

MANAGEMENT REPORT TO COUNCIL

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



Prepared By:
Michael Walsh
Chief Executive
October 2023

Michael Walsh
Príomhfheidhmeannach
Deireadh Fómhair 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

<i>Seirbhísí Corparáirdeacha / Corporate</i>	Page 2
<i>Forbairt Eacnamaíoch / Economic Development</i>	Page 3
<i>Pleanáil / Planning</i>	Page 7
<i>Tithíocht / Housing</i>	Page 9
<i>Seirbhísí Pobail / Community Services</i>	Page 12
<i>Seirbhísí Éigeandala / Emergency Services</i>	Page 15
<i>Seirbhísí Comhshaoil / Environmental Services</i>	Page 16
<i>Ealaíona & Cultúr / Arts & Culture</i>	Page 18
<i>Airgeadas / Finance</i>	Page 20

Management Report Plenary 12th October 2023.

Seirbhísí Corparáirdeacha / Corporate. Mayors Official Engagements September 2023.

FRIDAY 1st:	
SATURDAY 2nd:	
SUNDAY 3rd:	
MONDAY 4th:	
TUESDAY 5th:	
WEDNESDAY 6th:	WCFE Graduation, The Tower Hotel, Co. Waterford.
THURSDAY 7th:	Dungarvan BMX Pump Track Photocall, Dungarvan BMX Track, Attended by Cllr. Pat Nugent. Dungarvan and West Waterford Chamber Drinks Reception, The Old Bank Bar & Terrace, Dungarvan.
FRIDAY 8th:	Innovating Landscape and Community Finance Grow HQ, Co. Waterford. Annual business networking lunch, the Granville Hotel, Co. Waterford.
SATURDAY 9th:	Rás na mBan, Tramore Prom, Co. Waterford. Dunmore East Sea Swimming presentation, Dunmore East, Co. Waterford.
SUNDAY 10th:	East Waterford Beekeepers' Association honey show, City Hall, The Mall, Co. Waterford.
MONDAY 11th:	
TUESDAY 12th:	
WEDNESDAY 13th:	
THURSDAY 14th:	Launch of Waterford Placenames Committee, Cappoquin Community Centre, Co. Waterford.
FRIDAY 15th:	
SATURDAY 16th:	
SUNDAY 17th:	
MONDAY 18th:	
TUESDAY 19th:	General Election 1923, Dungarvan Library, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford.
WEDNESDAY 20th:	Destination Towns Launch, The Garden Room, City Hall, The Mall, Co. Waterford
THURSDAY 21st:	Mayoral Greeting with watchmakers, Mayors Parlour, City Hall, The Mall, Co. Waterford.
FRIDAY 22nd:	'Ceiliúradh na Gaeilge' ar Oíche Chultúir, Old Market House Art Centre, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford.
SATURDAY 23rd:	International Festival of Time 2023 Waterford Treasures. The Large Room, City Hall, Co. Waterford. Launch of the new BoxUp, The People's Park, Co. Waterford.
SUNDAY 24th:	Óglaigh náisiúnta na héireann, Ballybricken, Co. Waterford.
MONDAY 25th:	
TUESDAY 26th:	
WEDNESDAY 27th:	Photocall for World School Milk Day, St Saviours National School, Co. Waterford. 74th anniversary of the founding of the peoples republic of China, Simonscourt road, Co. Dublin.
THURSDAY 28th:	National Landscape Forum 2023, Mount Congreve, Co. Waterford. Attended by Cllr. Pat Nugent. Sun Life's employee Town Hall meeting, IDA Business Park, Co. Waterford. Anchor renaming event - a RehabCare Waterford service, Tramore Road Business Park, Co. Waterford. UNESCO Learning Cities Call, Online Call. Anti-Racism Awards, Central Library, Co Waterford. The Dying Days Film, Garter Lane Arts Centre, Co. Waterford.
FRIDAY 29th:	South East Regional Social Prescribing Conference, The Waterfront Hotel, Tramore, Co Waterford. Féile John Dwyer, Ionad Geata Phádraig, Co. Waterford.
SATURDAY 30th:	Ballyduff Upper Storehouse Official Opening, Ballyduff Upper, Co Waterford

Forbairt Eacnamaíoch / Economic Development

North Quays

Works are progressing well on the North Quays main contract. For the Sustainable Transport Bridge the second of four cofferdams is currently being constructed. This will allow for water to be drained from within the cofferdams, creating a workspace below water level and permit construction of the concrete pier foundations.

Piling and laying of foundations at the existing bus station, new train station and bridge structures are also ongoing and progressing well.

Traffic management measures are in place along Dock Road and operating well. A new road surface and paving are being installed in the current works area and the same process, installing sewer and surface water network services followed by resurfacing and paving will then progress to the next section of Dock Road and accompanied by associated traffic management measures.

