

# MANAGEMENT REPORT TO COUNCIL

## COMHAIRLE CATHRACH & CONTAE PHORT LAIRGE

### WATERFORD CITY & COUNTY COUNCIL



Comhairle Cathrach & Contae Phort Láirge  
Waterford City & County Council

PREPARED BY  
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Chief Executive  
February 2022

Michael Walsh  
Príomhfheidhmeannach  
Feabhra 2022

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Seirbhísí Corparáirdeacha / Corporate

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 LEO Grant Aid to Business Photo Call. The Plaza Waterford	14 Learn to Cycle Photo Call. Fairlane Park, Dungarvan – Cathairleach Dungarvan & Lismore	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

**All meetings in January were held online.**

## 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) The main construction tender for the infrastructural works is currently being tendered, this includes the development of a Sustainable Transport Bridge, Transport Hub and SDZ Access Infrastructure Works.
- ii) Tenders for Rock Stabilisation works to the north of Plunkett Station, they are currently being assessed by Roughan O'Donovan Consulting Engineers.
- iii) A contractor has been appointed for the South Plaza Enabling Works and works are due to commence shortly.
- iv) Tenders for the relocation of the Ferrybank Pump Station are due to be returned on 2<sup>nd</sup> February.

### Local Enterprise Office

No Evaluation Committee meeting took place in January 2022. Next meeting is February 2022.

LEO Figures year to date (2022) and comparison of current month with previous year		
Indicator	Jan-21	Jan-22
Measure 1		
No. of clients applying	0	0
No. of clients securing	0	0
Value of support approved	€-	€-
Measure 2		
No. of clients receiving	219	78
Value of support given	€20,147	€17,523

Support		Jan 2022
<b>Trading Online Voucher</b>	<b>No. of Approvals</b>	4
	<b>Value of Approvals €</b>	€7,599
	<b>Value of Approvals €</b>	
<b>Figures not included in cumulative table</b>		

Local Enterprise Office Waterford supported companies created 289 jobs in 2021.

The net jobs created by Local Enterprise Office Waterford supported clients in 2021 was 108, which takes into account companies that amalgamated, ceased trading and those that transferred on to Enterprise Ireland. The new figures show that the LEO Waterford financially supported 280 small businesses in their portfolio across the county these companies in turn employ 1,199 people.

The Waterford LEO also provides substantial funded supports to hundreds of other small businesses across the county with programmes such as the Trading Online Voucher, Lean for Micro and Green for Micro along with training and mentoring.

### **Tourism**

The Fáilte Ireland Tourist Information Office will reopen for 5 months during the peak season. The Council are currently in discussion with Fáilte Ireland regarding moving the Tourist Information Office to the Museum of Treasures.

A workshop has been arranged for Council as part of the Waterford Destination and Experience Development Plan for the 8<sup>th</sup> of February.

### **Waterford Greenway – Best Visitor Attraction**

Waterford Greenway was the winner of the '[Best Visitor Attraction](#)' category in the Indo Travel 2022 Reader Travel Awards. The Reader Travel Awards are this year a 'Best of Ireland' edition celebrating the resilience and creativity of Irish tourism and hospitality during the pandemic. Tens of thousands of people, places and businesses all over Ireland were nominated by the readers, and the Waterford Greenway was crowned the Best Visitor Attraction.



**Winner 2022**

**BEST  
VISITOR ATTRACTION**



## Communications

**Public relations:** 13 Press releases including:

- Waterford ranked as Ireland's Only Clean City
- Over €1m grant aid awarded by LEO Waterford
- LEO Waterford clients create 300 jobs in 2021
- Economic incentives for Vacant Properties in Urban areas
- Waterford Greenway Ireland's Best Visitor Attraction – Irish Independent
- St. Patrick's Day Celebrations set to return to Waterford



*Waterford ranked as Ireland's Only Clean City - IBAL*



Waterford set for St. Patrick's Day Celebrations

<https://www.rte.ie/news/regional/2022/0128/1276477-saint-patricks-day/>

**Best Place to Live Campaign:**

Signage due to be erected on city centre approach roads early February at six approach roads into the city.

