

MANAGEMENT REPORT TO COUNCIL COMHAIRLE CATHRACH & CONTAE PHORT LÁIRGE WATERFORD CITY & COUNTY COUNCIL



Comhairle Cathrach & Contae Phort Láirge
Waterford City & County Council



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Chief Executive
May 2022

Michael Walsh
Príomhfheidhmeannach-
Miadhaigh 2022

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Seirbhísí Corparáirdeacha / Corporate

Mayors Official Engagements May 2022

FRIDAY 1ST:	Open Day- Waterford College of Further Education. Waterford Bike User Group- Mayors Parlour.
SATURDAY 2ND:	
SUNDAY 3RD:	
MONDAY 4TH:	
TUESDAY 5TH:	Waterford & District Probus Club- Tower Hotel. Graduation- Art Craft & Design Exhibition- Central Library. Pieta House Charity walk- Mayors Parlour.
WEDNESDAY 6TH:	Installation as Dean of Waterford Reverend Bruce Hayes- Christ Church Cathedral Waterford.
THURSDAY 7TH:	Launch of Through the Lens Covid-19 - Vestibule in Theatre Royal. Mayoral Reception- Michael Quinlan- Mayors Parlour.
FRIDAY 8TH:	Ribbon cutting- Waterford Educate together NS & Waterford Walls Celebrating 20th Anniversary- Waterford Educate Together.
SATURDAY 9TH:	
SUNDAY 10TH:	
MONDAY 11TH:	
TUESDAY 12TH:	
WEDNESDAY 13TH:	Certificate Presentation- Waterford Youth Training and Education Centre (WYTEC).
THURSDAY 14TH:	Meeting Mercyhurst and Grace O'Sullivan MEP- Dungarvan Council Chamber.
FRIDAY 15TH:	
SATURDAY 16TH:	
SUNDAY 17TH:	
MONDAY 18TH:	
TUESDAY 19TH:	
WEDNESDAY 20TH:	
THURSDAY 21ST:	Minister of State for Business, Employment and Retail.- LEO Office 35 The Mall. Photocall- Bird Hide- Tramore.
FRIDAY 22ND:	
SATURDAY 23RD:	Waterford Disability Network Meeting Dungarvan- Castle Room, Cookhouse the Park House. Waterford Crystal FC Celebrated 50 Years- Tower Hotel.
SUNDAY 24TH:	
MONDAY 25TH:	
TUESDAY 26TH:	
WEDNESDAY 27TH:	Mercyhurst University Group- Mayors Parlour. West Waterford Festival of Food Launch - The Old Bank, Dungarvan.
THURSDAY 28TH:	Launch Quakers Trail and Cultural Quarter Films- Cultural Quarter Rashid Munir- Ramadan Dinner- Al Munir Islamic Centre.
FRIDAY 29TH:	Presentation from The Irish Times- Theatre Royal- Waterford Best Place to Live
SATURDAY 30TH:	Celebration of Waterford's Best Place to Live- Waterford City Centre. Outside Broadcast with WLR.

All meetings in April were held on line.

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Forbairt Eacnamaíoch / Economic Development

North Quays

A. SDZ DEVELOPER:

i. WCCC is in active dialogue with potential developers, the Ireland Strategic Investment Fund (ISIF) and the Land Development Agency in respect of the North Quays SDZ site and intends to progress a proposal to conclusion in the coming months.

B. CONTRACTS:

i. Cumnor Construction Ltd and Suir Plant Ltd have been appointed for the Rock Stabilisation works to the north of Plunkett Station and the South Plaza Enabling works respectively, both contracts works are due to commence on 9th May 2022.

ii. The main construction infrastructural works is currently being tendered, this includes the development of a Sustainable Transport Bridge, Transport Hub and SDZ Access Infrastructure Works. The tender period has been extended to 27th May 2022.

iii. Tenders Assessment and Project Appraisal for the relocation of the Ferrybank Pump Station have been prepared by Nicholas O'Dwyer Consultants. These documents and updated costs report have been circulated with Irish Water and the NTA for review. We await approval to appoint the contractor as recommended in the Tender Assessment Report.

iv. Tender documents have been issued for footpath widening on Abbey Road with a return date of 20th May, it is envisaged that works will commence mid summer.

v. Tender documents for the Pump station enabling works are prepared and we are awaiting approval to issue the tender.

Local Enterprise Office

LEO Figures year to date (2022) and comparison of current month with previous year

Indicator	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-21	Apr-21	Apr-22
Measure 1					
No. of Clients applying	0	0	0	6	3
No. of Clients securing	0	0	0	6	3
Value of support approved	€	€	€	€137,308	€73,2200
Measure 2					
No. of clients receiving	78	185	772	1,052	885
Value of support given	€17,523	€43,394	€80,552	€298,202	€109,632

Support

Trading Online Voucher	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22
No. of Approvals	4	8	21	26
Value of Approvals €	€7,599	€17,588	€48,779	€60,369

Figures not included in Cumulative Table.

