

**DO: GACH BALL DE CHEANTAR CATHRACH PHORT LÁIRGE**  
**TO: EACH MEMBER OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF WATERFORD**  
**Economic Development: Metropolitan Report – April 2021**

**North Quays**  
**Infrastructural works**

- a. **Main contract.** The main construction contract for the Waterford North Quays infrastructural works comprising the development of a Sustainable Transport Bridge, Transport Hub and SDZ Access Infrastructure Works is progressing, with tender documentation close to completion. Later this month the qualified submissions based on the recommendations of the Independent Assessment Board will be invited to proceed to stage 2 tender of the Restricted Procedure Process.
- b. **Planning applications.**
  - i) The preparation of a planning application for the western flood defence works is close to completion, to be submitted to An Bord Pleanála in April 2021.
  - ii) Part 8 planning applications are currently being prepared by Kilkenny County Council for the Belmont Link road & N29 Port Road, the planning processes are proposed to commence in June and September 2021 respectively.
  - iii) A planning application for greenway access provision is also due to commence shortly.
- c. **Tender stage - advanced contracts/ enabling works.**
  - i) Tender documents for the relocation of the Ferrybank Pump Station were returned 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021. The submissions are currently being review by Nicholas O’Dwyer Consulting engineers.
  - ii) Tender documents for the South Plaza Enabling Works and Rock Stabilisation contracts will be issued imminently.
  - iii) Detailed design for Abbey Road and Belmont Road Sustainable Transport Improvements is progressing and it is anticipated that tenders will be issued later this month.
- d. **Ongoing contracts.**
  - i) Final accounts for the Utility Diversion Contracts and Demolition and Site Clearance Works Contracts have been agreed.
  - ii) Transport Hub Independent Design Safety Certification by a Notified Body (NoBo) and Sustainable Transport Bridge Cat 3 Independent Design Check contracts are progressing with Atkins and Hewson Consulting Engineers respectively.
  - iii) It is expected the construction works to the South East Greenway at Abbey road will commence once COVID-19 restrictions are lifted.

**2. Local Enterprise Office**

\*No monthly meeting was held in April 2020. Therefore Feb 2020 figures supplied below for comparative purposes.

Indicator	At end of *Feb 2020 Cumulative Figure	At end of Mar 2021 Cumulative Figure
<b>No. of clients applying for Measure 1 support</b>	3	6

<b>No. of clients securing Measure 1 support</b>	2	6
<b>Value of Measure 1 support approved</b>	€40,200	€137,308
<b>No. of clients receiving Measure 2 support</b>	235	659
<b>Value of Measure 2 support given</b>	€54,395	€137,884

### **First virtual Local Enterprise Week a success for Waterford**

Hundreds of budding entrepreneurs and business owners in Waterford have taken part in online events across Local Enterprise Week (March 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>). More than 270 events took place online under the theme of ‘Making It Happen’ attracting over 10,700 bookings nationally.

Supported by Waterford City and County Council and Enterprise Ireland, Local Enterprise Office Waterford hosted four events for local businesses this week, in addition to ten Spotlight events which were open to businesses across the country.

LEO Waterford moved all of its events for Local Enterprise Week online for the first time, making them as accessible as possible for local businesses. More than 300 start-ups and businesses from the county registered for these events to learn about areas like the green economy, becoming more competitive and leaner, exploring new opportunities online, as well as finding out about the vision for Waterford, as a place of innovation and enterprise.

Highlights from the week included Food, The Waterford Way Huddle; the Social Media Mash-Up 2.0; a Craft Industry virtual workshop and key event “Waterford, A Vision for the Future - A place of Innovation and Enterprise”, which was facilitated by Zara King of Virgin Media.

### **Rural Development**

- Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2021 – Invitation for submissions of Expressions of Interest to commence week beginning 15<sup>th</sup> March 2021; closing date 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2021.

The following projects in the Metro area are at a standstill currently due to Covid restrictions.

- Town & Village Accelerated Measure 2020 – projects in Tramore, Passage East and Dunmore East.
- Town & Village Main Scheme 2020 – Fenor.

### **Tourism**

Fáilte Ireland Outdoor Seating & Accessories for Tourism & Hospitality Businesses scheme opened for applications April 12<sup>th</sup> and is open until 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

Applications can be made online at [WaterfordCouncil.ie](http://WaterfordCouncil.ie)

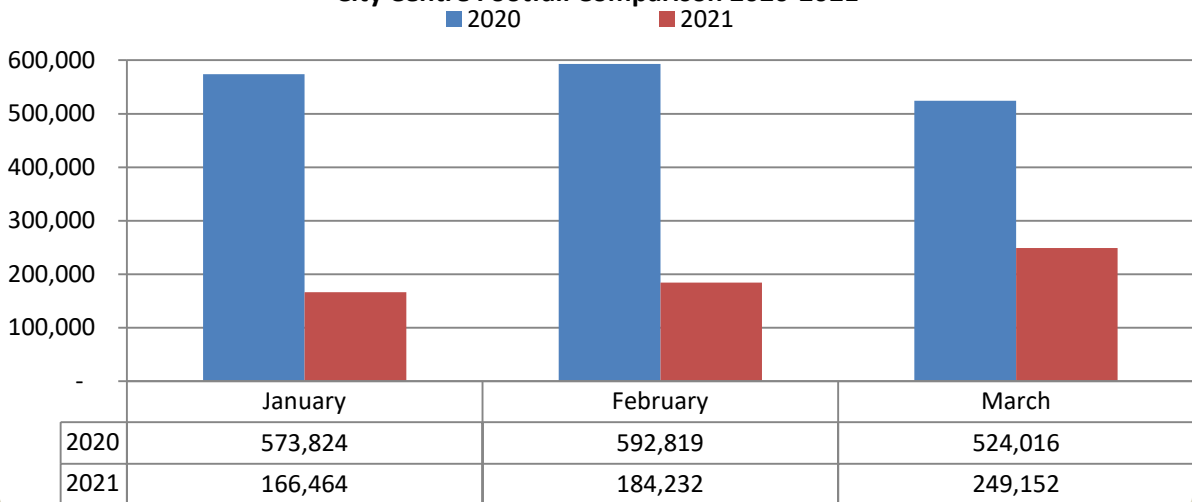
### **Economic Development**

City centre Shop Front Improvement Scheme – closing date for application 30<sup>th</sup> April.

Waterford City & County Council invite submissions of Expressions of Interest for a commercial partner to work jointly on the development of an exemplar ‘living above the shop’ project at 9 Main Street, Tramore, Co. Waterford. The closing date for receipt of submissions is Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

### **Footfall in Waterford City centre – 2020 & 2021**

### City Centre Footfall Comparison 2020-2021



### Waterford City centre footfall: Comparison March 2020-March 2021

