

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



**CORPORATE PLAN 2019-2024**

A Review



**WATERFORD CITY AND  
COUNTY COUNCIL  
CORPORATE PLAN  
2019 - 2024**

# Mission Statement

Waterford, as the Capital of the South East will be a vibrant and sustainable place for all its people who live, work, visit or invest here.

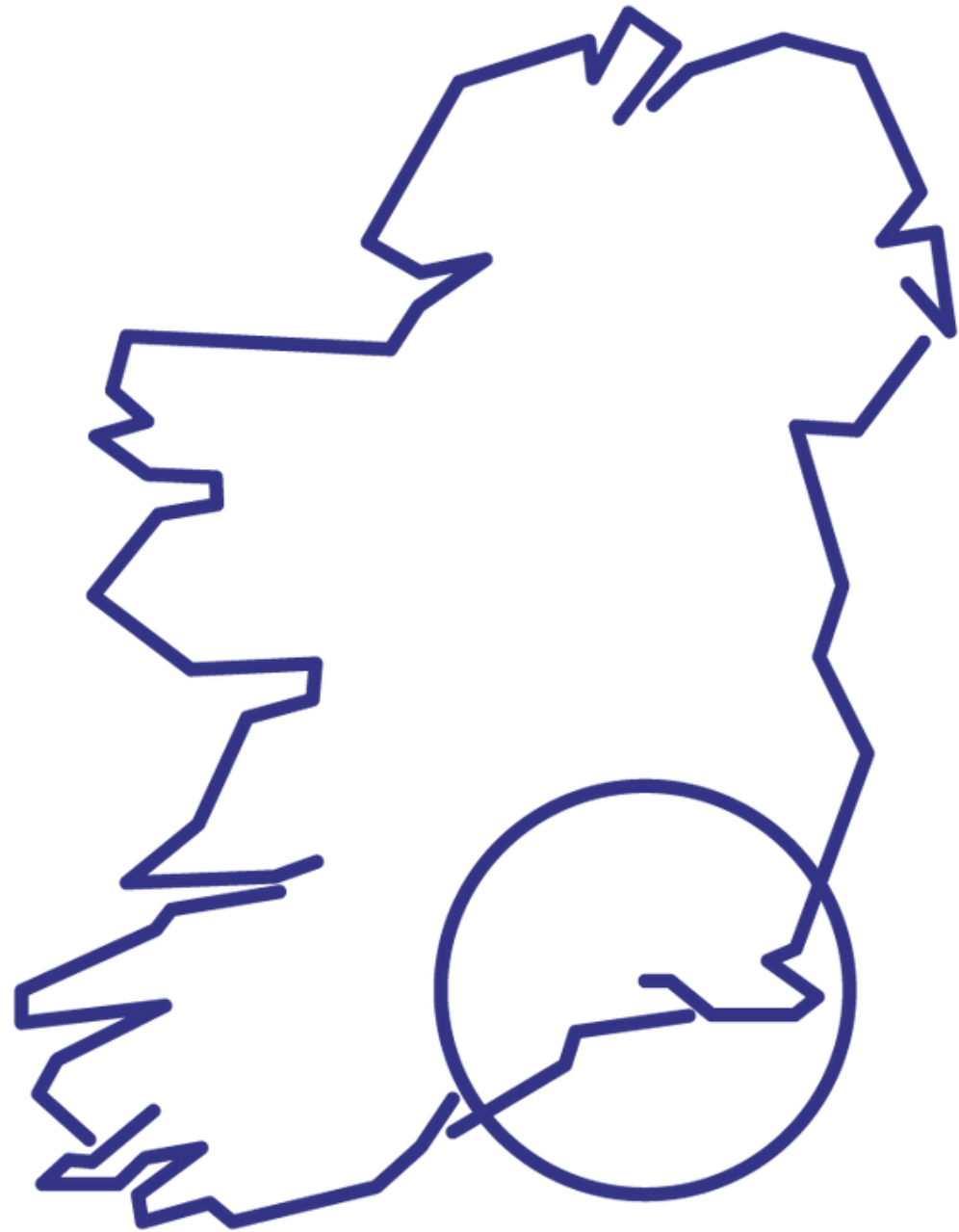
## Our Vision

- That Waterford is ambitious, progressive, and connected. A place where all our people enjoy life, well-being and opportunity at its heart.
- That Waterford people have access to a responsive, professional and people focused local authority which is connected at a strategic level to the wider public service.
- That Waterford and the South East are positioned to lead in terms of business development, economic growth and educational excellence.
- That Waterford offers a unique quality of life for all with outstanding world class amenities and a natural unspoiled landscape and scenery. A recognised tourism destination which honours its cultural and historic heritage as Ireland's Oldest City.