ROD Consulting Engineers have been appointed as Design Consultants for the Flood Defence contract.

David Walsh Civil Engineering contractor is progressing on programme for both the Pump Station Enabling Works and the Ferrybank Pump Station relocation contract.



Local Enterprise Office

LEO Figures year to date (2023) and comparison of current month with previous year

Indicator	At end of Sept 2022	At end of Sept 2023
Measure 1		
No. of Clients applying	10	30
No. of Clients securing	10	30
Value of support approved	€253,317	€323,056
Measure 2		
No. of clients receiving	1477	1776
Value of support given	€268,621	€336,497

*Technical Assistance for Micro Exporters' Grant (TAME) approvals are included in Measure 1 support figures above for 2023 but were not for 2022. TAME figures were reported separately in 2022 as a cumulative year end figure.

Evaluation & Committee Meeting took place on September 15th. Next meeting takes place in October.

Support – Trading Online Voucher

Trading Online Voucher

No. of Approvals	55
Value of Approvals	€107,633

Figures not included in cumulative table.

Management Report Plenary 12th October 2023.

With the National Women's Enterprise Day planned for October 19th, Local Enterprise Office Waterford, in collaboration with Network Ireland Waterford branch, Dungarvan West Waterford Chamber and Waterford Chamber will host a networking event at the Mount Congreve House, that promises to inspire and educate the next generation of female entrepreneurs. National Women's Enterprise Day is Ireland's largest female enterprise event. This year's "Empowering Business Together" themed day not only showcases the work of successful female entrepreneurs, but also supports and fosters female entrepreneurship by encouraging more women to start their own business.



Communications

Press Releases

The Communications Department distributed 11 media releases and posted 37 news items on the Council's news page



Think Waterford First Campaign – Burst II

Think Waterford First Campaign (Burst ii) commenced with digital and audio rollout through standard display, premium display, video display, social:in feed, Google ads and YouTube.

Campaign Rollout – Mixed Media:

- Radio: 4-week campaign from w/c September 25th:

- Newstalk, 98FM, and WLRFM

- OOH (Out of Home and Metropole) live September 25th

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

Irish Times Special Content pieces published on September 25th

- Living in Waterford – published on September 25th

Next features currently in development:

- Working in Waterford – published October 16th

- Investing in Waterford - published November 6th

Social media toolkit:

- Stakeholder social media toolkit also in development

TG4:

- Winterval campaign in development

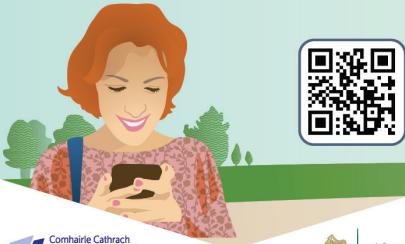
**YOUR VOICE MATTERS AND
YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT**

checktheregister.ie

Visit www.checktheregister.ie now to update your details by adding your:

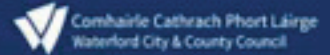
- PPSN
- Date of Birth
- Eircode

If you cannot access this information online, please email franchise@waterfordcouncil.ie or phone 0818 10 20 20.



We are hiring!

Assistant Planner
Biodiversity Officer



Gort na hInse, Ballynaneashagh, Waterford

Applications open
17th October

At least 25%
below market rent

22 units available
2-3 bedrooms



Are you living or working in Waterford?

If you are earning a net income of less than €59,000, you may qualify for **Cost Rental Housing**

For more information about eligibility and how to get your application ready, please visit www.waterfordcouncil.ie



Waterford SCHOOLS LITTER CHALLENGE 2023

We are doing our bit to



In House Design

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

	Reach	% Change	Followers	% Change
July	758,690	72%	47,564	0%
August	671,461	-11%	47,981	1%
September	529,987	-21%	48,690	1%

WCCC Website Stats: September 1st to September 28th 2023

Page Views: 106,051 Unique Page Views: 82,704 Downloads: 19,846

Top 10 pages not including homepage: Viewing Device:

- Planning Enquiries
- Choice Based Letting
- Vacancies
- Online Payments
- Viewing a Planning Application
- Departments homepage
- Planning Lists
- Planning homepage
- Parking
- Housing Homepage

- Smartphone 25,629
- Desktop 17,173
- Tablet 959

Management Report Plenary 12th October 2023.

TOURISM

A delegation from Märkischer Kreis, Germany, will arrive to Waterford on the 15th October. Waterford formed a twinning partnership with the German region earlier in the year. During their visit the team will experience some of what Waterford has to offer in the way of tourism, education, history & heritage as they travel across the county. We look forward to welcoming the Märkischer Kreis delegates to Waterford and to continue strengthening the relationship with our European counterparts.

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 late 2023/early 2024.

