



Comhairle Cathrach & Contae Phort Láirge Waterford City & County Council

Waterford City & County Council Planning Report to Metropolitan Meeting – January 2021

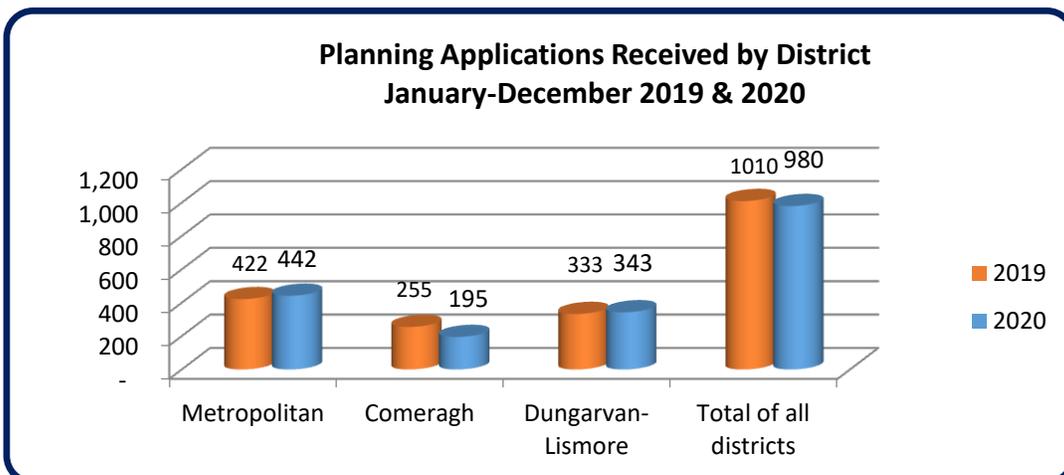
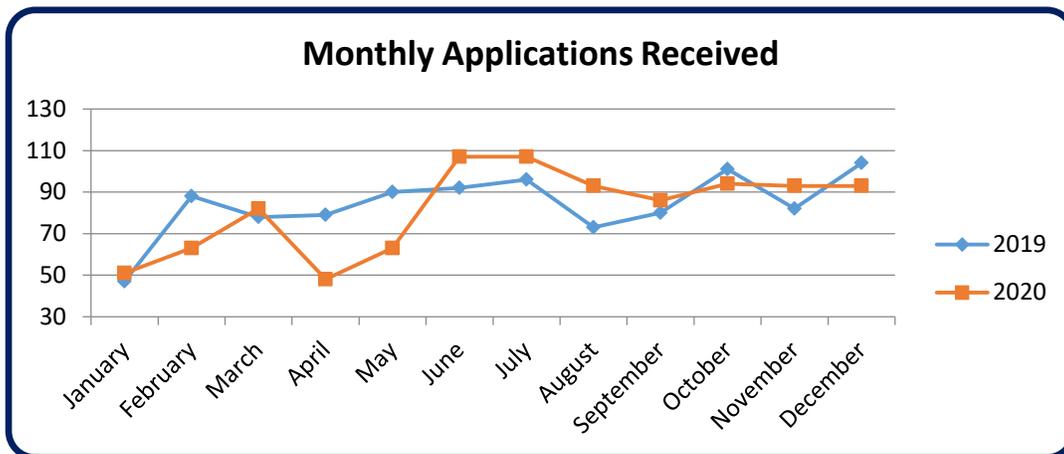
DO: GACH BALL DE CHEANTAR CATHRACH PHORT LÁIRGE
TO: EACH MEMBER OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF WATERFORD

Planning Applications Received – Countywide

93 Planning applications were received in the month of December countywide (to 21st December). This compares with 104 planning applications received in the same month in 2019. Additional responses are also being received to further information requests. A total of 980 planning applications were received in the year to 21st December 2020. This compares to 1010 planning applications which were received in 2019

December - Planning Applications in this District

52 Planning Applications were received in this district in the month (to 21st December) compared to 46 which were lodged in the same month in 2019. A total of 442 planning applications were received in the in this district in the year to 21st December 2020. This compares to 422 planning applications which were received in 2019



Pre Planning Update- Countywide

Pre-planning meetings are being undertaken where requested by telephone.

Development Management

All technical staff have been provided with laptops and are currently working from home with minimal visits to the office (usually outside normal office hours). All planning applications are scanned to iDocs so that Planners can review applications remotely without having to be provided with a hard copy. Reports are forwarded by email and contact between planning staff and their line managers is now generally taking place by telephone rather than face to face.

Direction to the Chief Executive regarding the preparation of the draft Waterford City and County Development Plan 2022-2028.

Following workshops held with Members from each Municipal District during December 2020, in order to consider the Chief Executive (CE) Report on the pre-draft development plan public consultation process, a number of important issues were identified which have been compiled to form a draft direction by the Council to the CE, pursuant to Section 11(4) (d) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended. A final workshop with the Plenary Council to discuss the content of the draft direction was held on 7th January. The outcome of these discussions will be issued for your consideration prior to the January Plenary meeting to allow the direction be given before to the 18th of January which is the deadline for giving of the direction as previously highlighted.

As stated previously any directions to the Chief Executive regarding the preparation of the draft development plan, shall be strategic in nature, be consistent with the draft core strategy, and shall take account of the statutory obligations of any local authority in the area and any relevant policies or objectives for the time being of the Government or of any Minister of the Government. Section 12 (18) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, states – “statutory obligations’ includes, in relation to a local authority, the obligation to ensure that the development plan is consistent with—

(a) The national and regional development objectives specified in—

(i) The National Planning Framework, and

(ii) The Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy, and

(b) specific planning policy requirements specified in guidelines under subsection (1) of section 28.”

In issuing directions, the Members shall be restricted to considering the proper planning and sustainable development of the area to which the plan relates.

Planning SPC

A meeting of the SPC will be held on the Thursday 21st January. In addition to identifying a programme for the SPC in 2021, the main items for consideration at the meeting will be:

- Presentation by Southern Regional Assembly on role of Southern Regional Assembly and Waterford City MASP;
- Presentation by Public Participation Network (PPN) on securing a viable future for our rural settlements; and,
- Review of National Development Plan.

Séamus Doran, Administrative Officer

Planning Department

23rd December 2020