

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

Economic Development Report February 2022

1. North Quays

a. SDZ Developer

- i) WCCC is having ongoing engagement with private developers to review options and markets for SDZ site.

b. Main contract

- i) The main construction tender for the infrastructural works, including the development of a Sustainable Transport Bridge, Transport Hub and SDZ Access Infrastructure Works was issued on etenders, with a return date of 8th March 2022.

c. Planning applications

- i) An Bord Pleanála received four submissions in relation to the Western Flood Defence planning application.

d. Tender stage - advanced contracts/ enabling works

- i) Tenders have been returned for the Rock Stabilisation works to the north of Plunkett Station, they are currently being assessed by Roughan O'Donovan Consulting Engineers.
- ii) Work is ongoing by Kilkenny County Council on the Greenway Access Ramp at Abbey Bridge.
- iii) It is proposed to commence the South Plaza Enabling Works in March 2022.
- iv) Tender for the relocation of the Ferrybank Pump Station was reissued in December 2021.

2. City Centre Regeneration



This City Centre Regeneration URDF projects comprises 22 individual City Centre projects that are centred around six clusters.

The priorities for 2022 will be to complete the design and planning approvals for the Parade Quay Cluster and Beach Tower Square Cluster.

Parade Quay will deliver 12 residential units over six ground floor commercial units, performance space, offices and public realms works. Preliminary design works has commenced, and it is anticipated that a Part 8 Planning Application will be submitted to Waterford City and County Council in March 2022.

Beach Tower Square is initially focusing on refurbishing 3 & 4 Georges Street for a GOVLAB and Smart City headquarters. This is progressing in collaboration with Waterford Institute of Technology.

3. **Tramore Public Realm**

Public realm and water infrastructural works to Main Street are substantially complete while works to Gallwey's Hill junction, the car park at Market Street and all remaining public realm enhancement works will be completed by April 2022.

The refurbishment works to No. 9 Main Street for ground floor commercial use and accommodation above will be retendered February 2022. Once a contractor is appointed a 10-month construction period is anticipated.

4. **City Centre Management**

The next meeting of the Waterford City Centre Management Group is scheduled for Thursday 31st March.

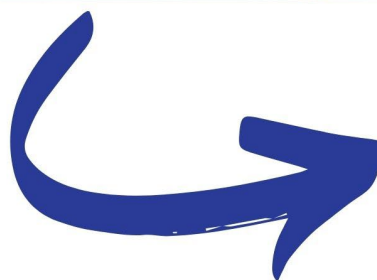
A Shop Front Improvement Scheme has been launched for town centre businesses and applications are open until March 3rd. Full details and the application form are available [online](#).



Before:

