorial Community Garden launched by Waterford’s Metropolitan Mayor
- Significant investment in Dungarvan’s Town Hall Theatre
- Mayors Statement - Cartamundi
- Waterford City and County Council opens Urban Façade Improvement Scheme
- Mayor plants for National Tree Week Launch
- Minister for Justice launched Community Safety Plan
- Mór Artist Collect launch
- 2023 LEO Digital Awards open for entries
- €294,000 for Waterford Built Heritage projects
- WLRfm honoured with Civic Reception
- Youtube: Release of Sustainable Transport Bridge render +10k views (+3k views on Tik Tok)



Mayors Speeches

- Official Opening of Mount Congreve
- Presentation to Down Syndrome Ireland South East
- International Women’s Day
- Official Sod Turning of the North Quays
- The 60th Anniversary of Waterford Credit Union
- Launch of Dungarvan and West Waterford Chamber’s 2023 – 2026 Strategy
- Launch of the Community Garden in Central Avenue
- St.Patrick’s Day in Tramore
- Mayoral Reception for An Garran Residents Association
- Launch of Waterford’s Community Safety Partnership
- Civic Reception for WLR FM

Management Report Plenary 13th April 2023.

IN HOUSE DESIGN:

Annual Report
Rikon Report
IDA presentation
NQ Presentation

Integrated Homeless Services (Out of Hours pdf)
Community Climate Action Programme
St. Patrick's Festival downloadable pdf
NQ Ground - breaking invitation

Think Waterford First Campaign:

Think Waterford First Campaign was created by award -winning creative agency Boys + Girls. The origins of the campaign were following a “discovery project” which consisted of interviews with stakeholders and local business owners. The premise is the highlight and showcase Waterford as a Place of innovation; contrasts; heritage; welcome; culture; education and access - A Place of Firsts.

Campaign audience: FDI / Talent / Retails / Talent and People of Waterford

Campaign Rollout – Mixed Media:

-Radio: 6 week campaign from w/c March 6th to w/c April w/c April 10th on Newstalk, 98FM, Galway Bay, Limerick Live 95fm, Cork's RedFM, East Coast Radio, Kfm (Kildare), WLRFM and Beat 102-103

-Media Partnership - Irish Times: 3 x Special Reports

February – Ireland's Great Places to Work, featuring i/v with Seamus Kilgannon of WorkLab

April – Business Ireland

April – Sustainable Ireland, featuring i/v with WCCC Climate Action Team

OOH (Out of Home and Metropole) live March 27th.

17 sites in Dublin / Kildare / Gorey - Focusing on the main commuter belt routes in and out of Dublin and along the main roads towards Waterford.

Next Steps:

- Digital Display
- Social and VOD (Video on Demand)
- Podcast sponsorship – The Other Hand with Economist Jim Power



Management Report Plenary 13th April 2023..

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

	Reach	% Change	Posts	% Change	Followers	% Change
March	661,668	30.6%	415	54%	46,636	0.9%
Feb	506,524	28.3%	245	-12.2%	46,235	1.2%

WCCC Website stats: February 1st to March 30th, 2023

	Page Views	Unique page views	Avg. Time on Page
	113,911	90,037	00:01:30
1. Online Planning Enquiries	11,700	9,365	00:03:46
2. Job Vacancies	8,688	7,152	00:02:46
3. Choice Based Lettings	7,964	5,793	00:01:38
4. Index	7,360	5,789	00:00:37
5. Planning Enquiries	4,367	2,932	00:00:15
6. Online Payments	3,970	3,539	00:03:08
7. Departments Index	3,638	2,896	00:00:16
8. Planning Index	2,958	2,296	00:00:32
9. Planning Lists Index	2,943	2,429	00:03:12
10. Housing Index	2,289	1,817	00:00:47

*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.



TRAILS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION:

Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS)

- Currently implementing 18 projects around the county, funded under the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) between 2019 and 2022. The scheme funds the ongoing maintenance of existing trails and outdoor recreation amenities, development of new and enhanced amenities as well as promotional activities.
- A Project Development Measure was also initiated under the 2021 scheme.
- A May call for funding is anticipated for ORIS 2023.

Waterford Greenway

- Ongoing development projects are currently being planned and/or implemented on Waterford Greenway with both WCCC funding sources and funding support from TII including.

Greenway Feasibility Studies

- Continuing to work with Cork County Council and Tipperary County Council on two Greenway Feasibility studies:
 - oDungarvan to Mallow Greenway Study
 - oKilmeaden to Carrick-on-Suir Greenway Study
- Further landowner, stakeholder and public engagement will take place at emerging preferred route stage throughout 2023

Waterford Trails

- Continuing to engage with Sport Ireland Outdoors, local trail development groups and other key stakeholders with regard to ongoing monitoring, maintenance, development and promotion of Waterford's existing recreational trail network. www.visitwaterfordtrails.com
- New trails booklet and map brochure to be distributed to key stakeholders throughout April and May.
- New resources to be added to website.