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MINISTER ENGLISH VISITS LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE WATERFORD:

Minister of State for Business, Employment and Retail, Damien English, visited the Local Enterprise Office (LEO) Waterford on Thursday, 22nd April where he met with council officials, and members of the LEO team.

The Minister was greeted by Mayor of Waterford city and county, Cllr Joe Kelly, Chief Executive of Waterford City & County Council, Michael Walsh, Head of Enterprise LEO Waterford, Richard Walsh, as well as other officials, and was briefed about developments in the county.

Minister English then received a presentation from Richard Walsh on the work the Local Enterprise Office conducts and the various programmes in place to assist small and medium enterprises in the County.



Communications

Public relations

14 Press releases issued in April 2022..

Waterford, Ireland's Best Place to Live - A Celebration & Exploration

In 2021, The Irish Times launched its search for the Best Place to Live in Ireland and Waterford was announced as the overall winner.

Members of the public were invited to nominate their favourite place to live and over six weeks more than 2,400 entries for 470 locations were received. Each place was judged on broad criteria including natural amenities, buildings, community initiatives and spirit, presence of clubs and societies, good local services, transport links, employment opportunities, diversity, the price of property and housing supply, and cost of living.

A highly engaging and informative event held in the Theatre Royal on Friday, April 29th was a celebration and exploration of what makes Waterford Ireland's Best Place to Live, from those who live, work, play and invest here!

Panel discussions were facilitated by David McWilliams, Kevin O'Sullivan, Jennifer O'Connell and Conor Goodman of the Irish Times. Panelists included Frank Ronan, Chief Executive Port of Waterford, Prof. Willie Donnelly President of WIT, and T.V. Honan Founder of Spraoi.

Best Place to Live free family fun day also hosted in John Roberts' Square on Saturday April 30th.

Waterford
Ireland's **Best**
Place **To Live**

Friday, April 29th 2022
Theatre Royal Waterford
9.00 am - 1.30 pm

Our Burgeoning Talent Pool – Education and Enterprise
Facilitated by

- DAVID MCWILLIAMS, Economist, Author & Columnist, The Irish Times
- RICHIE WALSH, Head of Enterprise, Local Enterprise Office, Waterford
- WILLIE DONNELLY, President, Waterford Institute of Technology
- RUTH BEADLE, Head of Global Supply Chain (Ad Interim) at Sanofi / Governing Body of SETU

Our Sustainable Future
Facilitated by

- KEVIN O'SULLIVAN, Environment and Science Editor, The Irish Times
- FERGUS GALVIN, Director of Services, Waterford City and County Council
- COLIN JEPHSON, Director, Ardee's Quality Food Store
- FRANK RONAN, Chief Executive, Port of Waterford

Culture, Community and Connectedness
Facilitated by

- JENNIFER O'CONNELL, Columnist, The Irish Times
- KATHERINE COLLINS, Project Manager, Waterford Cultural Quarter
- KAMILA BYSTRZOROWSKA, Director, MONO Restaurant
- T.V. HONAN, Director, Spraoi Festival

Getting the balance right

- CONOR GOODMAN, Managing Editor, The Irish Times
- MICHAEL WALSH, Chief Executive, Waterford City and County Council

THE IRISH TIMES | Waterford City & County Council | Waterford: Proud your future

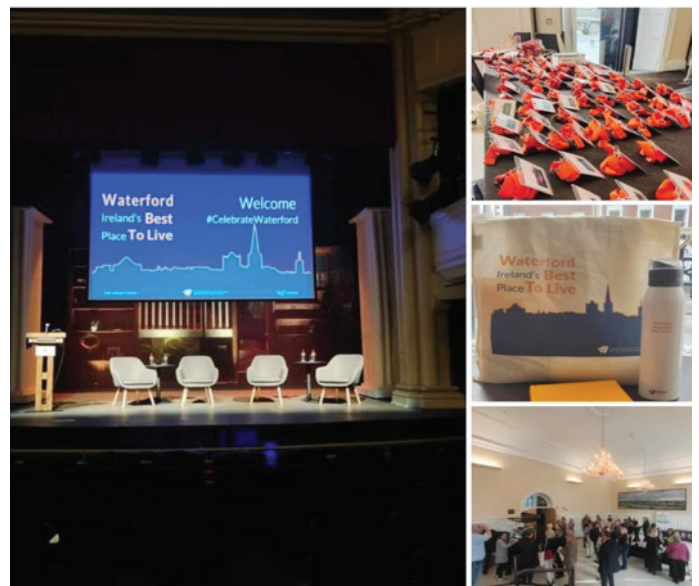


Waterford Council

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All set up to [#CelebrateWaterford](#) today and explore what makes [#Waterford](#) Best Place to Live with those who live, work and invest here and what [#Waterford](#) offers at a local level that doesn't exist elsewhere
Live streaming available here:
<https://youtube.com/c/WaterfordCouncil>

