

# Comhairle Cathrach & Contae Phort Láirge

## Waterford City & County Council



## Management Report to Council

Meitheamh 2021

Michael Walsh,

Príomhfheidhmeannach

June 2021

Michael Walsh,

Chief Executive

## Seirbhísí Corparáirdeacha / Corporate

### How to protect yourself from COVID – 19



#### **IF YOU ARE NOT FEELING WELL**

Check if you have symptoms of coronavirus. These are a cough, shortness of breath, breathing difficulties, fever (high temperature).

If you do have symptoms of coronavirus, phone your GP or local Emergency Department [ED] immediately.

**Do not go to your GP or ED.** Phone them first. Tell them about your symptoms. Give them the details about your situation. Avoid contact with other people by self-isolating. If you do not have a GP, phone **112** or **999**.

#### **IF YOU ARE FEELING WELL**

If you are feeling well, carry on with your normal routine.

Follow the advice on how to protect yourself and others from coronavirus and other infections such as flu.

Avoid spending time with people who are ill with a cough, high temperature, or breathing problems.

If you develop symptoms of coronavirus:

- avoid contact with people by self-isolating
- phone your GP or emergency department
- tell them your symptoms and the details of your situation

#### **Meetings**

All council meetings, CPG and SPC's to continue as remote meetings for the month of June.

## **Forbairt Eacnamaíoch / Economic Development**

### **1. North Quays**

#### **a. SDZ Developer**

- i) Private developer (Falcon Real Estate Ireland Ltd) failed to fulfil pre-conditions of the contract for acquisition of the SDZ and Michael Street sites; the contract date has not been extended.
- ii) The Council has been working in the background to undertake a fundamental reappraisal of the North Quays Scheme and will be proposing to engage with the marketplace on a revised proposal in the coming weeks. It is envisaged that there will be a Request for Tender issued next week for a commercial property adviser(s) to assist the Council in re-engaging with the marketplace.

#### **b. Main contract.**

- i) 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; tender documentation is complete and will be independently reviewed.
- ii) The successful / qualified submissions based on the Independent Assessment Board's recommendations have been informed that they have been shortlisted.

#### **c. Planning applications.**

- i) A planning application for the western flood defence works has been prepared, to be submitted to An Bord Pleanála in June 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 Part 8 planning application for greenway access provision at Abbey Bridge is due to commence mid June 2021.

#### **d. Tender stage - advanced contracts/ enabling works.**

- i) Tender received for the relocation of the Ferrybank Pump Station are currently being reviewed and assessed by Nicholas O'Dwyer Consulting Engineers.
- ii) Tender documents for the South Plaza Enabling Works were issued on etenders on 12<sup>th</sup> May with a return date of 17<sup>th</sup> June.
- iii) Rock Stabilisation tender to be issued imminently.
- iv) Detailed design for Abbey Road and Belmont Road Sustainable Transport Improvements is progressing and it is anticipated that tenders will be issued shortly.

#### **e. Ongoing contracts.**

- i) 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, both due to be completed shortly.
- ii) 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

Indicator	At end of May 2020 Cumulative Figure	At end of May 2021 Cumulative Figure
No. of clients applying for Measure 1 support	8	15
No. of clients securing Measure 1 support	8	14
Value of Measure 1 support approved	€154,420	€337,777
No. of clients receiving Measure 2 support	1,326	1,317
Value of Measure 2 support given	€312,266	€397,047

Support	No. of Approvals	Value of Approvals €
Trading Online Voucher	46	€88,941
LEO Client Stimulus Scheme	43	€110,176

*Figures included in cumulative table*

### Meet the Buyer Event 2021

As our economy reopens, two of Waterford's leading business support agencies, Waterford Chamber and Waterford Local Enterprise Office, have come together to encourage companies to buy and sell locally. This unique opportunity will connect you with other businesses who may be looking for your services or provide the services you require. It is completely **free to take part** and will take place online from June 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> 2021. This is a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with the business community after a hard few months of lockdown.

Meet the Buyer, is a must for any business looking to network and generate sales leads or those interested in taking the hassle out of searching for new suppliers.




Further info at <https://www.localenterprise.ie/Waterford/Training-Events/Events/Meet-the-Buyer-Event-2021.html>

## 3. Communications & Marketing

### Waterford – Find Your Future

Following the successful launch event held on April 21<sup>st</sup> 2021 the new Waterford investment brand has featured extensively in national, regional and local media. The media reach across the 27 pieces of coverage was extensive with 60.2m online readership, 369k listenership and 600k viewership.

