

MANAGEMENT REPORT

NOVEMBER 2025

TO COUNCIL



PREPARED BY

SEÁN MCKEOWN

Príomhfheidhmeannach
Chief Executive



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1 Seirbhísí Corparáirdeacha Corporate

MAYOR'S OFFICIAL ENGAGEMENTS OCTOBER

- 01/10/2025 ● Photocall for launch of Schools Litter Challenge sponsored by Tom Murphy Care Sales Toyota, Toyota Garage, Cork Road, Waterford
- Tea dance to honour International Day of Older People, St. Paul's Parish Centre, Lisduggan, Waterford
- Opening of photo exhibition by James Hughes as part of the Shared Island exchange with Mid and East Antrim Borough Council, Central Library, Lady Lane, Waterford
- 02/10/2025 ● Opening of Waterford Libraries Staff Training Day, Dr Mary Strangman Large Room, City Hall, The Mall, Waterford
- Launch of exhibition entitled "The Sea Around Us" and "Michael Cullen: Neo-Expressionist", Waterford Gallery of Art, O'Connell Street, Waterford by Cllr. Lola O'Sullivan
- 03/10/2025 ● 40th year celebration of St. Brigid's Family and Community Centre, St. Brigid's Family and Community Centre, Lower Yellow Road, Waterford
- Civic Dollars Pilot Launch photocall, Kingfisher Health Club, Tramore Road, Kilbarry, Waterford
- Mayor's welcome for delegation from Mercyhurst University, Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Davitts Quay, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford by Cllr. John Pratt
- 04/10/2025 ● Sweeping Changes – 1925 Local Government Act Commemoration Event Seminar, Lawlors Hotel, Bridge Street, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford
- Launch of "The HeART of Gaza" exhibition, Old Market House Arts Centre, Main Street, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford
- 08/10/2025 ● Metropolitan Mayor's School Visit by Cllr. Adam Wyse
- GLAS Awards, Mayor's Parlour, City Hall, The Mall, Waterford

MAYOR'S OFFICIAL ENGAGEMENTS OCTOBER

09/10/2025	●	Launch of Winterval, House of Waterford Crystal, The Mall, Waterford
10/10/2025	●	New art launch in conjunction with City of Light, Waterford Gallery of Art, O'Connell St, Opening of community connection campaign by Toastmasters International, Granville Hotel, The Quay, Waterford
11/10/2025	●	Waterford Newfoundland Connections, Dr Mary Strangman Large Room, City Hall, The Mall, Waterford Kerala Muslim Community Ireland Family Meet, Ballygunner GAA Club, Ballygunner
12/10/2025	●	Official start of Solas Cancer Support Centre Run and Walk for Life, Millenium Plaza, The Quay, Waterford Order of Malta Tramore 80 th Anniversary Mass, Holy Cross Catholic Church, Summerhill, Tramore, Co. Waterford by Cllr. Lola O'Sullivan Waterford City Rugby Football Club Community Family Fun Day, Waterford City Rugby Football Club, Kilbarry, Waterford
13/10/2025	●	Association of Visitor Experiences and Attractions (AVEA) Gala Diner, Mount Congreve Gardens, Kilmeaden, Co. Waterford
14/10/2025	●	Children's Wellbeing Morning, Dungarvan Sports Centre, Childers Estate, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford by Cllr. Niamh O'Donovan Mayoral Reception for Zara Breslin, City Hall, The Mall, Waterford
15/10/2025	●	Metropolitan Mayor's School Visits by Cllr. Lola O'Sullivan
16/10/2025	●	Opening of Media Literacy Conference for senior cycle students, Theatre Royal, The Mall, Waterford Waterford Learning City Launch, Garden Room, Medieval Museum, Cathedral Square, Waterford Mayor's welcome for visitors from Taranto, Italy, Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Davitts Quay, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford

1 Seirbhísí Corparáirdeacha Corporate

MAYOR'S OFFICIAL ENGAGEMENTS OCTOBER

17/10/2025	- Metropolitan Mayor's School Visits by Cllr. Adam Wyse - Photocall for Purple Flag accreditation, Cathedral Square, Waterford - Visit to premises of Re-A-Suir Suicide Prevention, 28A Mary Street, Waterford
18/10/2025	- Launch of Kilmeaden Community Plan, Ballyduff Community Hall, Ballyduff Lower, Co. Waterford by Cllr. John O'Leary - Toy Swap in conjunction with Tramore Tidy Towns as part of International Repair Day, Tramore GAA Club, Crobally Upper, Tramore, Co. Waterford - Unveiling of Bahá'í Faith Community obelisk, Kilbarry Cemetery, Link Road, Ballybeg, Waterford - Metropolitan Mayor's School Visits by Cllr. Adam Wyse from 20th to 23rd October inclusive
21/10/2025	Launch of photograph exhibition 'Opening of Retro 40: On a Night Like This – by Eoin Ronayne' as part of Imagine Arts Festival, Jordan's Bar, The Quay, Waterford
22/10/2025	Photocall to open Halloween spooky tunnel, Ballyvoyle Tunnel, Waterford Greenway, Kilmacthomas, Co. Waterford
23/10/2025	National Age Friendly Recognition and Achievement Awards, Galmont Hotel, Lough Atalia Road, Galway
25/10/2025	Lions Club Youth Ambassador Awards Lunch, Tower Hotel, The Mall, Waterford
29/10/2025	- Civic Reception for Waterford Minor All-Ireland Ladies Footballers, Council Chamber, City Hall, The Mall, Waterford - Waterford Carer of the Year Award Presentation, Lidl, Ring Road, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford by Cllr. John Pratt
30/10/2025	- Mayoral Reception for Waterford Youth Arts, Mayor's Parlour, City Hall, The Mall, Waterford - Opening of transport hub, Ballybricken, Waterford
31/10/2025	

1 Seirbhísí Corparáirdeacha Corporate

FRANCHISE SECTION

Work is ongoing on the LGERS Project to meet the timeline of May 2026 to migrate to the new central electoral register. The cleaning tasks are being completed in two concurrent Phases as well as tackling the National Duplicates list. Phase 1

Phase 2, which focused on deceased electors is complete with 1,137 entries having been reviewed and completed. Phase 1 which included Irish translations and people duplicated within the county is now 75% complete (599/789). The National Duplicates List comprising electors where Waterford City & County Council is the lead authority is 47% complete with 1,140 of 2,382 individuals having been updated. The National Duplicates also includes electors registered in another local authority where the most recent updates were recorded who also have a Waterford address and of these 37% (397/1,071) have been completed. The current deadline for completion of Phase 1, Phase 2 and the National Duplicates List is November 31st. Each of these individuals will receive three contacts by email or post.

Under the Electoral Reform Act 2022, where the Registration Authority has contacted a person three times to confirm or update their details on the electoral register, and the individual does not respond to these contacts, the authority may remove them from the register. An individual can be re-instated on the register by contacting the Franchise Team or visiting checktheregister.ie at any time.

INCREASING YOUTH PARTICIPATION IN DEMOCRACY

The Electoral Reform Act also introduced provision for 16-17 year olds to pre-register to vote. The Franchise Team will be engaging with Comhairle nan Óg on a campaign to increase youth registration and also presenting to Transition Year classes over the coming months. As of 14th October 2025, there were only 45 young people aged 16-17 pre-registered to vote in Waterford.

1 Seirbhísí Corparáirdeacha Corporate

COMMUNICATIONS

The Communications Department issued 27 media releases, responded to 22 media queries and drafted 9 Mayoral speeches during October 2025.

