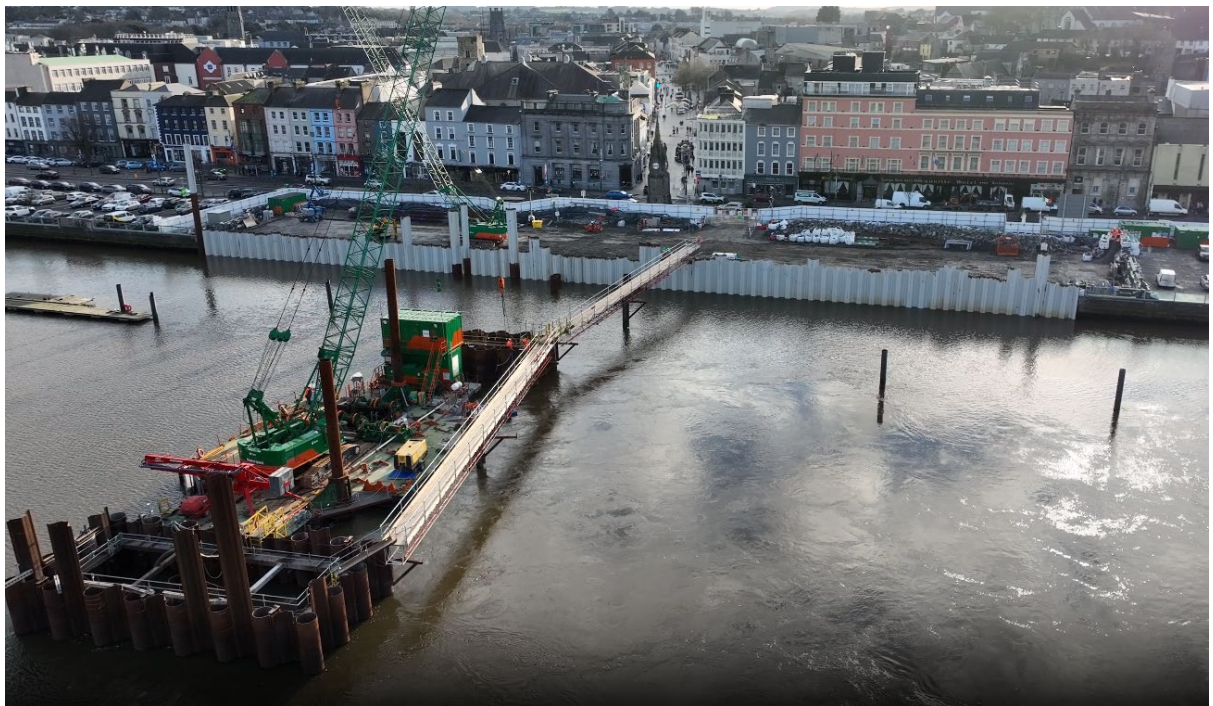


DO: GACH BALL DE CHEANTAR CATHRACH PHORT LÁIRGE
TO: EACH MEMBER OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF WATERFORD
Economic Development Report February 2024

1. North Quays

The overall North Quays project is progressing well. The substructure works for the Sustainable Transport Bridge continue to progress in the River Suir and the steel deck superstructure is being fabricated off-site in Belgium.



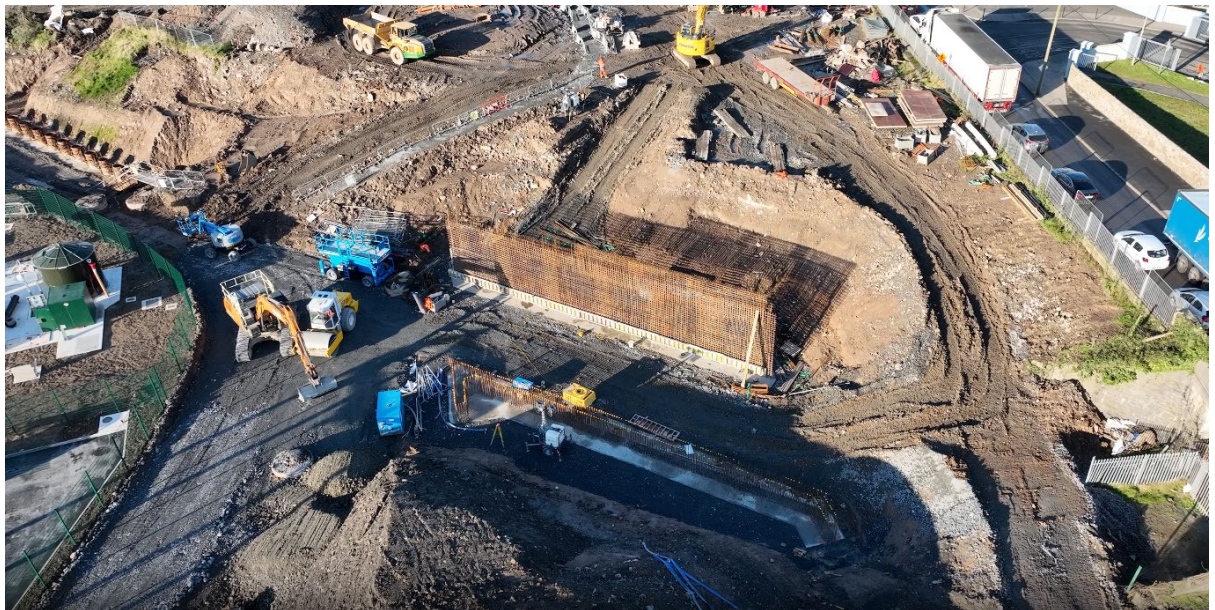
Sheet piling for the South Plaza quay wall (S37) is 90% complete and illustrated above and below.