Tourism

- Saint Patrick's Day – This year's St Patrick's Day Festival was a great success. There was a terrific list of events beginning on the Thursday evening and finishing on the Sunday afternoon. Each event was able to showcase the very best of Waterford. There has been a tremendous amount of positive feedback from local businesses and visitors alike. The team are already looking forward to planning the festival for 2024.
- The West Waterford Food Festival, one of Ireland's largest and longest-running food festivals, returns for its 14th year. The festival takes place this year 14th – 16th April. The programme of events certainly highlights the amazing food producers & food experiences on offer across the county.

Economic Development & Enterprise SPC

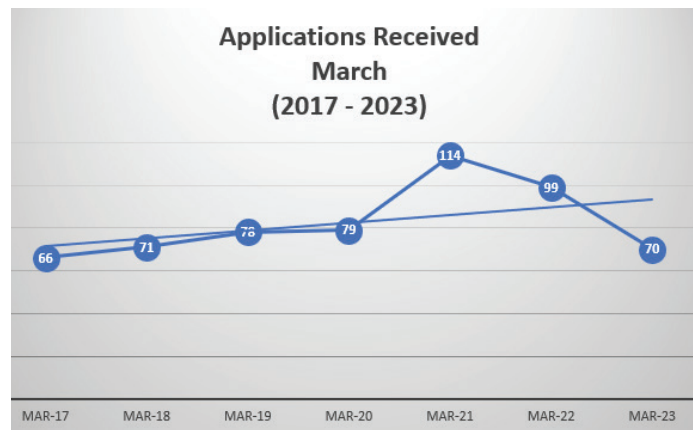
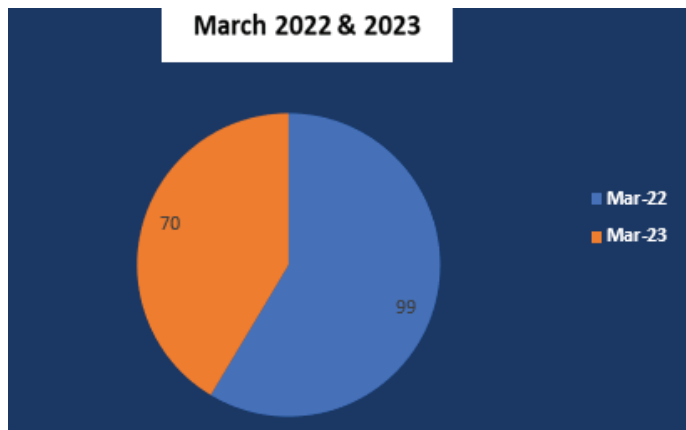
The next Economic Development & Enterprise SPC is scheduled on May 31st 2023.

Pleanáil / Planning

PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED – COUNTYWIDE

70 Planning applications were received countywide in from 1st-29th March 2023. This compares with 99 planning applications received for the same period in 2022.

A total of 208 planning applications were received in the year to 29th March 2023. This compares to 245 planning applications which were received in the same period in 2022.



Heritage Officer Report

Decade of Commemorations

Waterford Women of the Revolution 1914-1923 – a publication by Eddie Cantwell and Christina O'Connor of Waterford County Museum was launched on International Women's Day on 8th March in the Park Hotel, Dungarvan. Attended by the Mayor and launched by Dr. Sinead McCoole the book was funded through the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sports and Media's Decade of Centenaries Fund. A seminar on the Centenary of Waterford Farm Labourer's Strike 1923 will take place in the Park Hotel, Dungarvan on May 4th and includes talks by Dr. Emmet O'Connor, Dr. Pat McCarthy and Kieran Allen (UCD). The Community Commemoration Grant Scheme is open for application until Monday 17th April with grants up to €5,000 available for community projects commemorating the 1921-1923 period. For Application Forms contact the City and County Archivist, Joanne Rothwell archivist@waterfordcouncil.ie 0761102144.

Heritage Funding 2023

Over 10 applications have been submitted for projects across Waterford to the Heritage Council's Community Heritage Fund. 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.

Eight applications have been submitted to the Community Monuments Fund allocated by the National Monuments Service of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage to a value of €336,000 for conservation and survey of a range of archaeological sites across the city and county.

Six applications have been submitted to the Local Biodiversity Action Fund allocated by the National Parks and Wildlife Service of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage to a value of €100,000 for projects on Brent Geese, Barn Owls, control of invasive species, wetland management and control of invasive species.

The outcome of funding applications will be known by early May.

