



**KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL**  
COMHAIRLE CHONTAE CHILL CHAINNIGH  
**MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORT**  
**MAY 2019**  
TUARASCÁIL BHAINISTÍOCHTA MÍOSÚIL

To: Each Member of Kilkenny County Council

Monthly Management Report to Members of Kilkenny County Council for consideration at the May Monthly Meeting.

### EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS

A list of Orders made in the last month will be available in the Council Chamber for inspection by the Elected Members.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**28<sup>th</sup> May, 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> June**

Irish Pollinators (6 primary class sessions) & Wildlife Gardening talks (public)

**31<sup>st</sup> May**

Outdoor Rural Infrastructure Scheme 2019

The closing date for applications under all Measures is Friday 31st May 2019, and applications for funding are currently being developed.

**15<sup>th</sup> June**

Craicíní na nÓg at Kilkenny Library.

Podcasting & Teach Rex Dinosaur shows

Summer Reading Challenge at Kilkenny Library.

Irish Wildlife Trust visits Kilkenny Library

**28<sup>th</sup> June**

Latest date to submit applications for funding under Town & Village Renewal

## REPORT AT A GLANCE

<b>ROADS:</b>	<b>PAGE 2</b>
<b>LAWPRO UPDATE</b>	<b>PAGE 2</b>
<b>PLANNING:</b>	<b>PAGE 3</b>
<b>LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE</b>	<b>PAGE 4</b>
<b>TOURISM:</b>	<b>PAGE 6</b>
<b>HOUSING:</b>	<b>PAGE 7</b>
<b>HERITAGE:</b>	<b>PAGE 9</b>
<b>ENVIRONMENT:</b>	<b>PAGE 10</b>
<b>LIBRARY SERVICES:</b>	<b>PAGE 12</b>
<b>FINANCE</b>	<b>PAGE 14</b>





**KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL**  
COMHAIRLE CHONTAE CHILL CHAINNIGH  
**MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORT**  
**MAY 2019**  
TUARASCÁIL BHAINISTÍOCHTA MÍOSÚIL

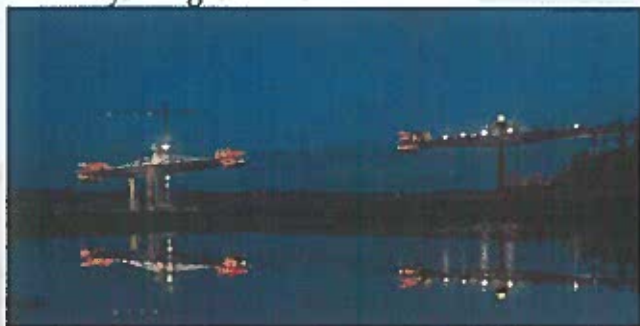
## ROADS

### N25 New Ross Bypass

The design and construction phase of the PPP Contract is well over two-thirds complete, and the scheme remains on programme to open in Q2/3 2019.

The very informative project website [www.n25newross.ie](http://www.n25newross.ie) is available for updates on progress and the elected members are encouraged to view this.

A night time image of the Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy bridge under construction:



### Pavement Schemes.

N25. The €2.2m N25 pavement scheme over two sections totalling approximately 4.5km, Gaulstown to Graiguenakill and Luffany to the Rhu Glenn is underway with completion expected towards the end of Q2 2019.

### Kilkenny Minor Schemes

Several schemes are progressing through various stages in conjunction with TII on the national road network.

These include the N24 Tower Road, N77 Ballyragget to Ballinaslee Improvement Scheme, N24 Carrick Road Improvement Scheme & the N25 Glenmore to Waterford Improvement Scheme.

**Kilkenny Western Environs Phase 1  
Infrastructure**

Contract commenced on the 4th March 2019. Main contractor is SIAC Construction Ltd. Contract duration is approximately 18 months. The scheme extends from the Callan Road to Robertshill on the Circular Road, realignment of the Circular Road from Robersthill to the Kilmanagh Road junction and realignment of the Kilmanagh Road. The scheme includes for the provision of footpaths, cycle ways and public lighting throughout.

### Non National Roads

We are working through our non-national roads programme. Approximately 30% of the works are carried out to date. These works include ordinary maintenance, drainage and road restoration on local roads which include the CIR and LIS schemes. The summer months will see most of the programme completed with surface dressing works to start mid May.