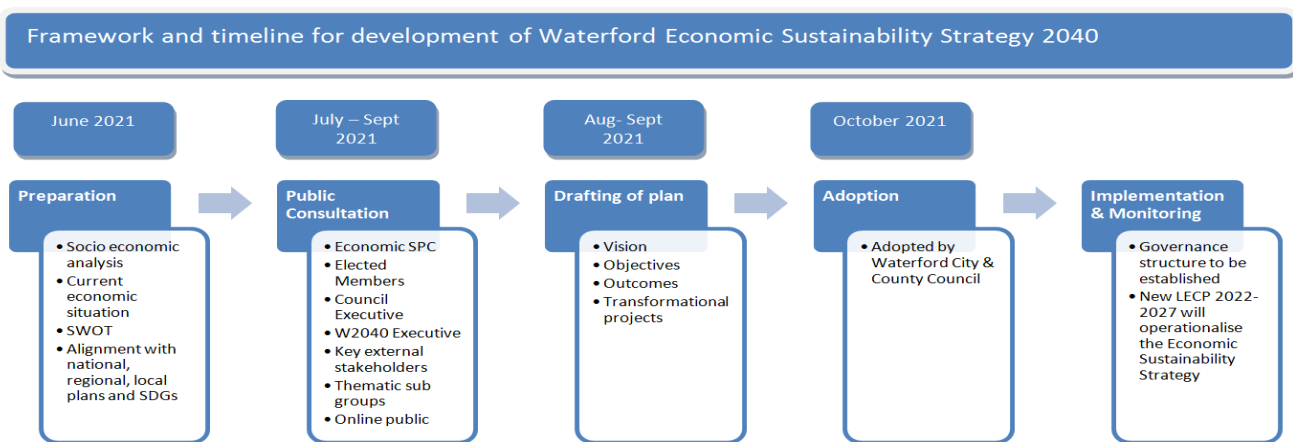
The live event was attended by 120 invited guests and the you tube link has been viewed 1.7k times since launch date. The Waterford 2040 Executive Group, chaired by Waterford native, Robert Finnegan, has met twice since its establishment in February 2021 and is agreeing the PR and Marketing Plan 2021 – 2022 at the next meeting.

Social Media Analytics					
Channel		Followers	Posts	Reach	Engagement rate
	Waterford Council	16,990	30	116,003	3.8%
	Waterford 2040	158	8	1,289	10%
	Shop Waterford	2,451	38	17,930	34%
	Waterford Council	11,793	84	76,900	1.1%
	Waterford 2040	343	14	21,800	2.0%
	Shop Waterford	2,351	2	764	N/A
	Shop Waterford	950	123	1,247	N/A

#### 4. Economic Development & Enterprise SPC

The Economic Development & Enterprise SPC met on May 26<sup>th</sup> and were briefed on the preparation of the Waterford 2040: Economic Sustainability Strategy. The Strategy will be a high level strategy which adopts a whole of Waterford approach to inform and drive Waterford’s economic development as an investment location, major tourism destination and a place to live.

The Strategy will aim to simultaneously maintain and enhance the existing economy while positioning Waterford to embrace growth opportunities from sustainable sectors. The strategy will identify a number of long term transformational projects and will provide a basis for targeted investment and balanced economic growth.

