



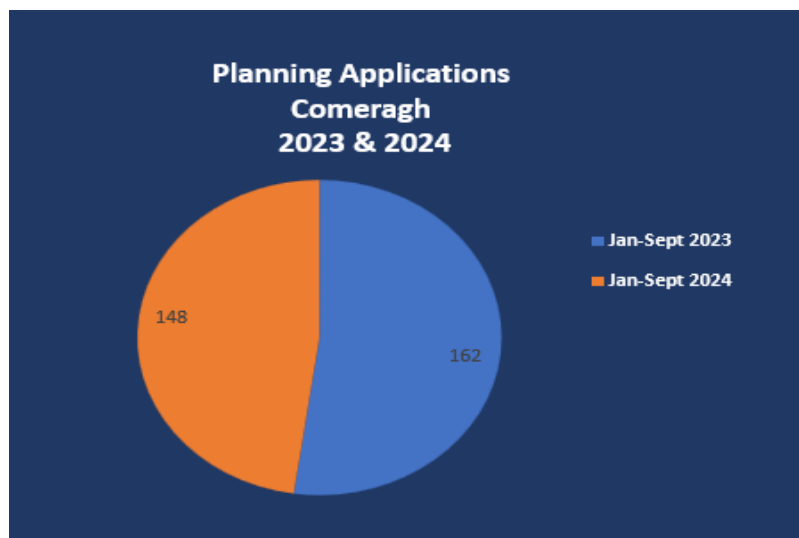
Waterford City & County Council Planning Report to Comeragh District Meeting – October 2024

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

Planning Applications Received – Comeragh District

17 Planning applications were received in the Comeragh District from 1st September 2024 to 30th September 2024. This compares with 8 planning applications received in the same period in 2023.

A total of 148 planning applications were received in the year to 30th September 2024. This compares to 162 planning applications which were received in 2023.





HERITAGE OFFICER REPORT

Decade of Commemorations

The launch of *The Aftermath*, a film by John Foley and funded by Waterford City and Council Commemorations Committee took place in Dungarvan Cinema on Tuesday, September 10th with a very positive response. The *Aftermath* captures the memories and thoughts of Waterford people talking about their ancestors involved in the War of Independence and the Civil War. The documentary film looks at some of the key events and the people involved and also looks at what happened to those involved in the decades following the period. The film was funded through the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sports and Media's Decade of Commemorations Fund. Further screenings are scheduled for October 15th in Dungarvan Cinema and November 13th in Garter Lane, Waterford City. See www.facebook.com/johnfoleyimages for details.

Shared Island Study Trip

Culture and heritage staff from Waterford City and County Council and members from Portlaoigh Heritage Group visited Mid and East Antrim on a two-day study trip on September 17th-18th. The trip was funded by Creative Communities on a Shared Island, an initiative of Creative Ireland. The project aims to develop connections between communities in Mid and East Antrim and Waterford through a variety of culture and heritage projects.

The study visit included guided tours of Raceview Mill, Broughshane and Gracehill Village, which recently secured UNESCO World Heritage status. The theme of the project is based on commonalities in industrial heritage, concentrating on textiles such as the linen and cotton industries.

ACTIVE LAND MANAGEMENT AND DERELICT SITES TEAM

The team is currently addressing a total of 284 properties classified as either derelict or potentially derelict. Recent weeks and months have seen a significant increase in activity, with 96 properties now listed on the Derelict Sites Register. Initial engagement with property owners or their representatives is crucial for resolving issues related to dereliction and for gaining insights into the various factors contributing to the properties' current state.

- **Comeragh Municipal District: 19 Open Files**

Details below are of the sites currently displayed on the map. Note: List changes depending on the geographic area shown