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.

Economic Development & Enterprise SPC

The next Economic Development & Enterprise SPC is scheduled on December 13th 2023.

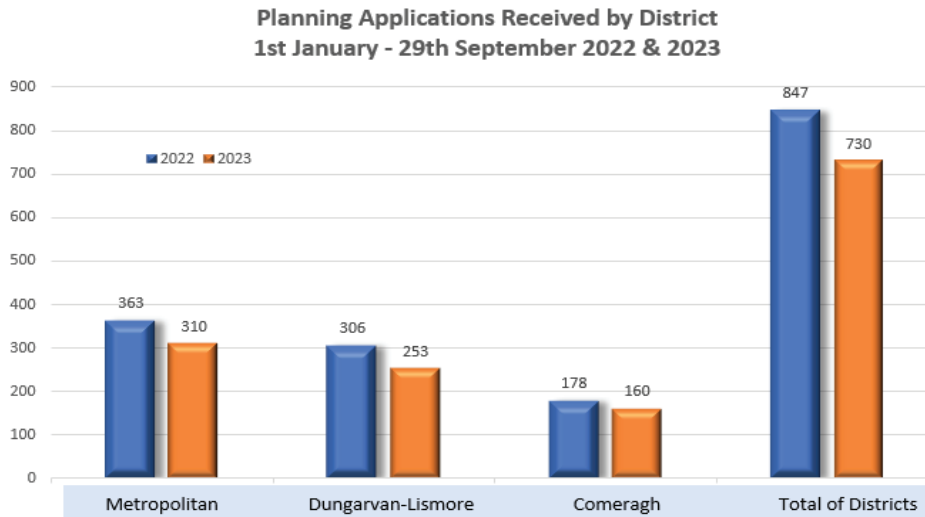


Pleanáil / Planning

PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED – COUNTYWIDE

74 planning applications were received countywide in September 2023. This compares with 77 planning applications received for the same period in September 2022.

A total of 730 planning applications were received in the year to 29th September 2023. This compares to 847 planning applications which were received for the same period in 2022.



Heritage Officer Report

Decade of Commemorations- All districts:

The final conference of the Waterford Decade of Centenaries Programme takes place in the Large Room of City Hall on Saturday 21st October 9am-4pm. Attendance is free of charge but pre-registration is required on Eventbrite <https://bit.ly/3Ro8eDE>.

A Screening of the Dying Days film on the death of Liam Lynch and the end of the Civil War took place to a full auditorium at Garter Lane Theatre on Thursday 28th September at 7pm opened by Mayor Joe Conway.

A talk commemorating the centenary of the election of Caitlín Brughá the wife of Cathal Brughá in 1923 took place on September 19th in Dungarvan Library and was attended by a grandson of Caitlín Brughá.

Landscape Forum:

A National Landscape Forum took place at Mount Congreve on September 28th and 29th discussing the National Landscape Strategy and issues of landscape past and landscape future.

Woodstown Viking Site:

Archaeologists from the Discovery Programme will complete a geo-physical survey of the Woodstown Viking Site in early October. A delegation from Stavanger Museum in Norway is planning a visit Waterford in early November 10th taking in City Hall, the Viking Triangle, Waterford Museums and the Woodstown Viking site.

Derelict Sites

Initial engagement with owners or their representatives is key to resolution of the issues of dereliction and to understand the various reasons why the properties are in a derelict state.

We are advising owners of residential properties of the various grants available for refurbishing vacant and derelict properties to residential use. The table below provides a snapshot of the activity in September and the year 2023 to date.

Derelict Sites	September	Year to date 2023*
No. of new files opened	62	244
No. of Section 8(2) Notices issued – Intention to enter site on Derelict Sites Register	10	62
No. of Section 8(7) Notices issued – Entry of site onto Derelict Sites Register	3	38
No. of Section 11 Notices issued – Measures required to render the site non-derelict	0	16
Number of Sites/ Properties on the Derelicts Sites Register	4	64
No. of Notices served to Compulsorily Purchase Acquisitions (CPA) (see note below)	6	16
No of Vesting Orders signed	1	2

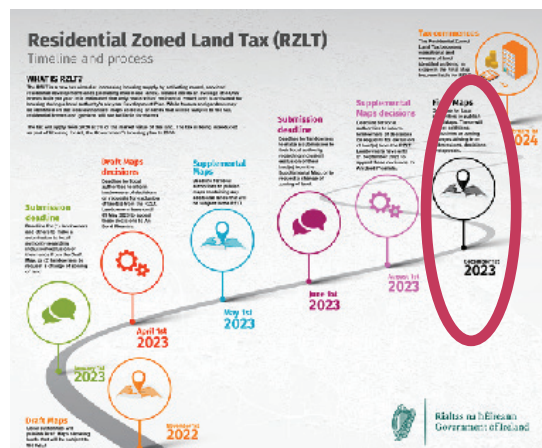
COMPULSORY PURCHASE ACQUISITION OF DERELICT SITES (CPA)

5 CPAs were initiated in September and publicly advertised. The time for submissions will expire at the end of October for 3 and the beginning of November for 2. The Council will then move to the vesting process where applications for registration of title will be made to the Property Registration Authority.