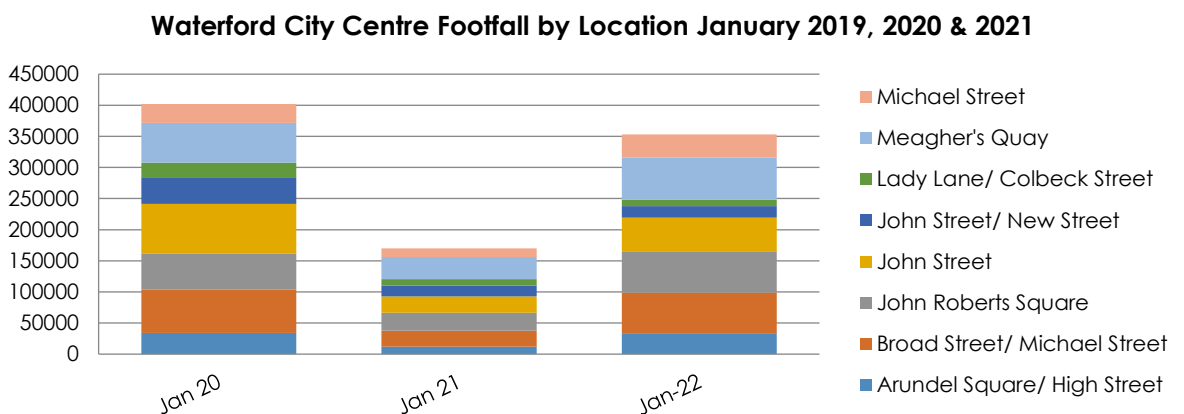
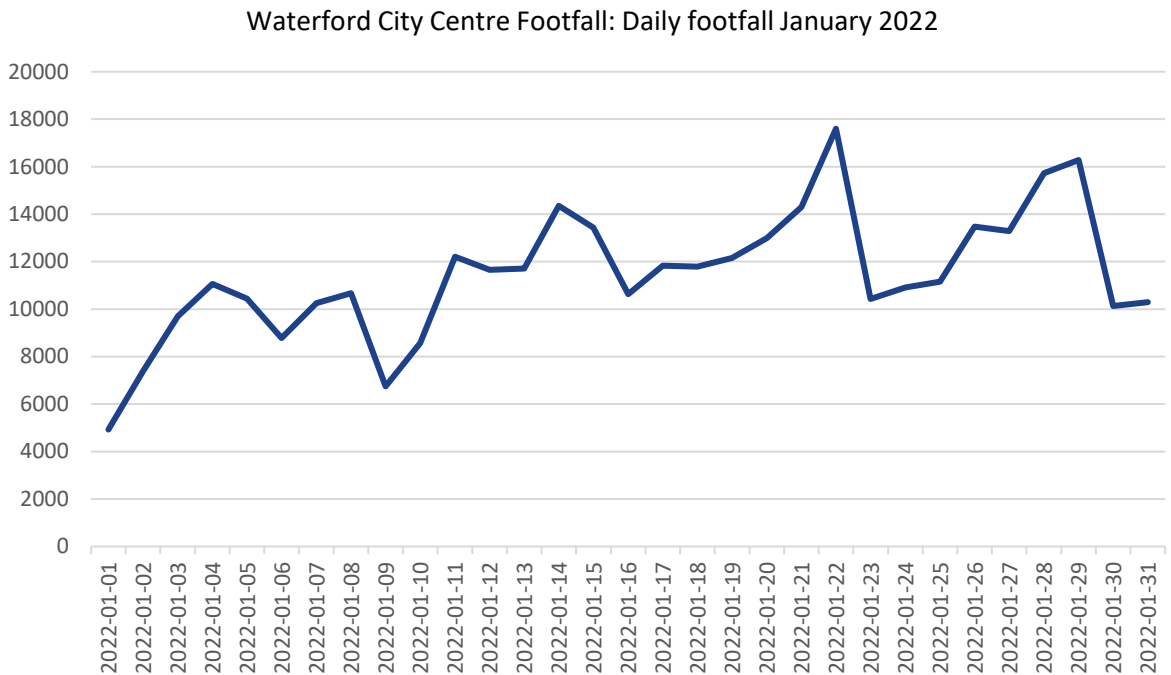
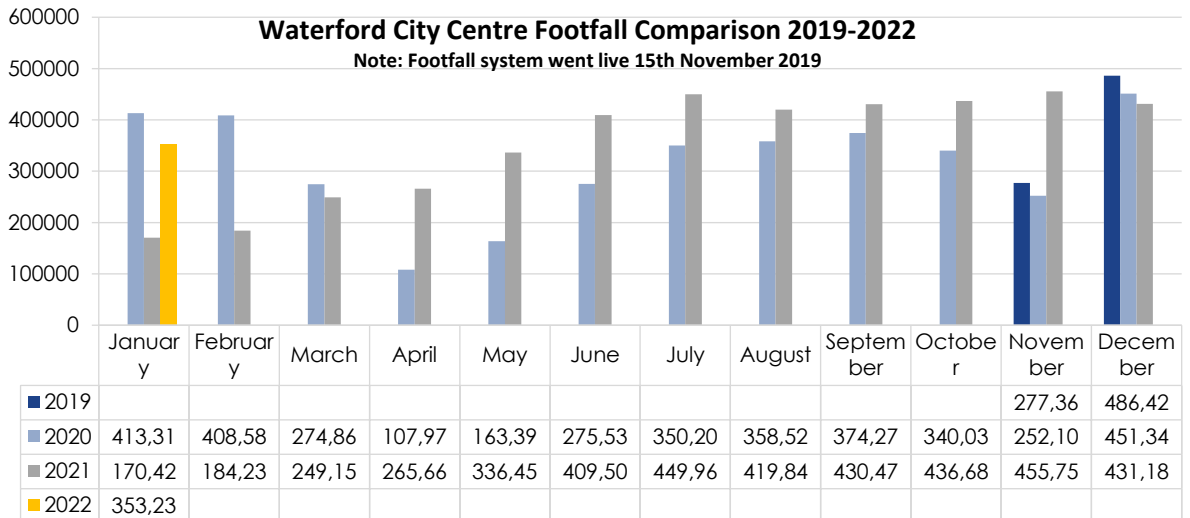


Shopfront Improvement Scheme



After:

Note re Footfall: The public health measures introduced on December 3rd and December 20th 2021 continued in place until January 22nd 2022 which will have impacted on figures.



5. **Tourism**

Waterford Greenway will feature in an upcoming Discover Ireland campaign.

6. **Rural Development**

Town Centre First – a major new policy launched by the Dept Rural and Community Development that aims to tackle vacancy, combat dereliction and breathe new life into our town centres. Town Centre First contains 33 unique actions which will give our towns the tools and resources they need to become more viable and attractive places in which to live, work, visit and run a business.



Town Centre First
A Policy Approach
for Irish Towns

