

MANAGEMENT REPORT

TO COUNCIL

SEPTEMBER 2025



PREPARED BY

SEÁN MCKEOWN

Príomhfheidhmeannach
Chief Executive



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1 Seirbhísí Corparáirdeacha Corporate

MAYOR'S OFFICIAL ENGAGEMENTS JULY & AUGUST

- 03/07/2025 ● Photocall for commencement of construction on Tramore Ring Road Active Travel Scheme, Mayor's Parlour, City Hall, The Mall, Waterford
- SoundCrowd '25 Gala Concert with Music Generation Waterford and Music Generation Carlow, Theatre Royal, The Mall, Waterford
- 06/07/2025 ● Beat the Ferryman Swim, Passage East Beach, Passage East, Co. Waterford by Cllr. Declan Barry
- 08/07/2025 ● Launch of the Volunteer Trustee Development Network, Waterford Volunteer Centre, O'Connell Street, Waterford
- 09/07/2025 ● Mayor's welcome with Roanmore GAA ahead of their twinning with Moataz Sarsour, Palestine on 22nd July in Thurles, Mayor's Parlour, City Hall, The Mall, Waterford (twinning did not proceed)
- Playful Communities, Ballybeg Community Park, Ballybeg, Waterford
- 10/07/2025 ● Portlaw Cotton Mill History and Legacy Talk by Tom Hunt - Comeraghs Wild, Portlaw Heritage Centre, Brown Street, Portlaw, Co. Waterford by Cllr. John O'Leary
- "Indigestion" written & performed by Seamus O'Rourke - Comeraghs Wild, St. Brigid's Hall, Kilrossanty, Kilmacthomas, Co. Waterford by Cllr. Liam Brazil
- 11/07/2025 ● Music and Comedy in The Comeraghs presents Remembering Joe - The Dolan Family in Concert - Comeraghs Wild, Cooney's Yard, Crough, Kilrossanty, Kilmacthomas, Co. Waterford by Cllr. John O'Leary
- 12/07/2025 ● Official start of Nire Valley Drop (NVD) MTB, Community Centre, Ballymacarbry, Co. Waterford by Cllr. John Pratt
- Royal British Legion Annual Commemoration and Wreath Laying Ceremony, Irish National War Memorial Gardens, Islandbridge, Kilmainham, Dublin by Cllr. Niamh O'Donovan
- Esan Cultural Festival Ireland, Butler Community Centre, St. Johns Park
- Fewer Harrington & Partners Architects Celebrating 50 Years, Waterford Castle, Waterford by Cllr. Jason Murphy

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MAYOR'S OFFICIAL ENGAGEMENTS JULY & AUGUST

- 13/07/2025 ● National Day of Commemoration Ceremony, Royal Hospital Kilmainham, Military Road, Dublin by Cllr. John Pratt
- National Day of Commemoration Ceremony, John Condon Memorial, Cathedral Square, Waterford by Mayor Cllr. Seamus Ryan and Deputy Metropolitan Mayor Cllr. Lola O'Sullivan
- 14/07/2025 ● Bastille Day Reception, Residence of France, Ailesbury Road, Dublin by Cllr. Lola O'Sullivan
- 16/07/2025 ● Waterford Business Awards 2025 launch photocall, ArcLabs Research & Innovation Centre, SETU, Carriganore, Waterford by Cllr. Lola O'Sullivan
- Music Generation Waterford 'Jam@the Royal', Theatre Royal, The Mall, Waterford
- 17/07/2025 ● Opening of IKEA's newest Plan and Order Point in Waterford, Tramore Road Business Park, Tramore Road, Waterford
- Photocall for revamp of the Sensory Garden by members of the Brothers of Charity Tory Services Gardening Group, Carrickphierish Library, Gracedieu Road, Carrickphierish, Waterford by Cllr. Lola O'Sullivan
- 18/07/2025 ● Mayor's welcome for Purple Flag assessors, Mayor's Parlour, City Hall, The Mall, Waterford
- Deise Medieval's Launch of Viking festival, Aonach na nDeise 2025, Reginald's Tower, The Quay, Waterford
- Spraoi Lawn Party, Spraoi Studios, Carrickphierish, Waterford
- 21/07/2025 ● Mayoral Reception for Sean Upton, Brenda Giles and David Hennessy, Mayor's Parlour, City Hall, The Mall, Waterford
- 22/07/2025 ● Mayoral Reception for Michael Reilly, Mayor's Parlour, City Hall, The Mall, Waterford
- 23/07/2025 ● Launch of "the Business & Branding Bundle" in conjunction with Dungarvan & West Waterford Chamber and Waterford Local Enterprise Office, Tallow Enterprise Centre, Nora Herlihy House, West Street, Tallow, Co. Waterford by Cllr. John Pratt

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MAYOR'S OFFICIAL ENGAGEMENTS JULY & AUGUST

- 23/07/2025 ● Mayoral Reception for Dylan Rees and Alex Hennebry, Mayor's Parlour, City Hall, The Mall, Waterford by Cllr. John Pratt
Mayoral Reception for Ballyduff Drama Group, Mayor's Parlour, City Hall, The Mall, Waterford
- 24/07/2025 ● Visit to SETU to meet children and adults from the Ying Wa Primary School senior orchestra and children and teachers from SETU Music School, SETU, College Street, Waterford
- 25/07/2025 ● Waterford Chamber Music Festival 2025, Mount Congreve, Kilmeaden, Co. Waterford
- 26/07/2025 ● South East Carnival 2025 Inauguration Ceremony, Waterford Vikings Complex, Gracedieu, Waterford
- 27/07/2025 ● Passage East and Crooke Development Association (PECDA) annual family fun day, Community Centre, Passage East, Co. Waterford
- 28/07/2025 ● Mayoral Reception for Freya Marsh, Mayor's Parlour, City Hall, The Mall, Waterford
Win a House in Waterford 2025 Draw, Viking Hotel, Cork Road, Waterford
- 29/07/2025 ● Councillor Field Trip, West Waterford
- 30/07/2025 ● Pre-launch photo shoot for Glas Awards 2025, People's Park, Waterford
- 31/07/2025 ● Opening of exhibition entitled "Celebration of the Copper Coast and Blackwater Valley",
- 02/08/2025 ● BronkoBeat performance - Spraoi, Apple Market, Waterford
- 07/08/2025 ● Mayor's welcome for Nuist Summer Programme Students,
Mayor's Parlour, City Hall, The Mall, Waterford
Opening of Mr Price, Lisduggan Shopping Centre, Lisduggan, Waterford
Launch of the Waterford PPN Community & Voluntary Awards, The Park Hotel, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford by Cllr. John Pratt

MAYOR'S OFFICIAL ENGAGEMENTS JULY & AUGUST

- 08/08/2025 ● 2025 Sail Training Ireland Waterford Bursary awards ceremony, Mayor's Parlour, City Hall, The Mall, Waterford
- Meeting with delegation of boxers from Ramallah, Cathedral Square, Waterford
- 09/08/2025 ● 2025 ConCorda Chamber Music Course For Strings performance, Dr. Mary Strangman Large Room, City Hall, The Mall, Waterford
- 11/08/2025 ● The Unique Contribution of Social Enterprises to Rural & Urban Regeneration Conference by Comhar Comaraigh Network, Dunhill Multi Education Centre, Dunhill, Co. Waterford by Cllr. John O'Leary
- 12/08/2025 ● Visit the Solas Cancer Support Centre, Williamstown, Waterford
- Playful Communities, Ursuline Court, Waterford
- 13/08/2025 ● Showcase of The Booley House, St. Michael's Hall, Ballyduff Upper, Co. Waterford by Cllr. John Pratt
- 16/08/2025 ● Celebrate India Day, Ardkeen Library, Ardkeen, Waterford
- Fundraising Fun Day, Portlaw Community Hall, Main Street, Portlaw, Co. Waterford by Cllr. John O'Leary
- 17/08/2025 ● Aonach na nDéise - Viking Festival, Carriganore, Waterford
- 20/08/2025 ● Deposition of Waterford Scouts' Log Books - Heritage Week Event, Central Library, Lady Lane, Waterford
- 22/08/2025 ● Blugrass Festival Official Opening, Power's Bar, Dock Road, Dunmore East, Co. Waterford
- 23/08/2025 ● Sacred Heart Family Fun Day, Williamstown Sports Complex, Killure Road, Waterford
- 24/08/2025 ● Waterford and South Kilkenny Branch of Down Syndrome Ireland cycle, SETU Arena, Carriganore, Waterford

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MAYOR'S OFFICIAL ENGAGEMENTS JULY & AUGUST