The Comms Hub:

Comms produced and broadcast 8 Quick Take videos – these short, timely and informative videos were broadcast on Waterford City and County Council's YouTube and social media channels and audio clips to help bring staff stories, project updates, and organisational news to life:



The QUICK TAKE Series
Waterford's Biodiversity Action Plan
with Marina Mulligan
Biodiversity Officer
1:34

Waterford Biodiversity Action Plan 2026 – 2031 | Quick...
Waterford City & County Council
5.4K views • 12 days ago

The QUICK TAKE Series
Waterford Local Sports & Physical Activity Plan
with Ger Mulhall
Community Dept.
2:06

Waterford Local Sports & Physical Activity Plan | Quic...
Waterford City & County Council
18K views • 2 weeks ago

The QUICK TAKE Series
Climate Action Week 2025
with Cian Gill
Climate Action Team
0:59

Climate Action Week | Quick Take #4
Waterford City & County Council
7.7K views • 3 weeks ago

The QUICK TAKE Series
Affordable Housing Survey
with Seamus de Tacht
Director of Services, Housing
1:12

Affordable Housing Survey | Quick Take #3 | Survey open...
Waterford City & County Council
42K views • 3 weeks ago

Content					
Duration	Publishing date	Views ↓		Watch time (hours)	
☐ Total		77,186		226.6	
☐ 1:12	Affordable Housing Survey Quick Take #3 Survey op...	42,797	55.5%	70.7	31.2%
☐ 2:06	Waterford Local Sports & Physical Activity Plan Quick...	18,373	23.8%	33.4	14.7%
☐ 0:59	Climate Action Week Quick Take #4	7,769	10.1%	41.6	18.4%
☐ 1:34	Waterford Biodiversity Action Plan 2026 – 2031 Quick...	5,413	7.0%	29.8	13.1%
☐ 2:24	North Quays Update - September 2025	674	0.9%	20.5	9.1%
☐ 2:27	Halloween Safety Message Quick Take #7	450	0.6%	3.7	1.6%
☐ 1:21	Shane's Active Travel Journey	199	0.3%	0.7	0.3%

1 Seirbhísí Corparáirdeacha Corporate

COMMUNICATIONS

Social Media Stats

Month	Reach / Impressions	%Change	Followers	%Change
Sept	631,489		58,230	
October	1,074,055	67.2%	59,150	+2.3%

@WaterfordCouncil @Waterford204 @ShopWaterford

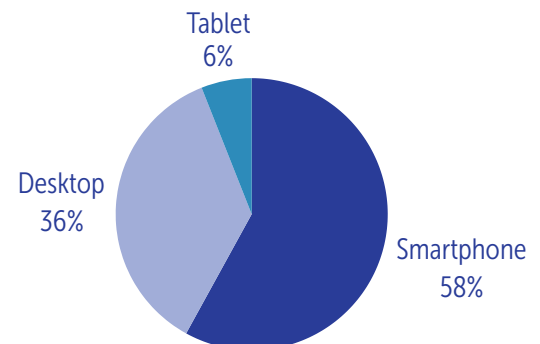
Web Stats Pageviews: 147,442 Unique Page Views: 114,416 Total Downloads: 23,958

Top 10 pages: not including homepage

1. Online Planning Enquiries
2. Current Vacancies
3. CBL
4. View a Planning Application
5. Parking
6. Services homepage
7. Affordable Housing
8. Pay Online
9. Contact Us
10. Airport Investment - News Item

Top 5 Search terms

1. Parking fine
2. Doug pound
3. Vacancies
4. Parking
5. Pay my Rent



Inhouse Designs

KEEP YOUR DOG SAFE IN HALLOWEEN

- Exercise your dog earlier in the day
- Keep them on a lead when outside
- Make sure they are wearing a collar with an ID tag with your contact number on it
- Check your dog's microchip details are up to date. Having your dog microchipped is a legal requirement
- Keep your dog inside during fireworks, with someone to keep them company
- Close all doors, windows and curtains
- Play calming music to mask the noises
- Stash the sweets - Keep chocolate and sugar-free candies (especially xylitol) out of reach. Store wrappers and bins securely to prevent scavenging
- If your dog is sensitive to loud noises or flashing lights, make them an area that they can retreat to where they can feel safe i.e. a crate with a blanket over it, a cardboard box or under a table with a blanket covering it. Don't try to coax them out they will come out when they feel safe
- Give them something to do, play with their favourite toy or give them a treat to chew on

ACTIVE TRAVEL
NON-STATUTORY
PUBLIC CONSULTATION EVENTS
Tramore Waterford Urban Greenway
Active Travel Scheme

Events will focus on the proposed end points in Waterford City only

Wednesday,
26th November 2025

9 AM - 12 PM
Tramore Coastguard Cultural Centre
Doneraile Drive, Tramore
X91 HP63

1 PM - 4 PM
Kingfisher Waterford
Tramore Road
X91 AX54

activetravel@waterfordcouncil.ie 0818 10 20 20

waterfordcouncil.ie

CLIMATE ACTION INDUCTION

Comhairle Cathrach & Contae Phort Láirge Waterford City & County Council

INTRO TO ELECTRIC VEHICLES (EV)
for Staff
October 2025

Comhairle Cathrach & Contae Phort Láirge Waterford City & County Council

2 Forbairt Eacnamaíoch Economic Development

NORTH QUAYS

The sustainable transport bridge spans are now fixed in position and connected to the permanent supporting concrete piers. The temporary steel supports can now be removed from the river and the permanent pier protection systems and navigation aids in the river can be completed. The final commissioning of the mechanical and electrical systems for the opening bascule spans is ongoing; in the meantime the bridge is being opened and closed as required for river traffic. The finishing works for the bridge have commenced with the installation of the edge railings and glass panels and the remaining finishing works will commence in the coming weeks, including the surfacing, lighting, barriers, street furniture etc.

The South Quays Plaza is well advanced and will provide a high quality landscaped public realm area with seating, lighting, green area and bicycle facilities. A glass flood defence barrier is currently being installed along the river, and the plaza works are expected to be complete in January 2026, at which point final snagging checks and safety audits will be completed in advance of any opening to the public. Public access from the South Plaza to the sustainable transport bridge will be closed off and secured until the bridge opens to the public.

All scaffolding has been removed from the train station northern and southern elevations. Works are continuing on the northern entrance, internal fitout and works are due to commence on the southern entrance in Q1 2026. The train station by its nature requires significant mechanical & electrical works and these fixes will also be completed in the coming months.

The final surfacing works are now complete in Ferrybank on all public roads, set-down areas, greenways, etc. Final road marking works are ongoing and the western railway footbridge and ramp is progressing well.



2 Forbairt Eacnamaíoch Economic Development

NORTH QUAYS

The installation of street furniture and landscaping has commenced on Abbey Road and the public lighting is being commissioned. The completion of the greenway ramp at Abbey Road could enable the opening of the 6km section of greenway from Abbey Road to Curraghmore by Wexford & Kilkenny County Council's. Timing will be subject to completion of safety audits, defects check, certification, etc. and the implementation of all outstanding items will continue in consultation with Wexford & Kilkenny County Council's.

Works are continuing on the railway flood defence scheme; the eastern flood defence works are complete, while the eastern trackside drainage and western flood defence works are both progressing on site and due for completion in Q1 and Q2 2026, respectively. The western trackside drainage works will be tendered by Iarnród Éireann shortly, while details are being finalised for the central flood defence works (at Plunkett Station) and the flood defence pump stations. Both of these are anticipated to commence on site in Q1 of 2026. The central flood defence works require the construction of underground trenches, flood walls and demountable barriers within the Plunkett Station car parks, entrance and set-down areas as well as significant diversion of underground services within these areas. The project team is currently liaising with Iarnród Éireann on the logistics for these works and the best means of reducing impacts on rail commuters.



