



Comhairle Cathrach & Contae Phort Láirge Waterford City & County Council

Waterford City & County Council Planning Report to Comeragh Meeting – July 2020

DO: GACH BALL DE CHEANTAR BARDASACH AN CHOMARAIGH
TO: EACH MEMBER OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF COMERAGH

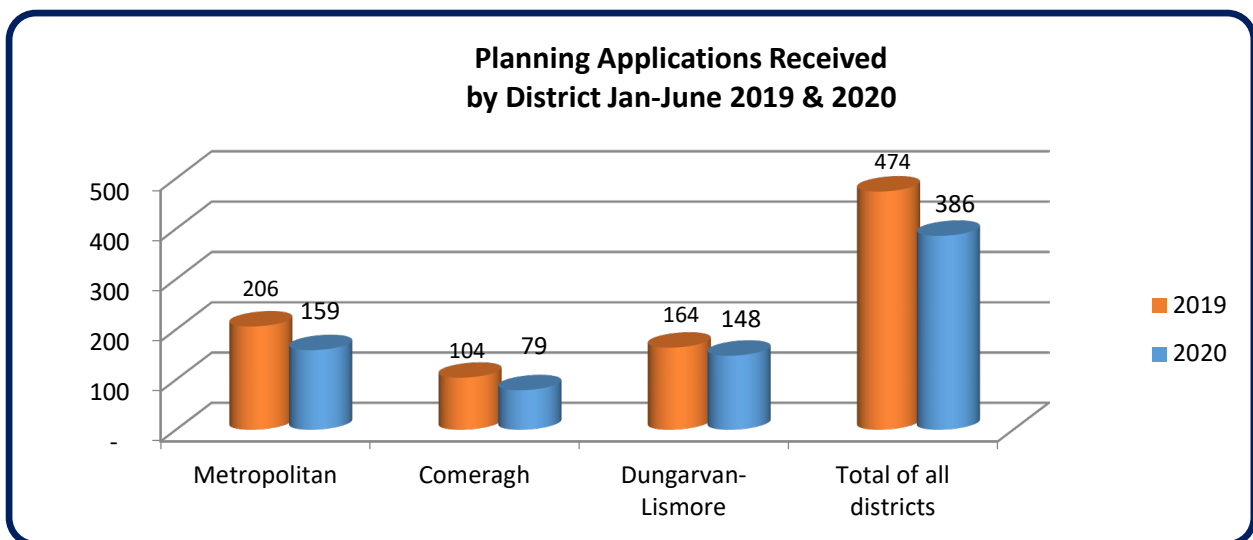
Development Management

Planning Applications Received – Countywide

79 Planning applications were received in the month of June countywide (up to 26th June). This compares with 92 planning applications received in the same month in 2019. Additional responses are also being received to further information requests. The figure of 79 applications received in 2020 include 17 Section 254 Licence applications

June - Planning Applications in this District

13 Planning Applications were received in this district in the month, compared to 17 which were lodged in the same period in 2019.



Pre Planning Update

The analysis of pre planning applications received per district from the beginning of the year to end of June was as follows:

Comeragh	Dungarvan - Lismore	Waterford Metropolitan Area	Grand Total
40	62	88	190

These pre planning applications are currently being addressed.

Forward Planning

Waterford City & County Development Plan 2022 - 2028

The process and broad timeline to prepare the new unitary Waterford City and County Development Plan is set out hereunder and will commence the week beginning 20th July. The initial phase of this process will consist of an 8 week period during which written public submissions or observations can be made through an online consultation portal <http://www.consult.waterfordcouncil.ie> or in writing to the Senior Planner, Planning Department, Waterford City and County Council. All written submissions should relate solely to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area; however, requests or proposals for the zoning of particular land for any purpose cannot be considered at this Pre-Draft Stage. The written submissions received during the public consultation period will form the basis of the report by the Chief Executive to the Plenary Council on which further dialogue with the Council will inform the draft development plan in due course.

It should be noted that submissions received by the Planning Authority will be published on the consultation portal within 10 working days of receipt, along with the name of the person making the submission in accordance with the Planning & Development (Amendment) Act 2018. Contact details however will not be published and people will be requested not to include personal, confidential or other sensitive information in submissions.