The Irish Times



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Social Media Stats (WCCC and Shop Waterford FB/ Twitter/ LinkedIn combined): 2022

	Reach	+/- Previous month	% Change	Followers	+/- Previous month	% Change
January	799,327			40,863		
February	865,418	66,091	27%	41,064	201	1.9%
March	924,139	58,721	6.8%	41,700	636	1.5%
April	740,040	-125,378	-13.56%	42,280	1,116	2.7%

For you

Trending

COVID-19

News

On Friday, April 29th, #CelebrateWaterford (our designated hashtag) was trending throughout the morning of the event.

Ireland trends

1 · Trending

#PoetryDayIRL

2,430 Tweets

2 · Trending

#celebratewaterford



Pleanáil / Planning

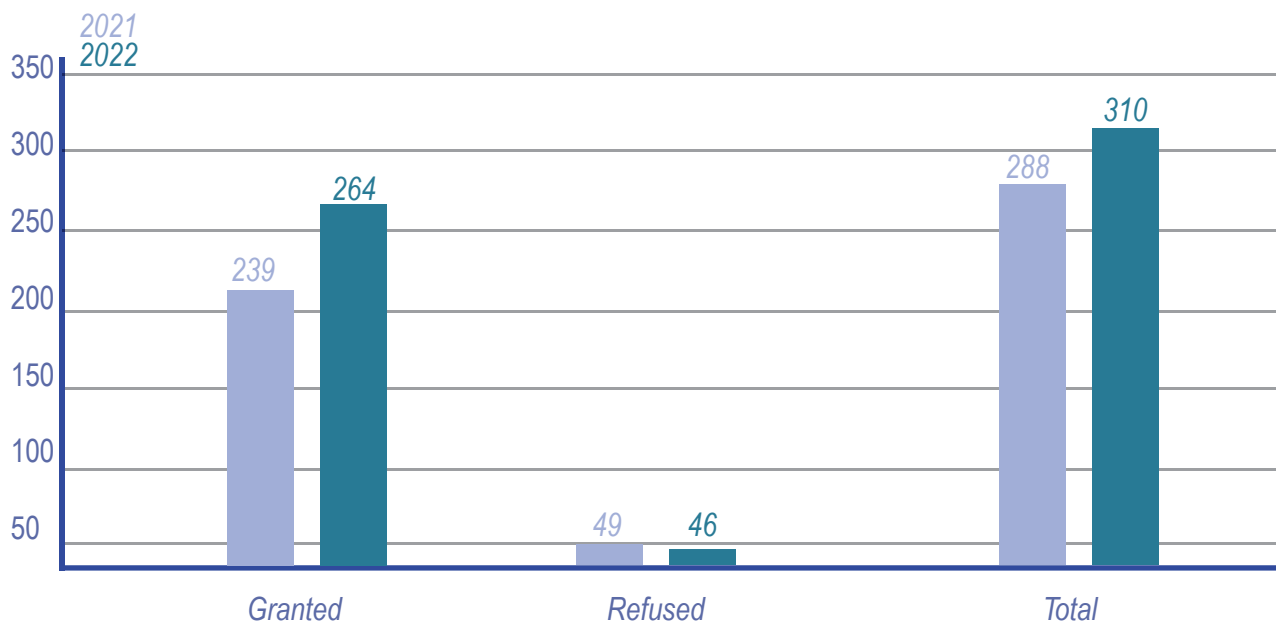
PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED – COUNTYWIDE

92 Planning applications were received countywide in April 2022 up to and including 27th April. This compares with 104 planning applications received in the full calendar month in 2021. In March 112 planning applications were received in the full calendar month, compared to 120 received in March 2021.

A total of 349 planning applications were received in the year to 27th April 2022. This compares to 347 planning applications which were received to the 27th of April 2021

PLANNING DECISIONS

310 applications were decided from the 1st of January to 30th April 2022 compared to 220 for the same period in 2021. Of the 310 decisions, 264 decisions were granted and 46 decisions were refused



FORWARD PLANNING

UPDATE ON PREPARATION OF THE DRAFT WATERFORD CITY AND COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2022-2028.

The Material Alterations to the Draft Waterford City and County Development Plan 2022-2028 were placed on public display for the period Thursday 3rd March to Friday 1st April 2022. Written submissions/observations were invited and the Report of the Chief Executive on the public consultation has now been issued to the Council for its consideration. The development plan is to be made on or before the 9th of June and will come into effect on the 21st of July. Workshops, as necessary, will continue with the Council in the interim to ensure adherence to the statutory timeline and the associated legislative provisions of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended.