Harcourt Developments is in consultation with the Land Development Agency on the roll out of the residential development elements of approved Phase 1 of the SDZ development. Upon close out of this process it is anticipated that works will commence on site within the first half of 2026, where the integration works with the transport hub, sustainable transport bridge, Abbey Road and Dock Road will be fast-tracked to facilitate the earliest possible opening of the transport hub and bridge in 2027.

2 Forbairt Eacnamaíoch Economic Development

LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE

Measure 1 Supports Indicator	At end of Oct 2024 Cumulative Figure	At end of Oct 2025 Cumulative Figure
No. of clients securing Measure 1 support	33	26
Value of Measure 1 support approved	€504,142	€624,856

*Measure 1 figure for 2024 includes an Export Grant which has been discontinued by Enterprise Ireland.

Measure 2 Supports Indicator	At end of Oct 2024 Cumulative Figure	At end of Oct 2025 Cumulative Figure
No. of clients receiving Measure 2 support	2143	2251
Value of Measure 2 support given	€367,119	€304,228
Start Your Own Business Programmes	10	13
Start Your Own Business Prog Participants	145	125

Productivity Supports Figures not included in cumulative table	No. of Approvals as of Oct 2025	Value of Approvals €
Lean For Business	11	€45,940
Green For Business	35	€77,490
Digital For Business	26	€60,885
Grow Digital Voucher	7	€27,541
Energy Efficiency Grants	15	€133,069
GradStart Grant	3	€90,000

National Women's Enterprise Day

National Women's Enterprise Day took place at the Majestic Hotel, Tramore on Thursday, 16th of October. With over 80 female entrepreneurs in attendance and a fantastic panel of female speakers, it was a morning full of energy, ideas, and connection.



Winners of the Waterford Glas Awards 2025 Announced

The awards in association with Waterford City & Council recognise and celebrate the micro businesses in County Waterford who have made significant advances in bringing green principles into their business models.

The Green Micro Enterprise of the Year was won by Blossom and Berry. Nestled in the picturesque town of Lismore, County Waterford, Blossom & Berry is a sustainable florist.

The Green SME of the Year was won by The Hat Maker. This new hotel in Dungarvan is a refurbishment of an existing protected structure. It achieved an A2 rating, ensuring sustainable reuse of this historic building in the town centre.

Each winner received a cash prize and a Glas trophy, designed and created by Brendan O'Donnell. The awards have been solely made from reclaimed and recycled materials.

2 Forbairt Eacnamaíoch Economic Development

TRAILS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION

Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) Funding

- Final funding drawdowns submitted to DRCDG on 7th November.

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

Waterford Greenway

- A number Greenway asset renewal projects being funded by TII including the installation of footfall counters, surfacing and fencing works to be completed by year end
- Spooky Tunnel at Ballyvoyle Tunnel on Waterford Greenway took place from 24th October to 2nd November.



TOURISM

Waterford Rural Tourism Network

The Waterford Rural Tourism Network (WRTN) continues to grow and develop.

The Waterford Rural Tourism Network recently held the final in-person meetings for 2025. These meetings are crucial as it is the members who set the tone and goals for the network. These meetings were used to shape and the plan and strategy for 2026.

The Network is now looking ahead to the Network wide event on the 20th November – the theme of which is 'Waterford Goes Global' where there will be special guests such as Pól Ó Conghaile and John Healy.

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 WCCC.



2 Forbairt Eacnamaíoch Economic Development

TOURISM

Visit Waterford

Media:

In the month of September Visit Waterford delivered a series of paid & organic features across different media forms including print, digital & radio.

A native campaign was run on the 6th October with Taste Waterford to highlight same, this had a reach of 2.2 million. There was a radio ad on 10th October on the Crime World Podcast.

Visit Waterford ran a CPM Takeover for Samhain with the Independent. A video was created and delivered by Visit Waterford to promote Samhain. This can be viewed through the link here: <https://www.instagram.com/p/DQCoilmjBgu/>

An event was hosted on the 21st October to launch the partnership between Visit Waterford & Taste Waterford.

The final podcast as part of the 'Dig into Waterford' campaign, which features experts in folklore, history, and archaeology, can be accessed through the link <https://open.spotify.com/episode/0IDlckDEjtXlSR1kuqGk7>. This episode was recorded live at a Culture Night event, hosted in House of Waterford.

Awards:

Visit Waterford have been nominated for a Marketing Excellent award with Waterford Chamber.

AVEA:

Visit Waterford attended and had a stand at the most recent AVEA (Association of Visitor Experiences and Attractions) held in the Tower Hotel on the 13th – 14th October.

Membership

Visit Waterford now has a total of 80 members.



2 Forbairt Eacnamaíoch Economic Development

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & ENTERPRISE SPC

SPC

The next meeting of the Economic Development SPC is scheduled to take place Thursday 27th November at Dunhill Multi-Education Centre

Winterval Launch

Winterval 2025 was launched by Mayor of Waterford City and County, Cllr. Seamus Ryan in the House of Waterford Crystal, Thursday 9th October.

Ireland's largest Christmas Festival returns to Waterford, Ireland's oldest city and the European City of Christmas for its 13th year, promising more magic, wonder, and festive cheer than ever before. Running from November 21st until December 23rd, Winterval has firmly established itself as Ireland's premier Christmas festival, transforming the historic Viking city into a twinkling wonderland that draws visitors from across the country and beyond. This year, Winterval weekends will be even more magical with the festival now running every Thursday to Sunday, giving visitors extra opportunities to soak up the festive fun.

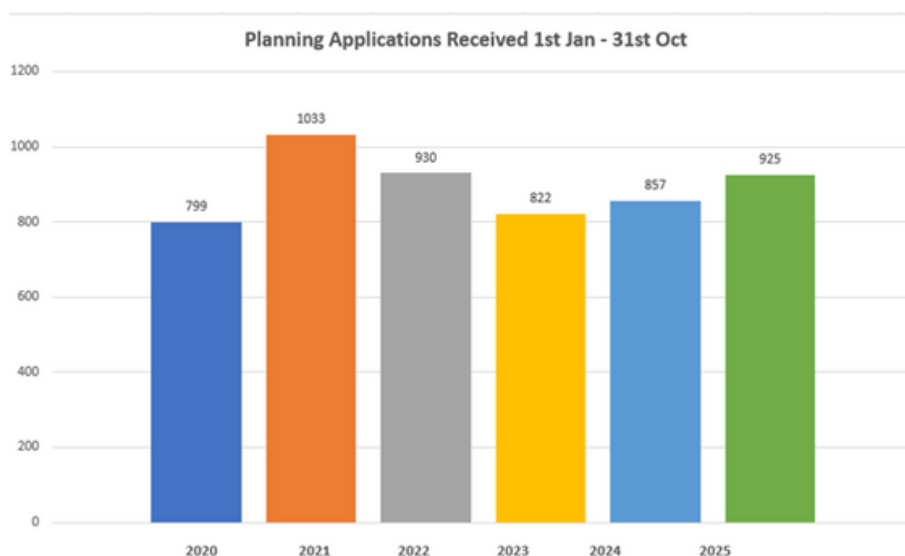


PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED– COUNTYWIDE

90 planning applications were received countywide in October 2025. This compares with 74 planning applications received for the same period in 2024. 52 planning applications were granted during this period.



925 planning applications were received from 1st January 2025 to 31st October 2025 whilst 857 were received for the same period in 2024.