All piling for the Transport Hub building and platforms is now substantially complete. The remaining foundations are nearing completion, and the superstructure is also progressing (rising walls, slabs, supporting walls, etc.). Irish Rail is continuing to install a new rail track to the south of the existing rail track, see below.



The road and access infrastructure is progressing well, works are ongoing to various bridge structures as illustrated below. Traffic management measures continue to be in place along Dock Road to install sewer and surface water network services. Works have extended to Abbey Road / Fountain Street junction and required the commencement of Phase 4 traffic management measures in early January.



The two pumps station contracts are c. 90% complete, but the programme has been extended into Q2 2024. ROD Consulting Engineers was appointed project engineers for the Flood Defence West Scheme and is progressing the scheme's scope and programme which will be constructed to the west of Plunkett Station.

City Centre Regeneration URDF Projects

Munster express (Project F) is for the development of a Smart City Technological Facility and Exhibition space. Tenders for the appointment of a team of consultants, including LEED (Energy Efficient Designer), Resident Engineer and Façade Specialists are due to be submitted at the end of February 2024.

Parade Quay (Project P, Q & R) - The development is for a proposed housing, public realm and commercial development at 124 -130 Parade Quay and also 123A & 123B Parade Quay. The Part 8 planning application was on display and three submissions were received and are currently being reviewed.

3 & 4 Georges Street (Project C) – DHB consultant architects are progressing preliminary designs for the refurbishment and repurposing of 3 & 4 Georges Street for commercial use. Survey work and external site clearance are also underway.

The Art house & 7&8 Thomas Street (Project J & I) – Tender process for consultants to oversee the refurbishment of all three projects shall be issued in mid-February. Demolition and a site clearance tender will also be prepared. The creation of a pocket park to the rear of the site is progressing under the Community Recognition Fund.

City Hall & Bishops Palace A tender will be issued in the coming weeks seeking a contractor to carry out repairs to the roof and external walls to both structures.

Derrick Crane Malone O'Regan Consulting Engineers has been appointed to oversee proposed repair works to the Derrick Crane on the Quay.

2. Tourism

Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) 2022.

- Enhancement of Open water swim amenities in Dunmore East to include handrail at slipway, ladder to access water and knee-high foot wash tap - Measure 1. Contractor has been appointed and project is ongoing. Anticipated completion date in Q2 2024.

Waterford Trails

- Continuing to engage with Sport Ireland Outdoors and local trail development groups around Waterford regarding ongoing monitoring, maintenance, development and promotion of Waterford's existing recreational trail network. www.visitwaterfordtrails.com

Visit Waterford Update

- **NYT Times feature:** Visit Waterford were delighted to have secured a feature in the NYT recently. Waterford placed at number 30 in the top 52 places to visit in 2024, a reflection of the fantastic tourism offering in Waterford City and County.
- **Holiday World Show:** Visit Waterford had a stand at Holiday World Show in Dublin from January 26th-28th. This stand will give Visit Waterford the opportunity to showcase all Waterford has to offer to over 40,000 attendees. And through this Visit Waterford was given the opportunity to feature on the RTE Today Show with Daithi & Maura.
- **Membership Increased to 48:** Visit Waterford grew its membership by 50% gaining 16 new members from across Waterford with a focus (68%) on West Waterford.

Waterford St. Patrick's Day Festival Launched

Following the success of last year's St. Patrick's Day Festival in Waterford, Waterford City and County Council, in association with Fáilte Ireland and EveryEvent, will be hosting a four-day programme of events from Friday March 15th to Monday March 18th. An international digital promotional campaign for the festival started in December and the national promotional campaign will begin before the end of January.



www.stpatricksfestivalwaterford.com

- **Harvest Festival**

Waterford Council have been advised by GIY that they will not be in a position to continue their partnership with the Council on delivering Waterford Harvest Festival. GIY have advised the Council that they are undergoing a phase of globally focused growth and will no longer have the capacity to deliver the festival in the current year. Waterford Council will be inviting Expressions of Interest for the future delivery of Waterford Harvest Festival and will aim to build on the work of GIY by continuing the focus on sustainability and promoting local producers.