Forward Planning September Plenary Report

Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT) Map of land in-scope

As per the timeline below, the final map of lands identified as being in-scope for the RZLT will be published by the planning authority on 1st of December. The final map will have regard to the determinations of An Bord Pleanála on all appeals which have sought to remove lands from the draft RZLT map. At time of writing An Bord Pleanála has notified the council of 17 determinations which have upheld the decision of the council to include lands as being in-scope for the RZLT in all but one case.



Tithíocht / Housing

Housing Applications

Housing Applications				
<i>* inc files from carried forward</i>	September 2022	Year 2022	September 2023	Year to date 2023
Applications received	81	959	182	1638
Applications assessed *	30	434	27	465
Applications Validated*	N/A	N/A	121	N/A
Approved for social housing supports following interview	N/A	N/A	34	N/A

Housing Allocations

Housing Allocations					
	New Tenancies Sep 2022	Cumulative Tenancies 2022	New Tenancies July & Aug 2023	Refusal of new Tenancies	Cumulative Tenancies 2023
	106	487	95	17	246

CHOICE BASED LETTING (CBL) SCHEME

The total number of properties advertised on the CBL system to date is 1262. There have been 425 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
September	9	10	3	4	6
Year to date	67	10	36	15	6

Tenant Purchase applications

Tenant Purchase applications					
2023 Tenant Purchase	Applications received	Applications awaiting info	Applications refused	Applications approved	Sales Closed
September	4	1	3	3	1
Year to date 2023	47	8	16	15	22

Housing Assistance Payment

Housing Assistance Payment					
	September 2022 HAP Tenancies	September 23 HAP Tenancies	2023 No.of active HAP Tenancies set up	Applications approved	Sales Closed
HAP Tenancies	25	19	-18	4,751	1741

Management Report Plenary 12th October 2023.

Inspections of Dwellings

HAP	46
HAP Non- Compliant	30
Total	333

Housing First Programme

Tenancies 2023	
Number of Tenancies in place with Housing First supports.	September 34

In September, Waterford City & County Council carried out 312 planned and reactive inspections of our housing stock. As a result of these inspections 17 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 September 2023	Value of applications September 2023	Cumulative number of applications approved 2023	Cumulative value of 2023 applications
Housing Adaptation for People with a Disability. Max. €30,000	22	€152,317.12	92	€760,739.35
Mobility Aids Scheme Maximum €6,000	4	€14,850.00	13	€50,440.00
Housing Aid for Older People Maximum €8,000	20	€79,360.54	110	€483,490.52
Total	46	€246,527.66	215	€1,294,669.87

Housing Grant Applications Received & Validated:

50

Housing Grant Applications Incomplete & Returned:

10

Housing Grant Applications Incomplete & Returned:

46

Homeless Services

Homeless Services

Waterford Integrated Homeless Services (WIHS)	28th August-1st October 23	Cumulative 2023	Total 2022
Number of Callers to WIHS seeking a service	380	2,657	3,618
Assessments by a Homeless Officer	103	753	954

Breakdown of Persons in Emergency Accommodation

	1st October 2023	1st October 2022
Number of Single Persons	41	44
Number of Families	17	19
Number of Adults in Families	20	25
Number of Children	37	36

HAP PlaceFinder Service

	28th Aug-1st October 2023	Cumulative 2023
Number of Assessments by the Homeless HAP Officer	36	240
Number of HAP PlaceFinder Tenancies HUB Complete	4	88

Capital Projects

Housing Capital Schemes - WCCC Projects

Project Type	Units
Housing Capital Schemes - WCCC Projects	367
Part V	284
Total Units in WCCC Projects	651

Housing Capital Schemes - Approved Housing Body Projects

	Units
Total Units in Approved Housing Body Projects	87

Housing Efficiency Retrofit

Total Units for 2022 and 2023 to date, Details outlined in district reports.

