

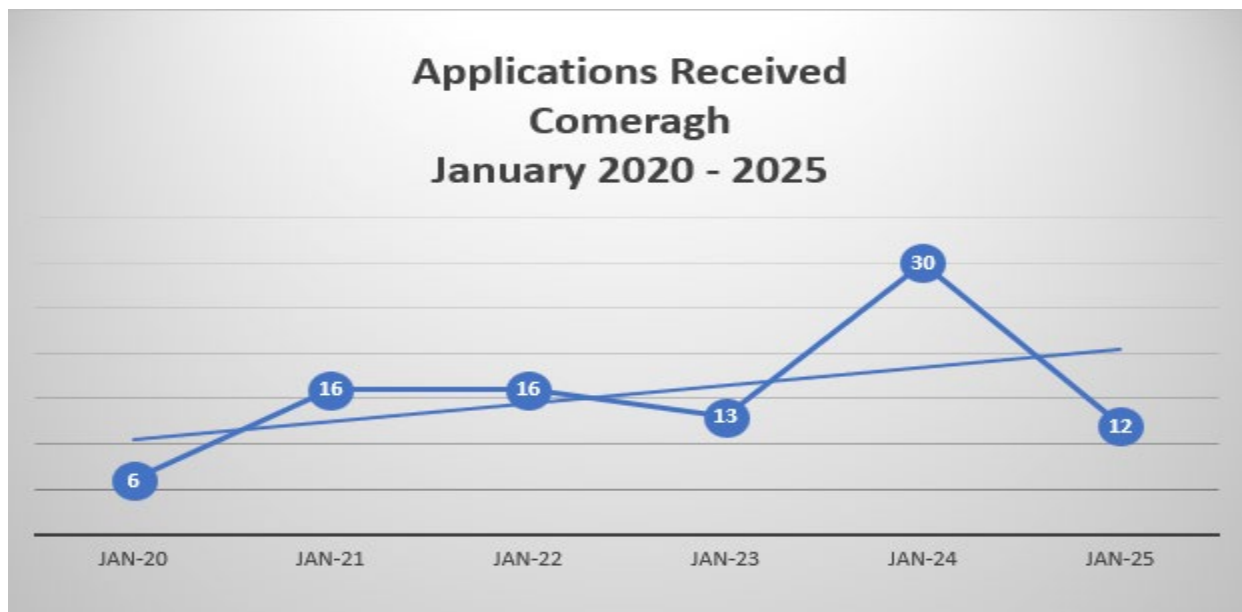


Waterford City & County Council Planning Report to Comeragh District Meeting – February 2025

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

Planning Applications Received – Comeragh District

12 Planning applications were received in the Comeragh District in January 2025. This compares with 30 planning applications received in the same period in 2024.



Forward Planning Report

Residential Zoned Land Tax: Publication of the Final Map 2025 and Annual Draft Map 2026

The **RZLT Final Map 2025** was published by Waterford City and County Council on 31st of January. This map identifies land that are liable for payment of the tax for the tax liability year 2025, The final map is available to view on the council website at [Residential Zoned Land Tax - Waterford City & County Council](#)

In addition to the above, the **RZLT Annual Draft Map 2026** has been published on the council website above and also on consult.waterfordcouncil.ie on the 1st February. Full details of how to engage with the RZLT process and making a submission if required are set out at these locations. The process for preparing the final RZLT map annually contains the following general stages:

- Publication of the ADM followed by a 2-month period of public consultation, accompanied by placement of advertisements in local press and across Waterford Council social media accounts;
- Receipt of written submissions from landowners and consideration thereof;
- Notification of written determinations made by Waterford Council to the relevant landowners who made written submissions to the draft map;
- Making of appeals to An Bord Pleanála where landowners are aggrieved by the determination of the council;
- Publication of final annual revised map at the start of the relevant tax liability year followed by a repeat of the process to prepare a new draft annual revised map.

While each local authority is responsible for the map preparation process, Revenue is tasked with collecting the tax nationally. We will keep the plenary council updated on principal issues arising during the process of preparing the final annual revised map throughout the year.