- 24/08/2025 ● Unveiling of Heritage Blu Plaque by Mary Butler TD, Fisherman's Hall, Dock Road, Dunmore East, Co. Waterford
- Royal British Legion Commemoration Wreath Laying Service, Memorial Wall by St. John's Castle, Castle Street, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford by Cllr. John Patt
- 25/08/2025 ● Launch of Clean Air Together (CAT) project in partnership with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Garden Room, Medieval Museum, Cathedral Square, Viking Triangle, Waterford
- 27/08/2025 ● Celebration of Top of the City Community Garden, Top of the City Community Garden, Longcourse, Waterford
- 28/08/2025 ● Civic Reception for Waterford Minor All-Ireland Hurling Winners, Council Chamber, City Hall, The Mall, Waterford
- 29/08/2025 ● Mayoral Reception for Waterford City Massed Band, Mayor's Parlour, City Hall, The Mall, Waterford
- Kilbarry Gymnastics Academy new venue grand opening, Northern Extension Business Park, Cleaboy, Waterford
- 30/08/2025 ● Official opening of Ballysaggart Community Centre, Ballysaggart, Lismore, Co. Waterford by Cllr. Niamh O'Donovan
- Opening of exhibitions for Gerhardt Gallagher: Bequest and Mór Artist Collective: Beneath the Layers, Old Market House Arts Centre, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford by Cllr. Damien Geoghegan

1 Seirbhísí Corparáirdeacha Corporate

FRANCHISE SECTION

The Franchise Team is responsible for ensuring the public's right to vote and participate in the democratic process by managing the electoral register and supporting election operations on polling days and count centres.

The Franchise Team are also involved in public awareness campaigns, helping people to check their electoral details launched by the Mayor at the July Plenary. In August members of the Franchise Team hosted a stand at the pop-up Waterford Library Branch at All Together Now festival.



LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTORAL REGISTRATION SYSTEM (LGERS) PROJECT

The LGERS Project is a key initiative by the government to modernise and centralise Ireland's electoral register by moving from 31 separate local registers to a single, national system. Each local authority will still continue to be responsible for the maintenance and management of their own registers. The new registers will be 'rolling registers', live all year round. This will remove the requirement to publish draft and final registers. The LGERS project aims to improve the accuracy and management of voter registration, streamline the process for voters, and enhance the efficiency of electoral administration within local authorities.

To advance the project a LGERS Project Board has been established and Dublin City Council has been appointed as the Designated Registration Authority. Waterford City & County Council are currently

completing a significant volume of 'cleansing' tasks to ensure that the data is ready for the migration to the new system which will commence nationally in Q1 2026.

The cleansing tasks are broken down into two phases. Phase 1, which is nearing completion in Waterford, focussed on data accuracy and completeness. A total of 5,908 entries were reviewed and corrected under Phase 1. A key element of Phase 1 was translating all address elements into Irish. Phase 2, which is underway, focusses on potential duplicates and deceased electors. As of 1st September 675/1,137 have been completed on the deaths list and a further 882/2,382 on the national duplicates list. The deadline for completion of the deaths list is 15th September and the national duplicates list is to be completed by 30th September.

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CIVIC RECEPTION: ALL-IRELAND MINOR HURLING TEAM

On Thursday 28th September, Waterford's All-Ireland Minor Hurling Champions were honoured with a Civic Reception in City Hall. The team, their family, management, coaches and selectors were all in attendance for the ceremony.



Mayor Cllr. Seamus Ryan and Captain James Comerford, Management and Team



Captain James Comerford and members of the Women's Caucus

1 Seirbhísí Corparáirdeacha Corporate

COMMUNICATIONS

The Communications Department issued 19 media releases, responded to 14 media queries and drafted 11 Mayoral speeches.

Irish Examiner features

In August, the Irish Examiner ran a series on interesting roles within Local Authorities. Staff members of Waterford City and County Council were featured detailing their roles.

Liam Power – Manager, Waterford Dog Shelter
<https://www.irishexaminer.com/news/spotlight/arid-41681990.html>

Paul Flynn - Environmental Inspector & Cemetery Registrar
<https://www.irishexaminer.com/news/spotlight/arid-41682434.html>

Rose Ryall Architectural Conservation Officer – built heritage
<https://www.irishexaminer.com/news/spotlight/arid-41683499.html>



Chambers Excellence in Local Government Awards

Waterford City and County Council was shortlisted in two categories of the Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards 2025.

The Business Pledge for a Cleaner, Greener Waterford has been shortlisted in the Climate Change category. This category recognises innovative initiatives that not only educate but take concrete actions to mitigate against the effects of climate change.

In the Health and Wellbeing category, Good Grief has been shortlisted. This award recognises initiatives by a Local Authority that promote the health and wellbeing of its community.

The 2025 Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards, sponsored by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage take place in Dublin on November 27th.

1 Seirbhísí Corparáirdeacha Corporate

COMMUNICATIONS

Social Media Stats

Month	Reach /Impressions	%Change	Followers	%Change
August	624,224	24.6%	57,840	+0.8%

@WaterfordCouncil @Waterford204 @ShopWaterford

Web Stats

Pageviews: 142,908

Unique Pageviews: 111,234

Top 10 pages: not including homepage

1. Planning Enquiries
2. CBL
3. Current Vacancies
4. Viewing a Planning Application
5. News item (New footpath in Tramore improves safety for residents)
6. Parking
7. Pay Online

8. Contact Us

9. Events and Festivals

10. Planning Lists 2025

Downloads: 15,959

Top 3 downloads - Clerk of Works info booklet, HR Advert
#3 August, Firefighter Information Booklet

Mobile 62.4%

Desktop 32.7%

Inhouse Designs



2 Forbairt Eacnamaíoch Economic Development

NORTH QUAYS

The first opening of the Sustainable Transport Bridge took place on Friday 11th July. Works are continuing on the bridge, with welding of the deck sections, pouring of the fixed integral pier connections and final commissioning of the mechanical and electrical systems for the bascule spans. The final installation of the river pier protection systems and navigation aids is also ongoing. Over the coming six months the bridge finishing works will be completed (parapet railings, barriers, surfacing, lighting, street furniture etc.)

The main road surfacing works on the South Quays are substantially complete while paving works on the new plaza are 75% complete. Plaza finishing works (street furniture, seating, lighting, railings etc.) will follow thereafter. The plaza works are expected to be substantially complete in Q4 2025 at which point final snagging checks and safety audits will be completed in advance of any opening to the public.

The next stage of works on the train station building and platforms are progressing, including roofing, glazing, cladding, rendering, lighting, internal fitout and plumbing. The northern entrance and set-down plaza area are also progressing well, including entrance steps, kerbing, paving, bus and car lay-bys, walkway canopy etc. The western railway footbridge and associated ramp that provides a direct link from Dock Road to the Sustainable Transport Bridge is also taking shape.



2 Forbairt Eacnamaíoch Economic Development

NORTH QUAYS

The roadworks and temporary traffic management in Ferrybank is predominantly now focused on Dock Road and Fountain Street to facilitate the final phases of surfacing, lighting, footpaths and traffic signals. The final road surfacing works for Dock Road and Rockshire Road junction will take place in mid-September. This will involve nighttime lane closures (from 8 pm to 6 am) from the 15th to 19th September 2025 and 22nd to 25th September 2025. Every effort is being made to minimise the associated traffic disruption, and in advance of the works, traffic management details will be publicised on radio, to local stakeholders, on variable messaging signs and all Waterford City & County Council social media channels.

Works at Abbey Road are also nearing completion with permanent lighting, street furniture and Greenway access ramps to be finished in the coming weeks. The main works in the vicinity of the two schools have been completed in advance of the new school term. The completion of the Greenway ramp as well as snagging checks and safety audits in the Abbey Road area could enable the sectional opening of the 6km section of greenway from Abbey Road to Curraghmore. Waterford City & County Council will continue to consult with Wexford & Kilkenny County Council's on the potential timelines for any sectional opening.

Works are continuing on the railway flood defence scheme where all works are being programmed in consultation with Irish Rail. The eastern flood defence works are coming close to completion. The western flood defence works commenced on 25th August with agreed bus transfers operating between Kilkenny and Waterford for off peak commuter train services, Monday to Thursday for a 26-week period (excl. December 2025). A Part 8 Planning application for relocation of the flood defence pump stations commenced in July, and the Chief Executive Report will be presented to Waterford's Metropolitan Council in September 2025 for decision. Irish Rail has also commenced the eastern trackside drainage works for completion in Q1 2026.