3 Pleanáil Planning

HERITAGE

Seminar on the History of Local Government in Ireland

A seminar marking the centenary of the 1925 Local Government Act was hosted in Lawlor's Hotel, Dungarvan on Saturday October 4th as part of Waterford's 2025 Commemorations Programme. The seminar was opened by Mayor Seamus Ryan and explored the sweeping changes the 1925 Act brought to local government with the abolition of Rural District Councils and the introduction of Boards of Public Health and Public Assistance. Speakers included Minister of State, John Cummins, Dr. Áodh Quinlivan of UCC, Dr. Arlene Crampsie of UCD and Archivist Joanne Rothwell, Waterford City and County Council. The event was funded by the Department of Culture, Communications and Sport.



Waterford and Newfoundland Heritage Connections Seminar

A seminar celebrating the heritage connections between Waterford and Newfoundland took place in City Hall on Saturday, October 11th attended by over 160 people. Speakers included Historian, Eugene Broderick, Archivist, Joanne Rothwell, Librarian, Kieran Cronin and Singer and Scholar, Niall Wall followed by performances by St. Teresa's Parish Choir from St. John's, Newfoundland and St. Joseph and Benildus Church in Waterford City. A photo exhibition by Paddy Dwan was on display marking the 20th anniversary of the first Tall Ships Festival in Waterford in 2005 and Poet Mark Roper penned a poem Sail especially for the event. The event was funded by the Creative Ireland Programme.



ACTIVE LAND MANAGEMENT AND DERELICT SITES TEAM

The team is currently addressing a total of 364 properties classified as either derelict or potentially derelict. In recent weeks and months, there has been a significant increase in activity, with 132 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.

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.

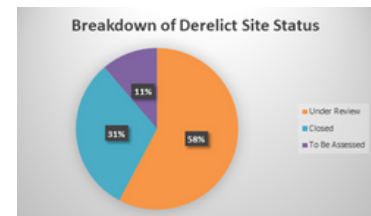
With time and effort, collaborating with owners, financial institutions, and other departments, there are definite options for positive redevelopment and revitalisation of many derelict sites.

The table below provides a snapshot of October 2025's activity.

Derelict Sites	October	Total
Number of new files opened	2	495
Number of Section 8(2) Notices issued – Intention to enter the site on the Derelict Sites Register	9	215
Number of Section 8(7) Notices issued – Entry of site onto Derelict Sites Register	2	157
Number of Section 11 Notices issued – Measures required to render the site non-derelict	3	33
Number of Notices served to Compulsorily Purchase Acquisitions (CPA) (see note below)	2	52
Number of Vesting Orders signed.	2	21

ACTIVE LAND MANAGEMENT AND DERELICT SITES TEAM

In October 2025, the derelict sites team successfully collaborated with property owners to revitalise and close cases on 6 previously derelict properties. As of this report, we have closed 149 cases. Please see the chart across for an up-to-date breakdown of the status of all derelict sites.



Compulsory Purchase Acquisition of Derelict Sites (CPA)

In October 2025, the Derelict Sites team initiated 2 CPAs.

The deadline for submissions is 21st November 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.

IPI Conference

David Quinn Senior Executive Planner Active Land Management spoke at the Irish Planning Institute's (IPI) Autumn Conference on the 2nd October 2025 at The Gibson Hotel Dublin.

This was an opportunity to promote and highlight the significant work that Waterford City & County Council has been involved with in recent years in relation to tackling dereliction and vacancy within our urban and rural settlements. David was delighted to represent the Council and highlight the positive change and the impact of the Councils work throughout Waterford in this regard.



FORWARD PLANNING REPORT

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

As previously notified and discussed at a workshop with the Plenary Council on the 25th June last, we are nearing the latter stages of the process to complete the making of the variation. A total of 26 written submissions have been received on the proposed draft variation from landowners, community groups, private individuals, statutory providers and prescribed authorities, including the Southern Regional Assembly and the Office of the Planning Regulator. These submissions have been summarised in a report by the Chief Executive, along with the response and recommendation of the Chief Executive to the submissions which has been circulated to the Plenary Council. The Council has now debated the variation and the report of the Chief Executive at a workshop on the 4th November. The decision to make the variation or otherwise must be made by the Council by the 28th November, 2025.

FORWARD PLANNING REPORT

Revised Housing Targets from the First Revision of the NPF 2025

Further to the publication of the First Review of the NPF, the subsequent revised housing target guidelines issued under Section 28 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, and the recommendation with regard to the housing targets by the OPR on the proposed draft variation to the development plan mentioned above, we are currently analysing the core strategy monitoring data, the collection of which has been ongoing since the Development Plan came into effect on the 19th July 2022. Currently it does not appear that an additional variation to the development plan will be required at this time, in order to increase the amount of land zoned for residential development, as currently there is sufficient zoned serviceable residential land available which will be augmented by way of the making of Variation No. 1 of the Development Plan mentioned above. We will be preparing the Development Plan core strategy monitoring report for the OPR prior to the end of 2025, and the relevant data will be shared with the Plenary Council at that time.

CONSERVATION OFFICER REPORT

Built Heritage Investment Scheme (BHIS) 2025 and Historic Thatch Funding (HTB) 2025

Conservation works supported by the BHIS and HTB 2025 funding, are now completed. The total amount of funding allocated, which was €314,789, supported 23 projects. Some of the projects previously allocated funding did not go ahead with the works due to the lack of availability of craftspeople to carry out the works within the timeframe. This year in Waterford, the conservation element of the grants generated 1,645 days of employment, for skilled contractors and supported works such as the repair of historic roofs, walls, windows and chimneys, repair of historic joinery in private and public buildings in the city and county. This total does not include extra employment provided for other works within these buildings.

Built Heritage Investment Scheme (BHIS) 2026

The Department has allocated €273,729 to Waterford for 2026. We have received 53 applications, and these are being assessed at present for eligibility. The successful projects will be sent for approval to the Department by 4th of December and the Department will revert by early January.

Historic Thatch Buildings Fund 2026

€41,063 for thatch house projects (thatch are also eligible under the BHIS)

5 applications for funding have been received, and these are being assessed at present. The successful projects will be sent for approval to the Department by 4th of December and the Department will revert by early January.

CONSERVATION OFFICER REPORT

Historic Structure Funds (HSF) 2026

The call for funding has been announced by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. The primary focus of the HSF is to enable larger scale conservation and enhancement works to historic structures and buildings for the broader benefit of communities and the public. Details including the application forms, list of eligible works etc are available on Waterford Council website and the closing date is 16th of January 2026. The applications will be assessed, and the recommendations will be forwarded to the Department by the 6th of February 2026.

Cross-Departmental Consultation

Conservation works at the City Hall are now complete. Works included works to the chimneys, gutters, parapets, plus repair works to the front elevation windows and repair of defective stonework. The front façade has also been re rendered in lime mortar.

Liaising with Derelict sites with regard to empty / unused historic buildings in the City and County is ongoing and to date involves 27 projects.

Liaising with Housing on 21 projects which involve historic structures / or buildings within Architectural Conservation Areas- historic cores - under Capital/Ship renewal/Part 8 /Repair and Lease/Croi Cónaithe schemes.