# 1. WATERFORD AS THE DRIVER OF REGIONAL GROWTH





Waterford is positioned to lead in terms of development and be the economic driver of the South East region.

Waterford City and County Council is committed to ensuring Waterford remains a key enabler of growth by supporting the delivery of Project Ireland 2040.





## **SETU**

Establishment of the South East Technological University in February 2022

## **URDF**

€200m investment in North Quays Strategic Development Zone

## **Housing**

Leading Local Authority delivering on all tenures – and in tackling vacancy and dereliction





## 2. BALANCED RURAL AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT





Ensure balanced development across Waterford City and County by encouraging development of our primary urban centres; Waterford City, Tramore and Dungarvan while planning for Dunmore East, Portlaw, Lismore, Tallow, Kilmacthomas, Passage East and Cappoquin to continue to be key drivers of rural growth.





## **URDF**

€9m funding secured under URDF to tackle dereliction and vacancy

## **Regeneration**

Cappoquin Regeneration Project

## **Public spaces**

Tramore Public Realm

Portlaw – Town Centre First

## **Digital**

Dungarvan & West Waterford Digital Hubs







### 3. CREATING A GROWTH CULTURE





An integrated plan for the future sustainable development of the Waterford Metropolitan Area will be developed in collaboration with key stakeholder and state agencies to ensure that the City's identified role as the principal urban centre in the South East region is enhanced and supported.

A strong Waterford will lead to the development of the South East region which will enhance economic growth and create added value employment opportunities.





## **Heritage investment**

Mount Congreve & burgeoning Museum and Cultural Quarters

## **Active Travel**

Bilberry to Waterford City Centre Greenway link

## **Presentation**

Cleanest City in Ireland (IBAL)

## **Green Enterprise**

Climate Action Rates Support

## **Waterford Cultural Quarter (WCQ)**

Community and Culture hub





## 4. PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES





Waterford will be a place where all are included as active participants in the cultural, environmental, social and economic fabric of their community.

Waterford will be a place of resilient communities. Our work within urban and rural communities will be to strengthen the connections, improve facilities and quality of life.

We will work in partnership with agencies and communities to prioritise initiatives that impact positively on the health and well being of all.





## Humanitarian

Ukrainian 360° response

Covid Response

## Community development

- SlainteCare
- Healthy Communities
- Age Friendly





# 5. A STRONG FOUNDATION





Waterford will continue to develop an attractive environment with good quality access to services to ensure a high quality of life, thus attracting:

- Investment
- Economic activity
- Increased visitor numbers
- Skilled and talented workforce