It is anticipated that Harcourt Developments will commence phase 1 of the approved SDZ mixed use development in the coming months. The integration works required at the interfaces with the transport hub, sustainable transport bridge, Abbey Road and Dock Road will be fast-tracked as part of this construction to facilitate the earliest possible opening of the transport hub and bridge in early 2027. In the meantime, the railway flood defence works will be completed in 2026 as the final part of the public infrastructure works.

2 Forbairt Eacnamaíoch Economic Development

LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE

Indicator	At end of June 2024 Cumulative Figure	At end of June 2025 Cumulative Figure
No. of clients applying for Measure 1 support	28(*)	15
Value of Measure 1 support approved	€400,787	€462,242
No. of clients receiving Measure 2 support	1,457	1,604
Value of Measure 2 support given	€251,980	€228,646
Start Your Own Business Programmes	9	7
Start Your Own Business Programme Participants	132	97

*Measure 1 figure for 2024 includes an Export Grant which has been discontinued by Enterprise Ireland. At the end of August 2025, the value of Measure 1 approvals stands at €462,242, which represents 103% of the annual budget allocation. Out of 15 grant approvals; 6 Feasibility Study Grants, 4 Priming Grants and 5 Expansion Grants

Productivity Supports Figures not included in cumulative table	No. of Approvals	Value of Approvals €	KPI Progress (% of Approvals Achieved)
Lean For Business	9	€39,298	60%
Green For Business	30	€66,420	167%
Digital For Business	26	€60,885	173%
Grow Digital Voucher	3	€13,073	50%
Energy Efficiency Grants	15	€133,069	83%
GradStart Grant	3	€90,000	N/A
Market Explorer Grant	1	€10,000	N/A

Waterford Local Enterprise Office, together with Waterford City and County Council launch the 4th annual Glas Awards, promoting sustainability in business in Waterford

The awards aim to recognise and celebrate micro businesses in County Waterford who have made significant advances in bringing green principles into their day to day business activities.

The awards are open to small and medium sized businesses based in Waterford County. The Green Micro Enterprise of the Year is open to all with employees of 10 or less, while the Green SME of the Year is open to those between 11 and 50 employees.

The Local Enterprise Office offers a free Green for Business programme that helps small businesses take the first step towards becoming more sustainable, giving them access to a green consultant who'll show them the small changes that can have a big impact on both their company.

The entry portal is now open for applications until the 4th September 2025.

The Glas Awards Final will be held in The Garden Room, Waterford Treasures on 8th October 2025 from 12.30 to 2.30pm. Winners will receive a cash prize of €2,500 with a themed trophy.

2 Forbairt Eacnamaíoch Economic Development

TRAILS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION

€408,469 in Outdoor Recreation Funding Announced for Waterford

On Thursday August 14th, Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht, Dara Calleary TD, announced funding of €8.7 million to deliver 221 recreational based projects nationwide through the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS). The funding announced is in respect of Measure 1 (small scale repair and development of recreational infrastructure) and the Project Development Measure of the Scheme. In Waterford applications to the scheme were submitted by Waterford City and County Council and separately by Waterford Leader Partnership CLG in collaboration with local community groups, trail management organisations and other stakeholders. In total, 10 outdoor recreation projects will receive €408,469 in funding.

Details of local projects allocated funding are listed under the relevant Municipal District monthly report.

·Promotion of outdoor recreation in Waterford - To highlight the range of outdoor recreation opportunities and experiences in Waterford - €40,000

·Project Development Measure: Accessibility audit of coastal and river access points - Accessibility and safety audit at beaches, coastal and river access points including harbours and slipways for walking, swimming and water sports - €50,000

Waterford Trails

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

TOURISM

Waterford Rural Tourism Network

The Waterford Rural Tourism Network (WRTN), which includes the Blackwater Valley, Gaeltacht na nDéise, Copper Coast, Comeragh and Waterford Estuary clusters is continuing to develop. Since the beginning of 2025 the following have been delivered by Runda Hospitality & Tourism Solutions who are contracted by Waterford City & County Council and Fáilte Ireland:

- Network wide event
- The third & fourth of 5 'Learning Journeys' – (to Gaeltacht na nDéise & Waterford Estuary respectively)
- 10 in person meetings, 2 meeting per cluster (3 in-person meetings per cluster per year)
- B2C workshops
- Leave No Trace (LNT) awareness training

Before the end of the year there will be further training provided which includes:

- Leave No Trace awareness training
- Fifth of 5 'Learning Journeys' - this will be to the Comeragh region in September
- An in person meeting for each of the 5 clusters
- Saleable Experience Development training
- Network wide event in November

We have great involvement from businesses across all 5 clusters but there is still an opportunity to join the network so if you are aware of any businesses, please put them in touch with Keith Murphy, Tourism Waterford City & County Council.

2 Forbairt Eacnamaíoch Economic Development

TOURISM

Visit Waterford

Media:

In the months of July and August, Visit Waterford delivered a series of paid and organic features across different media forms including print, digital radio. This included running an ad on BEAT and an Interscroller and digital ad with the Irish Independent, promoting Waterford as a must-visit summer destination. Two press releases were launched in July the first highlighting the summer festivals across Waterford, this secured both national and regional media coverage.

The second press release in July announced the launch of the new Visit Waterford website and the Digital Concierge. Due to the uniqueness of the Digital Concierge, Pól Ó Conghaile featured the Visit Waterford across digital and print platforms with the Independent, as well as Pól's travel newsletter and personal Instagram page.

On 26th August a press release highlighting the new Visit Waterford Passport and the Visit Waterford Pawsport was delivered. Both these documents highlight all Visit Waterford members and in the case of the Pawsport highlighting dog-friendly locations. These act as a great way to experience the City and County.

Further promotion saw a CPM takeover on the 8th August and a print ad in the Independent's Autumn Break supplement on the 31st August.

As part of the 'Dig into Waterford' campaign, Visit Waterford created a brand-new podcast series featuring local experts in folklore, history, and archaeology. The 5th and 6th episodes are now available through the link <https://open.spotify.com/episode/0IDlckDEjtXlBSR1kugGkZ>



2 Forbairt Eacnamaíoch Economic Development

TOURISM

Membership

Visit Waterford now has a total of 73 members.

Cruise Tourism

Visit Waterford continues to work with key stakeholders in the Cruise Tourism working group. Through this committee the arrival of the cruise ships have been well coordinated this summer. The next and final ship of the season will dock in Waterford on the 11th September.

Märkischer Kreis

There have been two cultural collaborations during July and August between Waterford and our twinning partners in Märkischer Kreis. The first saw the band BRONKOBEBAT travel from Germany to take part in the 32nd annual Spraoi Festival. The band were a fantastic addition to the vibrant programme of events on offer over the Bank Holiday weekend. The five-person band delivered energetic performances on stages in The Cultural Quarter, The Apple Market & The Churchyard.

The second cultural collaboration saw the Waterford band 'Bana Rua' travel to Germany to take part in the region's annual music festival. The band were warmly welcomed by the team and audiences alike & over the course of the weekend of 29th August put on some fantastic performances and certainly did Waterford proud in the process.

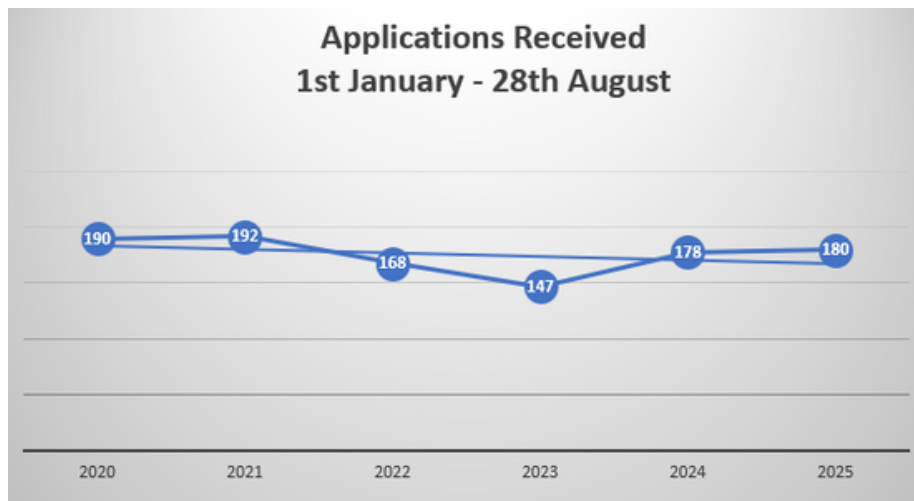
Both of these cultural collaborations were very successful and went towards strengthening the relationship between the two regions.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & ENTERPRISE SPC

The next meeting of the Economic Development & Enterprise SPC is scheduled for Thursday 2nd October 2025.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED– COUNTYWIDE



180 planning applications were received countywide from 1st July to 28th August 2025. This compares with 178 planning applications received for the same period in 2024. 123 planning applications were granted during this period.