Heritage Officer Report

HERITAGE

Heritage Plan Funding

The Heritage Council have awarded over €28,000 to Waterford City and County Council for a number of Heritage Plan projects including Project Management of Woodstown Viking Site Conservation Management Plan, a Wetlands Action Plan and Heritage Week events.

Community Monuments Fund

Waterford City and County Council have been awarded an allocation of over €220,000 under the 2022 Community Monuments Fund. A total of eleven applications were submitted from Waterford but the scheme is very competitive and the Council will work with the other five projects towards a resubmission in 2023. A total of 128 projects were funded nationally to a value of under €6million in what is now the third year of the Community Monuments Fund scheme

Community Heritage Grant Scheme

The Heritage Council has awarded funding to seven heritage projects across Waterford City and County to a total of €51,187 for 7 projects. The strong success rate reflects the great diversity of heritage sites and work of local heritage groups across the city and county.

Decade of Commemorations

The Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sports and Media allocated €50,000 to Waterford City & County Council for the 2022 programme of commemorations. Events being planned this year include a documentary film on the Siege of Waterford, a GIS Story Map on Civil War events in Waterford, display of the National Archives Exhibition on the Signing of the Treaty, publication by Waterford County Museum on Cumann na mBan and documentary film on Liam Lynch and the end of the Civil War.

CONSERVATION OFFICER REPORT

Heritage Council have offered Waterford City and County Council €12,000 towards an Illustrated guide to Waterford's Medieval City Walls and Towers. This funding is provided under the Irish Walled Towns Network (IWTN) - Interpretation and Events fund 2022.

The production of such a guide combines 3 of the actions proposed under the Interpretation Plan for Waterford Medieval City Walls and Towers, for which Waterford City and County Council received funding for in 2021. The proposed project will present the history but also illustrations of the walls and towers in the past and some of the activities that occurred around them. The purpose of the project is to produce a short-guided walks leaflet but this information will also be available on line.

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Bóithre agus Iompar / Roads and Transportation

PROGRESS REPORT ON OUR PARTICIPATION IN THE NATIONAL PUBLIC LIGHTING ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROJECT

As Members will be aware the Council is collaborating with 21 other local authorities in the National Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project (PLEEP) to retrofit all our public lights from the older SON / SOX type lamps to newer energy efficient LED lamps.

This change in technology will improve our energy efficiency, improve system reliability, cut our costs and reduce our carbon emissions, helping us to reach our climate targets and meet our commitments under the Local Government Climate Action Charter.

Across Waterford almost 15,000 lights will be upgraded as part of this project.

PROGRESS TO DATE

The national project is being coordinated by the Road Management Office (RMO), a shared service of the local authorities. It is being rolled out on a regional basis with a lead authority managing the roll out and in each of three regions. Waterford City & County Council is part of the Southern Region and is the first region to commence, followed by the Eastern and North-West Regions.

A works contractor, the Le Cheile Consortium, has recently been appointed as the design / build contractor by the lead local authority – Cork County Council – who are providing the project management services for Clare, Cork, Kerry, Limerick and Waterford Councils.

PROJECT TIMELINE

It is expected that detailed on site survey works by the contractor will commence in Waterford in September 2022.



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Tithíocht / Housing

Housing Applications

Housing Applications				
<i>* inc files from carried forward</i>	Apr 2021	Year 2021	Apr 2022	Year to date 2022
Applications received	96	805	100	309
Applications assessed *	113	815	137	347
Applications Validated*	78	510	36	100
Approved for social housing supports following interview	82	526	34	118

Housing Allocations

Housing Allocations					
	New Tanancies Apr 2021	Cumulative Tenancies 2021	New Tanancies Apr 2022	Refusal of new Tenancys	Cumulative Tenancies 2022
District Approved housing Bodies	22	433	9	3	90
Total	1	31	3	3	80
	23	464	12	6	170

CHOICE BASED LETTING (CBL) SCHEME

The total number of properties advertised on the CBL system to date is 1020 There have been 282 refusals on properties

Housing Loans applications

Housing Loans applications					
2022 Housing Loans	Applications received	Applications awaiting info	Applications refused	Applications approved	Applications with housing agency/ Deffed for 6 months
April	8	9	14	1	7
Year to date	35	9	16	3	7

Tenant Purchase applications

Tenant Purchase applications					
2022 Tenant Purchases	Applications received	Applications awaiting info	Applications refused	Applications approved	Sales Closed
April	3	0	0	3	6
YTD 2022	30	1	7	17	9
YTD 2021	21	3	3	15	6

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Housing Assistance Payment

Housing Assistance Payment					
	Apr 2021 HAP Tenancies	Apr 2022 HAP Tenancies set up	2022 No. of active HAP tenancies set up	Cumulative no. of HAP Tenancies set up to date	Cumulative no. of active HAP Tenancies to date
HAP Tenancies	30	28	-16*	4,336	1,956