## **Community Safety**

Piloting of Community Safety Partnership

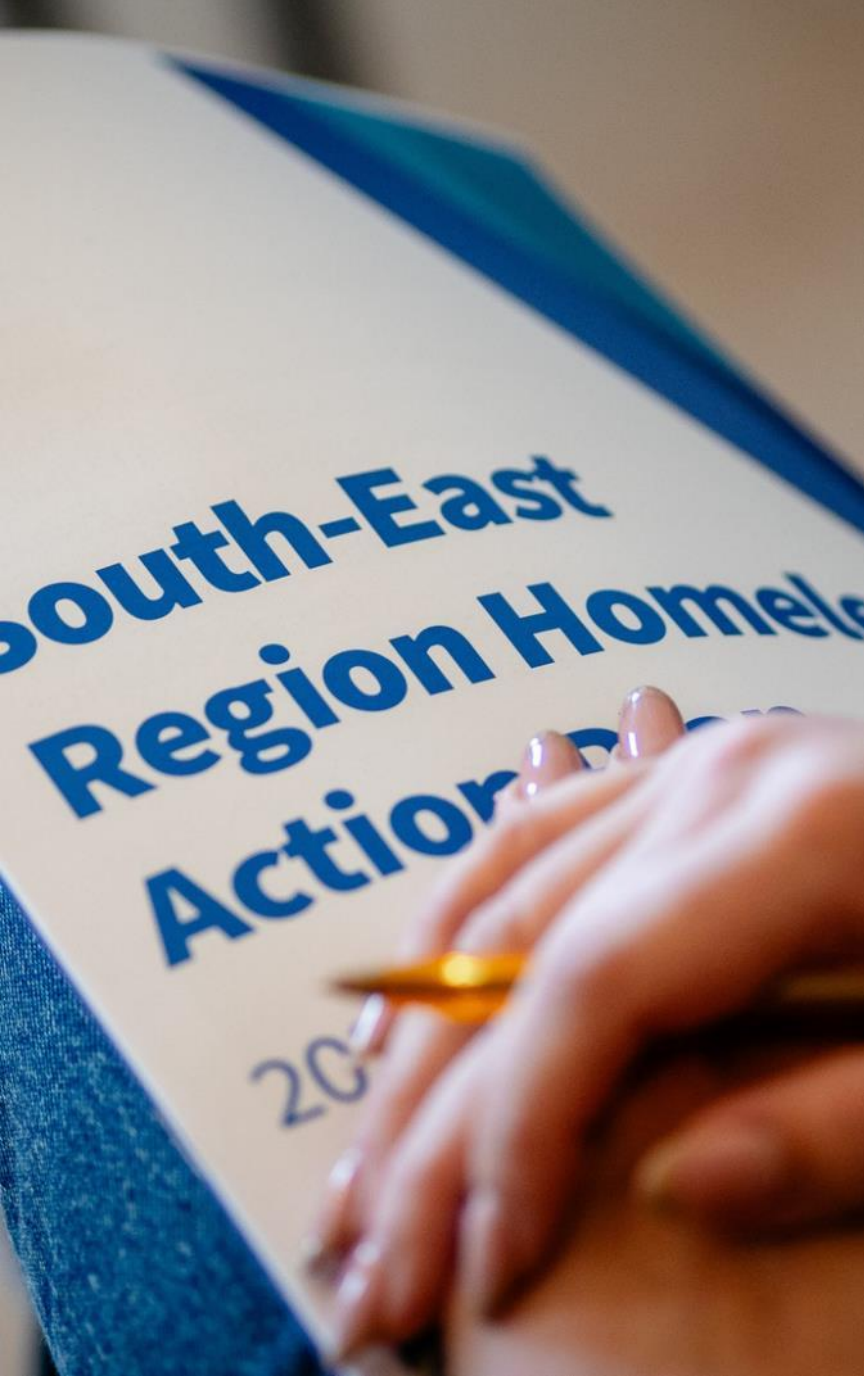
## **Business Supports**

Robust Covid – business support to SMEs and to bolster tourism & hospitality sectors