### Ferrybank Park

The tender for the main Contractor for the Ferrybank Park has been advertised with a closing date of Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> June, 2019. The tender for the playground equipment which is novated to the main Contractor.

## LAWPRO UPDATE

The Local Authority Waters Programme is a shared service, managed jointly by Kilkenny and Tipperary County Councils. The Programme employs almost 60 specialist staff across a range of scientific, community engagement and other disciplines. They are based in 13 Local Authority offices across the country, including five of the staff based here in Kilkenny County Council offices in Dean Street. The staff are tasked with supporting the implementation of the River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2018 - 2021. Nationally they are focused on delivering water quality improvements in 190 priority areas for action (PAAs).





**KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL**  
COMHAIRLE CHONTAE CHILL CHAINNIGH  
**MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORT**  
**MAY 2019**  
TUARASCÁIL BHAINISTÍOCHTA MÍOSÚIL

Six of the PAAs are wholly or partly in Kilkenny; the River Dinin, River Duiske/Powerstown Stream, River Nuenna, Pockocke (Brownstown) River, River Breagagh and the River Lingaun. Community Information Meetings have been held in relation to the Dinin River in Coon (November 2018), the River Duiske and Powerstown Stream in Graiguenamanagh (February 2019), and the River Nuenna in Freshford (February 2019).

As agriculture is a significant pressure in all three of those catchments, the catchment scientists have worked with the Teagasc and dairy advisors of the Agricultural Sustainability Support and Advice Programme (ASSAP) to further engage with the farming communities in those areas. These meetings were held beside the river in Muckalee (December 2018), on the River Nuenna at Bawntanameenagh beside the equestrian centre (May 2019) and two meetings about the Duiske/Powerstown Stream in Graiguenamanagh and Skeoghvoosteen are scheduled for 21<sup>st</sup> May.

Catchment Assessment fieldwork is ongoing in the Dinin and Nuenna catchments, and will commence in the Duiske/Powerstown Stream once the farmer engagement events have concluded.

Thomastown Community River Trust was awarded €1,000 from LAWPRO's Community Development Fund for 2019.

## PLANNING

Planning Summary	Total to April	
	2018	2019
Planning Applications Received	271	295
Planning Applications Granted	236	225
Planning Applications Refused	28	29
Complaints Received	38	45
Warning Letters Issued	27	57
Enforcements Notices Issued	14	17

### Forward Planning:

#### Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy

The Council made a submission to the draft RSES in early March. The Regional Assembly issued their Director's report at the end of April. Following a meeting with officials from the Regional Assembly to clarify the Director's response, the response was considered satisfactory as regards to the issues raised. The final RSES is expected towards the end of Q3, early Q4 2019.

#### City & County Development Plan:

Work on the City and County Development Plan is ongoing. A consultant has been appointed to undertake the Retail Study for Kilkenny and work commenced in April with a shopper's survey in Kilkenny City. Work on the strategy will continue over the coming months and Councillors and other stakeholders will be kept up to date on progress.

Following an evaluation of tenders received for the Loughmacask Local Area Plan, it was decided to expand the brief and to put the plan out to tender again. The Local Area Plan was accordingly re-tendered with a closing date of the 31<sup>st</sup> of May 2019.

#### Local Area Plans:

Both the Callan and Thomastown LAPs came into effect on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April 2019. Documents relating to same have been consolidated and published on the Council's webpage. Due to environmental considerations hard copies will be made available on request only.

#### Vacant Sites

There are now 36 sites on the Vacant Sites Register.

The Finance Section has issued payment demands.

For the 21 sites added to the Register for 2019, valuations have been carried out, and the owners will be notified of these valuations shortly. The owners will have a period of 28 days after the date





**KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL**  
COMHAIRLE CHONTAE CHILL CHAINNIGH  
**MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORT**  
**MAY 2019**  
TUARASCÁIL BHAINISTÍOCHTA MÍOSÚIL

of the notice to lodge an appeal with the Valuation Tribunal.

A total of 7 appeals were lodged with An Bord Pleanála against the notices of entry for 2018. Responses to all seven appeals have been submitted to the Board.

