



Comhairle Contae  
Loch Garman  
Wexford  
County Council



2025

**JANUARY**

---

CHIEF EXECUTIVE  
REPORT



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# JANUARY PHOTO GALLERY



Ambulance & first aid cover provided by our Civil Defence Team for festive events



Wexford Women's Coalition Celebrate Nollaig na mBan 2025

Councillor Barbara Anne Murphy, Chairperson of the Women's Coalition said "It was important that everyone took the time today to celebrate the women in their lives that made them the person they are today."



# HOUSING

## Housing Strategy & Services

Under the Housing for All Programme 2022 to 2026, Wexford County Council must deliver a minimum of 1,159 new housing units within the programme timeframe. The status of overall programme delivery is contained in the diagram below.

Housing For All 2022-2026							
1181 Target	- (	784 Units Delivered	+	651 Units Projected	=	1435 Delivery Pipeline	) = <b>254 Shortfall /Over</b>

It is the Councils intention to continue to deliver new housing, above the target provided under the programme, where demand exists and Department funding is available.

The tables below outline the current delivery pipelines and status on projects. For LA Direct Build information, please refer to the Capital Development section of the Chief Executives Report.

### Turnkey Delivery

The Housing Section periodically seek Expressions of Interest for the provision of social housing units via Turnkey Acquisition. A new Expression of Interest opened on the 8th January 2025. All calls are seeking targeted delivery of smaller unit types (1 & 2 beds) in areas of need identified in the Housing Delivery Action Plan (HDAP). In addition, the process also seeks proposals for purchase of land in areas of need. All proposals received by Wexford County Council under the turnkey process are assessed by an Internal Assessment Committee.

### Gorey/Kilmuckridge Municipal District

Project Address (TURNKEY)	Unit Type	Est. Delivery	Total
Tobar Muire, Creagh Demesne, Gorey	7 x 2-bed 22 x 3-bed	Q1 2025	29
Gleann an Ghairdin, Gorey	20 x 2-bed apt 20 x 3-bed apt	Phased from Q3 2024 8 X 2 bed & 8 X 3 bed Delivered	40
Mangan, Hollyfort, Gorey	2 x 3-Bed	Q1 2025	2
Churchview, Ballynaglogh, Blackwater (Ph2)	14 x 2-bed	Delivered Q4 2024	14
Spring View, Gorey Hill, Gorey	6 x 3-bed apt 6 x 2-bed apt	Q3 2025	12
Grattan Court, Gorey	10 x 3-bed 4 x 2-bed apt	Q2 2025	14
		<b>Total Turnkey Units</b>	<b>111</b>

## Gorey/Kilmuckridge MD - cont'd

Project Address (Part V)	Unit Type	Est. Delivery	Total
<b>Gleann an Ghairdin Phases 3 &amp; 4</b>	2 x 3-bed 2 x 2-bed 4 x 2-bed apt 4 x 3-bed apt	Phased from Q3 2024 – Q1 2025 4 X 2 bed & 4 X 3 bed & 2 x 3 bed Delivered	12
<b>Tobar Muire, Creagh Demesne, Gorey</b>	2 x 2-bed	Q1 2025	2
<b>Spring View, Gorey Hill, Gorey</b>	4 x 3-bed apt 4 x 2-bed apt	Q3 2025	8
<b>Deerpark (Ballowen or Ramsfort Park) Gorey</b>	3 x 3-bed 1 x 2-bed	2 delivered Q3 2024 Phased basis from Q4	4
<b>Grattan Court Gorey</b>	2 x 2 bed	Q2 2025	2
		<b>Total Part V</b>	<b>28</b>

Project Address (AHB)	Unit Type	Est. Delivery	Total
<b>Ballytegan Rd, Gorey</b>	3 x 1-bed 26 x 2-bed 52 x 3-bed 5 x 4-bed	Q2 2026	86
<b>Ramstown, Gorey - Phase 3</b>	21 x 2-bed 9 x 3 bed	30 Delivered Q4 2024	30
<b>Riverchapel Road, Gorey</b>	6 x 1-bed apt	Q1 2025	6
<b>The Close, Newbury, Clonattin, Gorey</b>	2 x 1 bed apt 4 x 2 bed apt 17 x 3 bed	17 houses delivered Q4 6 Apts. Q1 2025	23
		<b>Total ABH</b>	<b>145</b>
<b>Overall Total</b>			<b>284</b>

## Rosslare Municipal District

Project Address	Unit Type	Est. Delivery	Total
Carrig-on-Bannow (TURNKEY)	5 x 1 bed 5 x 2 bed	Q3 2025 Q1 2026	10
Carrig-on-Bannow (PART V)	2 x 3 bed	Q2 2025	2
Forth View, Murrintown (Phase 1) AHB	9 x 2-bed 14 x 3-bed	Delivered Q4 2024	23
Forth View, Murrintown (Phase 2) AHB	7 x 2-bed 10 x 3-bed	Delivered Q4 2024	17
<b>Overall Total</b>			<b>52</b>

## Enniscorthy Municipal District

Project Address (TURNKEY)	Unit Type	Est. Delivery	Total
An Glasan, Greenville Lane, Enniscorthy	8 x 1-bed	Delivered	8
Castlelands, Ferns, Enniscorthy	6 x 2-bed 14 x 3-bed	Delivered Q4 2024	20
Holly-Way, Clonhasten, Enniscorthy	5 x 2-bed	Q1 2025	5
Cnoc na Greine, Enniscorthy	3 x 2-bed 9 x 3-bed 2 x 4-bed	Phased from Q3 2025	14
Forgelands, Old Forge Rd, Enniscorthy	11 x 3 bed 1 x 4 bed	2 X 3 bed and 1 X 4 bed delivered Q4 2024. Remaining units to deliver on a phased basis from Q4 2024	12
<b>Total Turnkey</b>			<b>59</b>

## Enniscorthy Municipal District cond't

Project Address (PART V)	Unit Type	Est. Delivery	Total
Forgelands, Old Forge Rd, Enniscorthy	6 x 2-bed	2 delivered Q3 2024 4 due by Q2 2025	6
An Glasan, Greenville Lane, Enniscorthy	8 x 1-bed apt	Delivered	8
Holly-Way, Clonhasten, Enniscorthy	5 x 3-bed	Q1 2025	5
Milehouse, Phase 1, Enniscorthy (AHB)	17 delivered Q4 2024 – Remaining units to deliver Q2 2025	Phased from Q1 2025	37
<b>Overall Total</b>			<b>115</b>

## New Ross Municipal District

Project Address	Unit Type	Est. Delivery	Total
Ard an Bhile, New Ross (TURNKEY)	8 x 2 bed 8 x 3 bed 12 x 2 bed apt 4 x 1 bed apt	Q1 2025	32
Hewittlands, New Ross (LAGS site) (AHB)	10 x 1-bed 16 x 2-bed 22 x 3-bed	Q1 2026	48
Ard an Bhile, New Ross (PART V)	4 x 2 bed 4 x 1 bed apt	Phased from Q3 2024 – Q1 2025	8
<b>Overall Total</b>			<b>88</b>

Wexford County

# Development Plan

2022 - 2028

## Borough District of Wexford

Project Address	Unit Type	Est. Delivery	Total
Ard na hAbhainn, Newtown Rd <b>(PART V)</b>	2 x 3-bed	Q4 2024	2
Ard Uisce, Wexford <b>(PART V)</b>	10 x 2-bed	Phased from Q3 2024 – Q4 2025 2 delivered Q4 2024	10
Beechfield, Clonard <b>(AHB)</b>	25 x 1-bed 23 x 2-bed 1 x 3-bed 1 x 4-bed	Q3 2025	50
Pairc na Greine, Coolcotts (Ph2.2 of Pairc na Daire) <b>(AHB)</b>	22 x 3-bed 2 x 4 -bed	Delivered Q4 2024	24
Whiterock Hill, Wexford <b>(AHB)</b>	6 x 2 bed 34 x 3 bed	Q2 2025	40
<b>Overall Total</b>			<b>126</b>

## Ard an Bhile, New Ross





Support has been offered to AHB's for other proposals amounting to **483** units across all districts. These proposals are subject to Planning and Departmental approval.

District	No of Units
Enniscorthy	68
Gorey	187
Wexford	70

District	No of Units
New Ross	79
Rosslare	79
<b>Total</b>	<b>483</b>

## Energy Efficiency Retrofitting Programme

Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme 2024 is the fourth year of a new 10-year Energy Efficiency/Retrofit Programme to retrofit local authority housing stock. The new programme provides for a significant upscaling in the level of funding available and focuses on ensuring that the fabric of the home is upgraded, and an energy efficient heating system is provided. The table below outlines the targets set by the Department for Wexford to date.

Department Targets for County Wexford		
Year	No. of Properties	Delivered
2021	54	0
2022	68	37
2023	51	146
2024	116	150 (Estimate)
<b>Total</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>333 (Estimate)</b>

Housing Maintenance Section completed energy upgrades to 146 properties in 2023. Completing the balance of our 2021 to 2023 targets in 2023. The value of the grant funded works for 2023 was €3.99 million.

The 2024 allocation has been received from the department with an approval given for a target of 116 units: 126 of which have been completed.

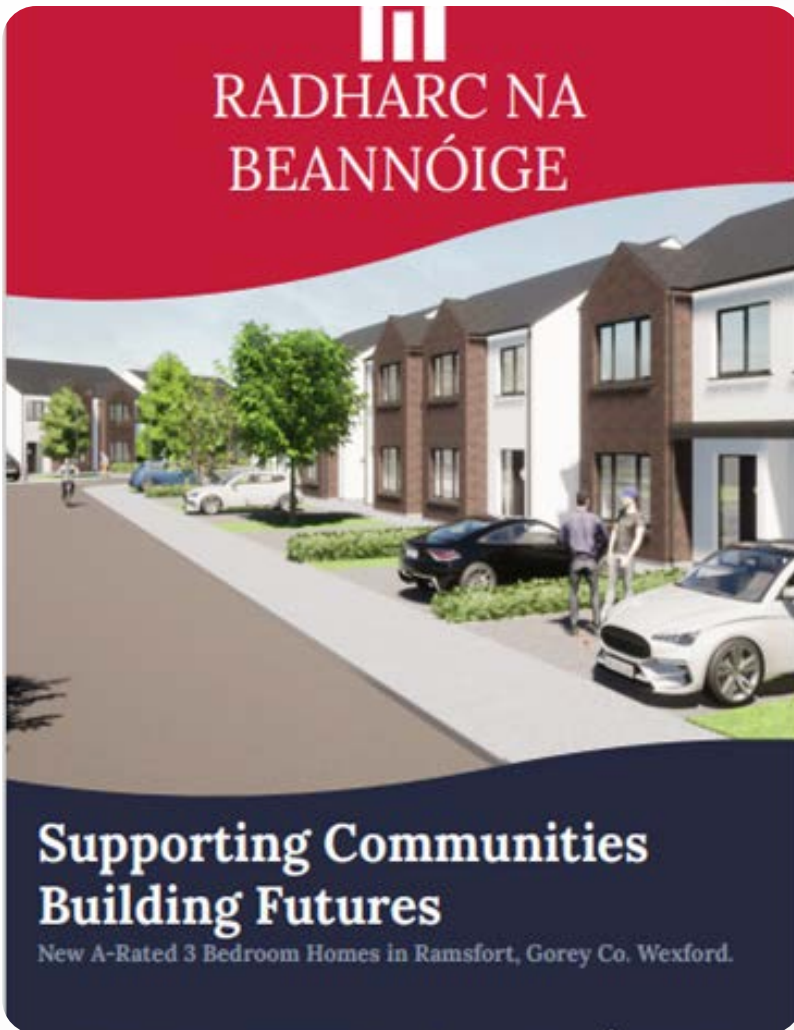
# AFFORDABLE HOUSING



## Affordable Housing Application Portal Launch February 2025.

Wexford County Council is about to launch the pilot affordable housing scheme in Ramsfort, Gorey, county Wexford.

The development which is being constructed by Mythen Construction in partnership with Wexford County Council, will provide new homes for sale via Wexford County Council's 'local authority affordable purchase' scheme.



These homes will be available at a reduced price for buyers who are seeking to purchase a newly built home but need to bridge the gap between their mortgage and deposit to cover the full price of the home.

**Applications will be only accepted via the online application portal which will be available from 10.00am on Wednesday, 12th of February 2025**

Income limits apply and potential applicants are strongly advised to familiarise themselves with the qualification criteria and the documentation required, details of which are available at - <https://www.wexfordcoco.ie/housing/affordable-housing/local-authority-affordable-purchase-scheme>

A series of information events both online and in person, are currently being developed in advance of the portal launch to assist interested parties through the application process.