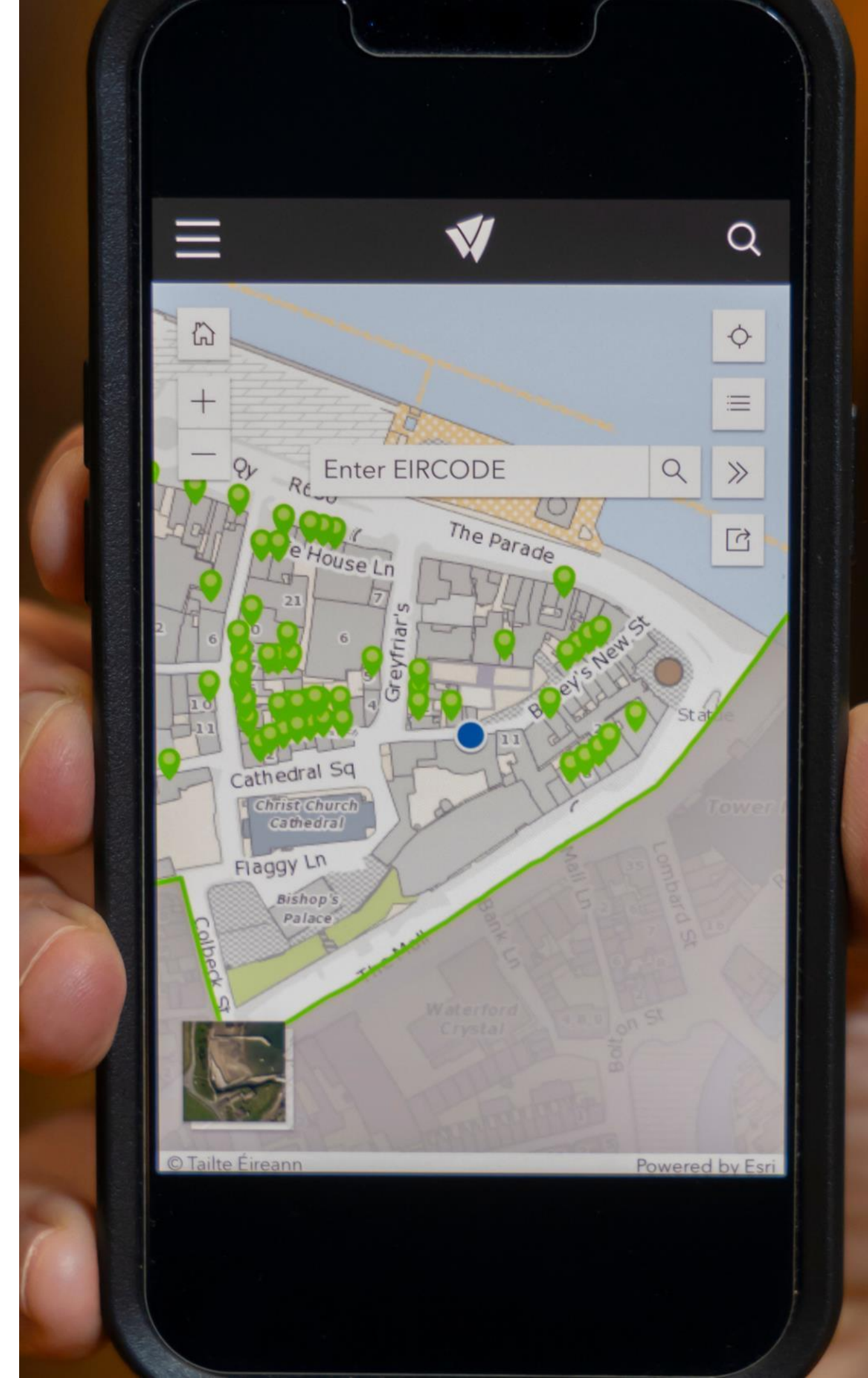
## **Connectivity**

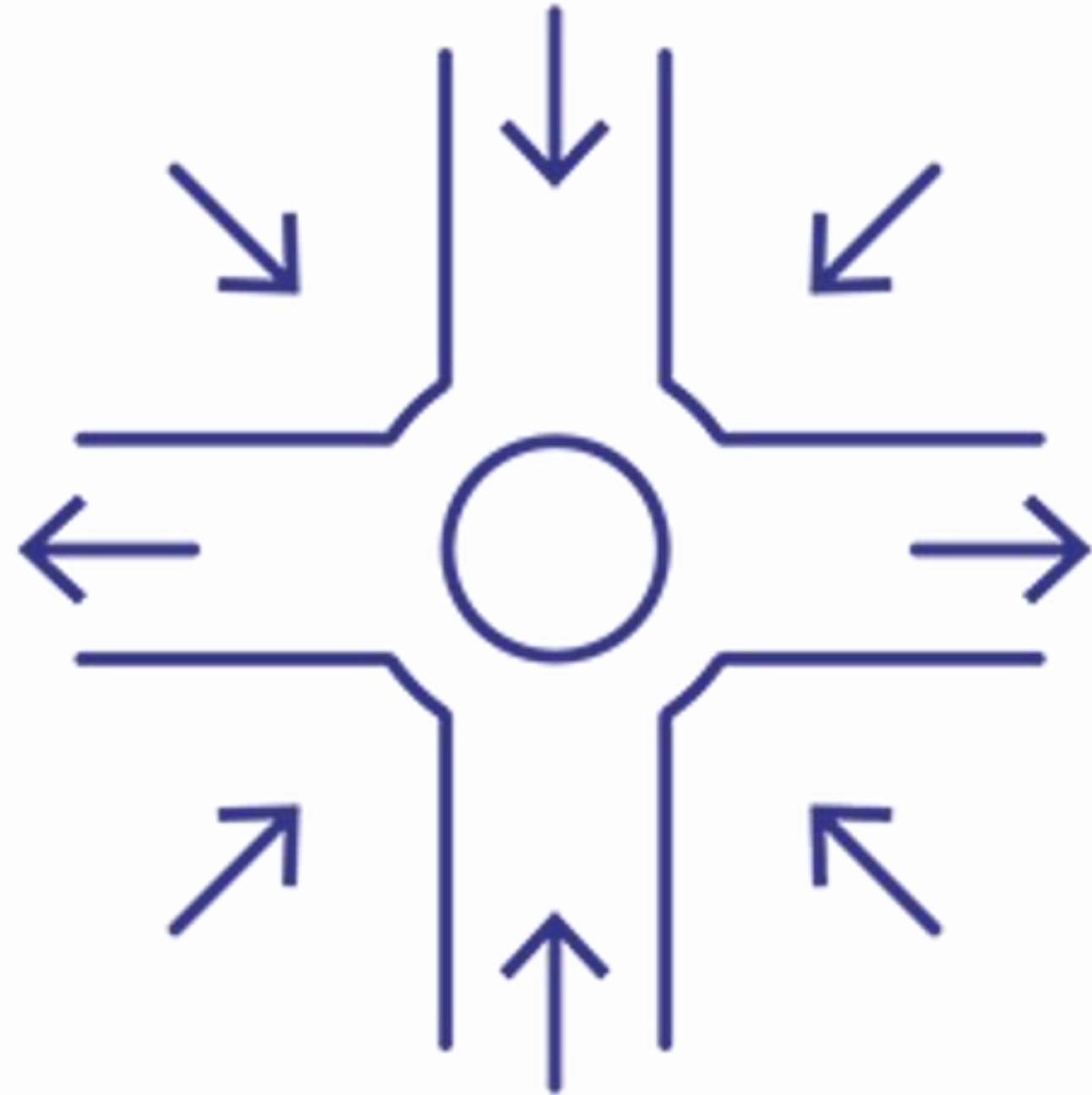
Rollout of National Broadband Plan





# 6. FIT FOR PURPOSE ORGANISATION





To ensure we are a Fit for Purpose organisation, we need to be transparent and accountable while delivering efficient public services and ensuring value for money.

We continue to achieve the actions outlined in Public Service 2020 by continually improving our performance, development, and growth.

We will meet our commitments in our Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty to eliminate discrimination, promote equality of opportunity, and protect the human rights of both our customers and staff.



## Continued supports to elected members

Election Hub portal

### Access

Open Libraries in Tramore & Dungarvan

### Digital Transformation

Covid – response strategy

### Weather events

MEM response and mitigation

### Climate

Adoption of Climate Action Plan





# Financial Performance 2018 - 2023

	Revenue Defecit	Capital A/c	Rates Arrears	Rates Collection	Loans Arrears	Loans %	Rents Arrears
	€M		€M		€M		
<b>2018</b>	<b>-6.7</b>	<b>-5.8</b>	9.1	80%	2	66%	3.7
<b>2019</b>	<b>-5.8</b>	0.1	9.2	82%	2	63%	4.1
<b>2020</b>	<b>-5.1</b>	0.1	11	80%	1.9	65%	4.4
<b>2021</b>	<b>-2.7</b>	4.6	6.1	86%	1.7	68%	3.9
<b>2022</b>	<b>-1.3</b>	8.8	3	95%	1.5	70%	3.9
<b>2023</b>	0.16	14.5	2.1	98%	1.4	72%	5.1





# Population Growth 2016 - 2022

- Between April 2016 – April 2022 (Census 2022) the population of Waterford increased by **10%** to 127,363 people.
- The growth is distributed across the county, with the city and the suburbs seeing a **12.7%** rise, followed by an increase of **10.7%** for Dungarvan and Ballinroad.
- Tramore experienced an **8.6%** increase and rural Co Waterford rose by **6%**.