St. Marys Church / Medieval Mile Museum was recently shortlisted for the prestigious Mies Van Der Rohe Award.

Works to the landmark building, Bridge House, 88 / 89 John Street Lower have commenced. To date the building has had its roof sub structure reconstructed, while slating with Blue Bangor slate will commence shortly.

#### **Taking in Charge**

The following development is listed on the May Agenda to commence taking in charge:  
*Chapelview, Stoneyford, Co. Kilkenny.*

Taking in charge works are continuing at Brookfield, Ballyhale, King's Court, Callan, Bellfield, Ferrybank, Ard Glass, Ferrybank, Cois na Beara, Graignamanagh and Glenvale, Ballyragget.

#### **LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE**

"Making it Happen" 5 years of the Local Enterprise Office Network Local Enterprise Offices was celebrated on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April.



*Pictured at the 5 Year Anniversary celebrations were Minister Pat Breen Minister of State for Trade, Employment, Business, EU Digital Single Market and Data Protection; Minister Heather Humphreys, Minister for Business, Enterprise, and Innovation; Martin Prendiville, Chair of LEO Evaluations & Approvals Committee; Fiona Deegan, Head of Enterprise; Mark Cristal, Manager of the Regions & Entrepreneurship division in Enterprise Ireland.*

County Kilkenny's "Best Young Entrepreneurs" for 2019 and €50,000 investment fund were announced at an awards ceremony hosted by Local Enterprise Office on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April. Minister of State for Local Government and Electoral Reform, John Paul Phelan, TD, was also in attendance to present the awards.



The 'Best New Idea' category, with a €7,000 investment fund, was won by John Duggan, Loanit, aged 33 from Tullought, Piltown and founder of Loanit. Loanit is an innovative and disruptive new technology, which will optimise customer choice by creating a credit marketplace. The runner-up award and €3,000 investment fund went to Clare Allen, of I-AM.

The business idea is described by the promoter Clare as the Tinder for short term recruitment. I-AM aims to revolutionise the CV process by means of a 30 second video of the job seeker and employer.

John Duggan, Promoter of Loanit was also awarded the title of 'Best Young Entrepreneur' for County Kilkenny.

The winner of the 'Best Start-Up Business' category and the €15,000 investment fund was Jens Kopke, aged 29, founder of Motoklik.





# KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE CHILL CHAINNIGH

## MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORT

### MAY 2019

TUARASCÁIL BHAINISTÍOCHTA MÍOSÚIL

Motoklik aims to improve the performance and safety of off-road motorcyclists through its USP, automated suspension set-up. Primary market research shows that 90% of riders don't know how to set-up their suspension, but know it should be done. Motoklik is the only product in motorsports to offer this service, and plans to become an OEM supplier have the device fitted to the bike straight from the factory.

The runner-up in this category, collecting a €5,000 investment fund, was Christopher Shum, of Motus Learning. Motus Learning carries out research based mental health programs in primary schools.

The title of 'Best Established Business', with an investment fund of €15,000, went to Rory Gannon, aged 35, founder of Cakeface. Cakeface is part of the food company owned and operated by Rory and Laura Gannon. It was established in 2016 with a view to building and expanding a premium food group within the Irish market.

Third Course Ltd is the parent company that currently operates out of two high street locations, "Cakeface - Patisserie" and "Cakeface - the lab", with a view to opening "Face" a third in August 2019. Rory is an internationally trained, highly experienced chef with a passion for creating unique and exciting food experiences with different emphasis depending on the location.

The runner-up in this category, scooping a €5,000 investment fund, was Richard Connolly of TJ Reid Fitness based at Cillin Hill, Kilkenny. The business has a state of the art gym facility in Kilkenny and has expanded with a boutique style facility in Galway.