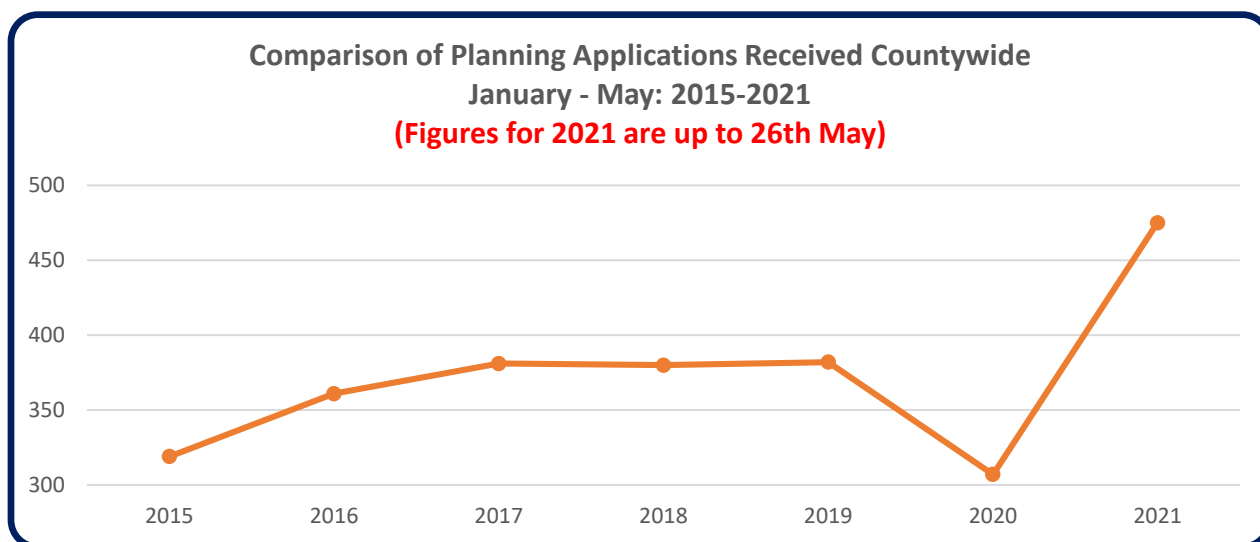


## Pleanáil / Planning

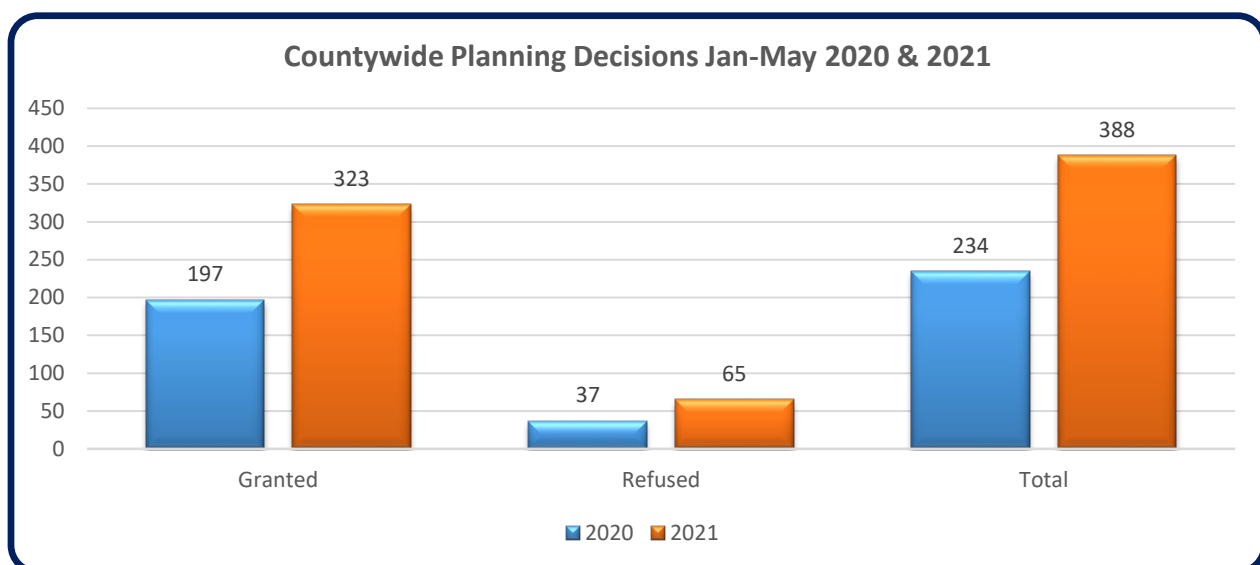
### Planning Applications Received – Countywide

108 Planning applications were received in the month of May countywide (to 26<sup>th</sup> May). This compares with 63 planning applications received in the same month in 2020. Additional responses are also being received to further information requests.

A total of 475 planning applications were received in the year to 26<sup>th</sup> May 2021. This compares to 307 planning applications which were received to the end of May in 2020.



The number of applications which have been decided to date in 2021 has increased significantly. 388 applications were decided in up to the end of May 2021 compared to 234 for the same period in 2020. This represents an increase of 66% between the two years.



#### 4. MANAGEMENT REPORT PLENARY 10TH JUNE 2021

##### Update on preparation of the draft Waterford City and County Development Plan 2022-2028.

The draft development plan has been presented to the Plenary Council as per the timetable outlined in the table below. The council has approved a resolution at a special meeting held on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021 to present the draft plan to the public for their input.

A 10 week phase of public consultation will now take place from late June to late August during which time written submissions will be invited from members of the public and other interested parties. It should be noted that written submissions regarding the zoning of land for particular purposes should only be made during this 10 week period.

In a manner similar to the initial phase of public consultation last summer, it is intended to have a dedicated online consultation portal available through which the draft development plan and support documentation can be accessed and through which written submissions can be made.