**Best Place to Live Radio campaign**

**WLRFM**

w/c Feb 7<sup>th</sup>

w/c Feb 14<sup>th</sup>

w/c Feb 21<sup>st</sup>

**Today FM**

Provisionally booked (awaiting availability confirmation)

w/c Feb 14<sup>th</sup>

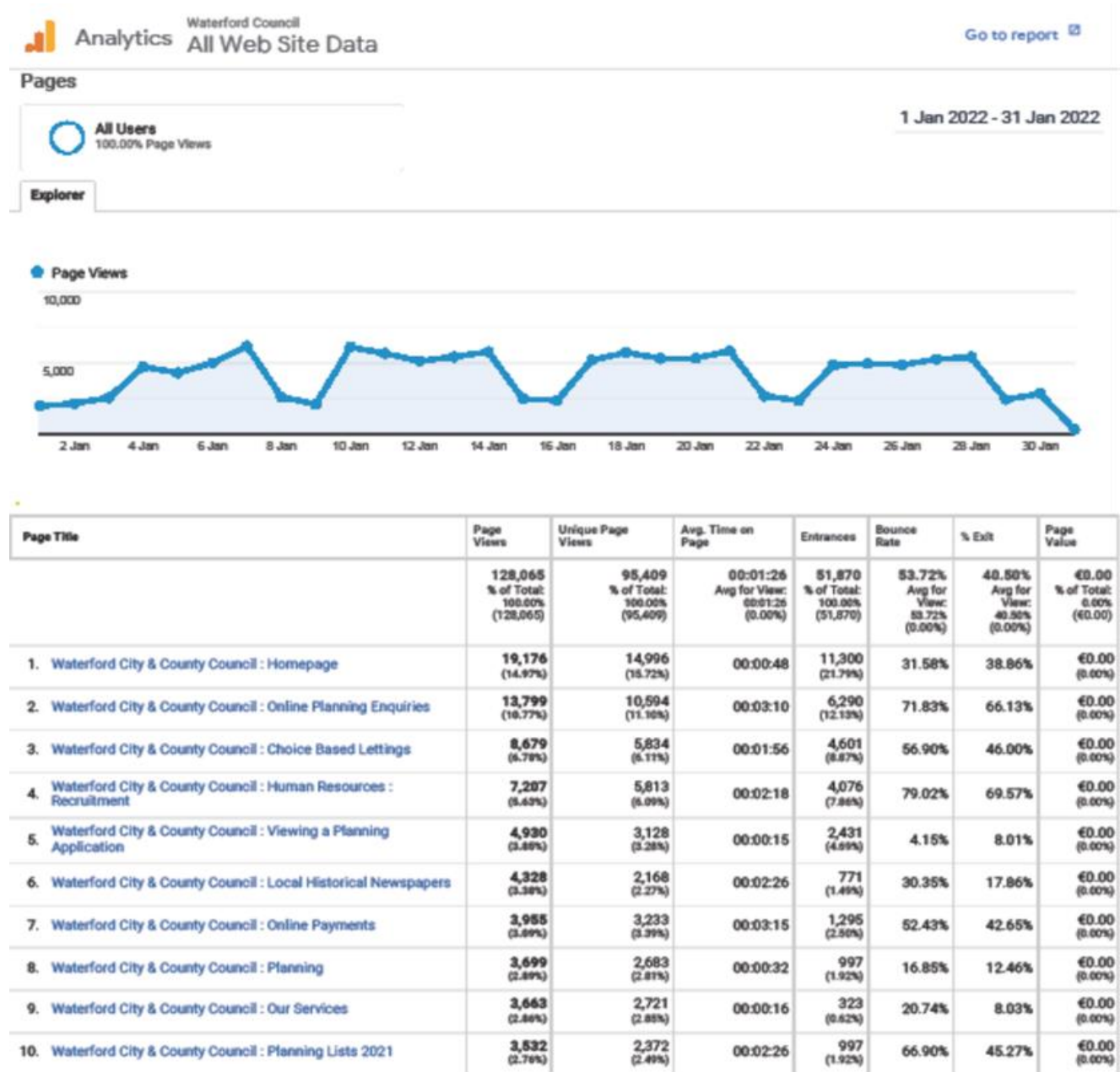
w/c Feb 21<sup>st</sup>

**Social Media Stats January 1<sup>st</sup> to January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022 (WCCC and Shop Waterford FB / Twitter / LinkedIn combined)**

