



Report of the Chief Executive On the Harvest Festival a Local Authority Event

Application Ref:	EL05-2025
Proposed Event:	Harvest Festival 2025
Location of Event:	A range of locations throughout Waterford City Centre at various times over the 3 days
Dates:	Friday 5 th September to Sunday 7 th September 2025 inclusive
Name of Applicant:	Waterford City & County Council

Event Outline

The event is a celebration of food and culture, particularly highlighting artisan organic food production from the South East Region, wellness and family fun. The event will be centred in Arundel Square & John Roberts Square with events throughout the City Centre of Waterford City.

The event will include the following: -

- a. Family friendly activities with a food, food related, health or lifestyle element,
- b. Quality Market,
- c. Relevant, topical and interesting food & food related demonstrations, talks, discussions and activities,
- d. Music,
- e. Presentation of Waterford's food heritage

Audience Profile & Capacity

The Harvest Festival has a family friendly profile and events are programmed to attract and entertain that market sector. The anticipated attendance at the event is 60,000 over the duration of the festival.

Relevant Planning History

This event has been run over a number of years and there have been no serious public safety or public order incidents associated with this family friendly festival.

Public Consultation

Waterford City & County Council published notice of their intention to hold an event in the Irish Examiner and the Waterford News & Star on the 20th May 2025 and invited public submissions or observations up until the 11th of June 2025.

No public submissions were received during the public consultation period.

Referrals

All of the application documentation was referred to An Garda Siochana, The HSE Environmental Health Department and the HSE Emergency Management Officer, Kilkenny County Council, the Chief Fire Officer, the Environment Section, the Roads Department and the Planning Department of Waterford City and County Council. Submissions in respect of this proposed event were invited from each of the referrals.

A submission was received from An Garda Siochana Waterford who had no objection or observation in relation to the proposed event.

Submissions were also received from the HSE Emergency Management Officer, the Chief Fire Officer and the HSE Environmental Health Officer in relation to the proposed event - all comments/observations received have been complied with.

RECOMMENDATION:

Having considered:

- a) all of the submitted documentation
- b) the previous history of this family-friendly food based event
- c) the views and submissions of all relevant agencies
- d) those matters referred to at section 231(4) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)

and having inspected the locations of the proposed events it is recommended that the event proceed in accordance with the Event Management Plan and the Event Medical Plan.



Ivan Grimes

Director of Services

Corporate, Culture, Planning, HR & IS

11th July 2025