REFURBISHING OF HOUSES BECOMING VACANT FOR RE LET:

September	Total
Handed over/ Works completed	8
Newley Vacant	10

TENANT "IN-SITU" SCHEME

- 100 Enquiries received
- 20 Waiting to hear back from Vendor for further information
- 7 Sale Completed
- 36 Sale Agreed
- 10 Offers made and awaiting to hear back from Vendors
- 5 Awaiting WCCC inspection/ Independent Valuation
- 22 Not proceeding (reasons below)
 - o3x Tenant left property themselves
 - oTenant doesn't want to stay in the property and has requested transfer
 - oTenant's allowed stay in property by landlord, landlord didn't want to proceed further.
 - o7x Not suitable for tenant in-situ scheme and informed about Cost Rental Tenant in-situ scheme
 - oLandlord want's to sell to highest bidder on the open market
 - o3x Can't reach agreement with Landlord.
 - o4x Tenants accepted alternative social housing unit.
 - oVendor wanted property back for themselves to live in.

Seirbhísí Pobail / Community Services

RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME:

- It is expected that Waterford LCDC will be awarded the new LEADER Programme 2023 -29 in mid-October 2023.
- Subject to the contract been signed, Targeted Calls for new projects will commence in late November 2023.
- Payments are continuing and are nearing completion. In September €134,185 was paid out to promoters.
- €500,000 of the €8m budget still remains to be paid out. All but €100,000 will be paid out before Christmas, and the balance before end of February 2024.
- LEADER has allocated €8m to Projects since 2017.
- In terms of funds decommitted, the revised Final outcome will now be €10,000, which is 0.13%
- A presentation was made to the Economic SPC on the 27/09/2023 on the New LEADER Programme.

COMHAIRLE NA NÓG:

The topic for 2023 has been identified as Relationships and Sexual Education in schools and progress on 2023 activities has continued over the summer by the young members. The Podcast series on the young peoples chosen topic are fully complete and ready for publication. The AGM is schedule for October in the Tower Hotel, Waterford. The Young people continue to participate in their nominated local and national committees.

WATERFORD AGE FRIENDLY PROGRAMME:

Delivery of the year 1 action plan has begun with six of the seven Implementation Subgroups (the majority having met multiple times). The remaining group will have initial meeting in early October.

WELL WATERFORD (LCDC SUB-GROUP)

Healthy Waterford Programme

Playful Streets: A project that has gained great momentum over the last few months has been the Playful Streets project. 17 events took place by the end of September with a massive attendance from the General public.

Several projects have been granted funding. Below is an overview of the same. Between September - December additional partners and project's will be considered for 2024.

Committed Funding

TREO Portlairge	€10,000
Aiseiri Progression Program	€7,360
Playful Streets	€7,500
SHEP Community Wellbeing	€6,500
Lismore Environs –	
Place Standard approach to Community Wellbeing	€20,000
Healthy Communities GIY	€18,000
Autism Friendly Cities	€3,000
Social Farming	€8,500

Municipal District Meetings

The Well Waterford committee and implementing partners have several meetings and events arranged to bring about a localised approach to community wellbeing. The following meetings took place for elected members and our implementing partners to meet and input into the Well Waterford structure. As these meetings are now concluded a report and survey is being furnished to decide the next steps for the Municipal District approach.

The Healthy City and County Coordinator has been selected to be a member of the National Healthy City and County Network Committee. This includes developing Waterford's future application to the WHO European Healthy City Framework.

Place Standard

Training on the place standard tool took place on the 16th of September. This tool and method are an effective way in engaging with the public on how they feel about the place they're from and improvements they would like to see implemented.

SLÁINTECARE HEALTHY COMMUNITIES PROGRAMME (SHCP):

Work continues on progressing the various projects under the Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme.

The Sláintecare LDO is also supporting the Healthy Ireland Co-ordinator with the Playful Streets programme.

An employment training for migrants in Waterford has been developed under the Sláintecare programme in cooperation with 12 partners from different agencies/organisations. The training started on the 2nd October with 15 people from the migrant community.

The LDO worked with A Slice of Culture in developing their programmes with migrants at the Harvest Festival on the 9th September.

Work is ongoing with community organisations in supporting their work and identifying projects for 2024.

LCSP SMALL GRANT FUND

The Department of Justice have approved a Waterford Community Safety Partnership Small Grants Fund to deliver innovative projects and initiatives that respond to the needs identified in the WLCSP Community Safety Plan 2023-2028. The object of the grants is to stimulate and nourish local community safety initiatives related to the actions within the Community Safety Plan. The grants will be announced by local paper, radio, and a social media campaign with amounts of €1,000 to €5,000 available to a total of €50,000. Applications will open from 6th October to 20th October, with grant amount awarded and allocated by 17th November to be expended by 31st December. Please ensure that any suitable projects within the communities and organisations that you represent are informed of the grant being launched next week

SCARY BUT SAFE HALLOWEEN PILOT:

The partnership are currently implementing the 'Scary but Safe Halloween' pilot community safety event which will incorporate a successful Creative Ireland application for a creative community led event called 'The Hill at Halloween', based in Ballybricked with the bandstand as the focal point.