	Total	Change	% Change
<b>Reach</b>	799,327	+117,661	+17.3%
<b>Followers</b>	40,863	+551	+1.4%

## 4. MANAGEMENT REPORT PLENARY 10TH FEBRUARY 2022

### Waterford CCC Website Traffic (January 1<sup>st</sup> to January 31<sup>st</sup>)





## Bóithre agus Iompar / Roads and Transportation



### Active Travel

Following the Minister's recent announcement of funding for walking and cycling infrastructure we can confirm that Waterford City & County Council have received an allocation of €24,010,000 for Active Travel schemes in 2022.

These projects and allocations are detailed below:

NTA Project Code	Project Name	NTA Allocation 2022
<b>Various</b>	23 individual Projects in the Municipal Districts (details in district reports)	<b>€20,990,000</b>
<b>WDCC/21/0008</b>	Regional Bikes / JC Decaux Signs	€50,000
<b>WDCC/21/0017</b>	Traffic Signals Upgrades and Bus Priority	€400,000
<b>WDCC/21/0009</b>	Waterford Permeability Schemes	€350,000
<b>WDCC/21/0010</b>	Safe to Schools Programme - Support Infrastructure	€100,000
<b>WDCC/22/0002</b>	Cycle parking provision countywide	€20,000
<b>WDCC/22/0007</b>	WCCC - Rapid Deployment AT measures	€1,000,000
<b>WDCC/22/0008</b>	WCCC - AT Staff Costs	€1,100,000
		<b>€24,010,000</b>

### Smarter Workplace Programme

The Smarter Workplace Programme has been officially re-launched with an employee survey issued to all staff on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> Jan. This survey will conclude on 9<sup>th</sup> Feb and results will be analysed with the NTA with the aim of implementing a workplace programme before March. Initial engagement with the survey has been very positive and we hope to encourage a behavioral change on how we commute to and from our workplaces.

This programme is being managed under both the Active Travel team and Economic Development.

## Tithíocht / Housing

### Housing Applications

Housing applications	Jan 2021	Total Number of Applications Year 2021	Jan 2022	Total Number of Applications Year To Date 2022
Applications received	69	805	70	70
Applications assessed (incl files carried forward from previous month(s))	81	815	52	52
Applications validated (incl files carried forward from previous month(s))	41	510	18	18
Approved for social housing supports following interview with applicant	43	526	18	18

### Housing Allocations

	Tenancies during Jan 2021	Cumulative No. of Tenancies 2021	New Tenancies during Jan 2022	Refusal No. of New Tenancy offer	Cumulative No. of New Tenancies 2022
Total Municipal Districts	13	207	18	3	18
Voluntary Bodies	3	89	47	3	47
<b>Totals</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>65</b>

### Choice Based Letting (CBL) Scheme

The total number of properties advertised on the CBL system to date is 965. There have been 257 refusals on properties.

### Housing Loans applications

2022 Housing Loans	Applications received	Applications awaiting further info	Applications refused	Applications approved	Applications with Housing Agency/deferred for 6 months
January	6	0	0	0	6 with H/A
YTD	0	0	0	0	6

### Tenant Purchase applications

2022 Tenant Purchase	Applications received	Applications awaiting further info	Applications refused	Applications approved	Sales Closed
January	12	0	3	9	
YTD 2022	12	12	3	9	
YTD 2021					

1 Tenant Purchase sales closed in January - To be provided at next meeting.

#### 4. MANAGEMENT REPORT PLENARY 10TH FEBRUARY 2022

##### Housing Loans applications 2021 (Details were not available for the January Management Report)

2021 Housing Loans	Applications received	Applications awaiting further info	Applications refused	Applications approved	Applications with Housing Agency/deferred for 6 months
Dec	3		Returned to LA in Jan as issue with ccr reports will be sent again in Jan	0	0
<b>YTD</b>	80	0	18	19	

##### Tenant Purchase applications (Details were not available for the January Management Report)

2021 Tenant Purchase	Applications received	Applications awaiting further info	Applications refused	Applications approved	Sales Closed
Dec	6	0	0	6	0
<b>YTD 2021</b>	73	0	7	63	16
<b>YTD 2020</b>	51	3	18	30	11