* Minus figure as more tenancies left the programme in the month than new tenancies signed up

Inspections of Dwellings

Inspections of Dwellings	
HAP	10
HAP Non- Compliant	9
Total	10

In April, Waterford City & County Council carried out 171 planned and reactive inspections of our housing stock. As a result of these inspections 23 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

Housing Adaptation for People with a Disability, Housing Aid for Older People and Mobility Aid Grants				
Grant Scheme amount	No of applications approved April 2022	Value of applications Apr 2022	Cumulative number of applications approved 2022	Cumulative value of 2022 applications
Housing Adaptation for People with a Disability. Max. €30,000	6	€66,755.00	54	€774,025.56
Mobility Aids Scheme Maximum €6,000	4	€15,425.00	38	€193,593.99
Housing Aid for Older People Maximum €8,000	6	€29,960.73	45	€235,159.85
Total	16	€112,140.73	137	€1,202,779.13

Homeless Services

Homeless Services			
Waterford Integrated Homeless Services (WIHS)	1st to 30th of April 2022.	Cumulative 2022	Total 2021
Number of Callers to WIHS seeking a service	298	1,290	3,516
Assessments by a Homeless Officer	23	333	760

Breakdown of Persons in Emergency Accommodation

	30th April 2022	30th April 2021
Number of Single Persons	62	56
Number of Families	19	7
Number of Adults in Families	23	10
Number of Children	38	23

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HAP PlaceFinder Service

	1st- 29th April	Cumulative 2022
<i>Number of Assessments by the Homeless HAP Officer</i>	16	94
<i>Number of HAP PlaceFinder Tenancies HUB Complete</i>	15	45

Housing First Programme

	Tenancies 2022	Tenancies 2021
<i>Number of Tenancies in place at 30th April 2022 with Housing First supports</i>	0	30

Capital Projects

Housing Capital Schemes - WCCC Projects

<i>Project Location</i>	<i>Units</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Current Position</i>	<i>Comment</i>
Total WCCC Projects	422	Countywide	Various Stages	
<i>Part V</i>	26	Countywide	Various Stages	Delivery On-going 2021 – 10 (est)
<i>Repair and Lease</i>	151	Countywide	Various Stages	Delivery on-going 2020 – 41 2021 – 50 (est) 2022 – 50 (est)
<i>Leasing</i>	130	Countywide	Various Stages	Delivery on-going 2020 – 30 From end of 2021 scheme closed to new applicants
<i>Buy & Renew- Countywide</i>	48	Countywide	Tender Preparation	In progress – Refurbishment Contractor Framework Appointed

Total units including WCCC Projects: 777

There are 97 units in progress under the Housing Capital Schemes for Approved Housing Body projects.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY RETROFITTING 2022:

Waterford City and County Council have been allocated a quota of 76 houses for Energy Efficiency Retrofitting works for 2022 by the Department of Housing. A total of 78 houses were submitted to The Housing Department Co-ordination Office (HDCO) on 27th April 2022. Approval of the individual houses as submitted is still awaiting a response from the HDCO.

REFURBISHING OF HOUSES BECOMING VACANT FOR RE LET:

<i>April 2022</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Handed over/</i>	
<i>Works completed</i>	7
<i>Newley Vacant</i>	12

Seirbhísí Pobail / Community Services

RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME:

- The payments out on all LEADER Projects are progressing well.
- The applications for non-works projects will be in on the 29th of April.
- The applications for works are due in May.

ST PATRICK'S DAY/ FESTIVAL 2022:

The return of the first St. Patrick's Day Parade to Waterford since 2019 saw record crowds in attendance on March 17th. The spectacular Parade was the main event for the inaugural three-day Waterford St. Patricks Festival which was well received by the public. The theme of this year's parade was "Waterford: Ireland's Best Place to Live". Over 70 community groups participated in the parade, including Spraoi, drama societies, community groups, sports clubs, youth groups and notably a Ukrainian contingent who received a warm welcome and great applause from the crowds. Waterford's St. Patricks Festival took place from Thursday March 17th to Sunday 20th and included 30 live variety acts across four outdoor stages, fairground attractions, a number of historical features and a spectacular fireworks display.

COMHAIRLE NA NÓG:

Face to face meetings are back between the young people and the coordinator and are taking place weekly to progress the 2022 action plan. Progress on 2022 activities is being made weekly by the young people and these are reviewed regularly by the steering committee members. One of the main projects for 2021/22, the Communitree app is being launched imminently. Phase one and phase two of the multi-annual tree planting programme has been completed at the WIT Arena and in Cherrymount. This activity is in partnership with WCCC, WIT and the Lions club. Meetings are ongoing to identify additional sites with engagements taking place with the trails officer in WCCC.