Activity	Duration	Start	Finish
Development Plan Preparation Period.	Max 104 wks	Mon 20/07/20	Fri 15/07/22
Pre Draft Plan Public Consultation. <b>NOW COMPLETED</b>	8 wks	Mon 20/07/20	Mon 14/09/20
Prepare CE Report on submissions and submit to Plenary Council. <b>NOW COMPLETED</b>	8 wks	Mon 14/09/20	Mon 09/11/20
Liaise and discuss with Plenary Council and obtain Resolution on CE Report. <b>NOW COMPLETED</b>	10 wks	Mon 09/11/20	Mon 18/01/21
Prepare a Draft Dev Plan. <b>NOW COMPLETED</b>	12 wks	Mon 18/01/21	Mon 12/04/21
Submit Draft Dev Plan to Plenary Council and obtain Resolution. <b>NOW COMPLETED</b>	8 wks	Mon 12/04/21	Mon 07/06/21
Notice of preparation of Draft Dev Plan. <b>CURRENT PHASE</b>	2 wks	Mon 07/06/21	Mon 21/06/21
Public Consultation on Draft Dev Plan.	10 wks	Mon 21/06/21	Mon 30/08/21
Prepare CE Report on submissions received and submit to Plenary Council for consideration.	12 wks	Mon 30/08/21	Mon 22/11/21
Resolution of Plenary Council on CE Report and Draft Dev Plan.	12 wks	Mon 22/11/21	Mon 14/02/22
Notice of Material Alterations if necessary.	3 wks	Mon 14/02/22	Mon 07/03/22
Final Public Consultation on Material Alterations.	4 wks	Mon 07/03/22	Mon 04/04/22
Prepare C.E. Report on submissions.	8 wks	Mon 04/04/22	Mon 30/05/22
Plenary Council to consider CE Report and make Resolution.	6 wks	Mon 30/05/22	Mon 11/07/22
New Dev Plan comes into force.	6 wks	Mon 11/07/22	Mon 22/08/22

### **Planning Enforcement**

The Planning Enforcement service of Waterford City & County Council continues to operate throughout the current lockdown as planning enforcement is deemed as an essential service.

The following figures show the work undertaken in 2021 up to 27<sup>th</sup> May:

New enforcement cases opened:	63
Warning letters issued:	70
Enforcement notices issued:	11

### ***Irish Walled Towns Grant***

Waterford City and County Council has received an offer of €10,000 from the Irish Walled Towns Network (IWTN) Interpretation and Events Fund 2021. This grant from the Heritage Council is for the “Preparation of an Interpretation Strategy for Waterford Medieval City Walls and Towers” This strategy will inform and guide the design and content of interpretation for the medieval walls of Waterford. It is also proposed to find innovative ways to bring the story of the walls to life and define how the information can be communicated to the different audiences. It will focus on community engagement and the final plan will include a series of actions.



### **Biodiversity Funding**

Three funding applications have been successful under the National Parks and Wildlife Service’s Biodiversity Fund for funding towards a survey of swifts and survey of the Saltmarsh Habitat at Tramore Dunes and co-funding for the Waterford Wetlands Survey. A webinar on the Swift Survey will be hosted for the general public on June 3<sup>rd</sup> to encourage community involvement in the survey.

### **Decade of Commemorations**

The Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sports and Media have allocated €50,000 to Waterford City & County Council for the 2021 programme of commemorations. Ten applications were received under the Community Commemorations Grant Scheme with a total funding allocation of €23,000. A Story Map on the War of Independence has been finalised and will be made available to view on-line in June.



## **Bóithre agus Iompar / Roads and Transportation**

### **Road Works Programme Update**

This years Road Works Programme is well underway and Dungarvan/Lismore strengthening works on local and regional roads are now substantially complete. Regional road strengthening in Comeragh West is also complete and the crew have now relocated to the Metropolitan District. Surface dressing works are also complete in Lismore and the focus for the next few weeks will be in the Metropolitan District to carry out strengthening and surface dressing by the end of June.

### **Parking and Traffic Management**

Parking enforcement is now back to full capacity throughout the county. Pay and display parking commenced in Tramore on 1<sup>st</sup> June and traffic wardens are patrolling Monday to Sunday for the season. Demand for the Tramore Summer Parking permits increased substantially this year due to the current Covid restrictions and people holidaying at home. The application process is now closed for this year.

### **CLÁR 2021**

The CLÁR programme (Ceantair Laga Árd-Riachtanais) 2021 submissions have been made to the Department of Rural and Community Development under the following 3 Measures and it is expected that approval of funding will be received in July this year.

**Measure 1: Support for Schools/Community Safety Measures**

**Measure 2: Community Recreation Areas**

**Measure 3: Community Wellbeing**

## Tithíocht / Housing

### Housing Applications

Housing applications	May 2020	Total Number of Applications Year 2020	May 2021	Total Number of Applications Year To Date 2021
<b>Applications received</b>	67	505	73	396
<b>Applications assessed (incl files carried forward from previous month(s))</b>	66	489	86	474
<b>Applications validated (incl files carried forward from previous month(s))</b>	40	343	48	275
<b>Approved for social housing supports following interview with applicant</b>	40	285	48	285

### Housing Allocations

Area	Tenancies during May 2020	Cumulative No. of Tenancies 2020	New Tenancies during May 2021	Refusal No. of New Tenancy offer	Cumulative No. of New Tenancies 2021
<b>Districts</b>	1	207	10	7	109
<b>Voluntary Bodies</b>	0	89	1	0	12
<b>Totals</b>	1	296	11	7	121

### Choice Based Letting (CBL) Scheme

The total number of properties advertised on the CBL system to date is 798. There have been 203 refusals on properties to date.