**Details on the scheme development are available – [www.radharcnabeannoige.ie](http://www.radharcnabeannoige.ie)  
For further information, please contact [affordablehousing@wexfordcoco.ie](mailto:affordablehousing@wexfordcoco.ie)**



## CHOICE BASED LETTING

140 properties were advertised on the Choice Based Letting website from 01/01/2024 to 31/12/24. As multiple properties were available in some cases, a total of 305 properties were available for allocation.

Municipal District	Properties Available for Allocation	No. of Properties Advertised
Enniscorthy	77	36
Gorey/Kilmuckridge	89	29
New Ross	19	19
Rosslare	57	24
Wexford	63	32
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>140</b>

## HOUSING ALLOCATIONS

From the 1st January to 31st December, 2024 Wexford County Council allocated 322 properties. A further 119 nominations were made to Approved Housing Bodies.

Area	Re-Lets (Incl. Bays)	Transfers	New Lets	AHBs	MTR	Total
Gorey/Kilmuckridge	14	3	57	49	1	124
New Ross	27	0	10	3	0	40
Enniscorthy	21	9	59	13	0	102
Wexford	27	11	51	31	1	121
Rosslare	17	1	12	23	1	54
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>441</b>

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## 10 YEARS OF LEO CELEBRATION

### Local Enterprise Office

Local Enterprise Office (LEO) Wexford celebrated its 10th anniversary on Monday, December 9th at Wexford County Council marking a decade of growth, innovation, and support for the local business community. Cathaoirleach of Wexford County Council, Pip Breen opened the event which featured a festive market and craft fair, bringing together products from client companies many of whom are members of the Wexford Food Producers Network, local craft producers and students participating on the Student Enterprise Programme. Wexford LEO is ranked in the top 3 nationally re job creation.



Over the past decade, LEO Wexford has played an instrumental role in fostering entrepreneurship and supporting local businesses. The office has helped create 2,895 new jobs across various sectors, boosting the local economy. Through its programs, including Local Enterprise Week, National Enterprise Awards, National Women's Enterprise Day, and youth-focused initiatives like Ireland's Best Young Entrepreneur and the Student Enterprise Programme, LEO Wexford has empowered entrepreneurs at every stage of their journey.

More than 12,540 students from across County Wexford have participated in the Student Enterprise Programme, gaining practical experience in running their own businesses.



## 10 YEARS OF LEO CELEBRATION CONT'D

LEO Wexford has provided critical financial support to local businesses, administering over €6.58 million in grant aid to 234 manufacturing and internationally traded service companies. Additionally, 18 businesses have been transferred to Enterprise Ireland for further export support. LEO Wexford's Trading Online Voucher Scheme has helped 990 local businesses secure €2.11 million to develop new online revenue streams, a vital shift accelerated by the pandemic.



## SUPPORTS FOR BUSINESS

Operational efficiency, digitalisation and sustainability of SMEs are key priorities in the White Paper on Enterprise 2022 and reiterated in LEO Policy Statement 2024-2030.

As part of the SLA with Enterprise Ireland, LEO Wexford are tasked with delivering consultant led support services under the Lean for Business, Green for Business and Digital for business programmes.

The Local Enterprise Office received 47 submissions in response to a Request for Tender to establish a framework to deliver the LEAN, Green and Digital for business programmes.

These programmes are available to both new and existing businesses and are designed to match small business owners/ managers with experienced, insightful business members that can provide them with practical and strategic advice and guidance in relation to specific challenges their business needs to overcome.

## SHOWCASE 2025

The Local Enterprise stand at Showcase, is a national initiative to support small businesses from the craft and design sector. The Showcase exhibition, which is Ireland's premier design and craft fair, takes place in the RDS Dublin from 19-21st January 2025 and is an opportunity for Irish makers and creators to meet and sell to domestic and international buyers.

Wexford LEO has selected 5 clients to participate at Showcase this year in the Enterprise Hall.

- Ceadogan Rugs
- Debroah Cogley Art
- Eoin O'Connor Art
- Ingadi Happy Pots
- Holos Skincare



These companies have been supported by the LEO over the past number of months in preparation for the event to help them maximise the benefits of participation.

Now in its second year The Local Enterprise Office (LEO) Business of Craft Awards are open to all the LEO clients exhibiting at Showcase as part of the Local Enterprise Showcase.

The awards have four award categories:

1. Best Newcomer for the best craft and design business exhibiting for the first time.
2. One to Watch for the best craft and design business who has excellent export and international potential.
3. Sustainability Champion for the best craft and design business who is excelling in sustainability



This year also sees an additional award for Best Visual Business. This will be judged at the event and will be awarded to the craft and design business with the best visual presence and branding both at the event and across their online channels.

In 2024 Wexford business, Sully and Juno won best newcomer at the Business of Craft Awards.

## TOURISM



### Fáilte Ireland's Industry Briefing 2025

Fáilte Ireland will hold their Industry Briefing session for Ireland's Ancient East on Wednesday, 5th February 2025. Fáilte Ireland will share their strategic objectives for 2025, focusing on how the industry can continue to enhance Ireland's future through sustainable tourism initiatives.

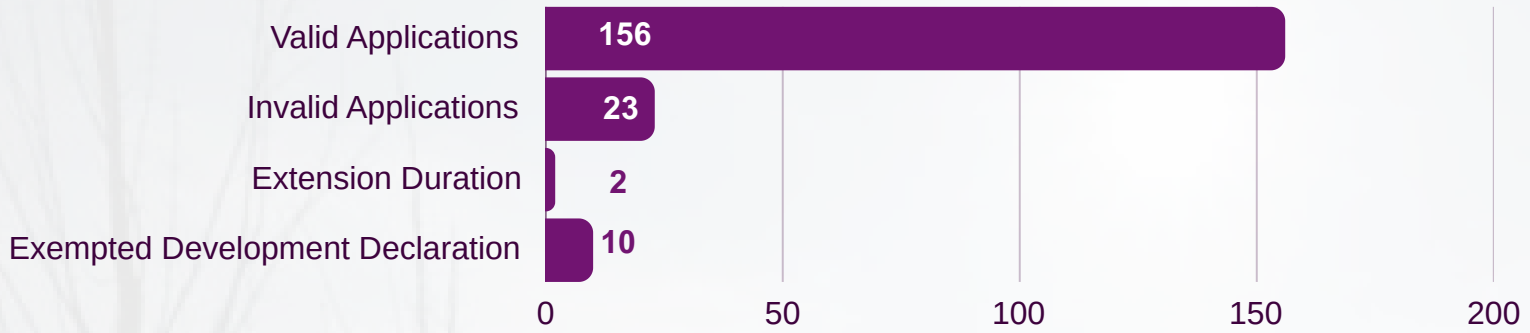


### Tourism Ireland launch 2025 Marketing Plans

Tourism Ireland will launch its 2025 Marketing Plans in Clayton Hotel Dublin on 14th January 2025. Following a plenary session the Tourism Officer will attend a number of breakout sessions with Tourism Ireland market teams in addition to a number of one-to-one, pre-scheduled appointments with the Tourism Ireland team with a view to maximising the tourism opportunities for county Wexford.

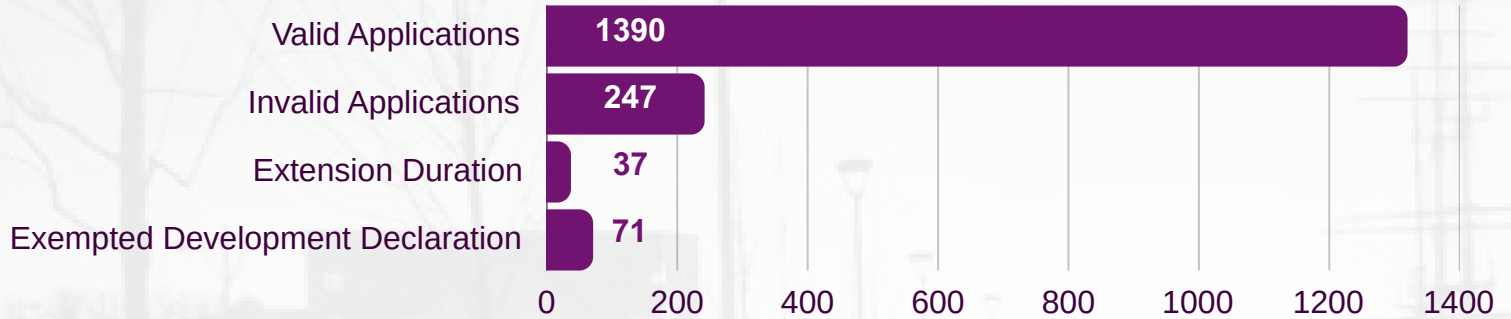
# PLANNING

## Planning applications received from 25th November 2024 to 31st December 2024



Total number of applications: **181**

## Planning Applications received year to date - 1st January to 31st December 2024



Total number of applications: **1631**

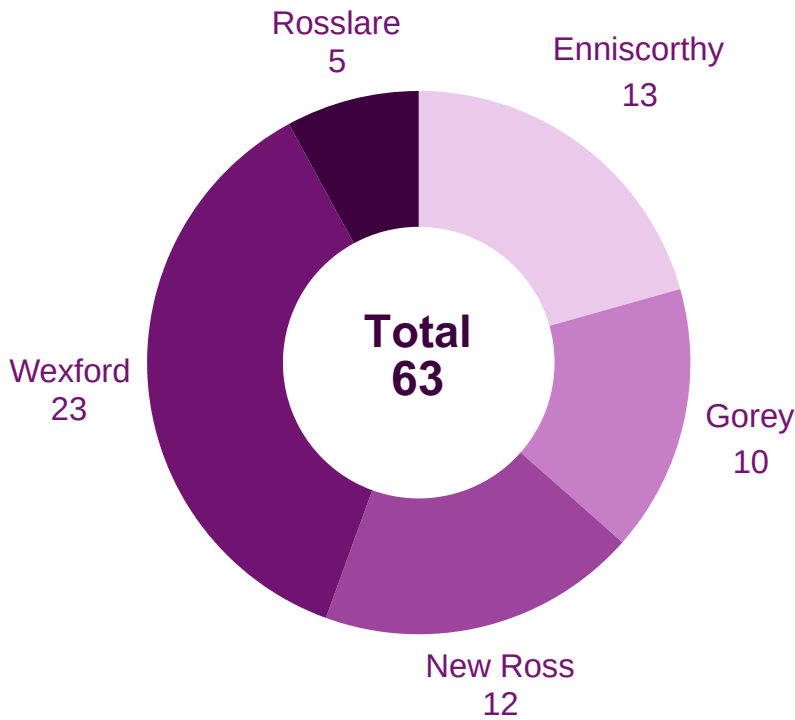
## Pre-Planning - applications year to date up to the 31st December 2024

Pre-planning by District	Applications Received	Applications Closed	Open Pre-planning Applications
Enniscorthy MD	60	52	2
Gorey/Kilmuckridge MD	76	78	16
New Ross MD	67	67	6
Rosslare MD	74	67	5
Wexford BD	86	86	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>363</b>	<b>318</b>	<b>47</b>

Average days to pre-planning meeting is **53**

## Major Pre-Planning

Year to date up to 31st December 2024  
Number of meetings held by district:



Total No. of Housing Units  
**2167**

Commercial Development  
(approx. sqm)  
**149,015**

## Forward Planning

### County Development Plan Monitoring

Work is ongoing on the Chief Executive’s Report on the achievement of the objectives of the Plan. The Plan contains over 1,200 objectives covering the Council’s key programmes, activities and projects, and monitoring ensures that these objectives are being met as set out.



### Wexford Town Local Area Plan

Work on the Wexford Town Local Area Plan continues. The LAP team are progressing the development of the overall spatial planning framework for the town. A key component of the framework is the Urban Design Strategy, and the consultants Loci are progressing well with this complex work. A Town Centre First Strategy is being prepared and a Town Team comprised of representative stakeholders has been formed to inform and guide that strategy.



**Wexford Town Local Area Plan Cont'd**

The LAP Team are currently reviewing a report received from MacCabe Durney Barnes 'Wexford Town – An Economic and Market Review' which will also inform the preparation of the strategy. The consultants working on the Rainwater Management Plan and the Green Blue Infrastructure strategy are currently reviewing and incorporating the feedback from the LAP team.