WATERFORD AGE FRIENDLY PROGRAMME:

Work on the new five year Strategy has begun with a consultant appointed to assist. A steering group has been formed and progress moving ahead. Work continues through the Thematic sub-groups to progress the objectives of the AF Strategy. Preliminary engagement has begun with City Square to begin the process of it becoming an age friendly shopping centre.

HEALTHY WATERFORD:

Current priorities include: Oversight of Healthy Ireland projects and active travel/ active communities. Extension of Healthy Ireland Round 3 funding deadline to end of March 2022. Round 4 of the Healthy Ireland Fund and programme expected to commence in May 2022.

SLÁINTECARE HEALTHY COMMUNITIES PROGRAMME (SHCP):

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; the setting up of a SHCP Local Implementation Team (LIT) which has commenced and the Enhancement Funding Scheme. An application for €250k funding was successful and projects will be commencing shortly.

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LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP:

The tender for a Community Safety Plan has been re-issued on e-tender with a closing date of 12th May 2022. Offices have been secured for the LCSP in 8A Catherine Street and we are working with WIT to secure a post-graduate student who we hope to be in position by the end of May. A draft consultation plan has been prepared and consultation with communities will commence in May with the support of the 30 person Community Safety Partnership.

COVID 19 COMMUNITY RESPONSE FORUM:

The CRF – various agencies and organisations working together to address Covid-related issues - continues to meet on a monthly basis.

PRIDE OF PLACE:

The 2021 National Awards, are taking place in Killarney, Co. Kerry on May 16th 2022 with three groups up for awards. Waterford's main entry for the 2022 competition will be the Surprise Surprise Group having won the 2021 PPN awards with an additional entry coming from the Housing Department.

Social Inclusion:

MIGRANT INTEGRATION:

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

SICAP:

Work in ongoing with Waterford Area Partnership continuing to implement the SICAP programme on behalf of the LCDC with 79 local community groups and 953 individuals in Waterford expected to benefit in 2022.

SICAP Budget allocations for 2022 have now been confirmed and the budget for Waterford City & County (24-1) is €1,280,970. This is an 11% increase on 2021.

The Annual Plan for 2022 and the Annual Performance Review for 2021 have been approved by Waterford LCDC.

TIG:

The Waterford Traveller Interagency Group continues to meet regularly by way of Zoom.

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

Fire Service Operational Activity:

<i>Area</i>	<i>Fires</i>	<i>Special Services</i>	<i>False alarm/ Good intent</i>	<i>False alarm Malicious</i>
<i>Total for April</i>	61	41	20	0
<i>Year to date</i>	199	159	77	0
<i>Total for April 2021</i>	129	33	17	0
<i>Total for 2021</i>	280	136	61	2

FIRE SAFETY:

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

Fire Safety:

<i>Applications received</i>	<i>April 2022</i>	<i>2022 YTD</i>	<i>April 2021</i>	<i>2021 YTD</i>
<i>Fire Safety Certificates</i>	8	34	6	21

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.

Building Control:

<i>Applications received</i>	<i>April 2022</i>	<i>2022 YTD</i>	<i>April 2021</i>	<i>2021 YTD</i>
<i>Commencement Notices</i>	41	112	31	352
<i>Completion Certificates</i>	17	77	21	195
<i>Disability Access Certs</i>	5	17	3	57

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CIVIL DEFENCE:

Civil Defence activities during the month of April 2022 consisted mostly of responding to the needs of the Displaced Persons (DP's) fleeing from the effects of the Ukraine Crisis.

- Preparatory Meetings
- Set up of Rest Centres
- Technical Advice on Design & Layouts
- Logistical support
- Meet & Greet with the arrival of Displaced Persons
- First Aid & Medical Support
- Liaison Meetings with Stakeholders and other Agencies
- Coordinated response in cooperation with Rest Centre Managers
- Transportation to Medical appointments such as Hospital Visits, GPs, Dentists etc

We must acknowledge and give credit to the Volunteers who responded to the call to support and welcome the Ukrainian Refugees often in the night and at weekends.

The Civil Defence volunteers are also in demand to support local community and sporting events such as:

- Suicide or Survive Charity Cycle, Lemybrien
- Towers & Tails Event, Lismore Castle

Where possible we have returned to training, where we are working on our core skills to retrain our volunteers in their different service area's like First Aid, Communications etc.