712 planning applications were received from 1st January 2025 to 28th August 2025 whilst 678 were received for the same period in 2024.

HERITAGE

Heritage Week

Heritage Week ran from August 16th-24th with over 70 events taking place across Waterford City and County including a talk on Waterford's handball alleys, a guided walk along St. John's Pill and Áonach na nDéise-Woodstown Viking Heritage Festival which was attended by over 1,800 people over the course of the weekend. The event was attended by Mayor Seamus Ryan and Ministers of State, Mary Butler T.D. and Christopher O'Sullivan T.D.



HERITAGE

Waterford-Newfoundland Heritage

A seminar celebrating the heritage connections between Waterford and Newfoundland will take place in City Hall on Saturday, October 11th. The seminar is taking place on the occasion of a visit by St. Teresa's Choir from St. John's, Newfoundland to St. Joseph and Benildus Church in Waterford City. The seminar is open to all and entry is free of charge but prebooking is required on Eventbrite. Members of the Ireland-Newfoundland Committee and Mayor Seamus Ryan will visit Newfoundland from September 16th-22nd.



Seminar on the History of Local Government in Ireland

A seminar marking the centenary of the 1925 Local Government Act will take place in Lawlor's Hotel, Dungarvan on Saturday October 4th as part of Waterford's 2025 Commemorations Programme. The seminar will explore the sweeping changes it brought to local government with the abolition of Rural District Councils and the introduction of Boards of Public Health and Public Assistance. It will take stock of the early attempts of the Free State Government to centralise control over local government and the impact on the local government of today. This seminar is a look at local democracy and the first steps taken by the newly independent Ireland for the day-to-day needs of its citizens. Entry is free of charge but prebooking is required on Eventbrite.

Placenames Workshop

Waterford Placenames Committee – An Coiste Logainmneacha will host a placenames roadshow in Ballymacarbry on Saturday, 27th September and will include collaboration with Dublin City University Placenames Research Project. The roadshow follows on from a similar and very successful event in the Copper Coast Geopark in June.

CONSERVATION

For Heritage week photographers of all ages, were invited to take part in our [National Heritage Week](#) "Wonder Wander Photo Competition", celebrating the hidden and historic gems such as historic windows, doors, gates, shopfront or architectural features scattered throughout Waterford City and County streets based on the Wonder Wander Trails. Competition winners to be announced in September.

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage have announced the Built Heritage Investment Scheme (BHIS) 2026 Historic Thatch Buildings (HTB) Fund to be administered by the Local Authority. The link to the submission form , FAQs, criteria, details of eligible works etc are available at [Grants - Waterford City & County Council](#) . Closing date for applications is the 26th of September 2025. Any owners with queries can contact the Conservation Officer, rryall@waterfordcouncil.ie

Works under the 2025 funding schemes continue with almost 30 projects ongoing in the city and county such as works at St Nicholas Church in Ballyduff, and Church of the Immaculate Conception in Tallow and historic window repairs in Dunmore East and Cappoquin. Works on thatch roofs have been completed in Ardsallagh, Aglish and Portally and ongoing elsewhere.

FORWARD PLANNING

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

By way of update on this process, the annual cycle contains the following general stages:

1. Publication of the Annual Draft Map followed by a 2-month period of public consultation, accompanied by placement of advertisements in local press and across Waterford Council social media accounts (Now Complete);
2. Receipt of written submissions from landowners and consideration thereof (Now Complete);
3. Notification of written determinations made by Waterford City & County Council to the persons who made written submissions to the draft map (Now Complete);
4. Making of appeals to An Coimisiún Pleanála where landowners are aggrieved by the determination of the council (Now Complete);
5. 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.

Stage 4 of this process is now complete as An Coimisiún Pleanála had identified that it has not received any appeals on the determinations issued by Waterford City & County Council. We have now commenced a variation of the Development Plan under S13 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, which will facilitate the completion of the final RZLT map for 2025 by way of potential rezoning of lands located at the racecourse in Tramore, at Matties Hill and at Gracedieu Road in Waterford City. The making of any variation to the Development Plan will be a reserved function of the Plenary Council.

Waterford City & County Development Plan 2022 – 2028 proposed variation no. 1

As previously notified and discussed at a workshop with the Plenary Council at a workshop on the 25th June last, we have now commenced the process of making a variation to the Development Plan. The proposed draft variation seeks to give immediate effect to the recently published Ministerial Section 28 Guidelines on new NPF housing targets. The key elements of the proposed variation are as follows:

1. RZLT Rezoning Requests
2. Joint Retail Strategy for the Waterford City MASP
3. MASP Blue Green Infrastructure Strategy
4. County Settlement Typology
5. Core Strategy Policy and Phasing
6. Regeneration and Active Land Management

Full details of the proposed draft variation and supporting environmental reports are available on the consult.waterfordcouncil.ie portal and written submissions are invited by close of business on the 19th September. Thereafter, we will prepare a Chief Executive Report on the submissions received from the general public and prescribed authorities including the Southern Regional Assembly and the Office of the Planning Regulator and engage with the Plenary Council to fully explain the content of the report and the emerging next stages in the process.

ACTIVE LAND MANAGEMENT AND DERELICT SITES TEAM

The team is currently addressing a total of 367 properties classified as either derelict or potentially derelict. In recent weeks and months, there has been a significant increase in activity, with 126 properties now listed on the Derelict Sites Register. Engaging with property owners or their representatives is essential for addressing dereliction issues and understanding the numerous factors that contribute to the properties' current condition. Total Derelict Site Files Opened: 367.

 **126**
Derelict Sites



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

Reference	Action Taken	Address	Enrolle	Market Value
15	Section 8(2) (04/06/2002), Section 23(1) (08/05/02)	Baldinaculla, Tintern		5
16	Section 15 (02/04/2004), Section 23(1) (08/05/02)	47 Fountain Street, Ferrybank		13
17	Section 11 (13/02/2014), Section 8(7) (14/06/2004)	5 Dock Road,		7
18	Section 15 (11/06/2002), Section 8(7) (14/06/2004)	7 Dock Road,		8
19	Section 8(7) (14/06/2001), Section 11 (13/02/2012)	Merger Street, 15, 16, 17		12
22	Section 23(1) (08/05/2004), Section 8(7) (14/06/2001)	9 Stephen Street,		8
23	Section 11 (05/09/2011), Section 23(1) (08/05/2002)	89 Paleberry, Waterford		7
27	Section 8(7) (14/06/2004), Section 23(1) (08/05/02)	29 Canal George Street, Waterford	X91 10452	209
29	Section 23(1) (08/05/2004), Section 8(7) (14/06/2001)	41 John's Street, Waterford	X91 10100	16
31	Section 8(7) (14/06/2002), Section 15 (11/06/2002)	11 Railway New Street, Waterford	X91 10402	8
32	Section 8(2) (04/06/2002), Section 8(7) (14/06/2001)	60 New Street, Limerick	X91 10416	8
33	Section 8(7) (14/06/2004), Section 15 (04/12/2004)	Byrd Quay, Passage East	X91 10411	4
34	Section 8(7) (14/06/2002), Section 23(1) (08/05/02)	25 Manor Street, Waterford	X91 10406	37

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. We are also seeing a consistent number of planning applications for property refurbishment/ extension, and the level of work ongoing on individual properties is clear from driving around the city and county.

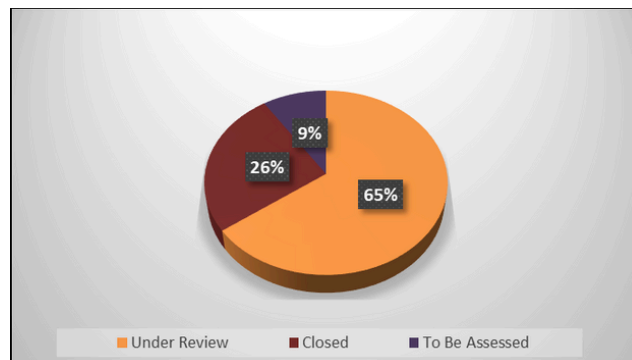
We are advising property owners of the vacant property refurbishment grant if the property is suitable for residential use. This grant has contributed to a significant rise in the number of derelict and vacant properties currently available on the market.

With time and effort, collaborating with owners, financial institutions, and other departments, there are definite options for positive redevelopment and revitalisation of many derelict sites. The table below provides a snapshot of July and August 2025's activity.