**Planning CSO Returns**

2024 Permissions granted for New Dwellings as of 27th October 2024

Housing Developments (total no. units)	Apartments incl. self contained dwelling units (total no. units)	One off Houses	LACs Local Authority Development	Total no. permissions granted 27th October 2024
<b>238</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>629</b>

**Building Control - From 25th November to 31st December 2024**

Validated Commencement Notices <b>59</b>	Building Control Inspections <b>39</b>	Validated Cert. of Compliance on Completion <b>27</b>	Taking in Charge Report send to districts <b>3</b>
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**Planning Enforcement - Year to date up to 31st December 2024**

Live Cases <b>415</b>	Cases Opened (YTD) <b>287</b>	Cases Closed (YTD) <b>232</b>
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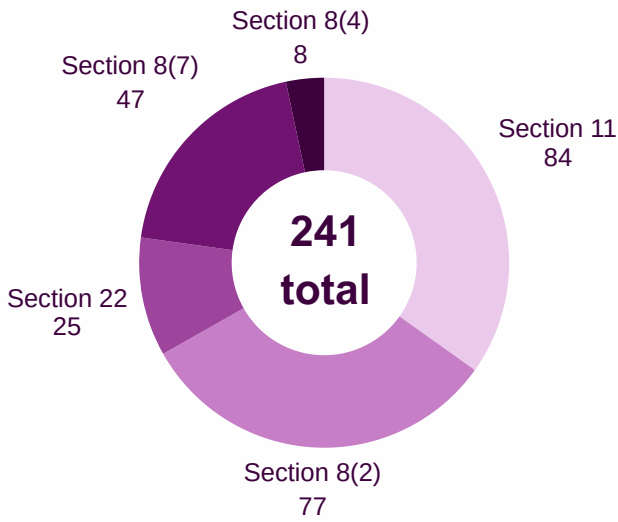
**Short-Term Letting**

Year to date up to 31st December 2024 Gorey Rent Pressure Zone

Live Cases <b>8</b>	Cases Opened (YTD) <b>3</b>	Cases Closed (YTD) <b>5</b>
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**Derelict Sites, Dangerous Structures and Dangerous Places**

**Derelict Site Notices issued under the Derelict Sites Act 1990.  
Year to date up to 31st December 2024:**



<b>124</b> sites on the Derelict Site Register	<b>338</b> site inspection/visits carried out
<b>87</b> new files opened	<b>42</b> files closed

\*Year to date figures

**Journey's End Ballymoney**



Before



After

**Example of ongoing remedial works carried out by the owner following the issue of Derelict Site Notices**

**URDF - Urban Regeneration Development Fund Call 3**

**173 sites approved on the acquisition programme as of the 31st December 2024**

- 39 Awaiting initial engagement with property owner
- 32 Engagement with Property Owner Commenced
- 1 Process to Purchase Commenced by Agreement
- 9 Process to Purchase Commenced by CPO
- 1 Property Acquired by LA
- 2 Enabling works underway by LA
- 7 Advertised for sale - property owned by LA
- 49 Brought back into use by Original Owner (closed case)
- 28 Property no longer vacant/derelict following review (closed case)
- 6 Being Dealt with Under Different Programme

**Dangerous Structures & Places**

Notices issued under the Local Government (Sanitary Services) Act 1964

<b>Section 3.1</b> <b>11</b>	<b>Section 3.2</b> <b>3</b>
<b>Section 2</b> <b>1</b>	

Year to date up to the 31st December 2024

## Access - Disability Access Certificates (DACs):

**108** valid DAC applications for the year to date up to 31st December 2024

Applications for Districts	Total for Districts	Awaiting Assessment	Further Information	Granted	Refused
Enniscorthy	21	2	1	18	0
Gorey	17	0	2	14	1
New Ross	13	2	0	11	0
Wexford	45	4	7	33	1
Rosslare	12	0	1	11	0
<b>2024 Totals</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>2</b>

## Disability proofing carried out as part of WCC Access activity

Referrals:

**152**

LAC/PLAC/LRD  
and General  
Planning Applications

**10**

Major  
Pre-Planning

**24**

Invalidated  
DACs

**9**

Invalidated  
DACs  
Resubmitted

## REGENERATION UNIT

### Town Centre First

There are 7 Town Centre First Teams active in 7 Towns in County Wexford with each Town at different stages of the Town Centre First journey and funded through the 2024 TCF Suite of Supports.

**Measure 1** - Under this measure we have successfully established town teams in Taghmon, Bunclody and Castlebridge and completed health checks for all towns.

During January/February the focus will be on further capacity buildings in these Towns with talks organised by leading urban regeneration experts, along with site visits to exemplar towns, community events along with website enhancements in an effort to communicate more effectively with the wider community.

**Measure 2** - We are working closely with the Courtown/Riverchapel TCF Team to develop a TCF Plan for Courtown/Riverchapel. We have 2 consultation events in January 2025.

On the 23rd of January we will be inviting all secondary school children for the area to a workshop consultation to ensure their views and ambitions are reflected in the plan. On Sat 25th we then have further consultation with the wider community with walk and talk sessions designed to get feedback from the wider public on findings of the SCOT analysis. These will be publicised in the coming days.

**Measure 3** - Work is ongoing with the Projects development measures for these 2 €50k projects with consultants due to be appointed in the coming days. The successful groups are 1. Feachtas Ealaian- T/A St Michaels Theatre 2. Kilmore Scope.

### Vacant Homes

Work is continuing on vacant homes with the administration of the Croí Conaithe Grant. The Regeneration Unit is continuing to promote the scheme and work with applicants in getting projects approved and paid out.

There has been huge uptake in County Wexford, and it is having a very positive impact on improving vacancy and dereliction.



**Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant:  
Croí Cónaithe**

## REGENERATION UNIT

Wexford County Council has now received €3million in funding grants to bring vacant and derelict unit back into use.

<b>Croi Conaithe Applications Wexford County Council as at 31.12.24</b>	
Applications Received	389
Inspections Required (First)	12
Inspections Required (Final)	22
Applications Info Requested	131
Applications Approved	247
Awaiting Approval	0
Applications Rejected	3
Application on Hold	0
Withdrawn By Applicant	8

<b>Funding Issued</b>	<b>52</b>
Total Funding Paid to Date	€3,048,224.93

## READY TO BUILD

In relation to Ready to Build we are looking at some possibilities for 2025. Brief details of Ready to Build are as below,

- Local authorities will make available serviced sites at reduced cost to support self-build home ownership.
- The level of discount to the individual will depend on the level of servicing cost incurred by the Local Authority before the sale of the site but will not exceed €30,000 (being the max amount the Local Authority can claim from Department to get services to the site).
- Have direct access to adequate mains water supply and mains wastewater disposal infrastructure.
- Local Authorities will manage the prioritisation of applicants in line with the framework of priorities as outlined by Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

## WATER SERVICES

Multi Annual Rural Water Programme	
<p><b>Measure 2 - Public Health Compliance</b></p>	<p><b>Kilanerin GWS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nitrate removal and monitor included in MARWP submissions.</li> <li>• Awaiting announcement from Department on approved projects under the MARWP 2024-2026.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Measure 3 – Enhancement of Existing Schemes including Water Conservation</b></p>	<p><b>Blackstairs GWS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>CaimTank</b> – Works complete. Road Reinstatement to take place in Spring 2025.</li> <li>• <b>Reservoir Bypass</b> - Drawdown complete for stage 1 payment Recouped from Dept.</li> <li>• Majority of funding expected to be claimed and recouped by Q1 2025.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Measure 5 – Transition of Existing Group Water Schemes and Group Sewerage Schemes</b></p>	<p><b>Bing GSS – Community Wastewater Connection (CWwC)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Departmental agreement to progress the scheme to tender stage.</li> <li>• Returned tender price from contractors for main contract works shall be subject to final Departmental assessment and approval.</li> <li>• Publication to etenders Friday 15th November.</li> <li>• Tender assessment ongoing. Tender Assessment Report currently being drafted.</li> </ul>
<p><b>MARWP 2024-2026</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submission made to Dept. by closing date 12th April</li> <li>• Submissions made across a range of measures totaling €3.26 million.</li> <li>• All submitted projects have progressed to Phase 2 assessment</li> <li>• Awaiting announcement from the Department</li> </ul>
<p><b>Measure 8 – Individual wells (private or household wells)</b></p>	<p><b>Individual Well Grants</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A total of <b>9</b> new well grant applications were registered to date in <b>December 2024</b></li> <li>• <b>20</b> Well Grants have been paid in this period, totaling <b>€33,439.80</b></li> <li>• <b>18</b> inspections to date carried out to date in December 2024.</li> <li>• Workflow prototype meeting held in May, due to constraints in IT programme won't be resumed until a later date.</li> </ul>

## WATER SERVICES cont'd

Multi Annual Rural Water Programme	
<b>Measure A8 – Wastewater Collection &amp; Treatment Needs for Villages &amp; Settlements without access to Public Wastewater Service</b>	<b>New Advance Phase of MARWP 2022-2024</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister announced Ramsgrange is one of the successful projects under the €50 million Rural Water scheme.</li> <li>Detailed programme for the delivery of project was submitted to Dept. on 10th May 24.</li> <li>Meeting held with Dept. 28th June to discuss next steps for advancing project.</li> <li>Project now with Uisce Eireann to progress to next stage.</li> <li>Workshop -5 held with UE on 3rd October.</li> </ul>
<b>Lead Remediation Grant</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9 applications received to date on revised grant, 6 paid, 3 approved.</li> </ul>

DPI Resolution Project					
	Name	Towland	Expecting Costings	75% Funding Provided	Project Completion/ Programme
<b>DPI Resolution Programme 2019-2021</b>	Cois Cuan	Arthurstown	€152,475	€114,356	Q4 2025
	Kyles Close	Oulart	€107,153	€80,365	Q4 2025
	Mountain View	Ballindaggin	€208,016	€156,012	Q4 2025
	Gleann na gCaor	Monageer	€302,878	€227,159	Q4 2026
<b>DPI Resolution Programme 2023</b>	Beach View	Duncannon	€72,300	€54,225	Q4 2025
	Farrin Carraig	Duncannon	€202,986	€152,240	Q4 2025
	Beechfields	Ballaghkeen	€353,968	€265,476	Q4 2026

## **ROADS & TRANSPORTATION**

### **MAJOR NATIONAL ROADS PROJECTS**

#### **N11/N25 Oilgate to Rosslare Harbour**

The Project is in Phase 3 – Design and Environmental Evaluation.

Tender submissions for Real Estate Consultancy Service are being reviewed with a view to appointing the successful bidder in Q1 2025.

Detailed project design is developing, including provisions for an on-line service area and active travel. Stakeholder engagement is ongoing.

#### **N25 Rosslare Europort Access Road**

The Project is in Phase 5 – Enabling and Procurement with the preparation of the procurement package for publication in Q3 2025.

Coordination with OPW/Irish Rail in relation to the OPW/Irish Rail temporary works and N25 Rosslare Europort Access Road is ongoing.

### **NATIONAL ROAD PAVEMENT SCHEMES**

#### **2025 Pavement Schemes**

**N25 Ballygillane to Ashfield Cross Roundabout Phase 2 Pavement Scheme**

The contractor will be formally appointed in January 2025 to commence resurfacing works in Q1 2025.

#### **Safety Schemes**

##### **N25 Tagoat**

The detailed design of the traffic calming scheme will commence in Q1 2025

##### **N80 Clohamon**

A traffic video survey at the junction is complete and under review and analysis to determine possible engineering solutions. A report with recommendations will issue in Q2 2025.

##### **N30 Leeches Bend – West of Clonroche**

The preliminary design is pending TII approval and the construction works will be tendered in Q1 2025.

##### **N25 Larkins Cross**

The Feasibility and Options report is pending TII approval. The preliminary design is being developed in preparation for a Part 8 planning consent application in Q1/2 2025.



# ROADS & TRANSPORTATION

## REGIONAL AND LOCAL ROADS

### Road Restoration and Surface Dressing Programme

All the 2024 Restoration and Surface Dressing Programmes are completed.

### Community Involvement Schemes

All 8 roads are completed.

### Severe Weather - Flood Damaged Bridges

The reinstatement of permanent structures at Aughnaglaur will commence in January and Cullenstown Little in February with a construction programme of 6 weeks per structure. Road closures and diversions are in place to facilitate the reinstatement works.

### Specific Improvement Grants

The Deep's Bridge refurbishment project is complete.

The Owenduff slope stabilisation work will be complete in Q1 2025.

Grange Beach Works coastal protection works are progressing, despite further damage during Storm Bert. The reopening will be delayed until the end of January 2025 as a result.

### Local Improvement Schemes

All lanes under the 2024 Scheme are completed.

## ACTIVE TRAVEL UPDATE

Newtown Road – Phase 1 - Newtown Phase 1 is completed.