4 Tithíocht Housing

HOUSING APPLICATIONS

Housing applications	October 2024	Total Number of Applications Year 2024	October 2025	Total Number of Applications Year To Date 2025
Applications Received	212	2,188	215	1,797
Applications Review	216	1,794	238	1,874
Applications Approved	69	634	73	609
Applications Ineligible/Refused	42	293	32	231
Applications Returned for FI	105	867	133	1,034

HOUSING ALLOCATIONS

	New Tenancies during Oct 2024	Cumulative No. of Tenancies 2024	New Tenancies during Oct 2025	Refusal No. of New Tenancy offer	Cumulative No. of New Tenancies 2025
Total	72	365	37	10	378

CHOICE BASED LETTING (CBL) SCHEME

The total number of properties advertised on the CBL system to date is 1,575. There have been 574 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
Oct 2025	8	9	1	2	8
YTD	50	9	15	15	11

TENANT PURCHASE APPLICATIONS

2025 Tenant Purchase	Applications received	Applications awaiting further info	Applications refused	Applications approved	Sales Closed
Oct 2025	6	3	3	2	2
YTD 2025	55	14	23	27	20
YTD2024	71	21	22	42	11

HOUSING ASSISTANCE PAYMENT

Housing Assistance Payment	Oct 2024 HAP tenancies	Oct 2025 HAP tenancies set up	Oct 2025 HAP tenancies	2025 no. of Active HAP Tenancies (Variation from 1 Oct)	HAP Tenancies Set up to date	Active HAP Tenancies to date
HAP Tenancies	19	15	-24	-9	5,137	1,224

4 Tithíocht Housing

HOMELESS SERVICES

Breakdown of persons in Emergency Accommodation Sept2025		
EA Placements 2025 (1)	Spotlight Week (Sept 23 rd -29 th) October 2025	Spotlight Week (Sept 23 rd -29 th) October 2024
Number of Single Persons	77	75
Number of Adults in Family Units	44	34
Number of Children in Family Units	57	45
Total Individuals in EA	178	154
Number of Family Units	33	26

OFD Placements 2025 (2)	Oct 2025	Oct 2024
Number of Single Persons	2	2
Number of Adults in Family Units	46	43
Number of Children in Family Units	64	54
Total Individuals in OFDs	112	99

Overall Placements Sept 2025	Oct 2025	Oct 2024
Total	290	253

Housing First Programme	Tenancies 2025
Number of Tenancies in place Oct 2025 with Housing First supports	33

Waterford Integrated Homeless Services (WIIHS)	Oct 2025	Cumulative 2025	Cumulative 2024
Number of Callers to WIHS seeking a service	361	2,919	3,380
Assessments by a Homeless Officer	64	653	954

HAP PlaceFinder Service	Oct 2025	Cumulative 2025
Number of Assessments by the Homeless HAP Officer	18	214
Number of HAP PlaceFinder Tenancies Complete (HUB)	4	39

(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 for All social programme				
Year	HFA Build Target	HFA Leasing Target	HFA Acquisition Target	Total Target
Target	1057	168	100	1325
Projected 27/10/2025	882	308	157	1435
Difference	-175	140	58	49

Housing for all Affordable programme	
Year	Target
Target	76
Projected 27/10/2025	266
Difference	190

Housing Capital Schemes - WCCC Projects				
Total: 662				
Part V	31	Countywide	Various Stages	Delivery On-going 2025 – 12 LA (est) - 16 AHB 2026 - 30
Repair and Lease	50	Countywide	Various Stages	2025 – 30 (est) 2026 – 20 (est) Delivery on-going
Buy & Renew – Countywide	20	Countywide	Tender Preparation	In progress – Refurbishment Contractor Framework Appointed
Total Units in WCCC Projects 763				
Housing Capital Schemes - Approved Housing Body Projects 89				

4 Tithíocht Housing

MAINTENANCE

VOIDS: Refurbishing of houses becoming vacant for re let:

Oct 2025	TOTAL
Handed Over/Works Completed	16
Newly vacant	15

INSPECTIONS OF DWELLINGS

2025	Oct 2025
Dwellings Requiring Improvements	184
PRTB inspections carried out	184

HOUSING EFFICIENCY RETROFIT

Housing Efficiency Retrofit (Total Units for 2025 to date): 122

4 Tithíocht Housing

GRANTS

Housing Adaptation for People with a Disability, Housing Aid for Older People and Mobility Aid Grants

Grant Scheme Amount	Number of applications received Oct 2025	Number of applications received 2025	Number of applications paid Sept 2025	Paid	Cumulative number of applications paid 2025	Cumulative Paid in 2025
Housing Adaptation for People with a Disability. Max. €40,000	31	227	16	€81,486.15	185	€917,311.28
Mobility Aids Scheme Maximum €8,000	3	49	0	€0	11	€40,438.49
Housing Aid for Older People Maximum €10,700	34	335	6	€59,918.53	106	€823,720.70
Total	68	611	22	€141,404.70	302	€1,781,470.47

Disabled Person Grant

Total Applications 2025							
Numbers	Under review	Withdrawn / Non Rent compliant	With OT	P1	P2	P3	Total
2023		12		30	48	18	109
2024		5		22	50	24	101
2025 30/10/2025	8	14	8	16	41	8	95

4 Tithíocht Housing

GRANTS

Disabled Person Grant completed since 2023

Numbers	P1	P2	P3	Total
Major Works				
Completed	29	42		71
On-site	8	22	1	31
Design ongoing / Tender	17	18		35
Stairlifts Works				
Completed	13	23	1	37
On-site	1			1
Design ongoing / Tender	1			1
Total	69	105	2	176

*Person can seek Major and Stairlifts.

Numbers		TOTAL
Department 2025 Allocation		€975,200
Claim and Department paid	€530,811	
Claim Submitted	€576,725	
Total Claim to date	€1,107,536	

5 Seirbhísí Pobail Community Services

COMMUNITY GRANTS

Community Recognition Fund (CRF) 2024

- Window 1 (€491,392): Four out of the seven projects are now complete and two of the remaining projects are close to completion.
- Window 2 (€86,557): Work is progressing with the project approved under Window 2 project.
- Window 3 (€786,625): One out of the seven projects is now complete and two have requested their interim payment and are over 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. Grants are paid to successful applicants once receipts are provided. To date, just over three quarters of the groups have submitted their receipts. The deadline for submission of receipts was 30th September, and the grants team have been following up with groups in relation to outstanding receipts.

Supporting Waterford Communities Fund 2025

Waterford City and County 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 99% of grants processed to-date. The deadline for submission of receipts is 30th November.

AGE FRIENDLY

National Age Friendly Recognition and Achievement Award 2025

St. Joseph's House on Manor Hill in Waterford City won the National Age Friendly Recognition and Achievement Award 2025 in the Safety & Security (Housing) Category. The award was accepted by Mayor of Waterford City and County, Cllr. Séamus Ryan, at a ceremony held in The Galmont Hotel and Spa, Galway, on Thursday, October 23rd. St. Joseph's House is an age-friendly housing development consisting of 71 dwellings, designed for people aged 55 with a strong focus on tenant engagement.



Age Well Expo & Waterford Older Peoples Council AGM

The Age Well Expo and Waterford Older Peoples Council AGM will be held in the Park Hotel, Dungarvan on Wednesday, 19th November, all are welcome to attend.



5 Seirbhísí Pobail Community Services

LEADER 2023-2027

Thus far, twenty-two projects have been approved by the Local Action Group under the LEADER 2023-2027 Programme. A total amount of €699,118.77 has been paid, with fourteen claims processed to date. The 3rd LEADER targeted call closed for applications on the 3rd of October 2025. Out of 27 eligible EOIs, six applications were received. These applications are being reviewed before progressing to the Evaluation Committee for recommendation, after which it will be submitted to the LAG for approval. The next LEADER targeted call will be launched in January 2026.

COMMUNITY HEALTH & WELLBEING

In October, Healthy Waterford continued its commitment to responding to local needs and collaborating with community, voluntary groups, and other agencies. This support focused on key themes through a variety of activities.