Conservation Officer Report

Built Heritage Investment Scheme (BHIS) 2025

Waterford was allocated €212,958. Due to the high volume of applications, we contacted the Department requesting extra funding and have received an additional €60,771

Historic Structure Funds (HSF) 2025

The closing date for applications was 17th of January. All applications are being assessed and a provisional schedule of projects to be submitted to the Department by 7th of February for formal approval by the Minister

Historic Thatch Buildings Fund 2025

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage has announced funding of €41,060. The closing date for applications was 17th of January. All applications are being assessed and a provisional schedule of projects to be submitted to the Department by 31st January 2025 for formal approval by the Minister

Heritage Officer Report

Waterford Heritage Strategy

Waterford City and County Heritage Forum has prepared a Heritage Strategy covering the period 2025-2030. The Heritage Strategy sets out strategic objectives relevant to all aspects of heritage including archaeology, built, cultural, intangible and natural heritage which will guide annual action plans to achieve those objectives. The published strategy will be available at the end of February.

Funding schemes for 2025

The Heritage Council's 2025 Community Heritage Grants Scheme will open for applications on February 3rd until March 3rd. Application form and handbook are available on <https://www.heritagecouncil.ie/funding/community-heritage-grant-scheme-2>. The scheme is intended to enable communities and heritage non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to continue their work on existing projects or to start new initiatives. Project types eligible for funding may include;

- Workshops and training events in traditional building skills, craft skills, graveyard recording and biodiversity training,
- Online exhibitions, oral history recordings, podcasts, and films,
- Conservation surveys, reports, plans, and audits that will inform the future management of buildings and monuments, habitats, collections, or objects.
- Conservation works to buildings, monuments, habitats, collections, or objects.

The 2025 Community Monuments Fund opened for applications with a closing date of January 31st.

- Stream 1 offers grants of up to **€100,000** aimed at essential repairs and capital works for the conservation of archaeological monuments.
- Stream 2 offers grants up to **€30,000** for development of Conservation Management Plans/Reports/Assessments and detailed Specification of Works that are aimed at identifying measures for conservation and maintenance of archaeological monuments.
- Stream 3 offers grants of up to **€30,000** for enhancement of access infrastructure, interpretation projects and small-scale emergency conservation works at archaeological monuments.

Active Land Management and Derelict Sites Team

The team is currently addressing a total of 309 properties classified as either derelict or potentially derelict. In recent weeks and months, there has been a significant increase in activity, with **100** properties now listed on the Derelict Sites Register. Engaging with property owners or their representatives is essential for addressing dereliction issues and understanding the various factors that contribute to the properties' current condition. Below is a detailed breakdown by Municipal District. Total Derelict Site Files Open 309. Comeragh Municipal District: 20 Open Files



100 Derelict Sites



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
DS23003	Section 8(7)(16/12/1999)	Gate Lodge, Factory Road	
DS23004	Section 8(7)(04/12/2004)	Mayfield Hse (Old Tannery Offices), Factory Road	
DS23006	Section 8(7)(19/12/2005)	Knockcreha, Rathgormack	
DS23007	Section 8(7)(19/12/2005), Section 23(5)(08/03/2024)	Kilmanahan, Ballymacarthy	176/05
DS23008	Section 8(7)(19/12/2005)	Kilmanack, CLONMEL CO. WATERFORD	
DS23009	Section 8(7)(12/07/2006)	Portlaw, Co. Waterford	
DS23011	None Recorded	Green Street, Cappoquin	
DS23012	None Recorded	Green Street, Cappoquin	
DS23013	Section 8(7)(19/12/2005), Section 23(5)(08/03/2024), Section 15 (30/10/2024)	Church Lane, Lismore	P517327
DS23014	Section 8(7)(19/12/2005), Section 23(5)(08/03/2024), Miscellaneous Correspond...	East Main Street, Lismore	
DS23015	Section 11 (15/06/1999), Section 8(7)(19/12/2005), Section 23(5)(08/03/2024), S...	West Street, Tallow	
DS23017	Section 8(7)(19/12/2005), Section 23(5)(08/03/2024)	The Green, Villierstown	
DS23021	Section 8(2)(26/09/2004), Section 8(7)(22/11/2004), Section 23(5)(08/03/2024)	Crookally Upper, Tramore	
DS23022	Section 8(2)(07/06/2005), Section 11 (07/06/2005), Section 8(7)(19/12/2005)	11 Strand Street, Tramore	
DS23023	Section 11 (07/06/2005), Section 8(7)(19/12/2005), Section 23(5)(08/03/2024)	The Old Forge, Summer Hill	

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 currently available on the market.

At the time of writing this report the team has successfully closed a total of 78 cases. In January 2025, the derelict sites team successfully collaborated with property owners to remove several properties from dereliction, thereby alleviating their derelict status. Many of these properties also participated in the Urban Façade Improvement Scheme, administered by the Economic Development Department.