Planning SPC

A meeting of the Planning SPC was held virtually on the 23rd of March. Topics discussed and debated included the following:

1. Residential Zoned Land Tax – Update
2. Dungarvan and Tramore Local Area Plans - Update
3. Derelict Sites – Update
4. Medieval Walls Interpretation Plan - Presentation
5. Taking in Charge Policy 2023 – Update

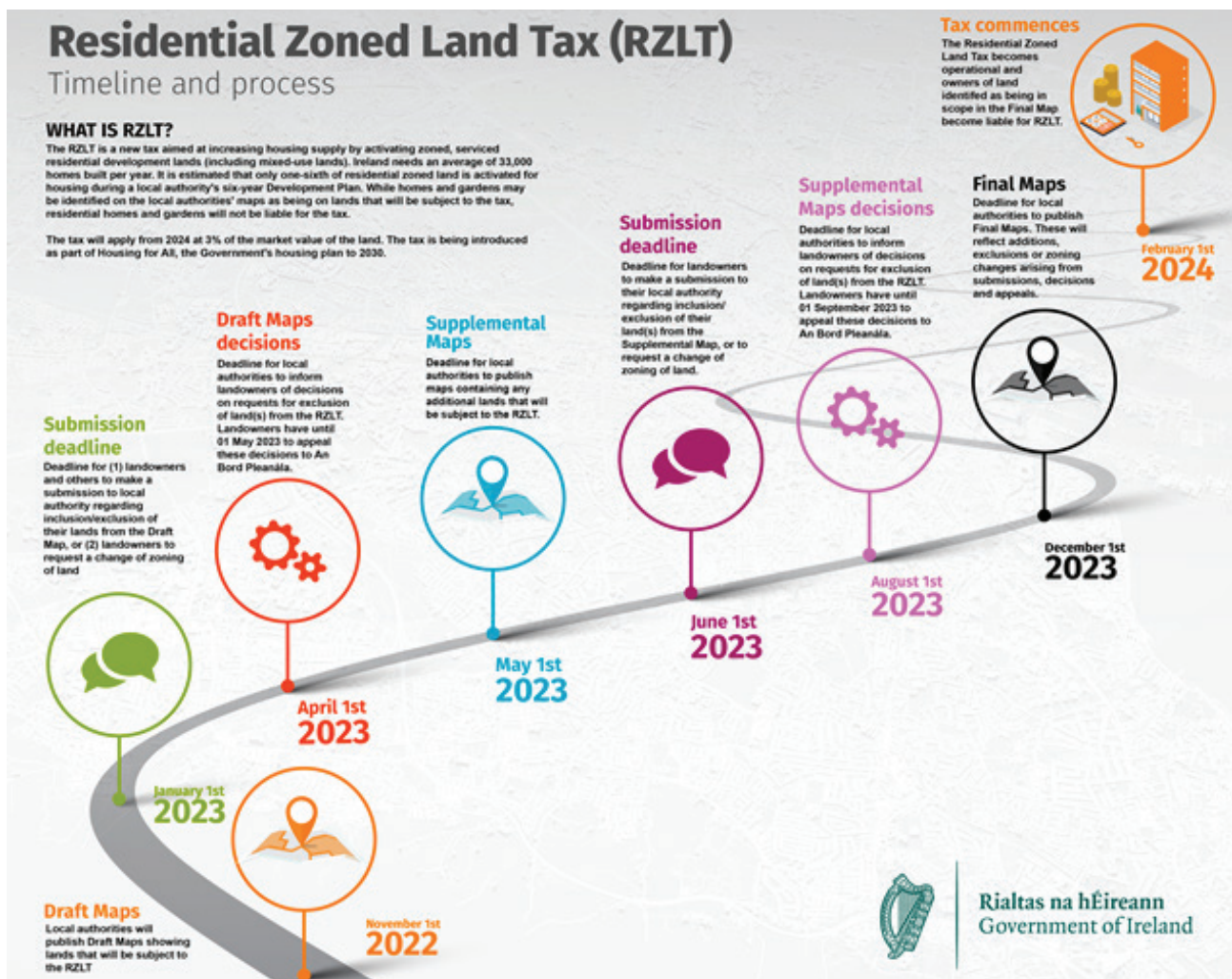
Forward Planning Report

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.

The planning authority is obliged to provide written responses to the submissions received before 1st of April. To summarise the responses, the planning authority has retained in-scope lands subject of 57 submissions and identified as out of scope land relating to 10 submissions. No additional land parcels were identified as being in-scope for the RZLT. All parties have been notified in writing and where they are aggrieved by the determination of the planning authority, they will have an opportunity to make an Appeal to An Bord Pleanála if so required not later than 1st of May. An Bord Pleanála will determine the outcome of all appeals within 16 weeks of 1st of May. As per the timeline below, the final map of lands identified as in-scope for the RZLT will be published by the planning authority on 1st of December.