In the current period of restrictions on public movement and interaction brought about by Covid 19, it is not feasible to safely engage with the public in the traditional sense. To overcome these restrictions the following actions are being planned:

- The online consultation portal and council website will be augmented with content to provide detailed information about the development plan process, principle elements of the development plan, the strategic issue paper and its Irish translation and a schedule of frequently asked questions which will assist in fully informing the public about principle element of the development plan and its process.
- To further engage with the public it is intended to hold virtual town hall type meeting through online platforms which will be fully advertised through the local print media, the council website and the <http://www.consult.waterfordcouncil.ie> consultation portal. These will be held regularly during the consultation period and will consist of presentations followed by question and answer sessions.
- Where it is not possible for individual members of the public to access the development plan process online, the planning authority will host one to one meeting with members of the public. All such meetings will be by appointment only and full details of how to arrange these meetings will be published in due course. It is intended that such meeting will adhere to strict Covid 19 procedures in terms of health and safety and will be held in the offices of the planning authority in both Waterford City and Dungarvan.

Activity	Duration	Start	Finish
Development Plan Preparation Period.	Max 104 wks	Mon 20/07/20	Fri 15/07/22
Pre Draft Plan Public Consultation.	8 wks	Mon 20/07/20	Mon 14/09/20
Prepare CE Report on submissions and submit to Plenary Council.	8 wks	Mon 14/09/20	Mon 09/11/20
Liaise and discuss with Plenary Council and obtain Resolution on CE Report.	10 wks	Mon 09/11/20	Mon 18/01/21
Prepare a Draft Dev Plan.	12 wks	Mon 18/01/21	Mon 12/04/21
Submit Draft Dev Plan to Plenary Council and obtain Resolution.	8 wks	Mon 12/04/21	Mon 07/06/21
Notice of preparation of Draft Dev Plan.	2 wks	Mon 07/06/21	Mon 21/06/21
Public Consultation on Draft Dev Plan.	10 wks	Mon 21/06/21	Mon 30/08/21

Prepare CE Report on submissions received and submit to Plenary Council for consideration.	12 wks	Mon 30/08/21	Mon 22/11/21
Resolution of Plenary Council on CE Report and Draft Dev Plan.	12 wks	Mon 22/11/21	Mon 14/02/22
Notice of Material Alterations if necessary.	3 wks	Mon 14/02/22	Mon 07/03/22
Final Public Consultation on Material Alterations.	4 wks	Mon 07/03/22	Mon 04/04/22
Prepare C.E. Report on submissions.	8 wks	Mon 04/04/22	Mon 30/05/22
Plenary Council to consider CE Report and make Resolution.	6 wks	Mon 30/05/22	Mon 11/07/22
New Dev Plan comes into force.	6 wks	Mon 11/07/22	Mon 22/08/22

Planning SPC

It is intended that a meeting of the Planning SPC will take place prior to the commencement of the development plan public consultation process on July 20th. It is intended that the next SPC meeting will focus on revised details relating to the amended development plan process.

Conservation Grants

Waterford City & County Council has received confirmation from the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht that 16 applications for grant aid under the Built Heritage Investment Scheme have been approved to a combined grant aid amount of €114,000 and 2 applications received under the Historic Structures Fund were successful – Lismore Castle for €130,000 over 2 years and Curraghmore House for €40,000 over 1 year. All applicants have been notified accordingly.

Heritage Week

Heritage Week runs from August 15th-23rd and this year's theme is learning from heritage. The focus is on projects which will be presented virtually and not public events. Details on www.heritageweek.ie



Taking-in-Charge

Site inspections have been increased significantly as a result of the redeployment of Libby McGinn-Murphy (Executive Technician) to the taking-in-charge unit. Libby is now reporting directly to Donal O'Muirchadha and is engaged full time on housing estate inspections. A detailed inspection schedule has been drawn up to ensure that all active housing site are closely monitored to ensure compliance with planning permission and to ensure that they can be taken in charge as quickly as possible.

Enforcement

Aisling O'Sullivan had been redeployed from Forward Planning to Enforcement and has made significant progress on the reorganisation of that unit. Working with the GIS Team they have created a new layer on WhatMaps showing all recent enforcement cases and the number of inspections and follow up action has been significantly increased.

Event Licensing

Large scale events, with an attendance in excess of 5,000 people, which would require an event licence will not be allowed until September at the earliest.

Séamus Doran, Administrative Officer
Planning Department
29th June 2020