

Economic Development & Enterprise SPC Multi-Annual Work Programme 2024-2029

The Revised Guidelines for Establishment and Operation of Corporate Policy Groups and Strategic Policy Committees published in June 2024, states that 'Each SPC should adopt a multi-annual work programme linked to the local authority's Corporate Plan which may be updated as necessary.' This work programme is to be approved by the Corporate Policy Group (CPG).

Waterford City & County Council's Strategic Policy Committee Scheme 2024-2029 (adopted in September 2024) states that the multi-annual work programme should:

- Align with the Southern Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy (RSES)
- Align with Waterford City & County Council's Corporate Plan 21024-2029
- Have climate change as a cross-cutting issue.
- Have an integrated focus on wellbeing based on the [Government's National Well Being Framework \(opposite\)](#).
- Align with the [UN Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#)



The Work Programme once agreed by the SPC and approved by Waterford City & County Council's Corporate Policy Group, will be published on the Council's website. The Work Programme will be reviewed by the CPG in Year 3 of the local authority electoral term (2027).

Economic Development & Enterprise SPC

Area of work	Key Output	Timeframe
Site visit: Waterford Airport	• Understanding of the importance of the development of Waterford Airport to the local economy and identifying opportunities for members to assist in progressing its development.	Q1 2025
WCCC Festivals & Events Policy & Grant Scheme review	• Understanding of the current policy and grant scheme. • Make appropriate recommendations for amendments to the operation of the scheme, if necessary. • Amendments will be forwarded to Plenary for adoption. • Fulfil policy role of SPC	Q1 2025
WCCC Economic Incentive Scheme Review & Extension 2025-2026	• Understanding of the current scheme to address commercial vacancies in urban centres. • Make appropriate recommendations for any amendment to existing scheme. • Fulfil Enterprise Support function of SPC and Statutory role under Circular Fin 10/2024: Update re Local Government Rates and Other Matters Act 2019 (as amended S9 & S15 Regulations)	Q1 2025
	• Briefing on Business Pledge: Commercial Rates Energy Discount Scheme by Climate Change Team	Q2 2025
Local Enterprise Office Enterprise Plan: presentation and monitoring	• Understanding of the role of the LEO. • Fulfil SPC statutory role of LEO oversight	
Local Economic & Community Plan: monitor economic element	• Understanding of economic objectives in LECP 2023-2029. • Update on implementation of the economic objectives in the LECP • Fulfil SPC statutory role of monitoring the implementation of the LECP economic elements	
Casual Trading Bye Laws: monitoring and informing changes to bye laws	• Understanding of Casual Trading Bye-laws • Make appropriate amendments to Bye-Laws • Amendments will be forwarded to Plenary for adoption. • Fulfil SPC role in informing council policy	Q1 2025

Approved Multi-Annual Work Programme 2024-2029

Area of work	Key Output	Timeframe
Urban Regeneration: Briefing on RRDF & URDF capital projects in Waterford	• Understanding of the public capital investment in Waterford which is contributing to economic development. • Opportunity to input into plans for the activation of these projects once completed.	
Tourism: Destination Experience Development Plan and work of Visit Waterford	• Understanding of the importance of tourism to Waterford's economic development and overview of current tourism promotion plans undertaken by Visit Waterford. • Fulfil Tourism Strategy function of SPC	
Waterford 2040: briefing	• Understanding of the economic promotion branding and campaign being undertaken by WCCC in partnership with other local stakeholders. • Opportunity for members to input into how their nominating bodies can further support the economic promotion of Waterford for inward investment. • Opportunity for members to utilise the information to further support the promotion of Waterford for inward investment through their nominating bodies.	
Regional Enterprise Plan 2025/6: briefing and consultation on the development of the new REP	• Understanding of the key role Waterford plays as a regional economic driver. • Opportunity to input into the development of the new Regional Enterprise Plan.	
Offshore renewable energy briefing by SE Off-Shore Wind Taskforce	• Understanding of development in Off-shore renewable energy and potential economic benefits for Waterford and benefits from the Community Benefit Fund.	
Site visit: Port of Waterford focusing on economic potential of off-shore renewable energy	• Understanding of the role of the Port of Waterford for Waterford and the region's economic growth and development.	
Site Visit: North Quays and/or briefing by Harcourt Developments	• Understanding of the North Quays development and its importance in the balanced development of Waterford. • Opportunity for members to utilise the information to further support the promotion of Waterford for inward investment through their nominating bodies.	

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Area of work	Key Output	Timeframe
Site visit: LI4 lab in workLab (Lean Industry 4.0)	- Briefing on the capability and opportunities from LI4 Lean Industry 4.0 Home - LI4 supported by SETU and Enterprise Ireland - Contact: Richard Dawson Richard.Dawson@li4.ie	
Smart City Strategy for Waterford: Consultation on development of strategy	Opportunity to input into the development of a Smart City Strategy for Waterford.	
Waterford Estuary Economic Strategy: Briefing and consultation on the development of an economic strategy for Waterford Estuary being developed in partnership with Wexford and Kilkenny County Councils and Fáilte Ireland	Opportunity to input into the development of the Waterford Estuary Economic Strategy.	
Rural Development Strategy for Waterford: consultation on development	- Opportunity to input into the development of the Rural Development Strategy for Waterford. - Final Strategy will be adopted by Plenary Council.	
Inputs from SPC Nominating Bodies (Chambers Ireland, PPN, ICTU) on role in supporting delivery of the SPC Multi-Annual Work Programme	Opportunity for all nominating bodies to share their contribution to economic development in Waterford.	Q2-Q4 2025