Tithíocht / Housing

Housing Applications

Housing Applications				
<i>* inc files from carried forward</i>	March 2022	Year 2022	March 2023	Year to date 2023
Applications received	31	959	184	534
Applications assessed *	44	434	47	138
Applications Validated*	N/A	N/A	98	309
Approved for social housing supports following interview	N/A	N/A	39	87

Housing Allocations

Housing Allocations					
	New Tenancies March 2022	Cumulative Tenancies 2022	New Tenancies March 2023	Refusal of new Tenancies	Cumulative Tenancies 2023
Total	41	621	25	9	65

CHOICE BASED LETTING (CBL) SCHEME

The total number of properties advertised on the CBL system to date is 1185 There have been 369 refusals on properties.

Housing Loans applications

Housing Loans applications					
2023 Housing Loans	Applications received	Applications awaiting info	Applications refused	Applications approved	Applications with housing agency/Deferred for 6 months
March	7	6	2	0	2
Year to date	18	6	9	1	2

Tenant Purchase applications

2023 Tenant Purchase	Applications received	Applications awaiting info	Applications refused	Applications approved	Sales Closed
March	6	4	2	0	1
Year to date 2022	17	13	4	2	4
Year to date 2023	27	1	7	14	3

Housing Assistance Payment

	March 22 HAP Tenancies	March 23 HAP Tenancies	2023 No.of active HAP Tenancies set up	Applications approved	Sales Closed
HAP Tenancies	35	29	-8	4,625	1806

Inspections of Dwellings

Inspections of Dwellings

<i>HAP</i>	65
<i>HAP Non- Compliant</i>	6
<i>Total</i>	65

In March, Waterford City & County Council carried out 333 planned and reactive inspections of our housing stock. As a result of these inspections 6 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 March 2023	Value of applications March 2023	Cumulative number of applications approved 2023	Cumulative value of 2023 applications
<i>Housing Adaptation for People with a Disability. Max. €30,000</i>	3	€17,874.50	22	€147,524.00
<i>Mobility Aids Scheme Maximum €6,000</i>	0	€0.00	4	€12,870.00
<i>Housing Aid for Older People Maximum €8,000</i>	12	€48,325.00	32	€124,408.60
<i>Total</i>	15	€66,199.50	58	€284,802.60

<i>Housing Grant Applications Received & Validated:</i>	<i>Housing Grant Applications Incomplete & Returned:</i>	<i>Housing Grant Applications Incomplete & Returned:</i>
17	10	15

Homeless Services

Homeless Services

<i>Waterford Integrated Homeless Services (WIHS)</i>	<i>20th Feb - 26th March 2023</i>	<i>Cumulative 2023</i>	<i>Total 2022</i>
<i>Number of Callers to WIHS seeking a service</i>	325	779	3,618
<i>Assessments by a Homeless Officer</i>	123	238	954

Breakdown of Persons in Emergency Accommodation

	<i>26th March 2023</i>	<i>19th Feb 2022</i>
<i>Number of Single Persons</i>	46	48
<i>Number of Families</i>	12	16
<i>Number of Adults in Families</i>	13	20
<i>Number of Children</i>	22	33

HAP PlaceFinder Service

	<i>20th February - 26th March 2023</i>	<i>Cumulative 2023</i>
<i>Number of Assessments by the Homeless HAP Officer</i>	51	86
<i>Number of HAP PlaceFinder Tenancies HUB Complete</i>	16	38

Housing First Programme

	Tenancies 2023
Number of Tenancies in place at 19th Feb 2023 with Housing First supports.	33

Capital Projects

Housing Capital Schemes - WCCC Projects

Project Type	Units
Housing Capital Schemes - WCCC Projects	344
Part V	295
Total Units in WCCC Projects	639

Housing Capital Schemes - Approved Housing Body Projects

	Units
Total Units in Approved Housing Body Projects	155

Housing Efficiency Retrofit (Total Units for 2022)

	Units
Total Units Housing Efficiency Retrofit 2022	68

ENERGY EFFICIENCY RETROFITTING FEBRUARY 2023:

Consideration is under way for submission relating to properties for 2023 and a submission will be made to the Dept in the coming weeks.

REFURBISHING OF HOUSES BECOMING VACANT FOR RE LET:

March 2023	Total
Handed over/	
Works completed	6
Newley Vacant	14

Seirbhísí Pobail / Community Services

RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME:

- The programme is fully allocated.
- Payments are progressing well on remaining projects.
- Waterford LCDC, in partnership with Waterford LEADER Partnership, were successful in their expression of interest application to develop a Local Development Strategy.
- Guidelines for the LDS have been issued by the department and funding of €50,000.00 has been allocated. Guidelines on Inclusive Engagement have been issued by the Department and they will form part of the process. The LDS must be submitted by 14th July 2023 for September launch of the new programme.

WATERFORD AGE FRIENDLY PROGRAMME:

The new strategy is almost finalised having been presented to the Alliance on March 19th. Final changes are currently being made to reflect the feedback. Launch planned for May 2023 with initial actions plan to be available in April 2023.