Tenant Purchase sales closed in Dec -

##### Housing Assistance Payment

Housing Assistance Payment	Jan 2021 HAP tenancies	Jan 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
<b>HAP Tenancies</b>	31	19	-14	4,235	1,995

##### Inspections of Dwellings

2022	Jan-22
<b>HAP</b>	9
(HAP) Compliant	-
(HAP) Non-Compliant	9
<i>(HAP) of which were Re Inspections</i>	-
<b>LTL</b>	16
(LTL) Compliant	9
(LTL) Non-Compliant	7
<i>(LTL) of which were Re Inspections</i>	-
<b>MTR</b>	-
(MTR) Non-Compliant	-
<b>Total</b>	25

#### 4. MANAGEMENT REPORT PLENARY 10TH FEBRUARY 2022

In January, Waterford City & County Council carried out 240 planned and reactive inspections of our housing stock. As a result of these inspections 11 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	Number of Applications approved Jan 2022	Value of Applications Value Jan 2022	Cumulative Number-of applications approved 2022	Cumulative Value-of Applications 2022
<b>Housing Adaptation for People with a Disability. Max. €30,000</b>	12	166,191.02	12	<b>166,191.02</b>
<b>Mobility Aids Scheme Maximum €6,000</b>	14	66,442.12	14	<b>66,442.12</b>
<b>Housing Aid for Older People Maximum €8,000</b>	19	98,546.87	19	<b>98,546.87</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>331,180.01</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>331,180.01</b>

#### Homeless Services

Waterford Integrated Homeless Services (WIHS) (Opened 25 <sup>th</sup> June 2019)	Jan 2022	Jan 2021
<b>Number of callers seeking services in WIHS seeking a service</b>	338	
<b>Assessments by a Homeless Officer</b>	81	
Breakdown of Persons in Emergency Accommodation on the last night of the month	31 <sup>st</sup> Jan 2022	31 <sup>st</sup> Jan 2021
<b>Number of Single Persons in EA</b>	56	52
<b>Number of Families in EA</b>	13	13
<b>Number of Adults in Families in EA</b>	15	21
<b>Number of children in EA</b>	27	35

HAP Place Finder Service 6/11/18 to 31/01/22	Jan 2022	Cumulative
<b>Number of Assessments by the Homeless HAP Officer</b>	21	21
<b>Number of HAP Place Finder Tenancies HUB Complete</b>	8	8

#### 4. MANAGEMENT REPORT PLENARY 10TH FEBRUARY 2022

Housing First Programme	Tenancies	Total Tenancies 2022
<b>Number of Housing First tenancies in place at 31<sup>st</sup> Jan 2022</b>	0	30

Homeless preventions supported exits and sustained tenancies continue to be the priorities for Homeless Services in 2022. 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>422</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</b>	48	Countywide	Tender Preparation	In progress – Refurbishment Contractor Framework Appointed
<b>Total Units in WCCC Projects 777</b>				

Housing Capital Schemes - Approved Housing Body Projects	
<b>Total Units in Approved Housing Body Projects</b>	<b>97</b>
<b>Housing Efficiency Retrofit</b>	<b>57</b>
<b>60 Units in total for 2021</b>	

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

January 2022	TOTAL
<b>Handed Over / Works Completed</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Newly vacant</b>	<b>9</b>

## Seirbhísí Pobail / Community Services

### **Rural Development Programme:**

- The January Call 2022 has been deferred until Mid-February. The reason for the deferral is that the next Call will be the final Call for this LEADER Programme, and we want to be sure that we have every Euro that is left to be invested included in the Call.
- The project requesting €61,000 that was deferred to the January LCDC meeting has been rejected for funding.
- The February Call will not have a large amount of funding available. It is likely to be around €300,000 between EURI and Transitional Funding.
- There is €630,000 in applications for the Capital Projects to be evaluated in February for the February and March LCDC Meetings.
- Expected value of the December applications was €750,000. The actual value is €630,000, as one potential promoter failed to materialise.
- Payments from LEADER/RDP1420 are progressing well, with very few decommitments.
- In preparing for the next LEADER initiative, which will have a focus on the Circular Economy (Sustainability) and Biodiversity as important themes, WLP has engaged two young graduates on a yearlong contract to assist WLP CLG and the LCDC.
- The next LEADER Programme is likely to start in late 2023 or early 2024.
- WLP CLG is also appointing a Rural Recreation Officer. This post will compliment the excellent work of WCCC Trails Officer. The position will be advertised late February 2022.