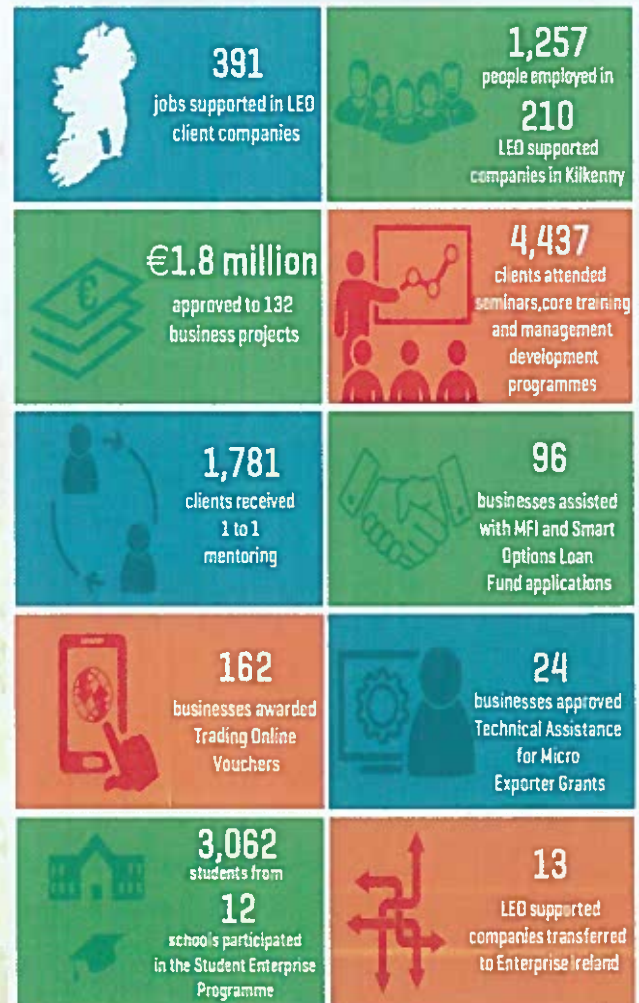
The county winners from County Kilkenny will now progress to the regional finals, which take place on 19<sup>th</sup> June in Step House Hotel, Carlow. 24 national finalists will be selected at regional finals across the country to compete for the overall title of "Ireland's Best Young Entrepreneur."

The IBYE national final takes place at Google's European Headquarters in Dublin on 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2019. A €100,000 investment fund will be awarded to winners.

### Some of the Five Year Figures

Dúig Fionair Aitúil Chill Chainnigh

Local Enterprise Office Kilkenny







**KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL**  
COMHAIRLE CHONTAE CHILL CHAINNIGH  
**MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORT**  
**MAY 2019**  
TUARASCÁIL BHAINISTÍOCHTA MÍOSÚIL

## TOURISM

**Festival & Event Organisers Acknowledged**  
Cathaoirleach Cllr. Eamon Aylward hosted an Awards event at the River Court Hotel on 15<sup>th</sup> April, with the presentation of certificates to all those who received funding in 2018 under the Council's Festivals and Events Grant scheme



The event was well attended and was a testament to the diverse range of cultural and community activities which take place across the County, assisted by Kilkenny County Council funding.

Chief Executive, Colette Byrne, thanked all present for their work at grass roots level and commended the work which makes such a difference to the vibrancy of local communities.

Cathaoirleach of the Castlecomer Municipal District Cllr. Michael McCarthy presented certificates to groups from the north of the County, while, Cathaoirleach Aylward, deputising for Cllr. Ger Frisby, presented certificates to the South Kilkenny representatives. Cllr Aylward also presented certificates to the larger festival organisers. Mayor Peter Cleere presented certificates to the Event organisers from East and West Kilkenny.

### Falconry Experience at Mount Juliet Estate

Following the April meeting of the Tourism board, members were invited to experience the Falconry Experience in the beautiful parkland at Mount Juliet Estate. Hosted by passionate falconers John Duggan and wife Caroline, the 90-

minute experience gives a fascinating insight into this 5,000-year-old craft.



**Kilkenny Castle named among world's 10 most beautiful castles by Architectural Digest**  
Kilkenny Castle has been named alongside the Palace of Versailles and Windsor Castle in a list of the 10 most beautiful castles on the planet.

### The Top 10:

1. Chateau de Versailles, France
2. Windsor Castle, England
3. Mont Saint-Michel, France
4. Bodiam Castle, East Sussex England
5. Castello Aragonese, Ischia, Italy
6. Spiš Castle, Slovakia
7. Prague Castle, The Czech Republic
8. Kilkenny Castle, Ireland
9. Bojnice Castle, Slovakia
10. Carcassonne, France

### Outdoor Rural Infrastructure Scheme 2019

On 29 March 2019, the Minister for Rural and Community Development, Michael Ring, T.D., announced the launch of the 2019 Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS). Full details of the scheme have been circulated to elected members

ORIS provide funding for the development of new outdoor recreational infrastructure and for the necessary maintenance, enhancement or promotion of existing outdoor recreational infrastructure in rural areas across Ireland.