### Housing Loans applications

2021 Housing Loans	Applications received	Applications awaiting further info	Applications refused	Applications approved	Applications with Housing Agency/deferred for 6 months
<b>May</b>	9	1	2	2	13
<b>YTD</b>	36	4	12	9	13

#### 4. MANAGEMENT REPORT PLENARY 10TH JUNE 2021

##### Tenant Purchase applications

2021 Tenant Purchase	Applications received	Applications awaiting further info	Applications refused	Applications approved	Sales Closed
<b>May</b>	6	3	1	2	2
<b>YTD 2021</b>	27	6	4	17	11
<b>YTD 2020</b>	61	2	21	34	13

2 Tenant Purchase sales closed in May

##### Housing Assistance Payment

Housing Assistance Payment	May 2020 HAP tenancies	May 2021 HAP tenancies set up	2021 no. of Active HAP Tenancies set up	Cumulative no. of HAP Tenancies Set up to date	Cumulative no. of Active HAP Tenancies to date
<b>HAP Tenancies</b>	67	30	43	3986	2170

##### Inspections of Dwellings

2021	May-21
<b>HAP</b>	<b>22</b>
Compliant	2
Non-Compliant	18
<i>of which were Re Inspections</i>	3
<b>New Build</b>	<b>42</b>
Compliant	16
Non-Compliant	26
<i>of which were Re Inspections</i>	
<b>RAS</b>	<b>1</b>
Compliant	0
Non-Compliant	1
<i>of which were Re Inspections</i>	0
<b>LTL</b>	<b>9</b>
Compliant	1
Non-Compliant	8
<i>of which were Re Inspections</i>	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>74</b>

#### 4. MANAGEMENT REPORT PLENARY 10TH JUNE 2021

In May, Waterford City & County Council carried out 294 planned and reactive inspections of our housing stock. As a result of these inspections 13 properties have 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 approved May 2021	Value of applications May 2021	Cumulative number of applications approved 2021	Cumulative value of 2021 applications
<b>Housing Adaptation for People with a Disability. Max. €30,000</b>	1	€5,700.00	15	<b>€177,766.97</b>
<b>Mobility Aids Scheme Maximum €6,000</b>	4	€23,965.00	11	<b>€62,761.52</b>
<b>Housing Aid for Older People Maximum €8,000</b>	1	€4,097.35	8	<b>€35,522.28</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>€33,762.35</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>€273,050.77</b>

#### **Homeless Services**

Waterford Integrated Homeless Services (WIHS) (Opened 25 <sup>th</sup> February 2019)	May 2021	May 2020
<b>Number of callers seeking services in WIHS 1<sup>st</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> May 2021. (Up to the end of 2020, the Service has had over 7,100 visitors since opening on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2019.)</b>	315	254
<b>Number of presentations to WCCC Homeless Services 1<sup>st</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> May 2021 (1,267 presentations in total in 2020).</b>	100	98
<b>Number of Formal Homeless Assessments 1<sup>st</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021</b>	66	34
<b>Breakdown of Persons in Emergency Accommodation (EA) on:</b>	<b>30<sup>th</sup> May 2021</b>	<b>30<sup>th</sup> May 2020</b>
<b>Number of Single Persons in EA</b>	57	61
<b>Number of Families in EA</b>	7	14
<b>Number of children in EA</b>	23	43

HAP Place Finder Service	May 2021	Cumulative (06.11.18 to 28.05.21)
<b>Number of approval letters issued 1<sup>st</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> May 2021 (565 approval letters issued to 31/12/2020)</b>	40	711
<b>Number of HAP Place Finder Tenancies HUB Complete (312 tenancies set up to 31/12/2020)</b>	19	406
<b>Number of HAP Place Finder Tenancies currently being processed (as at 28/05/2021)</b>	16	N/A

#### 4. MANAGEMENT REPORT PLENARY 10TH JUNE 2021

Housing First Programme	Tenancies
<b>Number of Housing First tenancies in place at 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021 (Target = 30 by December 2021)</b>	25

Homeless preventions, supported exits and sustained tenancies continue to be the priorities for Homeless Services in 2021. This will be achieved by continuing our partnership and collaborative working with the HSE and the various Homeless Service Providers in Waterford and by utilising our various projects in WIHS including our Homeless Prevention and Support Service, Advice & Information Service, Tenancy Support and Sustainment Service, HAP PlaceFinder Service and the Housing First Service.