WLCSP MEETINGS:

The Chair, and or CoOrdinator held meetings with The Probation Service, TUSLA, Age Friendly Implementation Group, Slaintecare Local Implementation Team, and WWETB. The CoOrdinator presented at The Southern Regional Networking Event for Joint Policing Committees, on behalf of the Partnership The Education, Training & Awareness and Building Community Capacity Working Group met on the 3rd October 2023 and the Reducing Criminality and Safe Environment & Infrastructure Working Group, met on 21st September The WLCSP Plenary Meeting took place on Tuesday 26th September 2023, and Assistant Garda Commissioner Hilman presented to the Partnership, with a representative from the Policing Authority present. The Agenda included an update on implementation of the Community Safety Plan, Quarterly Reports from the Partners, the new Garda Divisional Structure and Emerging areas of concern which included ASP, Organised City Centre begging, drug availability West Waterford and Halloween safety preparations.

UKRAINIAN COMMUNITY RESPONSE FORUM:

The Ukrainian CRF is in place to assist with housing, supporting and integrating Ukrainian refugees into our communities. All key agencies are working in collaboration to provide services and supports to all Ukrainians arriving into Waterford. Approximately 2,500 Ukrainian refugees have been registered in Waterford to date with over 1,891 #Ukrainians having been received directly into Waterford Council run Rest Centres in Dungarvan and Waterford City. To date 1,382 have been matched with pledged and other accommodation sourced by Waterford Council. Over 90% of expiring licence agreements are being renewed and the team continue to work on supporting pledge owners and occupiers here in Waterford. Waterford Area Partnership are supporting all of those who have moved with integration into our communities. The 'offer a home' pledge call for vacant properties is still open with over 240 Ukrainians being accommodated in pledged accommodation to date. Any queries on same should be directed to offerahome@waterfordcouncil.ie or 058 22059.

PRIDE OF PLACE:

The National Pride of Place awards event is taking place in Armagh on November 10th where CAPE-ability Lismore (winners of the overall PPN award) and the Larchville Lisduggan Residents Group (nominated by the Housing Dept.) will be present.

MIGRANT INTEGRATION:

The last Migrant Integration Strategy Meeting took place on the 13th September 2023 and the next meeting is scheduled to take place on the 1st November 2023. Each Local Authority in the Country are establishing "Local Authority Integration Teams" and recruitment for a number of positions for this team is currently underway. Discussions also took place around the review of the Migrant Integration Strategy Subgroup and Migrant Integration Forum.

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. The 2023 Mid-year review process is complete with no issues identified. Planning for the new SICAP 2024+ programme has now commenced with the tender process underway.

Management Report Plenary 12th October 2023.

TRAVELLER INTERAGENCY GROUP (TIG)

The Community Department continue to support the Waterford TIG which continues to meet regularly.

LOCAL ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY PLAN (LECP)

The LECP has been sent to the Southern Regional Assembly for comment last week and is on schedule for the Plan to be adopted at the November Plenary Council meeting.

CLÁR MEASURE 1 - DEVELOPING COMMUNITY FACILITIES & AMENITIES

A total of 9 applications were received 8 of which met the criteria and were submitted to the DRCD in early June.

Allocations for Measure 2 were announced in August and it was noted that allocations for Measure 1 would be announced later in the year.

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 months of September.

Fire Service Operational Activity:				
Area	Fires	Special Services	False alarm/ Good intent	False alarm /Malicious
Total for September	39	51	22	0
Year to date	428	402	183	0
Total for September	88	40	20	0
Total for 2022	530	373	164	0

FIRE SAFETY:

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

Fire Safety:				
	September 2023	2023 YTD	September 2022	2022 YTD
Fire Safety Certificates	11	76	5	65

BUILDING CONTROL:

Building Control:				
Applications received	September 2023	2023 YTD	September 2022	2022 YTD
Commencement Notices	22	231	28	310
Completion Certificates	17	148	17	204
Disability Access Certs	4	54	4	57

CIVIL DEFENCE:

Civil Defence activities during the month of September 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 73 Ukraine related calls
- Transportation to Medical appointments such as Hospital Visits, GPs, Dentists etc

In Community support and Events we attended:

- Harvest Festival Waterford 2 Days, Ambulance & First Aid Support.