### **Community Activities Fund 2021:**

The closing date to submit applications was noon on Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> January. The LCDC Assessment Group met on the 28<sup>th</sup> January to review the 175 applications received. The Assessment Group's recommendations shall go before the LCDC on the 17<sup>th</sup> February for approval.

### **The Supporting Waterford Community Fund 2022**

The Supporting Waterford Community Fund 2022 scheme was advertised at the end of January on the Council's website, social media, via Waterford PPN and to over 800 groups on the 'grant notification list'. Closing date to submit applications is 4pm Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February. The allocation of this fund shall be on the April Plenary agenda.

### **Comhairle na nÓg:**

Progress on 2022 activities as agreed at 2021 AGM is being made weekly by the young people and these are reviewed regularly by the steering committee members. Next Steering Committee meeting is taking place on February 24<sup>th</sup>. One of the main projects for 2022, the Neighbourhood project is progressing well. Comhairle members now working closely with WCCC, WIT and the Lions club with progress being made on a new site in Cherrymount, Waterford City.

### **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 is progressing. The tender for the retention of a Consultant to assist with the preparation of the new 5-year strategy has been issued with a review of responses currently underway with the plan to have a consultant contracted in February 2022.

### **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.

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

The Community Safety Partnership is compiling a list of community safety services in Waterford with the assistance of its members. A workshop on community safety for the committee has been scheduled for Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2022. The next meeting of the Partnership will be on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2022 @5pm.

### **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, due to take place in Killarney on February 21<sup>st</sup> 2022, had been postponed due to Covid 19 but are now scheduled to take place either May or June 2022 with exact date to be announced shortly. The three entrants to the 2021 competition will be invited to attend subject to availability of tickets

Waterford's main entry for the 2022 competition will be the Surprise Surprise Group having won the 2021 PPN awards.

### **St. Patrick's Festival:**

The recent government announcement on the easing of restrictions allows for the return of the St. Patrick's Day Parade. With the support of Fáilte Ireland the inaugural St. Patrick's Festival will be launched. This will be a three-day celebration of Irish Culture centred around the parade and our national public holiday. The production team has commenced preparations and over the coming weeks a full programme of events will be revealed.

### **Social Inclusion:**

#### **Migrant Integration:**

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

#### **SICAP**

Waterford Area Partnership continue to implement the SICAP programme on behalf of the LCDC with 68 local community groups (101% of target) and 893 individuals (103% of target) in Waterford having benefited in 2021.

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 LCDC will, in its February meeting, review the Annual Plan for 2022 in addition to evaluating the Annual Performance Review for 2021.

#### **TIG**

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



## 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 January. 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.

	Fires	Special Service	False Alarm Good Intent	False Alarm Malicious
<b>Total for January</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Year to date</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total for January 2021</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Total for 2021</b>	<b>701</b>	<b>448</b>	<b>179</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	January 2022	2022 Year to date	Total for January 2021	Total for 2021
<b>Fire Safety Certificates</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>73</b>

### 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.

#### 4. MANAGEMENT REPORT PLENARY 10TH FEBRUARY 2022

Application/Notification	Jan 2022	Cumulative Total for 2022	Total for Jan 2021	Total for 2021
<b>Commencement Notices</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>352</b>
<b>Completion Certificates</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>195</b>
<b>Disability Access Certificates</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>57</b>

#### **Civil Defence:**

Civil Defence activities during the month of January 2022 consisted mostly of Covid-19 Response duties.

In particular the processing and repackaging of 18.000 test kits for the HSE

Other Essential Tasks undertaken were:

- PPE training.
- Vehicle preparation.
- Vehicle Cleaning and Decontamination.
- Patient Transportation for cancer treatments.
- 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.

Whilst the easing of Covid 19 restrictions has been positive we are reviewing our current capabilities and working with our volunteers to identify what training is required to get back to normal.

Plans are in place for a Safe return to Training as the situation improves.