Roxborough Cycle Scheme (Part of the Pathfinder Project) - This Scheme design is being finalised to proceed to Part 8 in Q2 2025.

Newtown Road Phases Two and Three (Part of the Pathfinder Project) - Newtown Road Phases 2 & 3 designs are ongoing and will be tendered in Q3/4 2025.

Beechlawn/Clonard Cycle Scheme (Part of the Pathfinder Project) - The project will progress to Part 8 in Q2/3 2025.

Oaklands to Kents Cross Cycle Scheme - Oaklands to Kents Cross Cycle Scheme to progress to Part 8 in 2025.

Hospital Junction, Newtown Road, Wexford - Hospital Junction design will proceed to Part 8 in Q1/2 2025.

Safe Routes to School - Ramsgrange Community School works will see substantial completion at the end of February 2025.

## ACTIVE TRAVEL UPDATE

**Safe Routes to School** - Ramsgrange Community School works will see substantial completion at the end of February 2025.



*Photos: Ramsgrange Work in progress on 12th December 2024*

Works have commenced on Crossabeg and Gorey SRTS. Works should be completed end of January 2025.

The 2025 SRTS list will be advised in February.

### **Gorey to Courtown Footpath**

- Phase 1 to Ballymoney Junction (Construction element completed, planting now completed and fencing yet to be completed early January)
- Phase 2 Ballinatray Bridge (DBFL consultants completed a modelling assessment of a potential signalised shuttle system at the Ballinatray Bridge.
- Phase 3 which is the works Courtown side of Ballinatray Bridge. (currently looking at design and costings).

**Wexford Town Area Based Transport Assessment (ABTA)** - Completion of this study is expected in Q1 2025.

**Enniscorthy Town Area Based Transport Assessment (ABTA)** - The options development report (Part 2b of 6 steps) are in draft. This study will be continued following further consultations during the year and draft final report is planned for late 2025.

**Old Dublin Road, Enniscorthy** - A feasibility report on phase 1 (Urban) and phase 2 (Rural) with detailed costing was submitted to the NTA for consideration.

## SPEED LIMIT REVIEW



RUS 041A

### Phase 1: Implementation of the new 60km/h Default Speed Limits

The effective date for the implementation of Phase 1 of the 60km/hr default speed is 7th February 2025.

Preparatory works are in place for this implementation date. Some signs may be covered until the effective date.

The Department of Transport advised that a provisional date of June 2025 has been set for the new urban speed limits and the implementation of the necessary Bye Laws. Information Sessions / Workshops will be scheduled with all Councillors early in 2025.

## ROAD SAFETY

### Just 1 Life

Our joint Road Safety programme of events in association with Wexford Rotary Club, Just 1 Life (J1L) commenced on the 11th of December 2024 with approximately 400 attendees from 5 Secondary Schools.

Four more J1L events are planned in January, February, March and April and all Elected Members are welcome to attend any of these event dates. Presentations include An Garda Siochana Roads Policing Unit, Wexford Fire Service, National Ambulance Service, HSE Accident and Emergency Staff and Wexford Mental Health Association.

## PUBLIC LIGHTING

LED Upgrade (Non-National Roads) - Works commenced on the final phase of LED lanterns replacement works. 33 No. lanterns were replaced on the R700 (Old N30) New Ross from Kents Cross Roundabout to Irishtown.

It is planned to have public lighting fully upgraded to LED by the end of 2025.

Public Lighting Development Fund - Due to energy savings from the LED upgrade programme, we are continuing with the “infill” lighting programmes across all municipal districts.

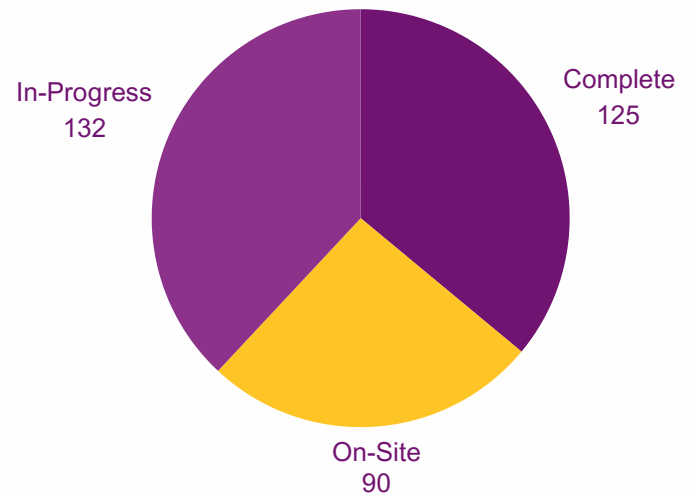
Projects planned to commence in 2025 are Kilmuckridge, and Castlebridge phase 2.

Smaller infill projects are also taking place in each district using our maintenance contractor.

# HOUSING CAPITAL - CAPITAL BUILD PROJECTS

Housing for All 2022 - 2026 SUMMARY	
Dwellings Complete 2022	48
Dwellings Complete 2023	23
Dwellings Complete 2024	54
Dwellings to Complete 2025	90
Dwellings to Complete 2026	132
Social & Affordable Housing Pipeline	434

**Construction Status**



## Dwellings Under Construction to complete in 2025 - Total 90

Creagh, Gorey	22 Units
Wexford Street, Gorey	30 Units
Tagoat, Rosslare	18 Units
Ramsfort Park, Gorey	20 Houses



## Funded Projects for delivery 2025 – 2026

Monomolin, Gorey	5	Ballygillane, Rosslare	5
Bullawn, New Ross	3	Grogans Road, Wexford	4
Rosbercon, New Ross	50	Killeens, Wexford	60
Adamstown, New Ross	3	Francis Street, Wexford	2
<b>Total 132</b>			

## HOUSING CAPITAL - CAPITAL BUILD PROJECTS CONT'D....

Projects in Design / Pipeline Social and Affordable Subject to Funding Approval			
Clonard, Wexford	57	Creagh, Gorey	24
Group TAP Housing	5	Castlemoyle, New Ross	75
Cluain Fada, New Ross	22	The Lyre, Enniscorthy	50
Bride Street, Wexford	3	St Walerans, Gorey	100
Lacken TAP	1	Park, Wexford	12
Kilmore Quay, Rosslare	12	Belvedere, Wexford	8
		Bunclody, Enniscorthy	65
<b>Total 434</b>			

## CAPITAL PROJECTS - Projects at Planning Stages

**Enniscorthy Town Centre & Tourism Project** - Preliminary design work on the Enniscorthy Castle Quarter project is ongoing. An initial concept design was presented at the December EMD meeting for review. Design enhancement is ongoing to incorporate feedback received from district members.

**Esmonde Street, Gorey** - A tender competition for a works contractor was published to Etenders in December 2024. It is anticipated that construction will commence on-site in late Q1 2025.

**Ferndale Gymnasium, Wexford** - Works are progressing on site with a target completion date of October 2025.

**Curracloe Water Sports Activity Facility** - The main contract works are progressing on site, with completion expected for Summer 2025.

**Adoration Convent Wexford** - A tender competition to appoint a works contractor was advertised in November 2024 with tenders received before Christmas. Tender assessment is ongoing, and it is intended to commence works on site in Q2 2025.

**Ferndale Gymnasium**



**Curracloe Water Sports Activity Facility**



**Esmonde Street, Gorey**



## CAPITAL PROJECTS - Projects at Planning Stages

**St Waleran's Link Road** - The Technical Consultancy Services Contract has been awarded to Fehily Timoney and Company for Stage (i) design services including development consent. Design work and site investigation will commence in Q1 2025.

**Ballynagee Link Road** - A tender for the procurement of a consultant to undertake preliminary design and preparation of a Part 8 submission (subject to screening) was published in July 2024. Tenders have been assessed, the apparently successful tenderer identified and contract award is imminent.

**Gorey Market House** - A tender for the procurement of an architect led design team for detailed design, procurement and construction supervision services was published in December 2024. It is anticipated appointment will be made in Q1 2025.

**Enniscorthy Technology Park Phase 2** - The Technical Consultancy Services Contract has been awarded to Tobins for Stage (i) to (v) design services. Design work and site investigation will commence in Q1 2025.

**Enniscorthy Technology Park – IDA Advance Factory Building** - Tenders have been received for an architect-led design team to prepare a planning application for a proposed advance factory building in Enniscorthy Technology Park. Tender assessment is complete and appointment is imminent.

**Dunbrody Centre Extension** - A tender for the procurement of a consultant to undertake Stage (i) to (v) design services for the extension of the Dunbrody Centre is being prepared. It is anticipated the Tender will be invited under an existing framework in January 2025.

## PROJECTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

**South East Greenway** - The works are nearing completion for Lot 5a, a 5.5 km section from Ferrybank to Curraghmore. A Stage 3 Road Safety Audit and some subsequent works will be required in advance of opening of that section which is targeted for end of Q1 2025.

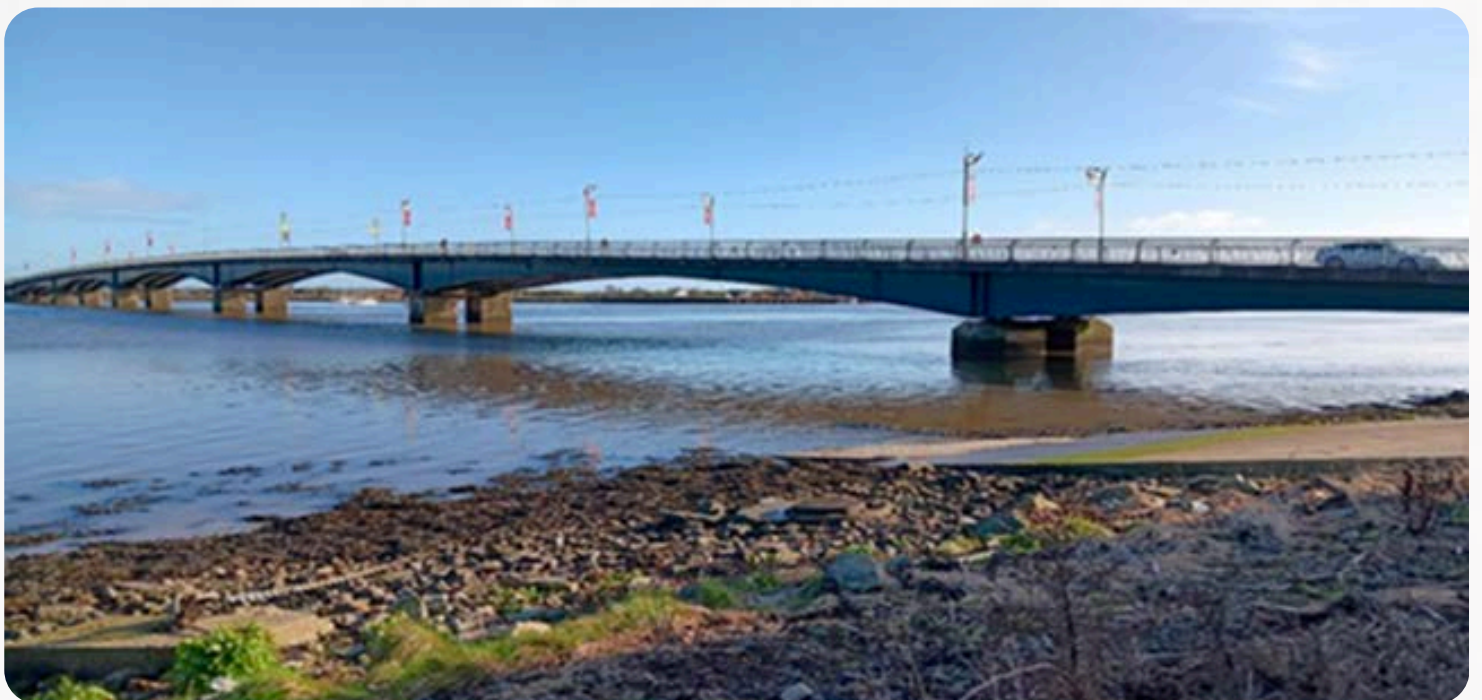
**Murphy Floods Redevelopment** - John Tinnelly & Sons were appointed as works contractor in September 2024. Works were completed on site in mid-October.