Derelict Sites	July & August	Total
Number of new files opened	14	461
Number of Section 8(2) Notices issued – Intention to enter the site on the Derelict Sites Register	16	228
Number of Section 8(7) Notices issued – Entry of site onto Derelict Sites Register	6	150
Number of Section 11 Notices issued – Measures required to render the site non-derelict	0	30
Number of Notices served to Compulsorily Purchase Acquisitions (CPA) (see note below)	2	51
Number of Vesting Orders signed	1	16

ACTIVE LAND MANAGEMENT AND DERELICT SITES TEAM

In July and August 2025, the Derelict Sites Team successfully collaborated with property owners to revitalise and close cases on 13 previously derelict properties. As of this report, we have closed 121 cases. Please see the chart below for an up-to-date breakdown of the status of all derelict sites.



COMPULSORY PURCHASE ACQUISITION OF DERELICT SITES (CPA)

In July 2025, the Derelict Sites Team initiated 2 CPAs. The deadline for submissions concluded on the 29th of August 2025. Should there be no objections to these CPAs, the Council will proceed with the vesting process, during which applications for registration of title will be submitted to the Property Registration Authority

4 Tithíocht Housing

HOUSING APPLICATIONS

Housing applications	July & August 2024	Total Number of Applications Year 2024	July & Aug 2025	Total Number of Applications Year To Date 2025
Applications Received	327	218	380	1,426
Applications Review	312	2,106	413	1,476
Applications Approved	128	762	137	491
Applications Ineligible/Refused	43	336	37	186
Applications Returned for FI	141	1,008	239	799

HOUSING ALLOCATIONS

	New Tenancies during July & Aug 2024	Cumulative No. of Tenancies 2024	New Tenancies during July & Aug 2025	Refusal No. of New Tenancy offer	Cumulative No. of New Tenancies 2025
Total	36	365	66	21	320

CHOICE BASED LETTING (CBL) SCHEME

The total number of properties advertised on the CBL system to date is **1,588**. There have been **556** refusals on properties.

4 Tithíocht Housing

HOUSING LOANS APPLICATIONS

2025 Housing Loans	Applications received	Applications awaiting further info	Applications refused	Applications approved	Applications with Housing Agency/ invalid
July & Aug 2025	6	12	4	0	4
YTD	38	12	13	9	4

TENANT PURCHASE APPLICATIONS

2025 Tenant Purchase	Applications received	Applications awaiting further info	Applications refused	Applications approved	Sales Closed
July	9	7	3	3	3
YTD 2025	39	13	16	17	16
YTD2024	48	5	19	35	8

2025 Tenant Purchase	Applications received	Applications awaiting further info	Applications refused	Applications approved	Sales Closed
August	6	4	2	2	0
YTD 2025	45	14	18	19	16
YTD2024	53	10	19	38	8

4 Tithíocht Housing

HOUSING ASSISTANCE PAYMENT

Housing Assistance Payment	July & Aug 2024 HAP tenancies	July & Aug 2025 HAP tenancies set up	July & Aug 2025 HAP tenancies which left the scheme	2025 no. of Active HAP Tenancies (Variation from 1 st June	HAP Tenancies Set up to date	Active HAP Tenancies to date
HAP Tenancies	24	15	-84	-69	5,111	1,247

INSPECTIONS OF DWELLINGS

2025	July & Aug 2025
HAP Dwellings Inspected	*
Dwellings Requiring Improvements	759
PRTB inspections carried out	819

*RTB inspections include HAP inspections carried out by 3rd party.

In July & August, Waterford City & County Council carried out 522 planned and reactive inspections of our housing stock. As a result of these inspections 102 properties has had improvement works carried out to meet the standards for rented accommodation.

HOUSING ADAPTATION FOR PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY, HOUSING AID FOR OLDER PEOPLE AND MOBILITY AID GRANTS

Grant Scheme Amount	Number of applications received July & August	Number of applications received 2025	Number of applications paid in July & Aug 2025	Paid	Cumulative Paid in 2025
Housing Adaptation for People with a Disability. Max. €40,000	52	202	20	€182,936.16	€631,496.30
Mobility Aids Scheme Maximum €8,000	10	40	2	€9,541.70	€36,388.49
Housing Aid for Older People Maximum €10,700	52	260	29	€135,922.16	€706,731.76
Total	114	448	51	€328,400	€1,374,617

4 Tithíocht Housing

HOMELESS SERVICES

Breakdown of persons in Emergency Accommodation July 2025		
EA Placements 2025 (1)	Spotlight Week July 21 st – 27 th 2025	Spotlight Week July 22 nd - 28 th 2024
Number of Single Persons	87	71
Number of Adults in Family Units	45	24
Number of Children in Family Units	58	32
Total Individuals in EA	190	127
Number of Family Units	30	16

OFD Placements 2025 (2)	Spotlight Week July 21 st – 27 th 2025	Spotlight Week July 22 nd - 28 th 2024
Number of Single Persons	2	2
Number of Adults in Family Units	45	45
Number of Children in Family Units	63	55
Total Individuals in OFDs	110	102

Overall Placements 2025	Spotlight Week July 21 st – 27 th 2025	Spotlight Week July 22 nd - 28 th 2024
Total	300	229

Housing First Programme	Tenancies 2025
Number of Tenancies in place X 2025 with Housing First supports	34

Waterford Integrated Homeless Services (WIIHS)	July	Cumulative 2025	Total 2024
Number of Callers to WIHS seeking a service	383	2,176	3,380
Assessments by a Homeless Officer	72	500	954

HAP PlaceFinder Service	July	Cumulative 2025
Number of Assessments by the Homeless HAP Officer	36	173
Number of HAP PlaceFinder Tenancies Complete (HUB)	0	28

(1) Data presented is extracted from the National PASS system which is then submitted, verified and published by the Department. It reflects the most recent monthly data available. Monthly and quarterly published is data available at <https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-housing-local-government-and-heritage/collections/homelessness-data/>

The spotlight week is a selected week within the reporting Month chosen by the Department for reporting purposes. Returns are presented monthly in arrears.

(2) Own front Doors (OFDs) are Waterford City & County Council Stock used for Temporary Emergency Family Accommodation and are not included in the Emergency Accommodation Placement figures reported Nationally by the Department.

4 Tithíocht Housing

CAPITAL PROJECTS

Housing Capital Schemes - WCCC Projects	
Total	631
Part V	141
Total Units in WCCC Projects 772	

Housing Capital Schemes - Approved Housing Body Projects	
Total Units in Approved Housing Body Projects 79	

Housing Efficiency Retrofit (Total Units for 2025 to date)	
	Units
Total to date	108

ENERGY EFFICIENCY RETROFITTING 2025

Works have commenced for Energy Efficiency Retrofitting in 2025. Contractor is active on 5 sites. An additional 5 sites have been completed.

VOIDS:Refurbishing of houses becoming vacant for re let	
July 2025	TOTAL
Handed Over/Works Completed	12
Newly vacant	14
August 2025	TOTAL
Handed Over/Works Completed	10
Newly vacant	9

5 Seirbhísí Pobail Community Services

COMMUNITY GRANTS

Community Recognition Fund (CRF) 2024

- Window 1 (€491,392): Two of the seven projects are now complete, with a third due for completion in the coming weeks. The remaining projects have been contacted with regard to their status.
- Window 2 (€86,557): Work is progressing with the project approved under Window 2 project.
- Window 3 (€786,625): Two of the seven projects have commenced and are almost 50% complete.

Local Enhancement Programme (LEP) Grants 2025

The Local Enhancement Programme (LEP) 2025 is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht. In June 2025, Minister Dara Calleary TD announced the successful projects under the Local Enhancement Programme (LEP) 2025.

A total fund of €236,645 has been allocated for 2025. The Community Department contacted all groups, both successful and unsuccessful, in relation to their applications. Grants are paid to successful applicants once receipts are provided and the issuing of payments has already commenced. The deadline for submission of receipts is 30th September.

Supporting Waterford Communities Fund 2025

Waterford City and Council's Supporting Waterford Fund budget for 2025 was €240,338, which was allocated to 305 groups throughout the county. Processing of payments to approved applicants continues, with 96% of grants processed to-date. The deadline for submission of receipts is 30th November.

AGE FRIENDLY

National Age Friendly Recognition & Achievement Awards 2025

St Joseph's House, Manor Hill was shortlisted for a Safety & Security (Housing) Award at the National Age Friendly Recognition & Achievement Awards 2025 which will be held in Galway in October.

On Monday, 11th August 2025, St. Joseph's House, Manor Hill, hosted an adjudication visit, the event featured a comprehensive agenda showcasing the project's impact and community integration.