HEALTHY WATERFORD:

Our current application has received minor clarifications from Pobal. These were addressed and we are expecting a confirmation of contract/SLA by mid-April. Further work includes completing the returns and report from the funding spent between June 2022 – December 2022. This is currently under review by Pobal and the department. The Well Waterford Strategic Committee met on the 23rd of March, with the full committee meeting on the 28th of March. The next strategic meeting will take place on the 18th of April, with the next Well Waterford Committee meeting to take place at the end of May. A key aim of Well Waterford in 2023 is to broaden the representation to a municipal focused approach for health and wellbeing. This will be trialled in April / May of this year with representation sought from a number of key stakeholders in the municipal districts.

Several other initiatives have begun through collaboration with other agencies. One of which is Autism Friendly City.

WATERFORD IRELAND'S FIRST AUTISM FRIENDLY CITY

A committee of the Autistic community of Waterford who are engaging in the AsIAM Autism Friendly Communities initiative to implement actions to make Waterford Ireland's first Autism Friendly City, where neurodiversity is welcomed and celebrated. Waterford has been voted the best place to live in Ireland. We want to make sure that this holds true for people of all abilities, creating a truly inclusive city and county.

- Autism Friendly Waterford – aims to be Ireland's first Autism Friendly City. Clonakilty is Ireland's First Town
- Autistic community of Waterford who are engaging in the AsIAM Autism Friendly Communities initiative. Launch to the community is planned to take place on April 16 at 15.00 hrs in the Tower Hotel
- Funding support required to set the foundations for the project with the aim to add further supports to maintain and keep it sustainable.
- Waterford City & County Council are keen on assisting in the start-up of the initiative. An investment of €3000 is being sought along with a collaboration to support potential future activities. This was passed at LCDC.

HEALTHY WATERFORD - ONGOING PROJECTS

- SHEP Capacity Building for Service Providers – Wellbeing Through Groupwork – For Practitioners supporting Community Health & Well-being
- Social Farming – Continue the support to the national program at local level.
- Community Wellbeing Education – family learning program – Provide localised Health and Wellbeing programmes in targeted areas in Waterford
- Playful Street(s) Playful Streets are a low cost and easy way to turn streets into play spaces, by limiting access to vehicles for a few hours. At Playful Streets children and neighbors can safely play and socialise outside — just like you did when you were young. Playful Streets are meant to be simple, you'll find that using your common sense is what you'll need most. Playful Streets are big or small occasions. They can run for a couple of hours on any day of the week. They can be one-off or regular events. A webinar for new interested communities is taking place on the 26th of April.
- Place Standard / Health Impact Assessments - The Place Standard tool lets communities, public agencies, voluntary groups and others find those aspects of a place that need to be targeted to improve people's health, wellbeing and quality of life.
- Aiseiri Céim Eile – the aim is to assist in further developing the programme of education and training for groups. Aiseiri Céim Eile supports men and women in recovery from addiction through the provision of a 12-step residential programme for men and women in Waterford City & County. This Project will be a year long rolling education and training programme for the men and women of Aiseiri Céim Eile as well as the ex-residents accessing the community hub at 18 the Mall. This holistic programme will focus on a broad range of educational formats. The priority focus areas will be minding your mind and minding your body.

SLÁINTECARE HEALTHY COMMUNITIES PROGRAMME (SHCP):

- Consultation meeting with the Planning and Environment Departments have taken place regarding the Landscaping Master Plan for the Carrickpherish area. Next step is to tender or to invite a selected number of service providers to carry out the required work.
- Support was provided for the participation of the migrant community at the consultation for the LECP, over 15 representatives were in attendance.
- Working with Healthy Ireland and Active Cities on the Playfull Street programme.
- Working with Healthy Ireland Coordinator in organising a networking event with council staff involved in wellbeing/community projects.
- Ongoing work to finalise the report on the 4 funded projects from the Enhancement Fund.
- Working with Waterford Area Partnership in organising a networking event with all organisations that provide direct support to migrant community in Waterford.
- Supporting a Rest Centre manager in finding volunteers to provide English Language training for Ukrainian adults and recreational activities for Ukrainian children.

WATERFORD COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP (WCSP):

The WCSP Safety Plan was adapted unanimously by the Partnership at the Plenary Meeting on Monday 13th March 2023. The Minister for Justice, Simon Harris TD officially launched a hard copy of the Plan and an online version at City Hall on Monday 27th March 2023. Here is the link to the online version; <https://www.waterfordcouncil.ie/media/community-sport/WLCSP%20Safety%20plan%20final%20spread.pdf>

At the launch, the Minister also announced that the The Community Safety Innovation Fund has been increased to €3 million for 2023 and is now open for applications. The Fund, established in April 2021 uses money seized by An Garda Síochána and the Criminal Assets Bureau as the proceeds of crime to fund innovative new projects to support community safety. Last year a total of €2 million was granted across 22 projects, of which Waterford was successful in two.

Management Report Plenary 13th April 2023.