#### **Capital Projects**

<b>Housing Capital Schemes – Total Units in WCCC Projects 824</b>
<b>Housing Capital Schemes – Total Units in Approved Housing Body Projects 157</b>

#### **Refurbishing of houses becoming vacant for re let:**

May 2021	TOTAL
<b>Handed Over / Works Completed</b>	13
<b>Newly vacant</b>	13

#### **Compulsory Purchase Orders**

In compliance with the Council's Vacant Homes Action Plan, Waterford City & County Council have an ongoing programme to deal with property vacancy that currently involves sixteen (16) Compulsory Purchase Orders that target twenty (20) individual properties. So far, all sixteen (16) of these Compulsory Purchase Orders have been confirmed by An Bord Pleanala. These properties have all been identified as vacant, in private ownership and are located countywide. It is proposed to extend the initiative to reduce vacancy to all areas of the county.

## Seirbhísí Pobail / Community Services

### Rural Development Programme:

- The L.C.D.C. approved the Transitional LEADER action plan for 2021/22. The Budget is €1.1m from the RDP.
- There will be four projects for approval at the June 2021 LCDC Meeting
- It is intended that the EURI(European Union Regeneration Initiative) fund of €0.5 m - which will fund fund post Covid-19 development - will be discussed at the July LCDC meeting, subject to Government approval of the fund at national level.
- A new Targeted Call for Projects under the LEADER Transitional Fund was issued in May through local newspapers and on the websites of WLP Clg, WCCC, PPN, and on Facebook.
- Arising from the Call for Projects, WLP Clg, on behalf of the LCDC, received 23 Expressions of Interest. 3 of the EoI were in respect of food projects.
- The next Call for Projects will be at the end of August.

### Community Enhancement Programme 2021.

Waterford has been allocated €144,499 from the Department of Rural & Community Development. The scheme has been advertised and the closing date for applications is noon Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> June.

### Waterford Age Friendly Programme:

The Programme Manager has been returned to post following secondment to Covid 19 projects.

### JPC:

The next JPC meeting will be held by Zoom on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm.

Meetings are continuing with the Department of Justice to progress the proposed Local Community Safety Partnership pilot project for Waterford. This will replace the JPC. It is intended that a publicity campaign relating to the CSP will be launched in June.

### Covid 19 Community Response Forum:

Meetings of the CRF – various agencies and organisations working together to address Covid-related issues - have now moved to a monthly basis.

### Social Inclusion:

*Migrant Integration:* Action Plan on implementing recommendations in the Waterford Migrant Integration Strategy is currently being developed.

*SICAP:* Waterford Area Partnership continue to implement the SICAP programme on behalf of the LCDC with 79 local community groups and 953 individuals in Waterford expected to benefit in 2021.

*TIG:* The Waterford Traveller Interagency Group continues to meet regularly by way of Zoom. Needs Analysis being finalised

## Seirbhísi Éigeandála / Emergency Services

### **Fire Service Operational Activity:**

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 month of May 2021. Emergency response has continued uninterrupted throughout the Covid 19 crisis with significant precautionary measures put in place to ensure the safety of fire crews and the community served.

Area	Fires	Special Service	False Alarm Good Intent	False Alarm Malicious
<b>Total for May</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Year to date</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Total for May 2020</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total for 2020</b>	<b>707</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>16</b>

### **Fire Safety:**

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

Applications Received	May 2021	2021 Year to date	Total for May 2020	Total for 2020
<b>Fire Safety Certificates</b>	3	24	9	84

### **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	May 2021	Cumulative Total for 2021	Total for May 2020	Total for 2020
<b>Commencement Notices</b>	23	131	15	285
<b>Completion Certificates</b>	18	101	17	224
<b>Disability Access Certificates</b>	3	15	6	45

### **Civil Defence:**

Civil Defence activities during the month of May 2021 consisted of Covid-19 Response duties. Patient Transportation was provided by Civil Defence volunteers to members of the community with no other available means of transport. This was only made possible by the cooperation and dedication of Civil Defence Volunteers. Transportation tasks included to and from: Clinical appointments (e.g. doctors, dental, radiotherapy, etc.), Hospital Appointments in South Tipperary General Hospital Clonmel, Cork CUH, Waterford UHW and Whitfield and Vaccination Center Transport's to WIT Arena.

At all times stringent measures were put in place to ensure the safety of Civil Defence volunteers and those members of the community served. Where feasibility "Theoretical Training" has resumed on line via Zoom.

## Seirbhísí Comhshaoil / Environmental Services

### Environmental Enforcement Statistics

1<sup>st</sup> January 2021 – 27<sup>th</sup> May 2021

#### **Enforcement under the Litter Pollution Acts 1997 (as amended)**

<b>Legal Action Initiated</b>	<b>0</b>
On the Spot Litter Fines Issued (Pending Payment or Prosecution)	63
On the Spot Litter Fines Paid (Includes Fines from previous year)	29
No of Notices Issued 9,16,17,20	0