The event concluded with a warm farewell and final discussions, reinforcing the project's commitment to enhancing the security, safety and quality of life for older residents at St Joseph's. Our fingers are crossed for success in the National Age Friendly Awards in October.



5 Seirbhísí Pobail Community Services

AGE FRIENDLY

Representing the Voice of Older People

Members of Waterford's Older People's Council represented the voice of Older People in Waterford at the following events and consultative opportunities:

- "The Unique Contribution of Social Enterprises to Rural & Urban Regeneration" in Dunhill, hosted by Comhar Comaraigh Social Enterprise Network with the support of Waterford Local Enterprise Office and Waterford Area Partnership
- The DRCDG's Stakeholder Consultation on a new "Strategy to support the Community and Voluntary Sector in Ireland"

Upcoming events include Walkability Audits – Waterford City, Climate Change Workshop with Jacinta Barrins (Retired UN Diplomat & Climate Mentor) (September for 6 weeks), Positive Ageing Week (29th Sept – 3rd Oct), National Age Friendly Awards, Expo and Age Friendly AGM in Dungarvan (November).

LEADER 2023-2027

Thus far, twenty-one projects were approved by the Local Action Group under the LEADER 2023-2027 Programme. A total amount of €438,105.66 has been paid with fourteen claims processed to date. A targeted call issued for potential promoters and projects. Workshops in Dungarvan, Tramore and Lismore were well attended during the Summer. 37 Expressions of Interest were submitted by the July deadline. The Targeted Call Total Budget is €2,101,124.12 and all three themes apply. The Local Action Group meets again on September 18th. For further information please contact info@wlp.ie.

5 Seirbhísí Pobail Community Services

COMMUNITY HEALTH & WELLBEING

Healthy Ireland Initiatives in Waterford

- WHO Healthy City and County Accreditation Update

Waterford has officially been accredited as a World Health Organisation's (WHO's) European Healthy City and County, joining a prestigious network of cities across Europe recognised for their commitment to placing health, equity and sustainability at the centre of local governance and development. Looking ahead, our focus for Phase 8 is on developing our internal committees and structures to support the Healthy Ireland Initiatives in Waterford.

- Playful Communities

For our September events, the Playful Communities program, which aims to visit over 40 locations across the city and county, will host two events at Walton Park and Ballybricken Park. A recent highlight of the program was the event in Williamstown.

- Social Enterprise Conference

Healthy Waterford, in a successful collaboration with Comhar Comaraigh Waterford Area Partnership, the Local Enterprise Office (LEO), and other key stakeholders, recently hosted a conference dedicated to social enterprise. The event proved to be a significant success, bringing together a diverse group of participants to explore the transformative power of social enterprises in driving community regeneration and economic growth.

The conference served as a vital platform for networking, information sharing, and the exchange of best practices. It highlighted the unique contribution of social enterprises to both rural and urban areas, showcasing how they can address social and environmental challenges while fostering local entrepreneurship and community engagement.

- Health and Wellbeing Forum

The next gathering will take place on the 26th of September in Lismore Heritage Centre. So far over 80 members have joined to network which works with professionals in the industry to help support efforts for promoting health and wellbeing throughout the county.

- Connecting Communities Roadshows (2025)

The 2025 Connecting Communities Roadshows have concluded successfully. Key stakeholders will review outcomes and develop recommendations for the 2026 roadshows, including planning and expansion. Feedback is currently being sought. Workshop to take place in September for its review.

- Community Wellbeing Seminars

These are continuing throughout the county with 4 more planned for September. This entails communities coming together through facilitated support from Health and Wellbeing professionals.

5 Seirbhísí Pobail Community Services

COMMUNITY HEALTH & WELLBEING

- Pobal Funding

A commitment of €75,000 in Pobal funding has been secured. This significant allocation will be instrumental in supporting and advancing a wide variety of vital community-based health and wellbeing projects across Waterford. Planning on its allocation will be commenced in December through Well Waterford and the LCDC.

- EU Funding

Our Erasmus + funding application was successful and a delegation from Waterford City & County Council will be attending a conference and exchange in September. A further application is pending for CERVE.

For more information contact Eoin Morrissey: eoimorrissey@waterfordcouncil.ie

COMMUNITY INTEGRATION FORUM (CIFO)

The CIFO Working Groups continue to work with agencies and stakeholders to provide services and supports to all Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection (BOTPs) and International Protection Applicants (IPAs) residing in Waterford.

As of 3rd June, there are 3,206 BOTPs (increase of 31) and as of 10th August, there are 636 IPAs in Waterford. The team continues to seek pledge properties (vacant and shared) and can be contacted at 058/22059 or offerahome@waterfordcouncil.ie.

SOCIAL INCLUSION & COMMUNITY ACTIVATION PROGRAMME (SICAP)

Work is ongoing with Waterford Area Partnership (WAP), who continue to implement the SICAP Programme on behalf of the LCDC. The SICAP budget allocation for 2025 Waterford City & County (Lot 24-1) is €1,452,756. The budget allocation for 'New Arrivals' for 2025 is €246,807. In June, additional New Arrivals funding of €29,080 was allocated to Waterford City & County.

	Actual	Target	
KPI 1 (Groups)	72	79	91%
KPI 2 (Individuals)	792	949	83%
% of Supported Individuals who fall into local priority target group(s)	93%	88%	-

The SICAP Mid-Year Performance Review was completed, and the Waterford LCDC formally approved the Mid-Year Review at their July meeting

5 Seirbhísí Pobail Community Services

NATIONAL PLAY DAY 2025

The Community Department, in partnership with Waterford Sports Partnership, hosted a series of events across the City and County between the 5th and 13th July to mark National Play Day 2025, funded by the Department of Children, Disability and Equality.

Activities included Play, Music & Movement Sessions in local libraries and a number of Playful Communities events in partnership with Healthy Waterford, including a special Playful Communities event in Ballybeg as part of the Ballybeg 50-Year Celebrations.



WATERFORD LOCAL SPORTS PLAN

The Community Department has commenced the process of developing a Sports Plan for Waterford, the purpose of which will be to increasing participation in sport and physical activities across the county for all.

A tendering process to appoint a consultant to develop the Sports Plan has concluded and S3 Solutions Ltd, were awarded the contract.

Preparations are now ongoing for the public consultation process, which will commence in the coming months. It is envisaged that a draft Sports Plan will be presented to Members in Quarter 1, 2026.

5 Seirbhísí Pobail Community Services

WATERFORD LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP (WLCSP)

S114 of the Policing, Security and Community Safety Act 2024 in relation to Community Safety Partnerships has commenced and nominations for the Partnership are currently being consolidated for approval by the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration.

We have been advised that the Community Safety Warden Pilot Project is being extended to 31st December 2025. This is to facilitate a review of the projects in Waterford, Dublin, Cork and Limerick by Crowe Consultants appointed by the Department of Justice.

WLCSP participated in a number of local events as well as:

- Community Safety Warden Pilot Review Meeting Department of Justice & Consultants
- Launch PPN Community Awards, which includes a Community Safety Award Category

Community Safety Fund, Consent Matters Project

The research, design, development and pilot of a bespoke programme to tackle Sexual Violence and Harassment (SVH) across Waterford City and County has been completed. On 22nd September 2025, Jim O'Callaghan TD, Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration will launch the roll out of the program to increase awareness and knowledge of the key concepts of consent and bystander intervention in the context of Tackling SVH in target age group (15 – 17-year school students), WWETB students and other identified community youth and young adult organisations across Waterford City and County.

WATERFORD PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NETWORK (WATERFORD PPN)

- Launch of the Waterford PPN Community & Voluntary Awards

The Waterford PPN Community & Voluntary Awards were launched recently. These awards celebrate and recognise the outstanding contributions of community and voluntary groups across Waterford. This year marks the 21st anniversary of the Awards, making it one of the longest running and most successful initiatives of its kind in Ireland. The awards are delivered with the support and sponsorship of Waterford City & County Council and other sponsors whose commitment has been instrumental in their continued success. The Gala ceremony will take place on November 6th.

- Appointment of New Administrator

The PPN and Community Section are delighted to welcome Walter Cullinan as the new PPN Administrator. Walter will play a key role in supporting member groups coordinating PPN activities and ensuring strong communications.

5 Seirbhísí Pobail Community Services

WATERFORD PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NETWORK (WATERFORD PPN)



- Membership

Waterford PPN's membership continues to grow and shows strong community sector in Waterford. The PPN now represents 785 groups/organisations across the city and county. The PPN is the key voice for the community in Waterford and is the main way that Waterford City & County Council and other local decision-making bodies hear from and connect with communities throughout Waterford. Full list of all member groups can be found on the directory of the Waterford PPN website.