Community Engagement Highlights

- Playful Communities was a major success, with over 45 events engaging 5,000 participants.
- Planning for the Connecting Communities program for 2026 is advancing, with a review meeting scheduled with the Public Participation Network (PPN) this month.
- The Place Standard tool has been completed for two out of three targeted locations, with continued close cooperation with the PPN.
- Locations for Buddy Benches have been identified. A launch is planned for November, with additional installations scheduled for 2026.

Wellbeing Initiatives

- The completion of Mental Health Week saw multiple events with great attendance, including the early-stage development of the Elephant in the Room Project.
- The civic dollars pilot was launched in selected parks and green spaces. This innovative scheme rewards residents with digital currency for time spent in public areas, supporting physical and mental wellbeing and the local economy. The initiative is a collaborative effort with the Chambers of Commerce, PPN, Waterford Sports Partnership, and others.
- We also launched the RESET Programme, which has been started in the Southern Regional Assembly. Workshops will take place over the coming weeks, led by Doug Dane and Linda Barry. Our placement student, Aoife, had a great opportunity to interview Doug Dane, which will be released shortly.
- A wellbeing event took place in Dungarvan, led by Bernie Woods, a member of the Healthy Waterford Practitioners Network Group. Multiple areas were covered, including nutrition, musical games, and dance aerobics, which was carried out by our placement student, Aoife Malone

5 Seirbhísí Pobail Community Services

COMMUNITY HEALTH & WELLBEING

Collaboration and Networking

- The Healthy Waterford Practitioners Network Members Group, officially launched in June 2025, continues to facilitate collaboration and knowledge sharing among health and wellbeing professionals. This network is key to developing joint initiatives and coordinating resources effectively.
- The "Community Wellbeing" programme continues to positively impact neighbourhoods across the city and county. This project, which began in May 2024, promotes social connection, physical activity, mental health, and nutrition based on local community needs. It is a prime example of how Healthy Waterford, in partnership with other organisations, is delivering on priorities identified in the Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) and by the LCDC.
- Finally, to finish the month off, we had a visit from IPA President Robin Moore Miller, who is also the CEO of Play Australia.



Funding

Bridge funding of €75,000 has been secured for 2026, with any underspend being carried forward. Additionally, the Department of Health has committed to long-term funding for the Healthy Cities and Counties post across all 31 Local Authorities, including Waterford.

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

5 Seirbhísí Pobail Community Services

SLAINTECARE HEATHY COMMUNITIES PROGRAMME

Work is ongoing with all Seed Funded projects and with Mincéirí Port Láirge in delivering the Enhancing Health Outcomes for the Traveller Community in Waterford.

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 22nd September, there are 2,647 BOTPs (increase of 94) and as of 10th October, there are 611 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 Buíon Phort Láirge (formerly known as Waterford Area Partnership), who continue to implement the SICAP Programme on behalf of the Waterford LCDC. The SICAP budget allocation for 2025 Waterford City and 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 and County.

KPIs are on target and the 2025 case study, detailing Buíon Phort Láirge's development of a range of English language supports for New Arrivals, was submitted to Pobal at the end of October. The video for the 2025 Case Study is available on their YouTube channel [here](#)

The SICAP Annual Engagement Meeting between the LCDC SICAP Sub-Committee, Buíon Phort Láirge and Aileen Gilchrist, Pobal's SICAP Development Co-Ordinator, took place on Friday 3rd October 2025. The annual planning process for 2026 has now commenced with KPI Targets for 2026 to be submitted to Pobal at the start of November.

WATERFORD LOCAL SPORTS & PHYSICAL ACTIVITY PLAN

The Community Department, in collaboration with Waterford Sports Partnership (WSP), continues to progress the development of a Sports and Physical Activity Plan for Waterford, the purpose of which will be to increase participation in sport and physical activities across the County.

The appointed consultants, S3 Solutions Ltd, held four in-person public consultation events at the beginning of October along with a number of stakeholder engagement meetings with Waterford Sports Partnership and Waterford Council Staff. A number of online consultation surveys were circulated through various communication channels to allow all in Waterford to feed into the consultation process.

It is envisaged that a draft Sports and Physical Activity Plan will be presented to Members in Quarter 1, 2026. For more information contact Ger Mulhall: G.Mulhall@waterfordcouncil.ie.

5 Seirbhísí Pobail Community Services

WATERFORD LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP (WLCSP)

The Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration Jim O' Callaghan appointed the members of the WLCSP on 2nd October 2025. An Induction meeting took place on Monday 20th October 2025 and the inaugural meeting and election of Chairperson is scheduled for Monday 3rd November 2025.

WLCSP is now incorporating the new National branding for Local Community Safety Partnerships.



WLCSP engaged in:

- Waterford Local Sports Plan Stakeholder Meeting
- Halloween Safety Planning Stakeholder Meeting
- Purple Flag Steering Committee Meeting
- National Office of Community Safety Engagement Meeting
- Continuing to work with local communities to deter anti-social behaviour
- Community Safety Wardens continue with daily

Scary but Safe Halloween:

We have been receiving increased reports from certain areas in relation to fireworks being used, bonfires and small fires being lit damaging greens, storage of bonfire materials and anti-social behaviour in general. All persons reporting have been informed to contact Gardai in first instance when they witness a crime or see criminal activity by calling 999.

In the aftermath of a collaborative Halloween Safety Preparation Meeting, WLCSP are coordinating, a 'Scary but Safe Halloween campaign'. The campaign is focused on three pillars

- Bonfires are dangerous and bad for the environment
- Fireworks can cause serious injury and distress in our communities, and are illegal
- Anti-Social Behaviour is not a Halloween Treat

-A social media campaign with graphics and videos is underway

-An advertising campaign with supporting stakeholder safety interviews has been initiated

-A leaflet drop in specific areas throughout the County is being undertaken by the Gardai, WCCC and WLCSP Wardens in collaboration

-Customer Services are taking reports of Bonfire Materials and organising collection



5 Seirbhísí Pobail Community Services

WATERFORD PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NETWORK (WATERFORD PPN)

Waterford PPN recognised for Best Practice at PPN National Conference

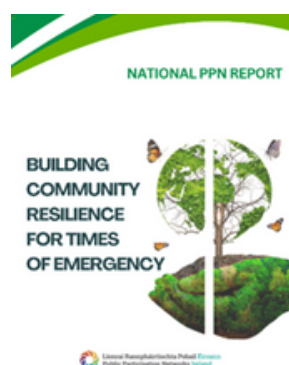
In her address at the PPN National Conference on October 17th, Bairbre Nic Aongusa, Assistant Secretary for Community Development at the DRCDG commended the Waterford PPN's "Connecting Community Roadshows" as a model of best practice for the collaborative effort with WCCC Healthy Waterford and a wide range of partners. The two-day event in Trim brought together key stakeholders from across the country to discuss community engagement and share insights with over 200 people attending.

Membership

Waterford PPN's membership continues to grow and now represents 799 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 and County Council and other local decision-making bodies hear from and connect with communities throughout Waterford. A full list of all member groups can be found on the directory of the Waterford PPN website.

National PPN Report Highlights the Role of PPNs in Emergency Preparedness

A recent National PPN Report highlights the urgency for a strong national policy to support PPNs in emergency preparedness. Supported by the DRCDG, the report shows that PPNs have been vital in helping communities respond during crises due to the local knowledge, trust and connections that can make all the difference when challenges arise. It calls for improved collaboration between Local Authorities, agencies and PPNs, clear communication protocols, mapping of local supports and investment in community resilience training and local emergency hubs. Having a National Policy will help every county build safer, more connected and more resilient communities in times of emergencies.