## Seirbhísí Comhshaoil / Environmental Services

### Environmental Enforcement Statistics

1<sup>st</sup> January 2022 – 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022

Enforcement under the Litter Pollution Acts 1997 (as amended)	
Legal Action Initiated	0
On the Spot Litter Fines Issued (Pending Payment or Prosecution)	14
On the Spot Litter Fines Paid (Includes Fines from previous year)	1
No of Notices Issued 9,16,17,20	1
Enforcement under the Waste Management Acts 1996 (as amended)	
No of Complaints	187
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)	4
Section 71's (Abandoned Vehicle Notices)	3
Warning Letters Sent (Packaging Info & Notice Follow Up)	36
Section 14 Directions	0
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	0

### Environmental Education & Awareness

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 will take place during the month of April; registrations are now being taken at [www.nationalspringclean.org](http://www.nationalspringclean.org)

### **Green Flag Programme**

School visits and assessments are well underway for green flag renewals. Fifty-one schools are due to renew their Green Flag this year. The deadline for renewal applications is on Friday, April 1st 2022 for the 2021/2022 academic year. Schools applying for their first Green Flag, Litter & Waste theme, can submit an application by Tuesday, March 1st, 2022. Green School visits will take place virtually once again this year until Covid advice allows in person visits once more. Schools have been seeking advice online via Zoom, email and also by telephone to date. Online workshops with secondary schools continue to be requested, with recycling and various waste prevention issues continuing to be the most popular topics.

### **Workshops for Schools**

Secondary schools involved in biodiversity themes of the Green Schools programme are currently being offered themed workshops to help them in their work. This includes primary, secondary and special schools in Co. Waterford who are working on biodiversity and may include advice on developing a school garden or encouraging pollinators into their school grounds.

Waterford City & County Council has also been working with the Waterford Teachers Centre to pilot a Climate Literacy programme with four secondary schools this Spring. This involves a 10- week Climate Literacy programme, focused on improving climate literacy and fostering behavior change in schools. The course is developed to include teacher training, resources, and lesson plans. The teacher training is designed to equip teachers with the knowledge, attitudes, behaviors, and skills required to effectively and confidently deliver not only this course, but also across their curriculum subject as the course can complement any subject framework that has an environmental strand. There will be training sessions weekly online (due to Covid limitations) to support teachers to deliver the content of the class. After the teachers have been trained, they will be fully qualified to deliver the course to as many groups of students as they wish.

### **Waste prevention**

The five-week interactive Sustainable Gardening Course quickly booked up. This course for community groups or individuals interested in reducing their impact on the environment began mid-January. Topics covered include reducing your waste, growing your own vegetables, planting for pollinators, alternative to chemicals and much, much more. We are currently taking bookings for a Growing Together Course for anyone interested in growing their own vegetables and pollinator plants. This will be of special interest to Tidy Towns groups and Green School coordinators. Registration is being taken at <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/growing-together-sponsored-by-waterford-city-county-council-registration-201977097937>

## Ealaíona & Cultúr / Arts & Culture

In January, all 12 library branches were open to all for browsing, reading, newspapers, studying, public computer access and printing services. Services are offered in line with changing National Guidelines to ensure safe access to patrons and staff. During the month, 15,040 people visited Waterford libraries and borrowed 24,307 items and 6,756 online resources including eMagazines, eBooks and eAudiobooks. There were 48 new users of 'Touch Type Read Spell' and 205 new users of 'Times Table Rockstars' our learning support subscriptions services. Active membership for January was, 11,342 and during the month 83 service wide activities and events took place including:

- Healthy Ireland at your Library ran the 'Practical Self Care' webinar with Mental Health Ireland, attended by 22 people.
- Carrickphierish, Central, Ardkeen & Tramore Libraries are installing various artworks. These are the work of six artists who have completed a residency in Garter Lane. The theme of this project is, Restoration Art Commission. It is being run with Síle Penkert director of Garter Lane and the installations are being supervised by Nora Boland.
- Central Library launched the Well Festival 2022 in partnership with Waterford Healing Arts Trust and Garter Lane Arts Centre on the 24th. This County wide festival celebrates the benefits of participating in the Arts for everyone.
- My Gift to you, a programme for 20 participants over 65 from all over County Waterford to research and write their personal history with the support of historian Dr. Maxine Keoghan, a genealogist and designer. This programme is funded by the Ireland fund.