Reference	Action Taken	Address	Eircode
0523211	SR859R B(2) (16/11/2023), SR859R B(7) (18/12/2023)	20 CHURCH STREET, DUNGARVAN	X35R242
0523212	Section B(2) (16/11/2023), Section B(7) (18/12/2023)	21 CHURCH STREET DUNGARVAN CO. WATERFORD, Dungarvan	X35H058
0523213	First Correspondence Letter (24/04/2024), First Correspondence Letter (24/04/2024)	53 Ballybricken, Waterford	X91RW94
0523214	First Correspondence Letter (24/09/2023), Section B(2) (27/11/2023), Section B(7) (...)	8 South Terrace, O'Connell Street	X35 VX75
0523228	Section B(2) (05/10/2023), Section B(7) (24/10/2023), Section 15 (27/02/2024), Sec...	6 Sion Row, Dock Road	
0523236	Section B(2) (25/09/2023), Section B(7) (11/10/2023), Section 23(5) (08/03/2024)	Stephen Street, Waterford City	
0523243	Section B(2) (09/11/2023), Section B(7) (23/11/2023), Section 15 (19/12/2023), Sec...	72 Dominick Place, Airmount	X91FN73
0523252	First Correspondence Letter (25/10/2023), Section B(2) (19/08/2024), Section B(7) (...)	31 John Street, Waterford	
0523258	First Correspondence Letter (13/06/2024), Section B(2) (11/07/2024), Section B(7) (...)	2 Bath Street, Dungarvan	X35EC93
0523259	First Correspondence Letter (15/03/2024), Section B(2) (26/03/2024), Section B(2) (...)	7 Coolagh Road, Dungarvan	X35 H54
0524009	Section B(2) (03/05/2024), Section B(7) (19/06/2024)	Strand House, The Strand	X91AX80
0524021	Section B(2) (07/08/2024), First Correspondence Letter (07/08/2024), Section B(7) (...)	18 Convent Street, Tallow	P51N2C1
0524033	First Correspondence Letter (11/07/2024), Section B(2) (02/08/2024), Section B(7) (...)	Saraville, Dealish	X35FF67
0524036	First Correspondence Letter (05/06/2024), Section B(2) (15/07/2024), Section B(7) (...)	2 Rockmount, Knockboy Heights, Knockboy	X91KN8Y
0524042	First Correspondence Letter (04/07/2024), Section B(2) (02/08/2024), Section B(7) (...)	THE REG. 2 The Mill	X91W866

Select a Derelict Site to view its location, along with additional information, on the map.



The level of activity in the property market concerning vacant and derelict properties has notably increased. Among the properties we have identified as derelict, several have been reintroduced to the private market voluntarily, with some currently at the 'sale agreed' or 'to let' stages. We are actively engaging with the new owners of these properties to ensure they are fully informed of their obligations under the Derelict Sites Act 1990. Additionally, the introduction of the Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant has contributed to a significant rise in the number of derelict and vacant properties available on the market at this time.

The table below provides a snapshot of the activity in September 2024. Information is broken down by MD area.

Derelict Sites	Comeragh District
<i>No. of new files opened</i>	2
<i>No. of Section 8(2) Notices issued – Intention to enter site on Derelict Sites Register</i>	-
<i>No. of Section 8(7) Notices issued – Entry of site onto Derelict Sites Register</i>	-
<i>No. of Section 11 Notices issued – Measures required to render the site non-derelict</i>	-
<i>No. of Notices served to Compulsorily Purchase Acquisitions (CPA) (see note below)</i>	-
<i>No of Vesting Orders signed</i>	-

In September 2024, the derelict sites team successfully collaborated with property owners to restore these properties, thereby alleviating their derelict status. Many of these properties also participated in the Urban Façade Improvement Scheme, administered by the Economic Development department.

BIODIVERSITY OFFICER REPORT

Waterford Biodiversity Action Plan

The Waterford Biodiversity Action Plan is in the development phase. This process will continue over the course of 2024 and into early 2025.

- A presentation was made on the Biodiversity Action Plan to the Heritage Strategy Working Group on 6th Sept.
- Joined the Climate Action Team on 28th Sept. to present on 'Biodiversity for Communities' at Mount Congreve event for Community Climate Action Fund recipients. 17 community groups including Tidy Towns, GAA clubs and residents' associations present from across the county.

Not Stopping Now!

- Marina Mulligan in conjunction with Mariana Colman, An Taisce National Climate Ambassadors Programme Coordinator produced the Not Stopping Now! Nature's Resilience webinar series. Aimed at a public audience nationally as a collaboration between WCCC, the national Biodiversity Officer Network, the Heritage Council and Climate Ambassadors.
- Episode 3 on Barn Owls streamed live on 11th Sept. 1-2p.m. in collaboration with John Lusby, Birdwatch Ireland and Aengus Kennedy of Nature Northwest.



- Previous episodes available on the Climate Ambassador YouTube Channel.
Pollinators: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PhqBNCB2phw>
Bats: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JWuciQzt6-Q>
WCCC: ['Not Stopping Now' webinars - Waterford City & County Council \(waterfordcouncil.ie\)](https://www.waterfordcouncil.ie)
Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/climateambassador/> and https://www.instagram.com/waterford_biodiversity/
- Next episode: Dark Skies on 16th October. Sign up on the WCCC link above.

NOT STOPPING NOW!

Webinar Series
How Nature Rocks and Teaches Us Resilience

Presented by:

- Comhairle Cathrach & Contae Phort Láirge
Waterford City & County Council
- An Chomhairle Oidhreachta
The Heritage Council
- CLIMATE AMBASSADOR
An Taisce

Cooler Than Batman