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 September.

Area	Fires	Special Service	False Alarm Good Intent	False Alarm Malicious
Total for October 2025	96	47	27	1
Year to date 2025	589	442	206	22
Total for October 2024	89	68	13	1
Year to date 2024	448	482	147	10

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 October 2025	Total Year to date for 2025	Total for October 2024	Total year to date for 2024
Fire Safety Certificates	3	73	6	61

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	October 2025	Cumulative Total for 2025	Total for Oct 2024	Total for 2024
Commencement Notices	16	150	27	407
Completion Certificates	29	154	23	235
Disability Access Certificates	6	82	3	57

6 Seirbhísí Éigeandála Emergency Services

CIVIL DEFENCE

Civil Defence activities during the month of October 2025.

In community support and events we attended:

Sun 05th Oct Taekwondo Tournament, SETU Arena, Waterford. Ambulance & First Aid Support

Sat 11th Oct Munster regional event (Cork City), to commemorate 75 years of Civil Defence in Ireland. Over 25 of our Waterford Volunteers attended and received a presentation of commemorative medals.

Sat 11th Oct Solas Charity Run for Life, Ambulance & First Aid Support, Dungarvan

Sun 12th Oct Solas Charity, Run for Life, Ambulance & First Aid Support, Waterford City.

Wed 22nd Oct Shine Festival, SETU Arena, Waterford. Ambulance & First Aid Support

Thu 23rd Oct Shine Festival, SETU Arena, Waterford. Ambulance & First Aid Support

The Civil Defence volunteers are also working on retraining and recertifying their core skills in their different service areas like Communications, First Aid, Search etc.

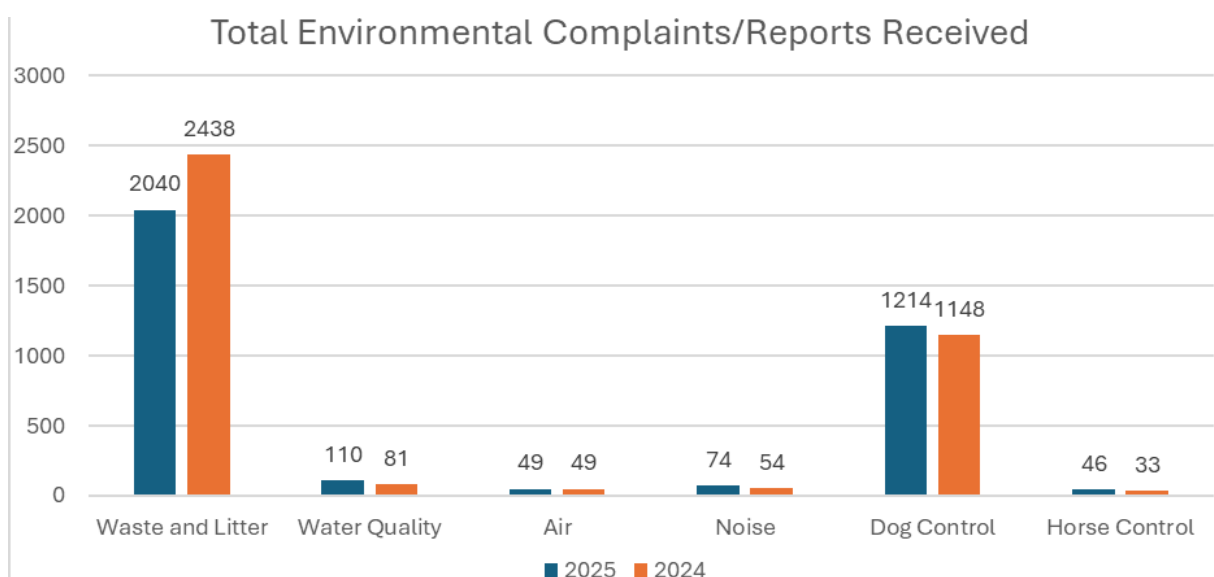
Following on from the National Civil Defence recruitment campaign, we have been in communication with new applicants and have organised interviews for prospective volunteers.

7 Seirbhísí Comhshaoil Environmental Services

ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS

Enforcement under the Litter Pollution Act 1997 (as amended) & Waste Management Act 1996 (as amended) 1st January 2025 – 16th October 2025	
Environmental Inspectors employed	4 (Currently operating with 3.5FTE)
Litter Fines Issued	129
Litter Fines Paid and total Cash Amount	88 x (€150)
Fines issued under the Waste Collection Permit Regulations	4
Cases where legal proceedings have or are about to be initiated	7
Warning/Enforcement Letters issued under WMA	154
Directions under Section 14 of the Waste Management Act 1996 (WMA)	23
Statutory Notices under Section 55 of the WMA	10
Statutory Notices under Section 18 of the WMA	4
No. Households contacted re: Waste Presentation	129

CRM



7 Seirbhísí Comhshaoil Environmental Services

EPA Environmental Enforcement Performance Report 2024

Waterford City & County Council has been recognised as one of the most improved local authorities in the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Local Authority Environmental Enforcement Performance Report 2024. This outcome reflects a sustained three-year period of improvement and achievement across the environmental enforcement functions of the Council.

The EPA report assesses local authority performance across 19 National Enforcement Priorities (NEPs) encompassing waste, water, air, and noise. In 2024, Waterford received Strong or Excellent ratings in 17 of the 19 NEPs, an increase from three in 2022. The EPA identified this progress as one of the most significant improvements nationally.

Waterford was highlighted as one of the most improved local authorities over the past three years, in recognition of the commitment and collaborative efforts of the Environment Section. The results demonstrate the positive outcomes that can be achieved through effective partnership between staff, management, and the wider community in delivering a cleaner, safer, and more sustainable environment. This achievement provides clear evidence that careful planning, proactive inspection, and effective follow-up can deliver measurable and lasting improvements

One of the three examples of effective local enforcement highlighted in the report featured a Waterford case study on the removal of improperly stored silage bales near a protected lake. This intervention eliminated a significant pollution risk and demonstrated best practice in agricultural enforcement. The report further reinforces Waterford's ongoing commitment to environmental protection and to ensuring compliance with environmental standards across all sectors.



7 Seirbhísí Comhshaoil Environmental Services

CCTV for the purposes of Waste Enforcement

The tender for the CCTV Waste Enforcement project has been awarded, and the appointed contractor is in the process of procuring and installing the cameras. Upon commencement of operations, the effectiveness of the scheme will be assessed through systematic monitoring and an analysis of litter complaints.

Community Clean-Ups

We continue 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.

Clean ups funded as part of the anti dumping initiative will now take place in November. We are also hosting a Hazardous Waste collection event in partnership with Regional Waste Office on 8th November. This is one of only three funded events for the Munster, Carlow, Kilkenny & Wexford area. This will be by appointment only, details will be publicised on local media in the coming weeks.

Waterford Biodiversity Action Plan

The Pre-draft Consultation for Waterford's Biodiversity Action Plan is open until the 19th of November.

There are a series of public consultation events being held across the county. These include:

- Dunmore East Library – Tuesday 4th November 5 – 7 p.m.
- Online BAP Consultation Information Session – 6th November 10 – 11 a.m.
- Lismore Library – Thursday 6th November 2 – 4 p.m.
- Ardkeen Library – Tuesday 11th November 5 – 7 p.m.