### **Upcoming Events in February:**

- Waterford's Well Festival will run events from February 7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>. Waterford Libraries run this in partnership with the Waterford Healing Arts Trust and Garter Lane Arts Centre.
- Ireland Reads will run nationally in February to promote reading and libraries to all. Also, Waterford Libraries will target local preschools and early learning facilities using funding available through the LGMA to run events and competitions.

### **Library Development:**

- Community Climate Action Project strand 2 final meeting with councils in January - putting together a joint application for a 'Community Energy Hub' with the Libraries and Environmental Officers in the Councils of Waterford, Wexford, Carlow and Kilkenny with the Energy Agency 3cea. This initiative is part of the national effort to reduce carbon emissions. Pobal have put forward a funding strand to support this work.
- Staff are participating in training for the implementation of a new national Library Management system, Spydus 10.

Library images from January include:

The work of Sharon Fleming in Central Library



The fantastic work of artist Denise McAuliffe in Carrickphierish Library.



A snapshot of the Tallow Library Wonderwall, showing puzzles for and artwork by young members of Tallow Library.



The Growing Tree pre-school receiving Little Library Book Bags from Lismore Library.



## 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 December 31, 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	32,112,829	29,905,750	107%	34,173,873	32,231,369	106%
B	Road Transport & Safety	45,941,730	46,501,378	99%	31,805,629	34,342,105	93%
C	Water Services	10,687,523	10,831,808	99%	10,326,189	10,419,107	99%
D	Development Management	18,058,830	16,894,259	107%	10,129,731	8,467,777	120%
E	Environmental Services	18,507,377	19,210,509	96%	2,707,952	2,847,343	95%
F	Recreation & Amenity	13,961,709	14,454,154	97%	1,817,343	1,806,387	101%
G	Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	1,071,720	979,517	109%	592,462	528,623	112%
H	Miscellaneous Services	18,995,767	9,620,230	197%	15,489,227	4,668,005	332%
LG	Local Property Tax / GPG	0	0	0%	19,665,016	19,665,016	100%
RA	Rates	0	0	0%	33,542,481	33,421,873	100%
		<b>159,337,485</b>	<b>148,397,605</b>	<b>107%</b>	<b>160,249,903</b>	<b>148,397,605</b>	<b>108%</b>
Surplus/Deficit					912,418	0	

4. MANAGEMENT REPORT PLENARY 10TH FEBRUARY 2022

Collections

Summary of main collections Dec 2021 YTD (Pre-Y/E review)											
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G'		[6]	[7]	
	Gross Bal as at 1-1-2021	Accrued ytd to Dec 2021	Write Offs and Vacancies	Waivers & Credits	Total for Collection [1+2-3]	Collected ytd to Dec 2021	Gross Bal 31-12-2021 [4-5]	Specific Provision	% Collected ytd re Total for Collection [5/4]	% Collected ytd re 2021 Accrual [5/(4-1)]	Improvement Balance Yr / Yr
		€	€		€	€	€		€		
Rates	11,042,246	33,542,481	- 2,868,582	- 9,964,515	31,751,630	24,873,522	6,878,108	2,350,000	85%	74%	38%
Loans	1,912,249	3,357,951	- 1,391		5,268,809	3,549,367	1,719,442		67%	106%	10%
Rents	4,364,161	14,910,486	- 19,583		19,255,064	15,236,732	4,018,332		79%	102%	8%
<b>Aged Analysis :</b>											
				Less than 1 mth	2 to 6 mths	7 to 12 mths	greater than 12 mths			Net Balance	
Rates				-	-	2,901,000	3,977,108			6,878,108	
				0 to 3 mths	4 to 6 mths	7 to 12 mths	Greater than 12 mths				
Loans				171,195	73,421	148,760	1,326,066			1,719,442	
				Less than 4 weeks	4-6 weeks	7-12 weeks	Greater than 12 wks				
Rents				96,087	86,765	114,640	3,720,840			4,018,332	
<b>Overdraft Levels</b>											
Days in Overdraft in Dec	0		Cost -	0	€0.00		Average Value when in O/D : N/A		€	-	