#### **Enforcement under the Waste Management Acts 1996 (as amended)**

<b>No of Complaints</b>	<b>1227</b>
Legal Actions	0
Section 18's Statutory Notices Served (asking for info on Waste Issues)	0
Section 55's Statutory Notices Served (asking for Waste to be removed in a 2 week period)	9
Section 71's (Abandoned Vehicle Notices)	31
Warning Letters Sent (Packaging Info & Notice Follow Up)	46
Section 14 Directions	21
Section 107 EPA (Noise)	0
Fixed Penalty Notices on Waste Collectors	0
Regulation 33 - Requirement on a Registered Owner to deposit an End-of-Life Vehicle at an Authorised Treatment Facility. (European Union End-of-Life Vehicles) Regulations 2014 – Fixed Penalty Notice.	0
Regulation 25 of the European Union (Packaging) Regulations 2014 (S.I. No. 282 of 2014) as amended	0

### Environmental Education & Awareness

#### **Litter**

The “Bag it, Bin it” regional anti-dog fouling campaign continues to evolve. The first three social media posts have been launched on our social media channels and a webpage has been published on [waterfordcouncil.ie](http://waterfordcouncil.ie), along with three bilingual leaflets. The message has been produced in stencil format for marking of footpaths, magnetic signs have been printed for display on Dog Wardens and Environmental Inspectors vehicles and stickers for litter bins and bag dispensers in an effort to spread the Bag It, Bin it message to dog walkers. We have been working with community groups, residents associations, Tidy Towns groups, Foróige, Eco Groups, etc. to get this message out to local communities. These communities have received help in creating videos, social media content, stencils on footpaths, awareness days and dog litter counts, etc. Between the online and local activities over the summer months, there will be a lot of awareness activities covering dog fouling. An education pack is being prepared for release in September. We will also use a mid-campaign boost to reward a small number of responsible dog owners with a high visibility dog jacket; this will be used to maintain momentum for the campaign and restate the importance of picking up after dogs as the evenings begin to grow darker. A



regional ad campaign will feature on Beat FM at this time also, along with additional social media content, etc.

#### **Waste**

A “Green Picnic” campaign will be run over the summer months in conjunction with Wexford County Council. The Summer months will see an increase number of people holidaying at home, taking day trips and visiting all public amenities in our county. As evidenced by staycations in Summer 2020, these ‘staycations’ will result in pressure on waste disposal facilities at these locations. On a busy weekend amenity areas struggle to accommodate litter and waste generated from the average picnic or trip to the beach. With this in mind the Green Picnic campaign will run June – September 2021 and will encourage people to bring reusable items wherever possible and to bring their litter home with them. We aim to promote positive participation in a campaign that will focus on the theme of reuse and encourage all to take responsibility for their actions and their waste. The main elements of this will be as follows:

1. Radio – positive message, reuse focus, and don’t forget to bring litter home.
2. Newspaper advertisement and press release
3. Social media content, including a competition to win a reusable picnic pack.
4. Poster for use in community notice boards at beaches and other amenity areas
5. Install an indoor bottle refill station at a location to be decided by competition with Refill Ireland
6. Website information
7. A series of four online workshops have been arranged:
  - Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> June - Green Your Picnic tips with a show and tell of different single use swaps that can be made from what people will often have around their, well as a speaker from Clean Coasts.
  - Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> June – International Refill Day - speaker from Refill and speaker from Conscious Cup re impact of single use and how to use reusables safely e.g. contactless coffee
  - Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> June – speaker from Leave No Trace - eco friendly picnic message to reduce the impact of your litter on the area
  - There will also be one evening workshop with Elaine Butler from Living Lightly in Ireland about practical sustainability.

#### **Tidy Towns**

The national Tidy Towns competition has been launched and the entry form is now available online, along with tips and advice for making the entry electronically, at [www.tidytowns.ie](http://www.tidytowns.ie) There is a new prize category to recognise the role played by volunteers throughout the Covid-19 pandemic. The closing date for entries is 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2021.

#### **Biodiversity**

Let Dandelions Bee – this campaign encouraged the public to leaving dandelions grow during March and April, instead of mowing them. This provides early pollinators such as bees with an early source of food. A photo competition to take a photo of dandelions in bloom was held during March and April and the winners were announced on Facebook in May.

#### **Schools**

This year, Green Schools assessments and visits are taking place online, in accordance with An Taisce’s recommendations. An Taisce has extended the assessment deadline until the end of the school year to reflect this nationwide trend. The number of renewals and assessments are considerably lower this year, with many schools choosing to defer until 2022.