- Training & Capacity Building

Following on from a training needs analysis with the PPN member groups in Q3 2024, one of the key requests was for support with community assessments. In response the PPN have partnered with Healthy Ireland Local Government, Waterford City & County Council/Healthy Waterford to identify areas in Waterford for delivery of a pilot Place Standard model.

- Community Representatives

To ensure the community voice is represented in decision making Waterford PPN recently sought nominations for 11 Community Representatives to sit on the Waterford Community Safety Partnership. This initiative reflects our ongoing commitment to inclusive representation and active participation in local structures that impact community wellbeing and safety.

6 Seirbhísí Éigeandála Emergency Services

FIRE SERVICE OPERATIONAL ACTIVITY 20/06/2025 to 31/08/2025

Total call outs to incidents attended by the 10 fire stations of the Fire Authority are shown for the year to date and for the months of July and August.

Totals	Fires	Special Service	False Alarm Good Intent	False Alarm Malicious
Total for July & August 2025	189	101	46	12
Year to date 2025	446	342	133	21
Total for July & August 2024	97	101	37	0
Total year to date for 2024	308	369	128	0

FIRE SAFETY

The following applications for fire safety certificates have been received with comparison shown for the same period last year.

Applications Received	Total for July and August 2025	Total Year to date for 2025	Total for July and August 2024	Total year to date for 2024
Fire Safety Certificates	8	56	7	55

BUILDING CONTROL

New functions associated with the Building Control Regulations, introduced on 1st March 2014, are being delivered within Emergency Services. Notices and applications associated with these regulations are shown below.

Application/Notification	July and August 2025	Cumulative Total for 2025	Total for July and August 2024	Total year to date for 2024
Commencement Notices	24	115	30	178
Completion Certificates	39	105	19	112
Disability Access Certificates	7	66	2	46

6 Seirbhísí Éigeandála Emergency Services

CIVIL DEFENCE

Civil Defence activities during the month of July & August 2025, saw us providing support to several community assistance events like.

- 6th July RNLI Charity Swim, Helvick (Postponed)
 - 13th July National Day of Commemoration, Waterford
 - 17th July Toor Well St. Declan Way Mass Aglish, First Aid & Communications Support.
 - 20th July RNLI Charity Swim Helvick (Postponed)
 - 26th July Dungarvan Cycle Race Kilmacthomas, First Aid & Communications Support.
 - 27th July Waterford Fire Station Open Day, to Promote Civil Defence activities.
-
- 3rd August Spraoi Parade and Fireworks
 - 5th August Fleagh Ceoil Wexford
 - 9th August Munster Lifesaving Championships Ardmore
 - 10th August Munster Lifesaving Championships Ardmore
 - 13th Interagency training exercise with Order of Malta, Waterford
 - 17th August RNLI Charity Swim Helvick, (Postponed)
 - 23rd August Williams Town Sports Complex Open day
 - 23rd August Tramore Amusements Fireworks
 - 31st August RNLI Charity Swim Helvick, (Postponed)



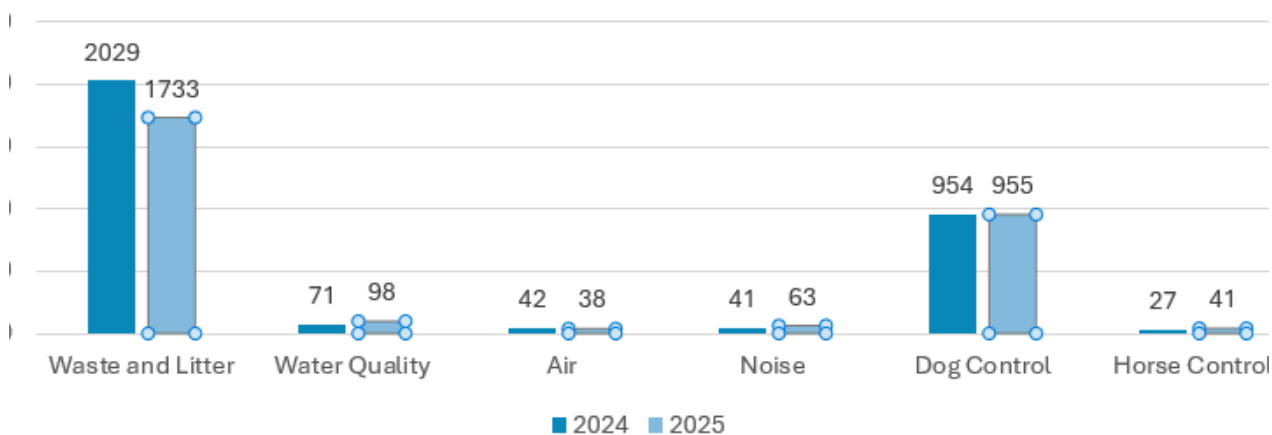
7 Seirbhísí Comhshaoil Environmental Services

ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS

Enforcement under the Litter Pollution Act 1997 (as amended) & Waste Management Act 1996 (as amended) 1 st January 2025 – 28 th August 2025.	
Environmental Inspectors employed	4
Litter Fines Issued	101
Litter Fines Paid and total Cash Amount	44 x (€150)
Fines issued under the Waste Collection Permit Regulations	2
Cases where legal proceedings have or are about to be initiated	3
Warning/Enforcement Letters issued under WMA	144
Directions under Section 14 of the Waste Management Act 1996 (WMA)	20
Statutory Notices under Section 55 of the WMA	8
Statutory Notices under Section 18 of the WMA	2
No. Households contacted re: Waste Presentation	128

CRM

Total Environmental Complaints/Reports Received



7 Seirbhísí Comhshaoil Environmental Services

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

Toy repair workshops

The Rediscovery Centre is running toy repair workshops in local libraries. These workshops highlight the importance of extending the lifespan of toys through repair and reuse, while also providing practical demonstrations of simple toy repair techniques. A joint toy swap and repair event, in collaboration with Toy Library Ireland, is scheduled to take place in October.



Community Clean-Ups

Waterford City & County Council continues to support community clean-up initiatives throughout the year. These events address litter and illegal dumping across approach roads, local beauty spots, beaches and general public areas. To assist participating groups, the Council provides bags, gloves, and litter pickers, which are distributed from both the Dungarvan and Waterford offices. Arrangements are made for the collection of litter bags following each clean-up.

KIMO

Waterford has now joined KIMO and a launch event was held early July to mark the fact that Waterford has signed up to become a member of KIMO. KIMO is a network that works together for healthy seas and rivers, clean beaches, and thriving coastal communities. There are over 80 member municipalities in nine countries around the North-East Atlantic and Baltic regions. Members work to find, implement and share positive solutions. KIMO stands for Kommunernes International Miljøorganisation (Local Authorities International Environmental Organisation).



Greener Living Workshops

A series of Greener Living workshops, organised in conjunction with the Biodiversity Officer, were very well attended and in some cases fully booked. Topics included environmentally friendly cleaning, pollinator-friendly and native planting, and greener gardening practices. The workshops provided practical skills, encouraged community connections, and supported greater awareness of actions to benefit biodiversity and sustainability.

7 Seirbhísí Comhshaoil Environmental Services

CLIMATE ACTION

Commercial Energy Rates Discount Scheme

The Commercial Energy Rates Discount Scheme, through which businesses across Waterford take the Business Pledge for a Cleaner, Greener Waterford, remains open until mid-September. Participating businesses—whether renewing last year's pledge or making it for the first time—receive a 9% rates discount once their bill is paid in full. Unique to Waterford, the scheme has been nominated for this year's Excellence in Local Government Awards as a practical example of how a council can support businesses in becoming more sustainable while reducing costs. Last year, over 1,000 businesses availed of the scheme.

Raising Awareness and Engaging Decision-Makers to Achieve Climate-Smart Governance

Councillors have been invited to a workshop on September 24th to discuss decision making on climate issues and the positive impact the Council is having in this area. This event presents an opportunity for stakeholders and decision-makers to gain a comprehensive understanding of the Climate Action Plan, the Roadmap to Carbon Neutrality 2040 for Waterford City, and the Biodiversity Plan. We will examine the anticipated benefits, address key challenges, and underscore the crucial role elected representatives play in advancing climate-smart governance.

The event will showcase compelling national and regional case studies, highlighting innovative climate initiatives implemented in Waterford and other councils.