The closing date for applications under all Measures is Friday 31st May 2019, and





**KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL**  
COMHAIRLE CHONTAE CHILL CHAINNIGH  
**MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORT**  
**MAY 2019**  
TUARASCÁIL BHAINISTÍOCHTA MÍOSÚIL

applications for funding are currently being developed.

#### Greenway Project

The National Project Assessment Board visited the Greenway on 25<sup>th</sup> April. Presentation was made jointly by Waterford, Wexford and Kilkenny County Councils. The assessment comprised a presentation in Waterford Medieval Museum and a site visit along the proposed route of the Greenway. The Assessment Board comprised personnel from Fáilte Ireland, Department of Transport, Sport Ireland and the National Greenways office. A decision on the funding application is expected before the end of May.

#### Destination Kilkenny Partnership (DKKP)

A meeting of Destination Partnership was held in County Hall on 17<sup>th</sup> April last. Significant presentations were made in relation to a number of work programmes, being delivered jointly by Kilkenny County Council and Fáilte Ireland.

Work is continuing on the preparation of an Orientation/ Movement / Visitor Flow Strategy along Ireland's Medieval Mile, Kilkenny:

- Sustainable, future proofed visitor focused orientation strategy and action plan
- Enable the easy flow and movement of visitors from the Castle
- Make it easier for visitors to navigate the City.
- Increasing dwell time/visitor spend in the City.
- Visitor focussed Strategy
- Engagement underway with key stakeholders in Kilkenny

## HOUSING

#### Housing Capital Delivery

The Minister for Housing by letter dated 12<sup>th</sup> March 2019 notified Kilkenny County Council of its revised delivery targets under Rebuilding Ireland i.e. 599 units for the period 2018 to 2021 and a specific target of 190 units for 2019, an

increase of 57 (43%) units compared to 2018. This target of 190 is made up of construction, acquisition and leasing.

The Minister has also set a target for HAP and RAS delivery in 2019 of 184 units. In summary, an overall target of 276 units is to be delivered in 2019 covering all the streams of delivery. This is an increase of 36% on 2018 targets.

#### Rebuilding Ireland Targets

Kilkenny Revised Targets 2018-2021 @ 12/03/2019		
	Targets 2018 - 2021	2019 Targets
Build		114
Acquisition		46
Leasing		30
Build, Acquisition & Leasing Sub Total	599	190
HAP RAS		184
Total		374

#### Schemes under Construction at 30<sup>th</sup> April 2019:

- 38 units Hoban Park, Bolton Callan
- 54 units Ballybough Street, Kilkenny (*Respond Housing*)
- 27 units Walkin Street, Kilkenny (*Oaklee Housing*)
- 11 units Nuncio Road, Kilkenny (*Respond Housing*)
- 1 unit at St Mary's Crescent, Hebron Road, Kilkenny
- 17 Units at Breaghagh Place, Main Street, Piltown
- 33 units at Glebeside, Donaguile, Castlecomer
- 4 units at Blackstaff, Callan
- 16 units at Park Lane, Callan (*Cluid Housing*)
- 6 Houses at New Road and Chapel Street, Mooncoin (*Turnkey*)

#### Construction Schemes to start:

- 22 units at Station Avenue, Ballyraggett
- Group home at Cloghabrody, Thomastown

#### Schemes Approved Funding by Department

- 16 houses at Lower Kilmacow (*Turnkey*)



16 Houses under construction at  
Park Lane, Friary Walk, Callan





**KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL**  
COMHAIRLE CHONTAE CHILL CHAINNIGH  
**MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORT**  
**MAY 2019**  
TUARASCÁIL BHAINISTÍOCHTA MÍOSÚIL