Further dates will be announced for Tramore, Portlaw and Dungarvan in the coming weeks

Community Climate Action Fund Open for Applicants

Applications are now open for Waterford's 2025 Community Climate Action Programme. This is the second round of funding under this national programme. €564,000 will be given out again to local community groups to make a real difference in their areas. Projects funded would look at community energy efficiency projects, biodiversity enhancement, waste prevention, circular economy activities, nature-based solutions and sustainable transport measures. Groups can apply for 100% funding up to €100,000. Capital funding only is available. The deadline to apply is Wednesday 17th December 2025 (3pm). All details on the Programme are available online <https://waterfordcouncil.ie/communityclimateactionprogramme>. The Community Climate Action Officer is available to work with interested groups on their project ideas and application.



8 Na hEalaíona & Cultúr Arts & Culture

LIBRARIES

Figures represent 30 days of activity.	
No Visitors	34,332
Validated borrowers	40,520
Issues in branch	25,956
eBooks & eAudio	7,730
eNewspapers & Magazines	30,540
Events and Activities	653



Library Event highlights from October

- The Writers at Waterford Libraries programme brought Elaine Garvey on Saturday October 11th, where she discussed her debut novel, The Wardrobe Department with City & County Librarian Mary Conway
- The Waterford Writers Weekend 2025 partnered with Waterford Libraries for school's outreach events on October 23rd with Author Sarah Bowie, storyteller Niall De Burca and performer Arran Towers theatre for children, author Marian McShane and the National Reptile Zoo. On Friday October 24th City & County Librarian Mary Conway hosted a discussion with local Poets Molly Twomey and Thomas McCarthy where both will read from their new collections, Plenitude and Chic to be Sad
- The Regional Europe Direct Soapbox competition took place on October 9th in The Dr. Mary Stragman Room City Hall. Out of over 60 participants the winners were Amelia Heslin of St. Leo's College, (16 & Under category) and Hasib Zia of Wexford CBS (17 & Over category). There were 170 in the audience with 63 participants
- Science and Space week workshops took place in various libraries
- On October 16th, the 'Use your Voice' Media Literacy conference took place in the Theatre Royal. In partnership with Waterford Europe Direct, Waterford Libraries, Waterford and South Tipperary Youth Services, the Dismiss Media Manipulation Conference invited young people to explore how information shapes the way we see the world. Over 460 senior cycle students took part in the morning session with breakout workshops for 60 students in the afternoon on empowering young people to become active, informed media participants
- Healthy Ireland at your Library hosted a talk. 'Empower your Parenting Journey' a free introduction to cooperative parenting/caregiving for primary school children to help build stronger connections and confident, capable kids on Wednesday, 22nd October
- Summer Stars reading medals were distributed throughout the month of October to all participants

Library Development

- On October 2nd the entire Waterford Libraries team came together for a whole staff training day in the Dr. Mary Strangman Room City Hall. Speakers on the day included, Mayor of Waterford City & County Council Cllr Seamus Ryan, Stuart Hamilton, Head of Libraries Development Unit, LGMA, Director of Service Ivan Grimes, CEO Sean McKeown and City & County Librarian Mary Conway.
- 1613 medals have been distributed to Primary School Children who have completed the Right to Read Summer Stars programme so far

8 Na hEalaíona & Cultúr Arts & Culture

LIBRARIES

Upcoming Events

- Family time at your Library will take place in all branches in December.
- Healthy Ireland at Your Library will bring, supporting your anxious child workshops in November with Play Therapist Treasa Forristal.
- Beidh Ciara Ní É a dhéanann filíocht ó bhéal agus atá ina taibheor den scoth, ag teacht go Leabharlann Dhún Garbhán Déardaoin an 6 Samhain, ag 7pm i gcomhrá le Bróna Coleman ó Dhún Garbhán le Gaeilge.
- Creative Waterford. Good Grief, a Creative Waterford Health & Wellbeing project, has been nominated in the Health & Wellbeing category of the Excellence in Local Authority Awards.



ARTS

Culture Night in the Cultural Quarter was held on September 19th. This was a collaborative event showcasing the cultural offering of the area, supported by Garter Lane Arts Centre, Garter Lane Studios, WCQ Place: Community and Cultural Hub and Waterford Gallery of Art. Considering it was an extremely wet evening attendance was high with over 800 visits to the various art and photography exhibitions, print and ceramics workshops, open studios, the first performance of a newly commissioned musical work and a family friendly draw along event.

Arts Practice and Venue Grants Applications for the 2026 Arts Practice and Venue Grants opened on September 5th. The deadline for receipt of applications is October 3rd. Full guidelines and application details can be found on waterfordarts.com.

The programme for Waterford Writers Weekend 2025 was launched on Culture Night September 19th and is scheduled to take place from October 23rd to 26th, 2025. Events include a school's programme, a masterclass with Poet Vona Groarke and the launch of issue 10 of The waxed Lemon literary journal. The full programme is available on waterfordarts.com

A draft of the new Arts Plan went before the SPC.

REVENUE ACCOUNT INCOME & EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION Y.T.D. TO SEPTEMBER 30TH, 2025

	EXPENDITURE			INCOME			Month No 9
	Expenditure €	Adopted Full Year Budget €	% Budget Spent to date	Income €	Adopted Full year Budget €	% Budget Raised	
Housing & Building	37,791,787	48,295,226	78%	42,268,018	52,533,910	80%	1,297,218
Road Transport & Safety	39,318,010	49,856,156	79%	25,892,252	31,717,417	82%	178,297
Water Services	6,513,150	11,289,485	58%	5,781,805	10,197,005	57%	88,014
Development Management	19,670,133	29,701,285	66%	10,176,003	17,035,932	60%	4,884
Environmental Services	20,314,368	25,223,296	81%	3,609,397	4,558,656	79%	(1,206,490)
Recreation & Amenity	13,044,116	17,445,974	75%	1,683,305	2,188,242	77%	82,488
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	739,377	1,178,094	63%	257,479	401,272	64%	100,718
Miscellaneous Services	8,087,401	10,762,820	75%	10,168,604	13,731,108	74%	(145,012)
Local Property Tax / GPG		0	0%	16,291,731	21,722,308	75%	0
Rates		0	0%	29,494,666	39,666,486	74%	(255,198)
	145,478,342	193,752,336	75%	145,623,260	193,752,336	75%	144,918

COLLECTIONS REPORT

Summary of main collections Sept 2025 YTD										
	A Gross Bal as at 1-1-2025	B Accrued ytd to Sept 2025	C Write Offs and Vacancies	D Waivers & Credits	E Total for Collection [1+2-3]	F Collected ytd to Sept 2025	G' Gross Bal 31-09-2025 [4-5]		[6] % Collected ytd re Total for Collection [5/4]	[7] % Collected ytd re 2025 Accrual & collectable [5/(4-1)]
	€	€	€		€	€	€		€	
Rates	1,264,672	39,490,322	-	2,122,428	1,466	38,634,032	32,071,405	6,562,627	85%	86%
Loans	806,611	2,536,921	-	20	3,343,512	2,745,383	598,129		82%	108%
Rents	5,346,664	18,632,923		9,813	23,989,400	17,770,860	6,218,540		74%	95%
Aged Analysis :										
				Less than 1 mth	2 to 6 mths	7 to 12 mths	greater than 12 mths			Net Balance
Rates				-	-	5,455,603	1,107,024			6,562,627
				0 to 3 mths	4 to 6 mths	7 to 12 mths	Greater than 12 mths			
Loans				170,164	41,438	55,166	331,361			598,129
				Less than 4 weeks	4-6 weeks	7-12 weeks	Greater than 12 wks			
Rents				192,948	147,479	229,744	5,648,369			6,218,540
Overdraft Levels										
Days in Overdraft in Sept 25'	0		Cost -		€0.00	Average Value when in O/D :			€0	



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& Contae Phort Láirge
Waterford City
& County Council