The call for applications for the Fund runs from 27 March until Friday 19 May 2023 and grants will range from €20,000 to €150,000.

For more information visit: <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/a5d23-2022-community-safety-innovation-fund-funding-call/>
In relation to Waterford's Community Safety Innovation Fund Projects, the house at 33 Colligan View Dungarvan is ready for a proposed lease to WWETB and the plans and drawings associated with the lease are being completed. The North-west Suburbs Community Action Plan, is now a priority for the Coordinator with the Safety Plan completed and launched. In relation to the Portlaw Engages Youth Project, the Chair and the Coordinator met representatives from The Department of Justice Youth Justice Team, Waterford & South Tipperary Community Youth Services and An Garda Síochána, in early March, to advance the Portlaw Engages Youth Project.

The WCSP plenary meeting on Monday 13th March 2023 had Ms Margaret Tumelty, Principal Officer Policing Authority, attend and address everyone in attendance. In addition, there was a presentation from the Gardaí on Drug related Intimidation and questions submitted by members of the public were answered by the Partnership. In addition, the Chair permitted questions to the speakers and Partnership, from the floor.

The next plenary Meeting of the WCSP is on Monday 8th May 2023 in Dungarvan at 6pm.

PRIDE OF PLACE:

The National Coordinators meeting took place on March 9th to formally begin the 2023 process with the categories for the competition clarified. Preparation for the 2023 competition has begun with entrants currently being identified.

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.

LOCAL ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY PLAN (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 data collection phase has now been completed with all key stakeholders, agencies, representative groups and the broader public having been consulted with. Work is ongoing now to merge the data gathered into a coherent draft linked to the high level goals identified. The LECP is on schedule for adoption at the July Plenary Council meeting.

THE SUPPORTING WATERFORD COMMUNITY FUND 2023

Plenary workshop was held on the 21st March to assess the Supporting Waterford Community Fund 2023 applications. Allocation of the grant scheme circulated prior to the April meeting.

COMMUNITY RECOGNITION FUND 2023

Following the public online expression of interest survey, projects were assessed and Waterford Council's submitted an application to the Department on the 15th March. In total 13 projects were submitted to the Department and we are awaiting the Department's approval of same.

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 March. Emergency response has continued uninterrupted throughout the Covid 19 crisis with significant precautionary measures put in place to ensure the safety of the fire crews and the community it serves.

Fire Service Operational Activity:

Area	Fires	Special Services	False alarm/ Good intent	False alarm /Malicious
Total for March	67	50	19	0
Year to date	166	126	62	0
Total for March 2022	66	52	11	0
Total for 2022	138	118	57	0

FIRE SAFETY:

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

Fire Safety:

	March 2023	2023 YTD	March 2022	2022 YTD
Fire Safety Certificates	9	38	8	26

BUILDING CONTROL:

Building Control:

Applications received	March 2023	2023 YTD	March 2022	2022 YTD
Commencement Notices	28	62	28	310
Completion Certificates	21	41	19	204
Disability Access Certs	2	30	2	57

CIVIL DEFENCE:

Civil Defence activities during the month of March 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 54 Ukraine related calls
- Transportation to Medical appointments such as Hospital Visits, GPs, Dentists etc

For Local Events we were involved in supporting:

- Thomas Francis Meagher Tri Colour Celebrations
- 175th Anniversary of The Irish Flag, National Flag Presentation Ceremony SETU Arena
- St Patricks Day Parades in Waterford City and Cappoquinn

Civil Defence Units were also on Standby to respond to Severe weather events

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 – 22ND MARCH 2023

ENFORCEMENT UNDER THE LITTER POLLUTION ACTS 1997 (AS AMENDED)

Legal Action Initiated	0
On the Spot Litter Fines Issued (Pending Payment or Prosecution)	38
On the Spot Litter Fines Paid (Includes Fines from previous year)	23
No of Notices Issued 9,16,17,20	0

ENFORCEMENT UNDER THE WASTE MANAGEMENT ACTS 1996 (AS AMENDED)

No of Complaints	777
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)	8
Section 71's (Abandoned Vehicle Notices)	3
Warning Letters Sent (Packaging Info & Notice Follow Up)	49
Section 14 Directions	4
Section 107 EPA (Noise)	0
Fixed Penalty Notices on Waste Collectors	2
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

Climate Action Plan

The process for creating Waterford's Climate Action Plan has begun. Minister Eamon Ryan announced the process commencement in the Granville Hotel on 6th March last. The Council is currently in the evidence gathering stage and will share a survey with the public next month presenting the picture in Waterford at present in the areas of Climate Adaptation, Energy, Transport Waste and Land Use, and will ask the public to give their initial thoughts on what should be done. The draft consultation period will be between August and November.