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 – 27TH SEPTEMBER 2023

ENFORCEMENT UNDER THE LITTER POLLUTION ACTS 1997 (AS AMENDED)	
Legal Action Initiated	2
On the Spot Litter Fines Issued (Pending Payment or Prosecution)	104
On the Spot Litter Fines Paid (Includes Fines from previous year)	71
No of Notices Issued 9,16,17,20	0
ENFORCEMENT UNDER THE WASTE MANAGEMENT ACTS 1996 (AS AMENDED)	
No of Complaints	2376
Legal Actions	3
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)	19
Section 71's (Abandoned Vehicle Notices)	22
Warning Letters Sent (Packaging Info & Notice Follow Up)	154
Section 14 Directions	6
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	6
Regulation 25 Notice under the Deco Paints – Vehicle Refinishers	1
Prosecution of Regulation 25 of the European Union (packaging) 2014 (S.I. No. 282 of 2014) as amended.	1

CLIMATE ACTION

Climate Action Plan Draft to launch on 25th October

The consultation period for the Draft Climate Action Plan will open on 25th October and will stay open for 6 weeks. The Climate Action Team will host a number of events in the city as part of the Imagine Festival to encourage the public to contribute to the Plan. The Climate Action Team will also hold events in libraries and in GAA grounds across the county to meet people where they are.

Bioenergy opportunities for Waterford – Biobus to visit

The Biobus is a Science Foundation Ireland project, a bus with exhibitions around bioenergy (energy from derived from natural material such as grass and husks). Members of the public are welcome to visit the bus in John Robert's Square on 22nd October and in An Rinn on 12th November.

Rates Energy Discount Scheme

The Deadline for submissions for the Commercial Energy Rates Discount is 29th September. As of today, 550 businesses have availed of the discount in exchange for energy saving actions.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION & AWARENESS

Waste Prevention

During October there is a focus on Circular Economy living. An emphasis will be placed on repair and reuse during this month, including the launch of a basic DIY toolkit that can be borrowed from the libraries. In addition to this, we will be holding a clothes swap event and a textile exhibition in Central Library.

Schools

The Tom Murphy Litter Challenge for Secondary Schools has been launched in Waterford city and county. All secondary schools were invited to enter the competition and entrants will receive litter pickers, high visibility vests, gloves and bags to enable them to carry out litter picks of their designated area. These clean ups will take place during October and November. The prizegiving and presentation of certificates of participation will take place in the Mayors Parlour in early December. Tom Murphy Car Sales have sponsored the prize fund of €1,500 for the winning school.

Composting for Schools Programme

8 Secondary Schools are also taking part in the Composting for Schools programme, which involves 2 visits to the schools to carry out a waste audit to help schools to prevent, reduce and reuse their waste. There is a strong focus on food waste. Schools can also take part in 5 online sessions to learn more about waste prevention, recycling and composting within a school.

Green Schools Programme

The Green Schools programme for the new school year is well under way now. Along with schools visits, there have been webinars for Primary Schools and Secondary schools in Co. Waterford. These were held for each theme of the programme e.g. waste, litter, water, biodiversity, travel, etc and took place on line in the evening. These webinars are designed to support secondary school teachers and students as they work through their current theme. The majority of teachers found online seminars to be a convenient way to learn about their current Green Schools theme as it eliminates travel time to and from the seminar. The Environmental Awareness Officer will be available to visit schools or answer any questions that they might have.

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. The Environment Department continue to supply bags, gloves and litter pickers from both Dungarvan and Waterford offices to many of the groups taking part, as well as collecting the bags of litter afterwards.

7-day extension to the Slurry Spreading Period

In light of the recent wet period of weather and considering the scientific criteria to determine whether the period for slurry spreading can be extended beyond the 30th September, Darragh O'Brien T.D, Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, in consultation with Charlie McConalogue T.D, Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, has agreed to extend the slurry spreading period by 7 days. This is in line with the maximum period that can be granted at present based on the published criteria.

The closed period for slurry spreading will therefore commence on the 8th October 2023. Announcing the decision, Minister McConalogue stated: "I recognise that unseasonable weather conditions experienced this summer and within the last week, have impacted trafficability and provided limited opportunities for possible slurry applications by farmers and contractors."

Minister McConalogue pointed out: "Slurry is a valuable source of nutrients and is best utilised using low emission slurry spreading and especially in spring when growth and weather conditions are typically favourable for utilising nutrients and limit run-off and emissions to the environment."

The Minister added, "The majority of slurry has been spread well in advance of the closed period and this must be acknowledged and indeed commended. This limited extension will allow farmers spread any remaining slurry in the best conditions available to them."

Given the need to deliver on our commitments to improving water quality, it is fundamental slurry is applied under the right conditions and at the right time of year. It is critical that farm practices deliver on water quality. Farmers are reminded to observe Buffer Zones that apply at this time of the year.

This decision has been made in accordance with the provisions set out in Article 19 (1) of SI No. 113 of 2022 (as amended).

Libraries

In September, Waterford City & County Libraries were buzzing with activity, Teachers borrowed 1,219 sets of class novels this month. 94 new Touch Type read Spell Dyslexia support accounts were registered. 7,815 users of our Numeracy support software Times Tables Rockstars.