### Construction Works at Kilmurray Ramp



## Projects Delivered under the Economic & Community Development Programme

PROJECTS - DELIVERED		
2021	Forth Mountain Activity Park–Phase 1: Trails & Carpark	Enniscorthy Technological Park, Phase 1
2022	Old Dublin Road, Enniscorthy Active Travel, Phase 1	Gorey District Park
	Min Ryan Park	Wexford Arts Centre Extension
	Monck Street Enhancement Scheme	New Ross Fire Station
	High Hill Norman Gardens, New Ross	
2023	Southeast Greenway Rosbercon to Glenmore	Emigrants Park, New Ross
2024	Trinity Wharf Access Road	Oyster Lane Public Realm
	Dunbrody Famine Ship Experience Upgrade	Ferndale MUGA
	Murphy Floods Enabling Works	



**Flood Defence Schemes - Wexford Town and Environs Flood Relief Scheme**  
 Surveys and investigations are continuing to gather data to inform the feasibility study.

## COMMUNITY & SPORTS ACTIVE

The **Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) 2024-2029** was officially launched at the December meeting of Wexford County Council on 9th December 2024.



The Wexford LECP 2024-2029 sets out 6 ambitious High-Level Goals which are supported by a series of actions and objectives which aim to deliver an ambitious plan to transform the lives of County Wexford's residents. The Plan also includes an initial 2-year implementation plan, detailing which actions are to be prioritised for the first two year period. The plan is now available to be downloaded from the council's website at [www.wexfordcoco.ie](http://www.wexfordcoco.ie)

The Department of Rural and Community Development has announced the **Local Enhancement Programme (LEP)** which provides funding to support community groups across Ireland.

The Local Enhancement Programme 2025 will support groups with funding to carry out necessary repairs and improvements to their facilities, and to purchase equipment for example tables and chairs, tools and signage, laptops and printers, lawnmowers, canopies and training equipment etc. Facilities improvement works may also include, but are not limited to; improved access for persons with a disability; enhancing community participation for disadvantaged and marginalised groups, and; improving energy efficiency of community facilities to reduce ongoing costs.

### Local Enhancement Programme 2025

Capital (max €5k) & Non-pay running costs (max €500)

[wexfordcoco.ie/lep](http://wexfordcoco.ie/lep)

Closing Date: 21st February 2025 at 13:00

#### ✓ Eligible

- Development/renovation of community centres
- Accessibility improvements
- Community amenities
- Development of youth clubs or facilities
- Development of sports/recreation facilities
- Improvements to town parks and common areas and spaces
- CCTV equipment
- Public realm improvements
- Development of play/recreation spaces
- Improving energy efficiency of community facilities to reduce ongoing costs
- Purchase of equipment
- Purchase of laptops, tablets
- Maintenance of premises, including painting and repairs
- Capital works
- Cleaning
- Non-pay running costs including utility bills & general operating costs

#### ✗ Not Eligible

- Any project not in keeping with the ethos of the Programme
- Employment costs
- Legal fees
- Project management fees
- Purchase of lands or buildings
- Feasibility studies
- Private or commercial operations
- Costs which are being paid for by another funder or department

053-919 6550 / 6427

COMMUNITY@WEXFORDCOCO.IE



In total for County Wexford, €217,051 is available to fund capital works and new equipment, and €36,175 is available to fund non-pay running costs. Applications under the capital fund are capped at €5,000 per community group, whilst applications for non-pay running costs are capped at €500 per community group.

Applications for the programme opened on 8th January, and are available online at [www.wexfordcoco.ie](http://www.wexfordcoco.ie)

Proposed applications under the Local Enhancement Programme should demonstrate how they will contribute to the objectives contained within the 2024-2029 Local Economic and Community Plan.



## WEXFORD SLÁINTECARE HEALTHY COMMUNITIES PROGRAMME (SHCP)



On the 20th November The SHCP Co-ordinator along with the Healthy County Co-Ordinator got to meet with teams from Emergency Management and the Institute for Health Logistics & Analytics of **Georgia Southern University** to share their work and to hear about work happening in their communities. They also discussed OneHealth and shared challenges and opportunities.



Following the success of the **Ferndale Street Soccer** project, funding has been secured from the Dept. of Health to continue to run the project for another 8 weeks on Saturday mornings on the new astro pitches. Youth workers and community Gardai have committed to continue to attend and participate.

Grind classes started in Taghmon FRC on 2nd December with Junior Certificate and Leaving Certificate students from Colaiste Abhain, Adamstown receiving grinds in Maths and English funded by the Slaintecare Healthy Communities Programme. The grinds will continue up to the end of the school year with additional revision classes planned for pre-exams. This initiative is a joint project between Taghmon FRC, Colaiste Abhain and Wexford County Council's Slaintecare Healthy Communities Programme.

## AGE FRIENDLY WEXFORD



The Older Person Council had its last meeting of the year in December and Angela Cassidy vice chair of the Older Person Council reported on the walkability Audit that took place on 25th November and informed the Council that the second part of the audit will take place on 14th January to take in a route along the Quay front.



The Age Friendly Alliance also had its last meeting for the year, it was Chaired by the Chief Executive Eddie Taaffe and the members from the HSE, Local Link, WWETB, Library Services etc provided updates on the services they offer. The dates for the 4 meetings in 2025 were set at the meeting.

A brochure is currently being compiled on the Age Friendly programme in Wexford and the final part of it was to have a picture of the Older Person Council, the brochure then will be available for distribution at events in the New Year.

## HEALTHY WEXFORD



The **Healthy County Committee** elected Cllr Leonard Kelly as the Committee Chair at their December meeting. The committee also updated its Terms of Reference reflecting updated membership.

Working group activity continues with the **Mental Wellbeing Working Group** and **Not Around Us Working Groups** meeting to review activity and plan for 2025. Both groups will meet again in January to finalise their 2025 plans.

While the 2024 activities came to an end **Healthy Ireland Fund Round Four partners** have been busy collating 2024 Financial Claims.

Additional **Healthy Ireland funding** of €35,000 was received for 2025 and the Healthy County Committee have agreed allocation to additional Playful Spaces projects. This allocation is subject to Wexford LCDC approval at their next meeting. Project reviews were also completed in December for both of the pilot programmes - the **Healthy Home Environments** project and the **Womens Healthy Through the Ages (The Healthy Choices Programme)**.

Work continues on the **Period Dignity Project** with Wexford County Council supporting product provision in County Hall and a at Wexford Public Libraries. 2024 funding also allowed for some project extension to locations not supported through other funding and so a pilot extension to Homesless Services and Wexford Womens Refuge has commenced.



Promotion of product locations (including some not directly supported by Wexford County Council ) was one of the key 2024 activities for 2024 funding also and this has been progressed through creation of a product locations flyer and via print and social media advertising. Further promotion is planned for January 2025 to include radio and creation of a product locations animation to be utilised across social media.

The **Cultural Companions** initiative was re-launched at an event in County Hall on 5th December. Healthy Wexford has been working in partnership with the Arts Department, Age Friendly Wexford, Slaintecare Healthy Communities and Wexford LCDC on the resurgence of the initiative which is now open to all ages. With significant interest in the initiative on the night, a follow up meeting was held on 12th December to agree events for Q1 2025 and those who have signed up will receive details of same in late December



Healthy Wexford will continue to support the initiative during 2025 to help it get back up and running.

Healthy Wexford supported Wexford PPN to host another **Community Growers** Network Event in December where Horticulturalist Aoife Munn provided advice on propagation, hard wood cuttings, and rainwater harvesting in addition to discussing health benefits of gardening and encouraging biodiversity and wildlife in the garden.

Social Badminton Programme	6-weeks Social Badminton Programme ended on the 12th November in collaboration with Badminton Ireland in CBS Secondary School, Wexford. 16 people registered on this programme; 11 women and 5 men.
Activator Walking Pole Taster	Camross ICA participated in an Activator Pole Taster in Camross community centre on the 2nd December. 11 Women participated.
Inclusive Activities with Lion's Club	Participants of the Lion's club Holiday project took part in inclusive activities on the morning of Friday 22nd December. Chair based exercises, Scooch, Flisk & Bocce were some of the activities included. 15 people took part, 12 women and 3 men.
Strong and Steady	12-week falls prevention programme for older adults finished on the 17th December in Coolcotts Community Centre. 7 participants took part. 5 females and 2 males. This programme was funded through Healthy Ireland.
Strength and Balance	8-week strength and balance/falls prevention programme for older adults finished on the 19th December in Enniscorthy Library. 17 females took part.
Intro to Gym for Adults with Disabilities	4-week introduction to gym for adults with disabilities concluded on the 3rd of December in the Apex, New Ross. 11 participants from CUMAS attended. 8 males and 3 females.
Inclusive Learn to Cycle	A 5-week learn to cycle programme for children with disabilities began on 5th November. 7 children participated; 5 boys and 2 girls.
Inclusive Social Football GAA	4-week inclusive social GAA football programme delivered in conjunction with Wexford GAA, Windmill Therapeutic Services, Rehab Care and KITE services. 21 adults registered. 13 males and 8 females. The final day occurred on 3rd December to celebrate International Day of People with Disabilities.
CYPSC Wexford Girls Get Active	9 Youth groups from all over Wexford with approx. 120 teenage girls took part in an 8-week physical activity initiative over the months of October/ November/ December. Groups participated in a range of PA's from kick boxing to dancing.
Safeguarding	No courses in December. Total number for 2024: 18 Courses, 241 participants – 125 female 116 male



**Participants at the Wexford Lion's Club Holiday project took part in a physical activity programme organised by Sports Active Wexford. Inclusive activities like Chair based exercises, Scooch, Flisk & Bocce were enjoyed by all.**

# ENVIRONMENT

## COASTAL MATTERS

**Fethard Harbour New Slipway and Beach Access** - The final public notice for foreshore consent was published in national and local newspapers on 4th December 2024. When the period for comments and observations closes on 11th January 2025, the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications will make their decision on the application.

**Beaches** - Grange Beach Cliff Stabilisation works started in Oct 2024. The beach access is temporarily closed until the works are completed.

**Coast** - Seaview Coastal Protection and Beach Access, Kilmore: Total funding of €1.6m is now approved by the OPW. The contract was awarded to Stephen Byrne Plant Hire and Civil Engineering Contractors in October 2024 with works to start Jan 2025.

**Drainage Districts** - Kilmannock Drainage District, Great Island: consulting engineers appointed to progress repair, maintenance and health and safety works.

### Public Conveniences

- Cahore PC: Carpark surfacing, white lining and bollards completed by Contractor.
- Carne PC: Contractor completed the upgrade of toilet facilities.

### Septic Tank Inspections:

<b>NIP Grants 2024</b>	50 applications Received	38 Grants Paid/Sent for payment	12 outstanding for review/documents due
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### Court cases

- 3 Currently in the court system for failing to comply with Advisory Notices
- 9 cases closed prior to court hearing as works were already carried out.
- 11 cases over 4 years old closed. 54 other cases closed. 122 new inspections carried out.

### Open Cases

Year	Number of inspections	Pass	Fail	Outstanding	Closed in 2024
2017	154	62	92	5	0
2018	150	51	99	1	3
2019	156	48	108	5	5
2020	111	38	73	3	3
2021	91	24	67	11	6
2022	139	50	89	8	5
2023	123	54	69	25	19
2024	122	36	86	62	24

### No of Verification Inspections

2023 - Verification Inspection = 72	2024 - Verification Inspections = 58
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**Low Smoke Fuel Areas** - The 4 stations in New Ross, Wexford, Enniscorthy & Gorey have now had their monitors updated to measure air quality and noise levels. There are also 6 low cost sensors installed in Enniscorthy monitoring PM10 & PM2.5 only. UoG & UCC have started a programme called Open air to monitor gases NOx, SO2, CO continuously, particle numbers 10 nm to 10 microns, as well as black carbon and organic aerosol, ions ammonium, chloride, sulfate and nitrate, all in real-time, as well as collecting 24hr filter samples of PM2.5. The filter samples will be analysed for metals and toxicity. These will be compared with 2016 levels taking during the SAFFIRE project. They will be monitoring the weather also.

**Agriculture** - Wexford County Council continues to undertake a significant number of farm inspections in accordance with the WFD. Wexford County Council engage with landowners to undertake the necessary rectifications works through encouragement of improvement of farming infrastructure and farming practices.

Section 12 & 23 notices under the Local Government Water Pollution Act 1977-1990 were served upon farms where major non compliance are observed and cross reported to DAFM.

Under the National Agricultural Inspection Programme, Wexford County Council carried out a total of 169 farm inspections throughout the county concentrating in areas where water quality was most at risk of not meeting its objectives under the WFD.

In 2025, Wexford County Council will be required, under the NAIP, to carry out 270 GAP inspections where a team of 4 Assistant Scientists take on this role lead by the Agricultural Scientist in the Environment Section.

A total of 108 Agricultural related Planning Permission Applications were received in 2024 highlighting the continued investment in Wexford Agriculture and maintaining compliance with Good Agricultural Practice Regulations.