7 Seirbhísí Comhshaoil Environmental Services

BIODIVERSITY

Four of the Local Biodiversity Action Plan Projects for 2025 are now nearing completion. These initiatives are funded through the National Parks and Wildlife Service and Local Biodiversity Action Fund. Key initiatives include the BirdWatch Nightjar Survey for Waterford, the Clodiagh Freshwater Pearl Mussel Project, and the IUCN Red List assessment for Mayfly led by Jans Robert Baar (UCD). In addition, Outreach & Education funding is supporting the delivery of community biodiversity training, the publication of a Waterford Wildlife booklet, and collaborative projects with both wildlife and arts organisations.

As part of Heritage Week 2025, four natural heritage events were delivered, attracting strong public interest and engagement. These events were run in partnership with internal and external partners. Highlights included a bilingual interactive talk on freshwater and seashore habitats which took place in Dungarvan Library; a Bankside Bat Walk at Colligan Woods which included discussions on the importance of water quality; the need for healthy habitats, impact of light pollution and the importance of native wildlife; a marine research-focused session, and a workshop on the climate and biodiversity importance of seagrass in Tramore Backstrand SAC and SPA.

Community Biodiversity Workshop

Community Pollinator Planting workshops have been run across the county with community groups and members of the public. Over 140 people have attended these over the past 6 weeks with a wealth of knowledge to bring back into their local areas. This was developed with funding from WCCC, NPWS and the Heritage Council.



8 Na hEalaíona & Cultúr Arts & Culture

LIBRARIES

Figures represent 30 days of activity.	
No Visitors	36,240
Validated borrowers	30,724
Issues in branch	33,259
eBooks & eAudio	8,270
eNewspapers & Magazines	27,841
Events and Activities	297



Library Event highlights from July & August:

- The Writers at Waterford Libraries programme brought bestselling author Sheila O'Flanagan to Tramore Library on Tuesday 22nd July. Sheila is the author of more than 30 contemporary novels and short stories, an audience of 80 attendees enjoyed the event. Our Smart Reader's Down Syndrome Ireland Book Club had a special meet and greet with the author prior to the main event.
- Heritage Week took place from the 16th to the 23rd of August. Waterford Libraries held a large programme of events. Historian Maxine Keogh gave a talk on, 'From Privilege to Right: The Introduction of Free Education in Ireland and its Lasting Legacy,' in Tramore Library on the 22nd. On Tuesday the 19th of August there was a bilingual 'Loch sa Leabharlann' talk for families on habitats in association with Waterford City & County Councils Climate Action Dept, NPWS Ranger Éinne Ó Cathasaigh and WCCC Biodiversity Officer Marina Mulligan.
- Exhibitions for Heritage week. Dungarvan Library hosted, '125 Years of Local Government in Ireland'. The Index gallery in Central Library hosted an exhibition of, 'Waterford Scouting Photographs' to celebrate the donation of the Waterford Scout County Logbooks to Waterford City and County Archive and Waterford City and County Libraries. Carrickphierish Library displayed, 'The Notoriously Dissolute Females' exhibition which explores the role of women in nineteenth-century society through the lives of Waterford women.
- Waterford's latest Civic Trust Blue Plaque was unveiled by Government Chief Whip and Minister for Mental Health, Mary Butler TD on August 24th. Over 175 people attended the event at Fisherman's Hall, Dunmore East Library, the plaque is dedicated to Nanette Malcolmson founder of the Hall and reading rooms circa 1850.
- On Saturday, August 16th, Ardkeen Library hosted a celebration of India Day which was attended by 350 people. The event showcased Indian food and culture. Mayor of Waterford City and County, Cllr. Seamus Ryan welcomed the attendees, saying the event was an opportunity to show support and appreciation for the Indian community in Waterford.
- There were over 220 applications for our 2025 programme of Writing Courses at Waterford Libraries This initiative is organised in association with Creative Waterford, The Munster Literature centre and Dún Garbhán Le Gaeilge. The first 4-week beginners' fiction course with author William Ryan has just concluded and Creative Non-Fiction with Journalist and author Peter Murphy will begin in September.
- Marine Scientist and Sustainability expert Finn Van Der Aar delivered a Webinar as part of Waterford Libraries Skills for Life programme where she spoke about making eco-friendly choices in food, shopping, and clothing to reducing plastic use and rethinking transport on Wednesday the 20th of August.
- Waterford Libraries popped up on the lawns of Curraghmore House for All Together Now 2025. The Library is a popular location for families and those seeking a quieter space.

8 Na hEalaíona & Cultúr Arts & Culture

LIBRARIES

Library Development

- Ardkeen Library and Creative Waterford brought the stunning work of Waterford artist, Lisa Murphy, to the wall of the children's section of Ardkeen Library. Over the summer the artist hosted workshops for the library's younger service users to get their ideas and input to help create a creative and welcoming space
- 3,393 primary School Children registered for Summer Stars and borrowed over 13,796 books in July and August from Waterford Libraries.

Upcoming Events

- SDG Week will run across Waterford Libraries from September 18th to the 8th of October with a full programme of events.
- Writers at Waterford Libraries will bring the inimitable Kevin Barry to Dungarvan Library on September 11th and Journalist and Author Aoife Barry to Ardkeen Library on September 20th.

ARTS

Applications for the 2026 Arts Practice and Venue Grants are due to be advertised this month with applications details available on waterfordarts.com.

The new Arts Plan is currently being prepared for submission to the SPC.

The Arts Office and the Waterford Film Centre are exploring a major projects commission with neighbouring counties.

Culture Night

National Culture Night takes place on Friday 19th September. Waterford will come alive with a vibrant programme of free events across the city and county.

The Waterford Gallery of Art will present a preview "The Sea Around Us", accompanied by a commissioned musical work by Killian Browne on the evening.

The Old Market House Arts Centre will have a performance by the Lunatractors as part of the new residency in the venue.

The programme for the Waterford Writers Weekend will be announced on Culture Night online.
Full details on waterfordarts.com

REVENUE ACCOUNT INCOME & EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION Y.T.D. TO JULY 31ST, 2025

	EXPENDITURE				INCOME			Month No
	Expenditure €	Adopted Full Year Budget €	% Budget Spent to date		Income €	Adopted Full year Budget €	% Budget Raised	7
Housing & Building	29,918,131	48,295,226	62%		33,004,672	52,533,910	63%	613,975
Road Transport & Safety	27,483,450	49,856,156	55%		16,614,301	31,717,417	52%	(288,218)
Water Services	5,120,184	11,289,485	45%		4,538,926	10,197,005	45%	56,021
Development Management	14,811,032	29,701,285	50%		7,675,144	17,035,932	45%	252,235
Environmental Services	15,446,444	25,223,296	61%		3,224,131	4,558,656	71%	(167,939)
Recreation & Amenity	10,374,045	17,445,974	59%		1,224,414	2,188,242	56%	(249,287)
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	570,539	1,178,094	48%		204,057	401,272	51%	86,664
Miscellaneous Services	6,116,737	10,762,820	57%		7,822,867	13,731,108	57%	(25,372)
Local Property Tax / GPG		0	0%		12,671,346	21,722,308	58%	(0)
Rates		0	0%		22,993,102	39,666,486	58%	(145,681)
	109,840,562	193,752,336	57%		109,972,961	193,752,336	57%	132,399

COLLECTIONS REPORT

Summary of main collections July 2025 YTD										
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G'		[6]	[7]
	Gross Bal as at 1-1-2025	Accrued ytd to July 2025	Write Offs and Vacancies	Waivers & Credits	Total for Collection [1+2-3]	Collected ytd to July 2025	Gross Bal 31-07-2025 [4-5]	Specific Provision	% Collected ytd re Total for Collection [5/4]	% Collected ytd re 2025 Accrual & collectable [5/(4-1)]
		€	€		€	€	€		€	€
Rates	1,264,672	39,487,783	- 905,604	1,466	39,848,317	28,898,784	10,949,533	800,865	74%	75%
Loans	806,611	1,971,195	- 20		2,777,786	2,103,424	674,362		76%	107%
Rents	5,346,664	14,317,641	9,813		19,674,118	13,673,896	6,000,222		70%	95%
Aged Analysis :										
				Less than 1 mth	2 to 6 mths	7 to 12 mths	greater than 12 mths			Net Balance
Rates				-	10,160,141	-	789,392			10,949,533
				0 to 3 mths	4 to 6 mths	7 to 12 mths	Greater than 12 mths			
Loans				172,498	29,802	71,702	400,360			674,362
				Less than 4 weeks	4-6 weeks	7-12 weeks	Greater than 12 wks			
Rents				174,934	131,212	224,752	5,469,324			6,000,222
Overdraft Levels										
Days in Overdraft in July 25'	0		Cost -		€0.00	Average Value when in O/D :			€0	



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae Phort Láirge
Waterford City
& County Council