6 Houses under construction at New Road  
& Chapel Street, Mooncoin

### April Monthly Statistics

April 2019 Housing	
Number awaiting social housing support at 30 <sup>th</sup> April, 2019	2,120
Number of assessment interviews carried out in April:	30
LA/RAS/Leasing allocations ( <i>offers made</i> ):	13
Number of HAP tenancies to 30 <sup>th</sup> April:	870
Number of LA tenancies surrendered:	3
Anti social behaviour cases:	21
New Homeless Presentations:	21
Maintenance Calls for April 2019	489
Maintenance Calls year to date	1,679
No. Housing Loans Approved to date ( <i>Annuity/Construction</i> )	4
Amount of Loans Approved to 30 <sup>th</sup> April, 2019	€585,600

### Housing List

The current gross housing demand at 31<sup>st</sup> March is 2,101 and a comparative analysis with previous years is outlined below:

Year	Number on Housing List
30 <sup>th</sup> April 2019	2,120
December 2018	2,067
December 2017	2,180
December 2016	2,059 ( <i>Statutory Assessment 2016</i> )
December 2015	2,744
December 2014	2,456
December 2013	2,144 ( <i>Statutory Assessment 2013</i> )
December 2012	3,688
December 2011	3,118
December 2010	2,876

### Private Grants

Minister for Housing by letter dated 11<sup>th</sup> March notified Kilkenny County Council that it's allocations for the three grants is €1,922,638 in 2019. Kilkenny County Council is required to fund €384,528 i.e. 20%.

Housing Aid for Older Persons (HOP) grant was advertised in late 2018 and 280 completed applications were received. The position on all three grants is as follows;

Grants Approved 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2019		
Scheme	No.	Amount Approved
HGD - Housing Adaptation Grant	24	€283,989
MAG - Mobility Aid Grant	1	€6,000
HOP - Housing Aid for Older Persons	161	€801,104
<b>Total</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>€1,091,093</b>
Grants Paid out to 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2019:		
Scheme	No.	Amount Paid
HGD - Housing Adaptation Grant	24	€238,787
MAG - Mobility Aid Grant	11	€56,798
HOP - Housing Aid for Older Persons	8	€40,531
<b>Total</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>€336,117</b>

### Homeless Update

Details of homeless presentations for the months of 2019 along with the comparative, monthly presentations for 2016, 2017 and 2018 are set out below. There were 53 Homeless/Potentially Homeless presentations to 30/04/2019.

	2016	2017	2018	2019
January	37	29	37	25
February	30	26	32	12
March	18	26	21	16
April	26	25	18	21
<b>Total</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>74</b>





**KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL**  
COMHAIRLE CHONTAE CHILL CHAINNIGH  
**MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORT**  
**MAY 2019**  
TUARASCÁIL BHAINISTÍOCHTA MÍOSÚIL

## HERITAGE

**New Signs Tell the Story of Medieval Kilkenny**  
Did you know that a medieval gatehouse patrolled by soldiers was once located across James's Street? Or that medieval pilgrims met here before they headed off on the Camino in Spain?

Two beautiful new signs marking Kilkenny's City Walls, and telling about its history, were unveiled at James Street on 1<sup>st</sup> May to the delightful music of the CBS Trad Band. The bilingual interpretive signs, coordinated jointly by the Heritage Office and Conservation Office, are part of Kilkenny County Council's strategy to highlight our heritage, and provide information for local people and visitors about the former medieval city walls. To read the fascinating history of the walls see [www.kilkennyheritage.ie](http://www.kilkennyheritage.ie). Copies "Kilkenny City's Medieval Walls: Talbots Tower" brochure are available from the Kilkenny County Council Heritage Office. Email [heritage@kilkennycoco.ie](mailto:heritage@kilkennycoco.ie)

### Funding granted to repair City Wall at the Black Abbey Car Park

Kilkenny County Council has been awarded €20,000 by the Irish Walled Towns Network to conserve and repair of the city wall at the Black Abbey Carpark. Parts of the wall date back to the 13<sup>th</sup> century and are in a poor state of repair. Works will commence later this summer coordinated by the Kilkenny Area Office.