## Ealaíona & Cultúr / Arts & Culture

### Libraries

In May, in line with Government Guidelines, 10 branches reopened to the public for browsing services. Preparations are underway to reopen 2 remaining branches. During the month, 9461 people visited libraries throughout the county and borrowed 11691 items along with 8051 eMagazine, eBooks and eAudiobooks. Active membership of the Library Service for May was 9233 and during the month 76 service wide activities and events took place including;

- Bealtaine Festival events and activities
- ‘Spring into Storytime’ events and activities
- Healthy Ireland ‘Healthy Body, Healthy Bones’ & ‘Diabetes Awareness’ webinars
- Dungarvan Library exhibition ‘The Vertigo Project’ by Jean Curran as part of Dungarvan Art Trail
- Kitti Caboodle Musical Postcards
- Grow it Forward seed growing kits campaign partnering with GIY funded by Healthy Ireland
- ‘Blaa Book’ podcast series
- Waterford Inner City Parents and Toddler Group with St. Brigids FCC and Waterford Libraries
- First Time Parents Support Group with Barnardos, St. Brigids FCC and Waterford Libraries
- Switching Off and Being Creative events and activities
- Work Matters events and activities
- Staff online poetry videos, scrabble club, craft sessions, story times, and Facebook book club
- Waterford Dyslexia Zoom coffee morning
- ‘What Does your Library Mean to You’ Library Reopening writing competition
- Towers and Tales Promotion to 100 schools
- Europe Day 2021 EDIC Waterford Sustainable Living Initiative
- Launch of Digital Ambassadors Programme in Dungarvan Library Librarian Anne Dykes and Mayor Damien Geoghegan and with Local radio interview promotion

### **Upcoming Events in June:**

- Launch of Summer Stars Reading Adventure
- Pride of the Deise video, events and activities
- Cruinniu na nOg events and activities
- Work Matters events and activities

### **Library Development:**

- Reopening of ten branches to Browsing Services in line with Government guidelines, preparations underway to reopen remaining two branches with radio and newspaper promotion of reopening
- Countywide distribution of Right to Read First 5 Little Library books to Early Learning Centres
- National Reporting of Keep Well campaigns statistics
- Executive Librarian Tracy McEneaney spoke on the Claire Byrne Show ‘Staycation’ Reads feature
- Deep clean in Tallow and Central Libraries, MOL installation continues in Lismore Library

**Airgeadas / Finance****Waterford City and County Council - Revenue Account Income & Expenditure Summary by Service Division  
Y.T.D. to April 30, 2021**

	<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			<b>INCOME</b>		
	Expenditure €	Adopted Full Year Budget €	% Budget Spent to date	Income €	Adopted Full year Budget €	% Budget Raised
A Housing & Building	9,179,002	29,905,750	31%	9,826,057	32,231,369	30%
B Road Transport & Safety	9,720,163	46,501,378	21%	4,771,409	34,342,105	14%
C Water Services	3,322,493	10,831,808	31%	3,181,828	10,419,107	31%
D Development Management	5,258,662	16,894,259	31%	2,542,217	8,467,777	30%
E Environmental Services	5,669,925	19,210,509	30%	582,633	2,847,343	20%
F Recreation & Amenity	4,382,027	14,454,154	30%	472,552	1,806,387	26%
G Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	287,934	979,517	29%	144,164	528,623	27%
H Miscellaneous Services	7,063,152	9,620,230	73%	5,508,515	4,668,005	118%
LG Local Property Tax / GPG	0	0	0%	6,555,005	19,665,016	33%
RA Rates	0	0	0%	11,140,624	33,421,873	33%
	<b>44,883,358</b>	<b>148,397,605</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>44,725,004</b>	<b>148,397,605</b>	<b>30%</b>
Surplus/Deficit				(158,354)	0	

4. MANAGEMENT REPORT PLENARY 10TH JUNE 2021

Summary of main collections April 2021 YTD											
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G'		[6]	[7]	
	Gross Bal as at 1-1-2021	Accrued ytd to Apr 2021	Write Offs and Vacancies	Waivers & Credits	Total for Collection [1+2-3]	Collected ytd to Apr 2021	Gross Bal 31-04-2021 [4-5]	Specific Provision	% Collected ytd re Total for Collection [5/4]	% Collected ytd re 2021 Accrual [5/(4-1)]	
		€	€		€	€	€		€		
Rates	11,042,246	33,549,986	- 33,635	- 5,895,691	38,662,906	7,900,205	30,762,701	3,668,000	23%	24%	
Loans	1,912,249	1,091,751	-		3,004,000	1,060,117	1,943,883		35%	97%	
Rents	4,364,161	4,811,128	6,169		9,181,458	4,894,007	4,287,451		53%	102%	
<b>Aged Analysis :</b>											
				Less than 1 mth	2 to 6 mths	7 to 12 mths	greater than 12 mths				Net Balance
Rates				-	24,412,252	-	6,350,449				30,762,701
				0 to 3 mths	4 to 6 mths	7 to 12 mths	Greater than 12 mths				
Loans				155,585	63,919	180,935	1,543,444				1,943,883
				Less than 4 weeks	4-6 weeks	7-12 weeks	Greater than 12 wks				
Rents				102,983	85,761	139,023	3,959,684				4,287,451
<b>Overdraft Levels</b>											
Days in Overdraft in Apr	0		Cost -		€0.00		Average Value when in O/D : N/A			€	-