## Waste Management

YEAR	Dumping Incidents Reported	% Increase/Decrease	Community Clean Ups	% Increase/Decrease
<b>2023</b>	2461	up 11%	1054	<b>Up 3%</b>
<b>Jan-Nov 2024</b>	2305	Down 7%	1021	<b>Down 3%</b>

## ENVIRONMENT cont'd

### CLIMATE ACTION

#### DZ

A presentation on the Enniscorthy DZ was made to the elected members of the Enniscorthy MD by the members of the Climate Action team. The members were invited for feedback on progressing work in the DZ and recommended additional stakeholders to include in actions in the DZ. The meeting was very helpful.



The Climate Team attended workshops on Eco Literacy and the Climate Art Assembly on promoting and increasing awareness around the area of the Environment and Climate Action through culture and Arts.

The Climate and coastal sections are collaborating with TCD on the “House on the Beach” project at Rosslare. The project, led by Trinity College Dublin is a cross-border climate action project, to illustrate the urgency of the climate challenge. The project will place a sculpture of a house made from wood in 2 coastal locations – north and south for a short period in 2025. The sculpture is a metaphor for the houses we live in, the environment we live in and our planet – all of these are fragile and under urgent threat from sea level rise, forest fires, coastal erosions and climate change.

Locations for an EV charging Hub are being explored with Zero Vehicles Emission Ireland(ZEVI). ZEVI will provide 100% funding if a suitable location is agreed.

### COMMUNITY CLIMATE ACTION PROGRAMME



The 16 successful projects have commenced works, with four groups having already completed significant elements of their projects. The second round of the Programme is expected in 2025.

#### Sustainable Energy Communities (SEC)

Wexford SEC and the Climate Action Team continued with the awareness promotion of the SEAI's Warmer Homes Scheme, which is a fully funded home energy upgrade grant for homeowners who meet certain social welfare criteria. A drop-in information afternoon was held on 7th November in Access 2000, Green St, Wexford and was very well attended.

Enniscorthy SEC on behalf of the SEC's within Co Wexford has submitted a funding application to the “Climate Actions Work Engagement Fund”. The application is seeking funding of €10,000 to enable a training of “energy champions” across all SEC's. These champions would then inform and assist members of their communities with making grant applications for home energy upgrades.

# ENVIRONMENT cont'd

## Biodiversity

The Biodiversity Officer is currently working on bringing together a Biodiversity Working Group to develop a new Biodiversity Action Plan for County Wexford. The current plan expired in 2018. This plan will aim to provide a structured approach to biodiversity conservation at a local authority level. It will outline the objectives and actions needed to protect and enhance biodiversity within County Wexford.

### Total Calls logged January to December 2024

Comhairle Contae Loch Garman Wexford County Council		Total Calls											
Customer Services Environmental Cases		4266											
custom_text_field_76	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Abandoned Vehicle	8	13	9	15	15	15	8	19	14	17	14	4	151
Air Pollution	8	4	11	13	7	5	7	14	8	12	15	5	109
Beach Bye Laws					2			2			1		5
Bring Banks	17	9	8	11	5	8	12	13	5	5	3	7	103
Coastal	3	1	1	9	12	13	8	5	2	3	6	4	67
Community Cleanup	124	91	108	131	74	83	83	61	75	77	81	44	1032
Dog complaint	1	1	1	9		2	1	7	2		3	1	28
Fines	13	6	5	7	11	2		4	16	5	8		77
Litter	235	189	147	208	160	117	141	137	130	143	130	143	1880
Loose Animals	1	1			2		1	1		1	1		8
Noise Pollution	26	11	19	11	13	9	32	12	12	22	23	14	204
Oil Pollution	3	3	1		22	1	1	2	4	3	6	2	48
Waste Pollution	27	29	31	48	42	15	26	29	21	21	20	14	323
Water Pollution	12	11	7	7	12	11	13	11	20	7	12	10	133
Work Request	8	2	7	6	8	4	24	17	1	12	5	4	98
<b>Total</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>371</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>475</b>	<b>385</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>357</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>4266</b>

**Control of Dogs & Horses** - The Council employs one full-time Dog Warden and one part-time Dog Warden. The main pound is Pets First Kennels, Ballycarney, Co Wexford.

Control of dogs	2021 (to 31-12-21)	2022	2023	Jan – Dec 2024
Dogs collected	429	546	575	519
Dogs reclaimed	133	117	128	131
Dogs re-homed/transferred	267	370	404	415
Dogs put to sleep	29	51	38	28
Dog Fines	18	21	14	11

There are now 27 registered Dog Breeding Establishments with several applications on hand awaiting inspection.

## ENVIRONMENT cont'd

### Wexford Co. Council National Litter Pollution Monitoring System Results Litter Pollution Surveys 2004-2023.

Year	Litter free	Slightly littered	Moderately littered	Seriously littered	Grossly littered
2023	50%	50%	0%	0%	0%
2022	24.2%	63.4%	11.3%	1.1%	0%
2021	6.9%	74.1%	15.5%	3.4%	0%
2020	9.4%	68.8%	18.8%	3.4%	0%
2019	9.8%	67.9%	18.8%	1.5%	0%
2018	10%	70.5%	17.7%	17.7%	0%
2017	18.3%	67%	14.7%	0%	0%
2016	12.10%	65.9%	21.9%	0.4%	0%
2015	10.60%	65.90%	18.43%	5.07%	0%
2014	37.40%	50.41%	12.30%	0%	0%
2013	51.92%	39.43%	7.69%	0.96%	0%
2012	26.79%	60.71%	12.50%	0%	0%
2011	7.5%	82.5%	10%	0%	0%
2010	13.2%	53.9%	28.9%	3.9%	0%
2009	0%	75.3%	21.0%	3.7%	0%
2008	9.4%	55.2%	26%	9.4%	0%
2007	5.4%	60.9%	17.4%	16%	0%
2006	0%	53%	23%	20%	3%
2004	0%	23%	56%	21%	0%

### **Environment Education and Awareness:**

Our aim is to promote awareness and active participation in a range of environmental initiatives.

**Leave No Trace Workshops:** 10 primary schools will be funded for the academic year 2024 /2025. 10 primary schools have been offered this free workshop.

**Christmas Decoration Competition:** 188 decorations were received from 31 schools across County Wexford and displayed in County Hall. Prizes were presented to winners by An Cathaoirleach Cllr. Pip Breen in December. The overall Primary School winning decoration was Harry Siggins, St. Kevin's National School , Tara Hill, Gorey, Co. Wexford entitled "The Christmas Wreath".

**Trees for Wexford:** We are currently processing the submissions for the Trees for Wexford Campaign. Arrangements will be made for the distribution of the trees to the approved Community Groups in early January 2025.

**Picker Pals Programme:** 10 primary schools will be funded for the academic year 2024/2025.

**Composting in Schools Programme:** We will continue to support secondary schools who are participating in the Composting in Schools Programme for 2025.

**Green Schools:** Communication with renewal schools is ongoing. All schools must have a renewal visit by end of March.

**Community Clean Ups:** Registrations and support for community clean ups continue.

Date	No. of Community Clean Ups
01/12/24 – 31/12/24	42
01/01/24 – 31/12/24	1021



## HERITAGE

### Forgotten Women Launch

Dr Niamh Shaw launched the publication of *Forgotten Women - from Gorey to Antarctica* published by the Gorey Age Friendly Alliance Quilting Group and supported by the WWETB Community Education Programme in Gorey Library. In Nov 2023, Dr Shaw joined 99 other Women in STEM leaders from across the world who shared a passion for climate change. After working with the Gorey Age Friendly Alliance Quilting Group in Gorey, to highlight forgotten Irish women scientists, Niamh carried their handmade quilt to the Antarctic in honour of these women. 45 attended.

### Aileen Lambert, Commemorations Artist Bursary 2024 winner, entertained with *New Songs: To tell the Story*.



As a follow-up to Decade of Centenaries program, all local authorities were allocated €15,000 for Commemoration 2024. Wexford County Council invited applications for a Commemoration 2024 Artist Bursary. The aim of this project was to respond, with sensitivity, to the historical context of this period in County Wexford and to promote a deeper understanding of the significant historical events of one hundred years ago.

The successful project could use poetry, literature, music, theatre, and other art forms to explore 1924 and the early years of the State. The total fund allocated was €5,000 for one bursary. We received eight applications and formed a panel to assess these.

The successful artist and project was Aileen Lambert with *New Songs: To tell the Story*, a song and music project whereby Aileen developed newly composed songs in the traditional style and set some existing poetry to old airs/newly composed airs. Aileen performed her new songs and poems at an event in Wexford Town Library branch in December, 22 attended.

**The Enniscorthy Carol** - The premiere screening of the short documentary 'Enniscorthy's Carol' by Aileen Lambert took place in December in Enniscorthy Library. The project was the recipient of an award from Creative Places Enniscorthy, supported by Wexford Arts Centre, Wexford County Council and the Arts Council. The documentary can be viewed at [www.youtube.com/@TraditionalSinger](http://www.youtube.com/@TraditionalSinger)

**Ordinary Objects from Ordinary Lives** - Ireland's first century of Independence was held in Wexford Branch where Brenda Malone, Senior Curator National Museum of Ireland discussed plans for the National Museum exhibition to represent everyday life after independence was achieved.

**Local Studies** - Wexford Library had 17 genealogy enquiries and 24 local studies enquiries in December. The Wexford Great War Dead site had 4 enquiries, 2 corrections and 1 addition.

## COMMUNITY AND CULTURE

**Threads of Friendship Tapestry Launch** - New Ross Library launched the exhibition Threads of Friendship. Led by experienced stitchers with the Ros Tapestry, this Creative Ireland Project taught sixteen stitchers crewel embroidery over four months. The new stitchers came from the local community and the international community, following outreach to many local groups.

**Leabhair Filíochta Launch with Eamonn Kelly** - In December, Gorey Library celebrated the Gorey Launch of 'Thug Mé Faoi Deara' with author and poet Eamonn Kelly, with support and performances from the Gorey/ Ballygarrett Comhaltas Group, 40 attended.

### **Quaver Piano School Christmas Concert and Gorey Choral Group Christmas Concert**

The Winter Wonderland Music Display was hosted by the Quaver Piano School at Gorey Library this Christmas. The library also hosted Gorey Choral Group, a mixed choral group which has been singing together for over 40 years, 80 attended.



**Reachability – Adult Literacy for Life literacy club.** - Kilcannon Reachability hub concluded its weekly literacy club for their learners in Enniscorthy Library in December.

**Partnerships** - Wexford Local Development Elevate Programme concluded its autumn sessions in December. Three groups met over two days for six weeks during the autumn / winter months in Enniscorthy Library. This programme focused in on creative writing with the Elevate book club participants to promote and support educational achievement in County Wexford. The programme is facilitated by author Caroline Busher. A short film promoting the Elevate programme was launched in December, <https://youtu.be/RdthkoqZcNA>

**Festive Events Wexford Library** - Wexford Library held festive events in December starting with a festive evening of music and song with singer Stephen Murphy, 22 attended.

The Chapter and Verse Collective – Choirs by Candlelight with MC John Bird continued the theme with four county Wexford based choirs (Chordiality, Ukrainian Song New Ross, Anam Choir and the Wexford Male Voice Choir), entertaining with festive tunes, 140 plus attended.

Seasonal events concluded with local storyteller Joe Brennan who shared stories of wonder and magic for the festive season, 16 attended.

**Маланка** - The Wexford Branch held a Ukrainian traditional performance for the folk holiday Manahka. The Manahka festivities were historically centred around house-to-house visiting by groups of young people, dressed as characters from a folk tale of pre-Christian origin. 60+ attended including Mayor Walsh

**Living by the River by Pierce Turner** - Living by the River, a book by renowned singer Pierce Turner, was launched by Brendan Howlin in Wexford Library in December. This is Pierce Turner's writing debut. 48 attended.

## IT LITERACY

**ALL Digital Skills for Everyday Life** - This 5 week digital skills course held in the libraries, concluded in December. It was aimed at those who feel like they're being left behind because everything is online.

WWETB Digital Skills: Tutored Classes met 3 times in December in Wexford Library. Age Action Digital Learning also continued twice in December, 12 attended

WWETB Bunclody Further Education and Training Centre Visit. Students from WWETB Bunclody Further Education and Training Centre visited the library to learn how to use the printer, 6 attended.

Age Friendly Digital Literacy classes with the WWETB are conducted and tailored to each learner's pace, 19 attended in December.

## ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE ACTION

**Sustainable Christmas Wreathes - Enniscorthy Library** - Textile waste artist Lynn Haughton facilitated a festive craft evening where participants used fabric and wool scraps to create an Upcycled Winter Wreath to take home. Wexford Library held a Sustainable Christmas Wreath Demonstration with horticulturist Aoife Munn. 25 attended.

New Ross Library held Festive Christmas Craft Workshop for Adults led by Therese from Seashore Explore, 10 attended. New Ross also held Macrame Angel Workshop with Zdenka 12 attended.



### **Energy Advice Clinic with the Community Energy Hub - New Ross Library**

Members of the public with questions about making their home more energy efficient were invited for a one-on-one chat with an energy expert.

**Age Friendly Wreath Making Workshop** - Attendees at this workshop learned how to make a sustainable, traditionally handmade wreath, 10 attended.

## HEALTH AND WELL BEING

**Strength and Balance Programme for Older Adults** - An 8-week programme in Enniscorthy Library concluded in December. This programme incorporated a mixture of strength and balance exercises with chair-support as needed. Sport Active Wexford led this series.

**Irish Heart Foundation** - These monthly workshops in Enniscorthy Branch: High-Risk Prevention of Heart Disease and Stroke concluded in December.



## READING AND LITERACY: RIGHT TO READ AT YOUR LIBRARY

**Children's Services** - Libraries provided Christmas crafts, workshops, story times and sessions with Mrs Claus throughout December.

**Schools** - School visits which included interactive sessions continued to all libraries throughout December. Outreach visits were also facilitated by library staff.

## ARCHIVES

### Collections Management

In addition to 31 research enquiries via email, telephone and post, a total of 8 researchers visited the Archive during December. Research topics included the Bantry Commons court case and Wexford tenant rights (1820-35); references to Alma House, Wexford through the Nunn solicitors' collection (1920s-50s); Church of Ireland births, deaths and marriages in issues of the Wexford Conservative (1858-62); water services matters through WCC minutes, 1970s; examination of a collection of historic hurls from the former county museum collection; history of Martinstown House, Killinick.

### Outreach

The extant registers, roll books and daily attendance registers (1873-2024) for Blackwater National School and its two predecessor schools, Killehard and Balyvaldon were deposited in the Archive in mid-December. Primary school archives – in particular, school registers – are an invaluable resource for family, social and educational history research.

## ARTS

### Small Arts Festival and Failte Ireland Festival Open Call 2025

Wexford County Council Arts Office is pleased to announce 20 Festivals were awarded in the Festival Grant Scheme for festivals taking place in County Wexford during 2025 as part of the Arts office Small Arts Festival Grant and the Failte Ireland Small Festival Grant. The total fund is €45,000 and this supports festivals across the county with grants ranging from €1,500 - €3,000. Eleven festivals were awarded under the Small Arts Festivals strand nine festivals were awarded under the Failte Ireland strand.

The successful applicants under the Small Arts Festivals are: Askamore Arts Festival, FuddleFest, Jazz at Johnstown Festival, New Ross Guitar Festival, Spring Moves Dance Festival, The Gap Arts Festival 2025, The Gorey May Bush Féile 2025, One Voice Festival: Voices from Near and Far (title tbd), Write By The Sea, Community Short Plays Drama Festival, Tomhaggard and New Ross Piano Festival.

The successful applicants under the Failte Ireland Festival strand are: Wexford Uke Fest, Bring It Home Festival, New Ross, North Wexford Traditional Singing Féile, Rockin' Food & Fruit Festival, Rock n Roll Town Festival, The O'Neill Ancestral Trust, Tomhaggard Clean Coasts Festival, Duncormick Street Festival-A Wild Affair and Rosslare Harbour Festival 2025.

### Westgate Heritage Centre Arts Space

Wexford Arts Centre has been contracted by the Arts Office to manage the day to day running of this space. The new Music Rehearsal Space at the back of the Heritage Centre will be open for bookings in January 2025. Heritage tours continue to access the space.

### CULTURAL COMPANIONS RELAUNCH EVENT

Wexford Arts Office was delighted to host the Cultural Companions along with the Communities Department, Age Friendly Co-ordinator and Slainte Care on the 5th of December in County Hall. This event saw the relaunch of the network of adults of all ages interested in arts and culture who attend together as a group. The initiative was set up to help against social exclusion and loneliness throughout the County. For the launch, music group, the Session Sisters played, and dancer Hannah Scully performed. Poet, writer and playwright, Stephen James Smith also performed, and land artist Mayumi Nakabayashi did interactive work with the attendees. Over 50 people were in attendance.



## **ROOTS FOR THE FUTURE – CLIMATE ARTIST ASSEMBLY**

Wexford Arts Office was awarded an Arts Council 'Invitation to collaboration' Research grant of €30,000 to research the development of a national Climate Arts Assembly for 2025/2026. The aim of this assembly is to understand, promote and pioneer methodologies within the arts and culture sector that are instrumental in shifting behaviour change around climate adaptation and mitigation.

This research is being led by an arts collective called 'Roots for the future' with 5 partner local authorities including Offaly, Clare, Cavan, Galway and Kilkenny. The research phase took place in 2024 and involved artists residencies in each county. The research findings from all the residencies were presented in December to the Climate Action Team and creatives from Wexford in the Cow House Studios and then to the public in the Project Arts Centre, Dublin.

## **INTERNATIONAL RESIDENCY OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Centre Culturel Irlandais Paris (CCI)**

Wexford County Council Arts Office is delighted to be partnering again with CCI Paris in 2025 to support another fully funded artist residency for a Wexford based artist in Paris. Residencies of 1 to 3 months will be awarded for the period September 2025 - December 2026. This opportunity closes Tuesday 14 January 2025, 5pm. Open to artists across all artforms.

## **NATIONAL RESIDENCY AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

### **ArtLinks Emerging and Professional Bursary Awards 2025**

The ArtLinks partners of Carlow, Kilkenny, Waterford and Wexford local authorities' Professional and Emerging ArtLinks Bursary Awards 2025 opened in December 2024. These Awards are designed to support artists to develop their practice by providing artists with the time and resources to think, research, reflect and critically engage with their art. The art forms which ArtLinks support are Architecture, Circus, Dance, Film, Literature, Music, Opera, Street Arts, Theatre, Traditional Arts, Visual Arts.

### **Tyrone Guthrie Centre Residency Award**

Two Wexford based artists to be selected in any art form to spend two weeks at the Tyrone Guthrie Centre at Annaghmakerrig, the artists' workplace in County Monaghan. Each bursary covers all board and lodging expenses for a one-week period, plus the use of a studio, depending on art form, and a stipend of €300 towards expenses. This opportunity opened for applications in late November and will close on the 28th January 2025.

### **Cow House Parenting Artist Residency Open Call**

The Arts Office with Cow House Studios was pleased to offer a two-week residency designed specifically for parenting artists. The Parenting Artist Residency makes it possible for awarded artists to dedicate time to their work by offering childcare and supports during the residency.

### **Drama League of Ireland Scholarship 2025**

Open call is for two scholarships for the Drama League of Ireland Residential Summer School which takes place at the University of Limerick from July 19th – 26th 2025. This opportunity is for professional and amateur theatre companies and/or groups. Deadline for application is the 28th January 2025.

## **MUSIC GENERATION**

Music Generation is an ongoing partnership between Wexford County Council, WWETB and Music Generation supporting performance music education countywide for young people in 25 schools and a variety of youth work contexts.

### **Christmas Album Launch, Wexford County Council**

Musician Educator Aileen McCamley launched her Christmas album 'It feels Like Christmas'. She performed songs from the album on the day and was accompanied on the piano by Robert Scott, a renowned composer, vocal coach and musician based in London, who produced the album. The performance was introduced by Councillor Lisa McDonald and Music Generation Wexford's Music Development Officer Katherine Atkinson was also in attendance.

### **Christmas Concert Scoil Mhuire Rosslare**

Musician Educators Aileen and Pete McCamley gave a special Christmas concert to the junior and senior classes of Rosslare National School with Robert Scott accompanying on piano. Aileen McCamley delivers the Music Generation programme in Rosslare and the concert allowed for the students to sing along to songs they had been rehearsing in the weeks prior and witness a performance led by professional musicians.

### **Coláiste an Átha Transition Year Workshops**

Music Generation Wexford gave a series of workshops led by our Musician Educators Pete McCamley and John Colbert with the Transition Year students in Coláiste an Átha in Kilmuckridge. The workshops spanned a four-week period. The goal was to introduce music to young people who have never played before and foster their focus and engagement in music learning.

### **Scoil Mhuire Coolcotts Big Tesco Busk**

The students of Scoil Mhuire Coolcotts gathered in Tesco for their annual 'Big Tesco Busk' performance in December. The performances were played on brass, wind and vocals and were led by Musician Educators Louise Malone and Jenna Larsen who deliver the Music Generation Wexford programme in Coolcotts.

## **CREATIVE PLACES ENNISCORTHY (CPE)**

CPE is a 3-year Arts Council funded initiative in partnership with Wexford Arts Centre, Wexford Arts Office and Enniscorthy Municipal district seeking to embed creativity into Enniscorthy.

**Fancy A Dance - Presentation Arts Centre** - Open invitation to the public to join dancer Vivian Brody Hayes in two dance sessions in December This was a free event and had 20 participants.

### **The Arts Council of Ireland Visit to the Presentation - Presentation Arts Centre**

Creative Places Enniscorthy hosted the All-Ireland Co-ordinators meeting for the Arts Council of Ireland. This was well attended and CPE had presentations from groups such as FDYS's young people on how Creative Places have impacted Enniscorthy.

**Enniscorthy Men's Choir Performance - Presentation Arts Centre** - Enniscorthy's first-ever male voice choir, under the guidance of Linda O'Rourke, gave their debut public performance in December. The group was joined by the St. Senan's Parish Choir, who provided additional support for the evening, there was a full house of up to 100 people in attendance for this event.

**Enniscorthy Christmas Carol – A documentary - Enniscorthy Library** - A screening of the short documentary ‘Enniscorthy’s Carol’ by Aileen Lambert took place in December. The Documentary is available on Youtube and documents Aileen’s work on tracing the background story and local connections to ‘The Enniscorthy Christmas Carol’ also known as ‘The Wexford Carol’.

**Songs From Our Town – Listening Party - Presentation Arts Centre** - CPE hosted all 40 musicians who were involved with a community project of recording sessions that took place in the Orchard Recording Studios in Enniscorthy in Autumn of this year.

## **CREATIVE IRELAND**

### **Yola Language Heritage Project**

A Call opened in December 2024 for project from Creative Ireland Wexford, Rosslare Municipal District and the Heritage Office at Wexford County Council. The call was for proposals from artists and creatives of any discipline who have experience working with communities for a cultural and creative interpretation that raises awareness and knowledge of the Yola language in the Rosslare area from January - October 2025. The aim of this project is to have long-lasting impact and legacies and ensure that the knowledge of the Yola language and heritage is preserved and developed. Deadline is the 26th January 2025.