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Seirbhísí Comhshaoil / Environmental Services

Environmental Enforcement Statistics

ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS:

1ST JANUARY 2022 – 30TH APRIL 2022

ENFORCEMENT UNDER THE LITTER POLLUTION ACTS 1997 (AS AMENDED)	
Legal Action Initiated	0
On the Spot Litter Fines Issued (Pending Payment or Prosecution)	49
On the Spot Litter Fines Paid (Includes Fines from previous year)	25
No of Notices Issued 9,16,17,20	1

ENFORCEMENT UNDER THE WASTE MANAGEMENT ACTS 1996 (AS AMENDED)	
No of Complaints	780
Legal Actions	0
Section 18's Statutory Notices Served (asking for info on Waste Issues)	0
Section 55's Statutory Notices Served (asking for Waste to be removed in a 2 week period)	12
Section 71's (Abandoned Vehicle Notices)	12
Warning Letters Sent (Packaging Info & Notice Follow Up)	87
Section 14 Directions	12
Section 107 EPA (Noise)	0
Fixed Penalty Notices on Waste Collectors	1
Regulation 33 - Requirement on a Registered Owner to deposit an End-of-Life Vehicle at an Authorised Treatment Facility. (European Union End-of-Life Vehicles) Regulations 2014 – Fixed Penalty Notice.	2
Regulation 25 of the European Union (Packaging) Regulations 2014 (S.I. No. 282 of 2014) as amended	0

ANTI- DUMPING INITIATIVE 2022:

21 projects in the functional area of Waterford City & County Council have been approved for funding to the value of €103,900 under the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications sponsored Anti-Dumping Initiative 2022.

IRISH BUSINESSES AGAINST LITTER - IBAL 2022:

Irish Businesses Against Litter have advised Waterford City & County Council that the IBAL Litter League 2022 will commence shortly. Both Waterford City & Waterford City – Ballybeg have been selected for survey this year as part of the IBAL Litter League. There will be a strong emphasis on cigarette butts and smoking related litter along with Covid related litter e.g. face masks, gloves. As with 2020 & 2021 there will be a particular emphasis on outdoor sites e.g. public parks / riverwalks / promenades etc.

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Environmental Education & Awareness

TIDY TOWNS:

A series of short online talks for Tidy Towns groups has been taking place during March and April, on the topics of litter management, sustainability, special awards categories and planting for pollinators. Speakers included winning Tidy Towns groups from Clare, the Biodiversity Data Centre about the Pollinator Plan and the Tidy Towns Unit itself. All local Tidy Towns groups were contacted with details of these events and invited to attend.

WASTE PREVENTION:

We are working to encourage the use of reusable cups at cafes in conjunction with 2GoCup. With 22,000 single use cups used every hour in Ireland, we are seeking to get cafes involved in a reuse campaign. The timing is good for a campaign of this nature, with the lifting of Covid restrictions and the recent announcement of the levy on single use cups. Waterford City & County Council will work with 2GoCups to engage 10 cafes in this campaign; 5 cafes along the Greenway and 5 in Waterford. Having identified local cafes for participation in this campaign, we will then organise an informal meeting of all 10 cafes, 2GoCup and WCCC to discuss details of how the scheme will work and have a questions and answers session. It is hoped that these 10 cafes will then become case studies to encourage other cafes to accept and move towards reusable cups.

GREEN FLAG PROGRAMME:

School visits and assessments have taken place for green flag renewals and first time applications. There are 51 schools due to renew their Green Flag this year. Green School visits can take place either in person or virtually, however most schools have chosen to have an in-person visit.

BIODIVERSITY:

The interactive Growing Together Course ran during March and April. Participants learnt to grow their own vegetables and pollinator plants. It was of special interest to Tidy Towns groups and Green School coordinators.

COMMUNITY CLEAN-UPS:

Waterford City & County Council facilitates community clean ups throughout the year to clean up litter and illegally dumped waste from approach roads, local beauty spots, beaches and general public areas. National Spring Clean took place throughout the month of April, In supporting this event Waterford City & County Council supplied bags, gloves and litter pickers to many of the groups taking part, as well as collecting the bags of litter afterwards.

LOCAL GRANTS:

Applications for two grants closed on 1st April and are now being assessed: The Local Anti-Graffiti and Anti -Litter Awareness Grant 2022 assists local communities to tackle litter and graffiti . The Local Waste Prevention Grant 2022 is designed for community groups who want to help to take steps on waste prevention, re-use and repair activities in their local area.

Management Report Plenary 12th May 2022

Ealaíona & Cultúr / Arts & Culture *Arts Report*

- Poetry Day Ireland on April 28th had a full programme in place in person and online for the city and county.
- ArtLinks Bursaries for individuals have been awarded. Collaboration award adjudication is pending.
- Creative Movement programme with Waterford Mental Health services has entered it's second stage. Plans being considered for a Photographic programme for the autumn.
- Entries have just opened for the Arts Office, national Molly Keane Creative Writing Award 2022.
- The national Bealtaine Festival - Celebrating Creativity in Older Age will take place during the month of May with the Arts and Library Service providing several events.