*Launching the City Walls signs at James's Street were;  
Francis Coady, Cllr. Peter Cleere Mayor, Tim Butler, Cllr.  
Andrew McGuinness, Leas Cathaoirleach, Dearbhala  
Ledwidge, Simon Walton, Sean McKeown*

### Heritage on the Airwaves

The Heritage Office commissioned a series of radio adverts on KCLR to raise awareness about Kilkenny's heritage and to encourage people to enjoy and protect their heritage. From March to May adverts on the following topics aired; Pollinators, the Seasons, City Walls, and Biodiversity. More adverts will air later in the year. The project is co-funded by the Heritage Council under the County Heritage Programme.

### Graveyards Grants Benefit Bees

Historic graveyards can be vital refuges for wildlife and pollinators such as bees. As part of Kilkenny County Council's commitment to support the All Ireland Pollinator Plan, the Environment Section has introduced a condition to the Graveyard Grants Scheme requiring successful applications to take simple steps to support pollinators in graveyards. All grant recipients will receive an easy to use booklet ("Faith communities; Actions to help pollinators") which provides straightforward advice on mowing, herbicides and plants.

### Heritage Week Registration Open

It's time to register your event for National Heritage Week 2019, which takes place from 17 - 25 August. This year's theme is Pastimes: Past Times. Events registered before 31<sup>st</sup> May will be included in the national printed event guide produced by the Heritage Council. For further info see [www.heritageweek.ie](http://www.heritageweek.ie) or contact KCC Heritage Office [heritage@kilkennycoco.ie](mailto:heritage@kilkennycoco.ie)

### Kilkenny Wildlife Detective Training

The Heritage Office, in partnership with Kilkenny Education Centre and the County Kilkenny Childcare Committee, ran a training course (9<sup>th</sup> April) for primary teachers, early childhood practitioners and Heritage-in-Schools experts, on the Kilkenny Wildlife Detective Programme. The aim of the training is to support teachers to encourage young children to explore, enjoy and record Kilkenny's biodiversity. A week long teachers summer training course will take place in July in the Education Centre.





# KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE CHILL CHAINNIGH

## MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORT

### MAY 2019

TUARASCÁIL BHAINISTÍOCHTA MÍOSÚIL

#### ENVIRONMENT

Environment & Building Control - April 2019  
Chief Executive Report

Delivery Programme Up-date Report on RMCEI -  
Recommended Minimum Criteria Environmental  
Inspection Plan

RMCEI - Recommended Minimum Criteria Environmental Inspection Plan	Number of Inspections undertaken for April 2019
WFD Monitoring, op & surv, samples taken	39
Additional BOD sampling for Water Services	51
Ambient Monitoring	34
Other SW/GW protection inspections	8
Inspections of existing planning permissions	68
Ground water quality (Planning inspections)	12
Bring bank surveillance	24
Bring bank inspections	5
Inspections under solid fuel Regs	2
WCP AR Validation	15
Inspections under the tyre Regs - Retailers	5
Routine Litter Patrols - City	14
Routine Litter Patrols - County	16

#### Climate Action

Kilkenny Wins Partnership Bid - Eastern and  
Midlands Climate Action Regional Office

Four Climate Action Regional Offices (CARO) have been established to deliver on the local government sector's obligations under the Climate Act 2015 and the National Adaptation Framework published by the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment (DCCAE) in January 2018. The four Regions are: -

1. Eastern and Midlands (17 counties).
2. Atlantic Seaboard North (Donegal, Galway City & County, Mayo, Sligo).
3. Atlantic Seaboard South (Clare, Cork, Kerry, Limerick).
4. Dublin Metropolitan (Dublin City, Dun Laoghaire Rathdown, Fingal, South Dublin).

Each Office will establish a centre of expertise that will be available to local authorities in the region to ensure consistency within the various local authority plans and deal with cross boundary issues within and across the regions. Working to understand regional vulnerabilities and develop approaches that will foster resilience to future climate risk. They will provide input/advice into local adaptation plans and, in particular, will be in a position to advise on local implications of sectoral actions.

Kildare is the lead authority for the Eastern & Midlands CARO. In January 2019, Kildare invited the 17 local authorities within the region to submit a bid to become a Partner County, to assist in the roll out of the CARO works programme over the next five years. Kilkenny was one of four counties to submit a bid application.

In early April, Kildare County Council notified the Chief Executive that following an adjudication process Kilkenny County Council was successful in our application. As a Partner County, Kilkenny will host a fully funded executive cognate staff member of the Eastern & Midlands CARO, which will be based in Kilkenny and the recruitment process to fill this position will commence shortly.