- With an **11.2%** rise for the Metropolitan area, Waterford is by far ahead of any other comparable area in the State, including Dublin and Cork.
- Over the same period, Ireland's population grew by **8%** from 4,761,865 to 5,149,139.



## Highlights

- Ballinroad - Highest Population Density (2,154 per square km), Biggest Percentage Growth 2016 to 2022 (20%) & Youngest Population
- Carrick-on-Suir - Oldest Population (average age 41) & Highest Proportion of Adults Living with Parents (15%)
- Clonmel - Biggest Population (18,369) & Most Growth 2016 to 2022 (1,229)
- Portlaoise - Highest Proportion of Adults Living with Parents (18%)
- Tallow - Oldest Population (average age 41)
- Tramore - Second-Biggest Population (11,277) & Second-Most Growth 2016 to 2022 (896)
- Waterford city and suburbs - Biggest Population (60,079) & Most Growth 2016 to 2022 (6,576)



# Accolades

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

- European City of Christmas
- Ireland's Cleanest City (IBAL)
- Micro European City of the Future Index
- 52 Best Places to Go (NY Times)
- Best Place to Go in UK & Ireland (Condé Nast)
- UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities
- Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government





# Summary

Throughout the life of Waterford City and County Council there have been phenomenal external forces such as Covid, the war in Ukraine and their associated cost increases.

Despite these challenges the corporate entity is in an extremely robust place from a financial perspective, has performed well relative to peers and the growth in population and employment, combined with the high level awards and numerous accolades are best evidence of the Council's stewardship.





**Thank  
You**

**Michael Walsh**

Chief Executive

Waterford City and County Council