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Libraries

In April, the 12 library branches of Waterford City and County were bustling with activity. Study spaces, and meeting rooms were highly used along with a packed calendar of events and activities.

<u>No. of Visitors this month</u>	<u>22,419</u>
<u>Active members</u>	<u>Unavailable</u>
<u>On Line Borrowing including, ebooks & emagazines</u>	<u>19,055</u>
<u>Events & Activities</u>	<u>5,688</u>
<u>Users of Times Tables Rockstars</u>	<u>189</u>

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS FROM APRIL:

- A total of 31 Spring into Storytime events took place across the County as part of the national Right to Read programme with 737 attendees.
- 1,505 'Little Library Bags' are being distributed via Libraries to all children beginning primary school in County Waterford in 2022.
- The Waterford VTOS, WWETB, Art, Craft and Design Graduate End of Year Exhibition was launched in the Index Gallery in Central Library on April 5th by the Mayor of Waterford City and County Council Cllr. Joe Kelly.
- Towers & Tales Festival schools programme took place on April 29th with 8 schools visited by popular Children's Authors and Illustrators. Library staff worked across the festival facilitating a book swap and accompanying authors to events. Author and student interviews featured on RTE news2day.
- There were 16 baby & toddler group meetings in April in Library branches across the county with a total of 300 big and little people attending.
- This month saw the return of The Grow it Forward campaign, run in conjunction with Healthy Ireland and Grow it Yourself, this year's focus is on community gardens. Seed packs and resources are available from Library branches.
- Poetry Day on April 28th Featured pocket poems from Poetry Ireland in branches.

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UPCOMING EVENTS IN MAY:

- Bealtaine events are scheduled in all branches during May.
- A Beginner's Guide to getting digitally connected and the Get Connected: Wifi Hotspots and Services guides are now available on the Library website, a collaboration between Waterford Libraries, WWETB, the Older Persons Council and the subgroup of digital connectivity.

LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT:

- Waterford Library staff are actively working on developments to support Ukrainians seeking safety in Waterford. Membership forms and Information on our services have been translated into Ukrainian.



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Airgeadas / Finance Revenue Account

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

		EXPENDITURE			INCOME		
		Expenditure €	Adopted Full Year Budget €	% Budget Spent to date	Income €	Adopted Full year Budget €	% Budget Raised
A	Housing & Building	6,890,117	32,461,813	21%	7,575,691	35,042,973	22%
B	Road Transport & Safety	6,435,342	46,030,418	14%	2,629,413	33,445,608	8%
C	Water Services	2,533,941	11,141,683	23%	2,427,135	10,674,030	23%
D	Development Management	3,839,539	17,678,810	22%	1,649,193	8,494,376	19%
E	Environmental Services	4,518,342	20,905,703	22%	203,275	2,878,907	7%
F	Recreation & Amenity	3,514,315	14,951,207	24%	436,213	1,750,939	25%
G	Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	190,372	1,182,814	16%	78,041	501,962	16%
H	Miscellaneous Services	3,173,538	9,360,886	34%	2,385,269	5,744,486	42%
LG	Local Property Tax / GPG	0	0	0%	4,917,129	19,668,516	25%
RA	Rates	0	0	0%	8,877,884	35,511,536	25%
		31,095,507	153,713,333	20%	31,179,243	153,713,333	20%
Surplus/Deficit					83,737	0	

Collections

Summary of main collections Mar 2022 YTD

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G'		[6]	[7]
	Gross Bal as at 1-1-2022	Accrued ytd to Mar 2022	Write Offs and Vacancies	Waivers & Credits	Total for Collection [1+2-3]	Collected ytd to Mar 2022	Gross Bal 31-03-2022	Specific Provision	% Collected ytd re Total for Collection [5/4]	% Collected ytd re 2022 Accrual [5/(4-1)]
		€	€		€	€	€		€	
Rates	6,132,653	35,379,997	- 48,264	- 1,049,456	40,414,930	6,790,236	33,624,694	2,123,073	18%	19%
Loans	1,702,320	847,327	-		2,549,647	825,089	1,724,558		32%	97%
Rents	3,938,392	3,876,441	- 5,110		7,809,723	3,794,891	4,014,832		49%	98%
Aged Analysis :										
				Less than 1 mth	2 to 6 mths	7 to 12 mths	greater than 12 mths			Net Balance
Rates				-	30,079,664	-	3,545,030			33,624,694
				0 to 3 mths	4 to 6 mths	7 to 12 mths	Greater than 12 mths			
Loans				173,511	69,476	141,509	1,340,062			1,724,558
				Less than 4 weeks	4-6 weeks	7-12 weeks	Greater than 12 wks			
Rents				124,611	83,268	123,187	3,683,766			4,014,832
Overdraft Levels										
Days in Overdraft in Mar	0		Cost -	0	€0.00		rage Value when in O/D : N/A			€ -