### **Creative Consultant for Festivals (developing neuro-affirmative access) Open Call**

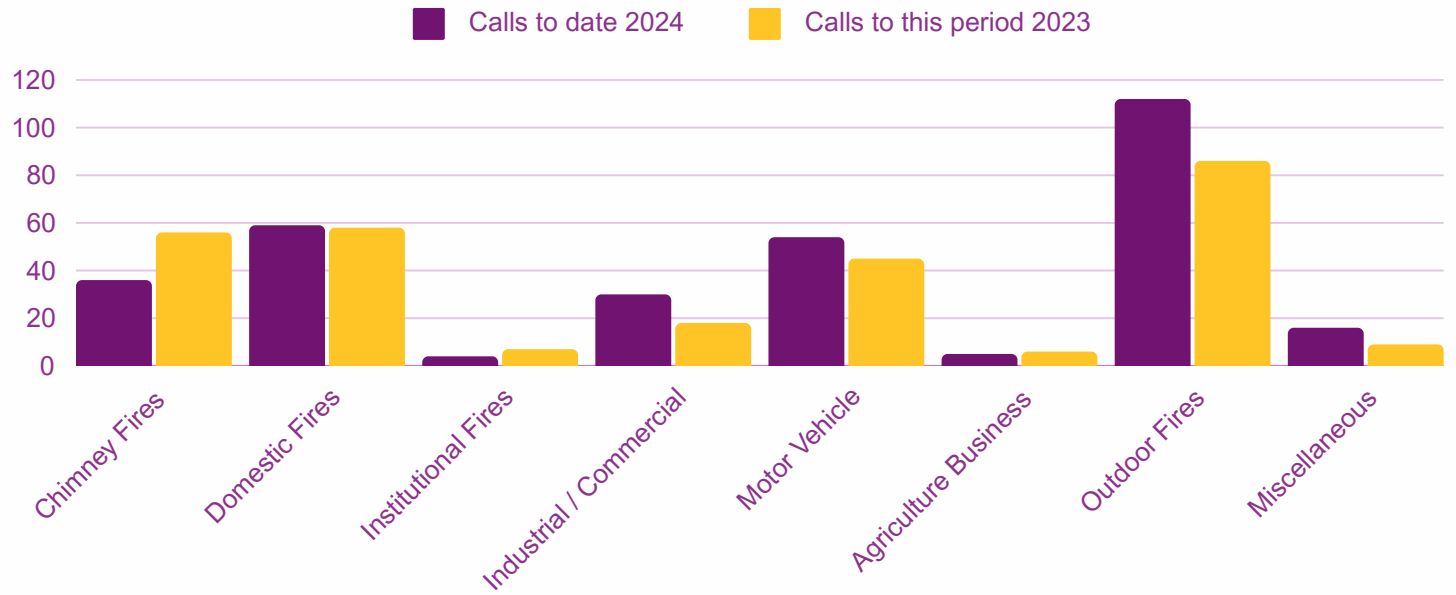
A Call was issued in December 2024 for a Creative Consultant for Developing a creative approach to embedding equal access and opportunity for neuro-diverse audiences, artists, volunteers and organisers in Wexford’s cultural festival scene. Timeframe of this project will be February - October 2025

Creative Ireland Wexford and Gorey Municipal District now seek a creative consultant to test and embed bespoke inclusive and neuro-affirmative approaches to access and inclusion at Gorey’s festivals. The learning from this will be shared county-wide, helping County Wexford to develop inclusive creative spaces, widen access for audience, artist and workforce development, and support and embed relaxed performances. The deadline for this call is the 23rd January 2025.

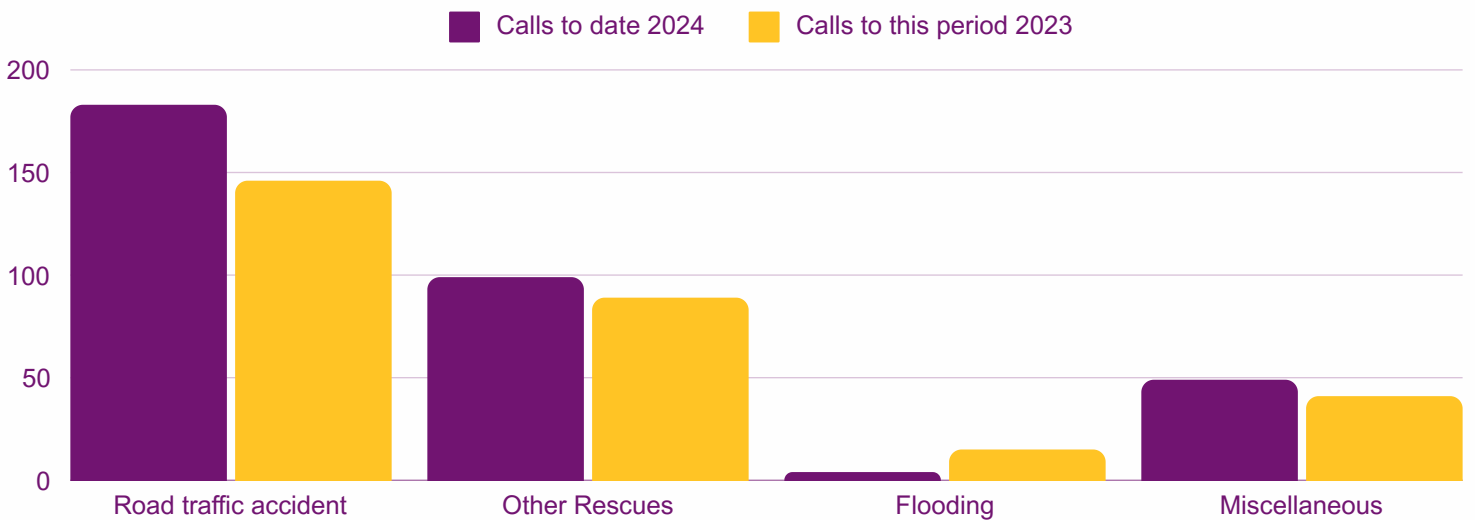


# WEXFORD FIRE SERVICES

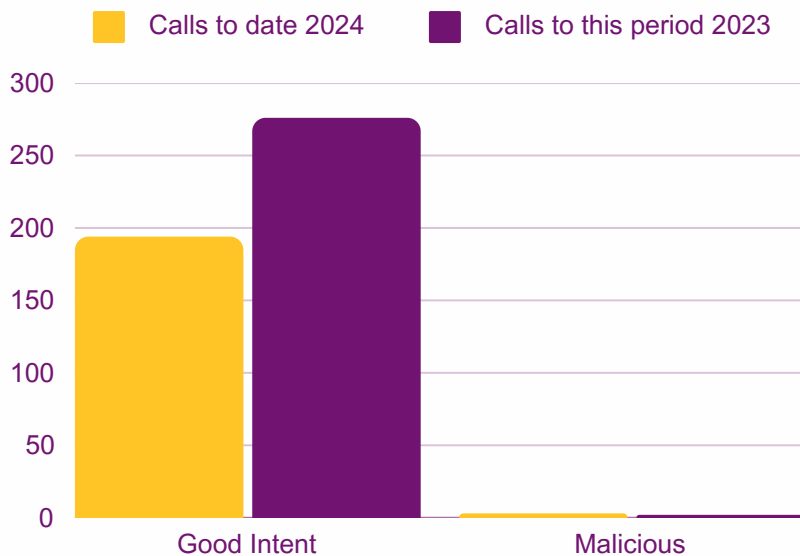
## Call Statistics



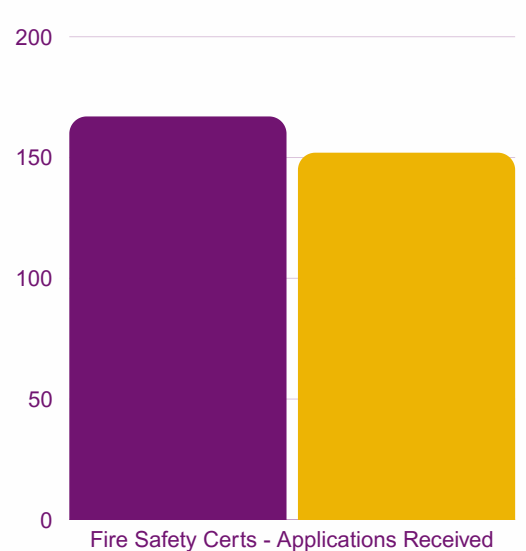
## Special Services



## False Alarms



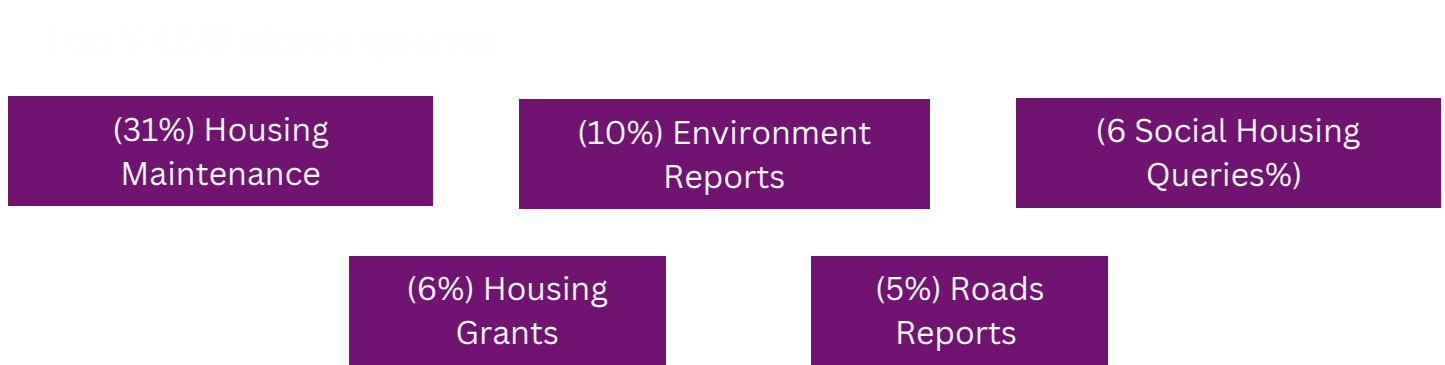
## Fire Safety Certificates



# CORPORATE SERVICES

## Customer Service Unit Statistics – December 2024

Task	December 2024
Phone Calls	1,820
Emails (Received & Sent)	2,644



## FOI OFFICE REQUESTS December 2024

Type	Number
Freedom of Information	11
Customer Complaint	13
Ombudsman Complaint	4
Access to Information on the Environment	1
Data Access Request	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>31</b>

## THE LOCAL INTEGRATION TEAM

### Community Clinics

In December, the Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT) conducted twelve community clinics, providing vital support to individuals in the lead-up to Christmas.

### Christmas Support Initiatives

The Insurance Risk Management team led a successful Christmas Jumper Day, raising funds through the generous contributions of Wexford County Council staff. These funds enabled LAIT to purchase and coordinate the donation of Christmas gifts for children in three IPAS centres. Additionally, Wexford Library donated children's books which were added to the gifts, promoting the love of reading and learning. This work ensured that every child living in an IPAS Centre in Wexford had a present this Christmas. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed.

### Interagency Collaboration

LAIT collaborated with Tusla on an art project for 17 children residing in one IPAS centre. Furthermore, the team supported Cruinniú na nÓg in hosting an art workshop specifically targeting 'seldom heard groups' of young people. This initiative was well-received by the team and the center, with valuable feedback expected to inform next year's planning.

The LAIT coordinated the Jesuit Refugee Service to deliver a information clinic in an IPAS Centre on the 10th December ensuring the residents are aware of their rights and entitlements.

### International Refugee Protection Programme (IRPP)

The IRPP continues its close collaboration with two families who relocated to Wexford in 2024, working alongside other agencies to facilitate their integration. Preparations are underway for additional family relocations anticipated in January 2025, with services being coordinated to ensure a smooth transition.

The team also carried out an end of year review identifying the successes of the year and identifying plans for 2025.

## UKRAINIAN RESPONSE TEAM

Pledge Type	Number of Properties	Number of People Placed
Offer a Home	277	852
Irish Red Cross	34	110

### Accommodation

The team continue to place displaced Ukrainian families who are Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection Orders (BOTP's) in properties across Wexford, in both rural and urban areas.

### Ukraine Refurbishment Programme

Four properties are open and operational. Two further properties are open and awaiting the arrival of residents.

# COMMUNICATIONS

It's been a cold start to the new year with multiple weather warnings and low temperatures throughout County Wexford.

## Low Temperatures Advisory

An Orange Level Warning will come into effect at 18:00 this evening until 11:00 on Thursday.

Extremely cold with widespread severe frost, ice and lying snow.

There is also a risk of freezing fog which will add to the hazardous travelling conditions on roads and underfoot.

Wexford County Council  
Emergency Number: 053 91 96000



## Low Temperatures Advisory

A Yellow Warning for low temperatures remains in place for County Wexford.

An Orange Level Warning will come into effect at 18:00 on Wednesday 8th January.

Wexford County Council  
Emergency Number: 053 91 96000



## Yellow Snow / Ice Warning & Freezing Weather Advisory

Warning Extended to 20:00 Sunday 05/01/2025



Dangerous Road Conditions to Friday 10/01/25

Wexford County Council  
Emergency Number: 05391 96000

Yellow Snow / Ice Warning  
4th and 5th January

## General Guidance for Icy Weather Conditions

Wexford County Council  
Emergency Number: 05391 96000



## FINANCE REPORT Q3

**Annual Financial Statement 2024** - Work will be commencing on the preparation of the 2024 Accounts shortly once all transactions for 2024 have been updated to the financial management system. The preparation of the annual accounts will take a number of months to complete but it is expected that the Council will meet the submission deadline of the end of March.

**Audit Committee/Audit** - Following their meeting with the Local Government Auditor in December the Audit Committee will prepare their annual reports in accordance with Section 60 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014, for consideration by the Council. It is expected that the report will be included on the agenda for the February Meeting of the Council.

**Cash Flow/Overdraft** - Ministerial Sanction is in place for borrowing by way of overdraft in the amount of €15m to 31st December 2025.

Eddie Taaffe



**Eddie Taaffe**

Chief Executive