<i>No. of Visitors this month</i>	<i>30,362</i>
<i>Active members</i>	<i>32,291</i>
<i>Issues in Branch</i>	<i>23,837</i>
<i>On Line Borrowing including, ebooks & emagazines</i>	<i>8,117</i>
<i>Events & Activities</i>	<i>278</i>

LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT:

- Grade V IPA training was provided for all staff working at that level in the Library service.
- Sensory Needs Kits are now available in all Library branches. These kits provide a range of sensory and fidget items along with ear defenders. These kits were made possible by Dormant Accounts funding.

Management Report Plenary 12th October 2023.

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS FROM SEPTEMBER:

- As part of the Harvest festival Ardkeen Library ran a 'Tales and Rhymes' Storytime and seed planting, Library Assistant Jessica Griffin also hosted a story time in the Waterford Gallery of Art for 40 young people on Saturday September 9th.
- Writers in Waterford Libraries held two events in September. On the 14th author Kevin Barry visited Carrickphierish Library for a reading of his work and a discussion with Senior executive Librarian, Mary Conway. 70 people attended this event. Clare Keegan, renowned author of, Foster and Small Things Like These, appeared in Dungarvan Library to an audience of 100 people.
- Ireland's second Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) Week took place from 23rd September to October 1st with over 15 events and activities taking place in Waterford Libraries. Central Library hosted furniture upcycling and clothing repair workshops. Ardkeen Library ran an 'Understanding the Sustainable Development Goals' workshop for Secondary school students with Sustainable Living Waterford. Information and Activity Stations on the SDG's were in Ardkeen, Brown's Road, Dunmore East, Portlaw, Central, Dungarvan and Kilmacthomas Libraries. Lismore Library ran a Halloween costume swap. SDG event at Waterford Libraries were run in partnership with Europe Direct Waterford.
- Author Kensika Monshengwo visited the winners of the Anti-Racism Art & Poetry Competition in their schools on September 22nd and 29th to talk about his book Okani and the Crocodile Queendom, which was published in English and as Gaeilge in an effort to share African culture in homes in Ireland through Irish

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- A lending catalogue of large sensory items and life skills equipment will be made available in the coming weeks. This was made possible with Dormant Accounts funding.
- Author Russ Parsons will visit Ardkeen Library to talk about his work.



Airgeadas / Finance Revenue Account

	EXPENDITURE			INCOME		
	Expenditure €	Adopted Full Year Budget €	% Budget Spent to date	Income €	Adopted Full year Budget €	%
Building	24,440,633	35,728,461	68%	26,259,820	38,036,305	
Port & Safety	26,471,580	49,146,777	54%	16,236,557	33,752,918	
Res	7,183,370	11,790,929	61%	6,788,704	11,163,993	
Port Management	16,852,634	21,992,796	77%	9,829,168	11,448,028	
Port Services	13,449,378	21,512,181	63%	1,089,380	2,875,458	
Port Amenity	10,442,469	15,464,575	68%	1,235,263	1,614,234	
Education, Health & Welfare	662,867	1,068,270	62%	223,481	399,696	
Port Services	6,426,154	9,678,508	66%	7,170,049	10,749,476	
Port Tax / GPG	0	0	0%	13,111,752	19,667,628	
	0	0	0%	24,449,838	36,674,758	
	105,929,085	166,382,494	64%	106,394,012	166,382,494	

16.10.23

n

Collections

Airgeadas
Finance

Summary of main collections Aug 2023 YTD

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G'	[6]	[7]		
	Gross Bal as at 1-1-2023	Accrued ytd to Aug 2023	Write Offs and Vacancies	Waivers & Credits	Total for Collection [1+2-3] €	Collected ytd to Aug 2023 €	Gross Bal 30-08-2023 [4-5] €	Specific Provision	% Collected ytd re Total for Collection [5/4] €	% Collected ytd re 2023 Accrual [5/(4-1)]	
Rates	3,008,361	36,035,258	-	859,109	-	38,184,510	26,193,476	11,991,034	1,391,804	71%	73%
Loans	1,534,038	2,220,772	-	329	-	3,755,139	2,300,312	1,454,827		61%	104%
Rents	3,903,206	11,258,442	-	3,256	-	15,158,392	10,812,447	4,345,945		71%	96%
Aged Analysis :											
				Less than 1 mth	2 to 6 mths	7 to 12 mths	greater than 12 mths				Net Balance
Rates				-	-	10,315,336	1,675,698				11,991,034
				0 to 3 mths	4 to 6 mths	7 to 12 mths	Greater than 12 mths				
Loans				167,467	81,475	80,819	1,125,066				1,454,827
				Less than 4 weeks	4-6 weeks	7-12 weeks	Greater than 12 wks				
Rents				124,450	105,086	163,281	3,953,128				4,345,945
Overdraft Levels											
Days in Overdraft in Aug 23'	0		Cost -	0	€0.00	Average Value when in O/D :	N/A			€	-