Climate Community Action Fund

3 community events (1 in Waterford, 1 in Dungarvan and one online) have been held to make community groups aware of the Community Climate Action Fund. 92 people have attended events. It is expected the fund will open in April and communities will have 8 weeks in which to submit an Expression of Interest. Successful projects will be 100% funded and depending on the funding amounts applied for, Waterford could win funding for between 10 to 15 projects. 21 community group representatives recently attended a workshop on successful project delivery.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION & AWARENESS

Green Flag Programme

School visits and assessments have now been completed for both green flag renewals and first time applications. There were 61 schools in Co. Waterford due to renew their Green Flag this year. This has resulted in a lot school visits recently, to meet with Green School Committees and talk to classes. A renewal visit must take place before a school submits a renewal application form for their renewal Green Flags (Energy, Water, Travel, Biodiversity and the Global Citizenship themes). Renewal visits are carried out by the Environment Awareness Officer. The purpose of this visit is to demonstrate that the school has an active Green-Schools programme in operation and has been maintaining previous themes in addition to working on the current theme.

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. These have begun again in earnest. We continue to supply bags, gloves and litter pickers to many of the groups taking part, distributing them from both our Dungarvan and Waterford offices. Collection of any bags of litter is then arranged following the clean-up. National Spring Clean takes place throughout the month of April; registrations are now being taken at 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 for all clean ups. Groups are encouraged to register their clean up as a National Spring Clean event to receive additional resources from An Taisce.

Biodiversity

National Tree Week took place 19th – 26th March. 200 free native saplings were distributed to community groups and schools across Co. Waterford. These saplings were kindly donated by the Tree Council of Ireland and Coillte.

Introduction of incentivised waste collection charges

The Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications, Eamon Ryan, has signed new legislation to introduce incentivised charging for waste collection in the commercial sector. The Waste Management (Collection Permit) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2023 will come into effect on 1st July 2023.

A study published by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in 2018 found that 70% of the contents of the average commercial waste bin could be diverted to recycling. This represents a massive loss of potentially recyclable material and an unnecessarily high cost to businesses, whose waste charges would be lowered through proper segregation. Improved waste segregation in the commercial sector can also make a significant contribution to achieving our EU recycling targets. Ireland faces challenging targets under the EU Waste Framework Directive for recycling municipal solid waste (MSW) of 55% by 2025, 60% by 2030 and 65% by 2035. The most recent figures from the EPA show that we achieved a rate of 41% in 2020.

The Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy, published by the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications in 2020, contains a commitment “to improve waste segregation in the commercial sector, including an awareness campaign and enforcement actions requiring segregated waste bins and incentivised charging to ensure waste minimisation and proper segregation”. This change will bring the commercial sector in line with the residential sector, for whom incentivised pricing has been in place since 2017.

Measures in the new regulations for commercial waste include:

- all waste collection companies will be required to provide a residual, mixed dry recyclable and bio-waste bin to all their commercial customers
- all waste collected must be weighed, with details on the weights of the individual bins communicated to customers
- waste collection companies must ensure that all commercial customers are placed onto a price plan that ensures that the cost to the customer for mixed dry recyclable or bio-waste is less than the cost of disposal for municipal waste. The introduction of this measure should not result in higher waste collection charges for commercial customers
- waste collection companies will be required to at least collect the recyclable waste materials as specified on www.mywaste.ie
- collection of recyclable waste and bio-waste must occur at least fortnightly

There is no change for packaging waste currently collected under packaging waste legislation, as well as no change proposed for food waste or bio-waste currently collected from commercial premises under the Waste Management (Food Waste) Regulations 2009.

The regulations also require that waste collection companies update their customer charter for households, as well as introduce a customer charter for their commercial customers. This charter must be published on the collector’s website and must give details such as the frequency of collections, methods of charging and details of the collection service for each type of waste.

Ealaíona & Cultúr / Arts & Culture

Libraries

In March, Waterford City & County Libraries provided access to information, to culture and provided space for the diverse communities of Waterford to tell their stories. Statistics: figures represent 30 days of activity from 28th February to 28th March.

<i>No. of Visitors this month</i>	36,025
<i>Active members</i>	24,750
<i>Issues in Branch</i>	27,613
<i>On Line Borrowing including, ebooks & emagazines</i>	7,563
<i>Events & Activities</i>	527

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS FROM FEBRUARY:

- Tá Seachtain na Gaeilge a cheiliúradh with a number of events from coffee mornings to Bingo. Author Kensiko Monshengwi, spoke about his book, Okani agus Banríocht an Chrogaill to pupils in, Educate Together Tramore, St. Stephen's National School. While in Tramore and Carrickphierish Libraries there was storytelling with Niall deBourca. In total 998 people celebrated their love of the Irish Language with Waterford Libraries.
- Waterford's 4th Global Women's conference took place on International Women's Day 2023 with Europe Direct Waterford, Waterford Libraries and Waterford Integration Services. The theme was #EmbraceEquity. Equity means creating a fair and equal world. Our diverse speakers included Ojeaku Nwabuzo, Director (Policy, Advocacy, and Network Development) ENAR, Dr. Ebum Joseph, Director Institute of Antiracism and Black Studies, Race relations consultant, and Ali Comerford, Songwriter, and multi-instrumentalist. There were 180 attendees at this inspiring event.
- Tramore Library staff held an information stand at a Health and Wellbeing event in the Majestic Hotel which was organised by the Waterford Area Partnership. With Dungarvan Library attending the same in the Dungarvan Sports Centre on the 25th of March.
- The HSE Primary Health Centre Art Therapy Exhibition was launched Wednesday 1st March and attended by 70 people including Cllr Conor McGuinness, CNM2 Linda Ryan and Art Therapist Pat Carri in Dungarvan Library.
- Waterford Libraries and Europe Direct Waterford worked with Garter Lane Arts Centre and Theatre Royal Waterford to welcome Hooligan Art Community of Ukraine to Waterford for a screening of two of their short films and an exhibition launch, HOOLIGAN: IN THE FIELD and 24.RECONSTRUCTION.
- On the 18th of March Central Library hosted a harp Concert with Music Generation Waterford and Europe Direct Waterford. 19 harpists performed to 50 attendees.
- The winner of our name the Library mascot competition was Jack from Our Lady School of Mercy NS, Stradbally. He was presented with his prize by Illustrator Wayne O'Connor. Jack said: "Reginald was the Viking King of Waterford in the 11th Century. The Tower is named after him. Ragnall is the Irish name for Reginald so it is a good name for a Waterford mascot!"

LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT:

- Dunmore East Library received its charter as an Age Friendly Library.
- Since resumption of the My Open Library service in Dungarvan August 2022, there were a total of 606 inductions and 10,488 visitors.

Management Report Plenary 13th April 2023.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Spring into Storytime will take place across the County.
- West Waterford Festival of Food event with Richard Shore on Friday 14th April in Dungarvan.
- Poetry Day Ireland event with Molly Twomey on 27th April in Dungarvan and with Mark Roper on April 28th in Central Library.



Airgeadas / Finance Revenue Account

Waterford City and County Council - Revenue Account Income & Expenditure Summary by Service Division Y.T.D. to February 28, 2023

	EXPENDITURE			INCOME		
	Expenditure €	Adopted Full Year Budget €	% Budget Spent to date	Income €	Adopted Full year Budget €	% Budget Raised
A Housing & Building	5,637,322	35,728,461	16%	6,025,287	38,036,305	16%
B Road Transport & Safety	3,978,474	49,146,777	8%	1,416,285	33,752,918	4%
C Water Services	1,598,111	11,790,929	14%	1,510,786	11,163,993	14%
D Development Management	3,541,947	21,992,796	16%	1,789,482	11,448,028	16%
E Environmental Services	3,539,957	21,512,181	16%	448,830	2,875,458	16%
F Recreation & Amenity	2,549,748	15,464,575	16%	251,494	1,614,234	16%
G Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	180,351	1,068,270	17%	67,272	399,696	17%
H Miscellaneous Services	1,503,528	9,678,508	16%	1,674,293	10,749,476	16%
LG Local Property Tax / GPG	0	0	0%	3,277,938	19,667,628	17%
RA Rates	0	0	0%	6,112,459	36,674,758	17%
	22,529,438	166,382,494	14%	22,574,126	166,382,494	14%

Surplus/Deficit

44,688 0

Collections

Airgeadas
Finance

Summary of main collections Feb 2023 YTD

	A Gross Bal as at 1-1-2023	B Accrued ytd to feb 2023	C Write Offs and Vacancies	D Waivers & Credits	E Total for Collection [1+2-3]	F Collected ytd to feb 2023	G' Gross Bal 28-02-2023 [4-5]	Specific Provision	[6] % Collected ytd re Total for Collection [5/4]	[7] % Collected ytd re 2023 Accrual [5/(4-1)]
	€	€	€		€	€	€		€	
Rates	3,008,361	36,137,031	-	111,361	-	39,034,031	2,694,211	36,339,820	1,391,804	7%
Loans	1,534,038	550,430	-		2,084,468	547,027	1,537,441			26%
Rents	3,903,206	2,748,706	-		6,651,912	2,632,951	4,018,961			40%
Aged Analysis :										
				Less than 1 mth	2 to 6 mths	7 to 12 mths	greater than 12 mths			Net Balance
Rates				34,284,777		-	2,055,043			36,339,820
				0 to 3 mths	4 to 6 mths	7 to 12 mths	Greater than 12 mths			
Loans				168,337	57,119	107,057	1,204,928			1,537,441
				Less than 4 weeks	4-6 weeks	7-12 weeks	Greater than 12 wks			
Rents				133,345	96,541	144,002	3,645,073			4,018,961
Overdraft Levels										
Days in Overdraft in Feb 23'	0		Cost -	0	€0.00	Average Value when in O/D : N/A			€	-