The above puts Kilkenny in a good position to face the challenges of Climate Change and afford us the opportunity to be national front-runner in effecting change in terms of mitigation and adaptation.





**KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL**  
COMHAIRLE CHONTAE CHILL CHAINNIGH  
**MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORT**  
**MAY 2019**  
TUARASCÁIL BHAINISTÍOCHTA MÍOSÚIL

**CRM – Customer Relations Management**

82 complaints were received during April. All complaints have been investigated and appropriate action taken.

A total of 4 No Enforcement Notices have been issued under the Waste Management Act 1996 in April.

4 No Section 14 Directions were issued in relation to illegal dumping of litter, rubbish and Construction and Demolition Waste.

In addition, a total of 4 litter fines were issued during April with 1 case being referred for prosecution.

All enforcement notices issued will be followed up on in the coming weeks to ensure compliance.

**Recycling Bring Centres**

Urlingford Recycling Bring Centre



A new Recycling Bring Centre was opened to the public in Urlingford during the month of April. This new facility has received very positive feedback from the community and the Council acknowledges the co-operation of the property owner who provided the site for the installation of this service. The recycling receptacles available to the public include 1 Brown Glass, 2 Green Glass, 2 Clear Glass, 2 Food Cans and 1 Drinks Can.

**Relocation of Graiguenamanagh Recycling Bring Centre**

The Recycling Bring Centre in Graiguenamanagh was relocated from the Fairgreen Carpark to the new ALDI Carpark. This move has been greatly welcomed by the local community as the Fairgreen is located very close to a residential area and town playground. The relocation also frees up additional parking spaces within the Fairgreen

Carpark, which will benefit local businesses, the play school and Girls National School.

**Historic Landfill Remediation Works**

The tender deadline for the Gowran Historic Landfill Remediation Works Contract closed on the 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2019. A total of 4 No. tenders were received and following a tender assessment process the most economically advantageous tenderer was identified. A tender recommendation report was issued to the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment on the 24<sup>th</sup> April to award the contract and it is anticipated that final approval will be forthcoming in the coming weeks.

**Graveyard Grants**

A total of 41 applications were received under the Graveyard Grants Scheme for 2019. This is a sharp increase on the 21 applications received in 2018. It is hoped to present a number of these applications for approval at the May Council meeting. Some of the remaining applications require further information and pending the receipt of same, they will be considered for funding at a later stage.

**Dog Re-homing**

The Environment Section recently ran a very successful ad campaign on KCLR. The number of dogs at the shelter in Paulstown has fallen from a high of 20 to 5 during April. This ad campaign was also in conjunction with a news article in the Kilkenny People written by Journalist Mary Cody.

The public were also made aware that all dogs at the Carlow/Kilkenny dog shelter are vaccinated and micro-chipped and to help their new families, veterinary vouchers are provided for second vaccinations and toward neutering costs along with a free feed starter pack.

**Water Safety and Lifeguards**

Kilkenny County Council and Kilkenny Water Safety conducted interviews during April to fill





**KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL**  
COMHAIRLE CHONTAE CHILL CHAINNIGH  
**MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORT**  
**MAY 2019**  
TUARASCÁIL BHAINISTÍOCHTA MÍOSÚIL

the positions of Lifeguards for the summer months at the following locations:

- The Meadows, Kilkenny City
- The Weir, Bleach Road, Kilkenny City
- Thomastown
- Inistioge
- Graiguenamanagh

#### **Anti-Dumping Imitative Grant Application**

The, DCCAE, Anti-Dumping Initiative (ADI) - 'Not in Our Nature' Campaign aims to reduce incidents of illegal dumping nationally by providing funding for projects tackling the problem using a collaborative approach with local authorities, communities and other state agencies. In 2019, the focus of the ADI and funding prioritisation will be on (i) prevention, (ii) abatement, (iii) education and (iv) enforcement.

In April, the Environment Section submitted a funding application for 8 individual projects within the City and County, valued at €105,000 and it is anticipated that a decision will forthcoming over the next number of weeks.

#### **Building Control Team Up-date**

##### **Statistics**

40 Commencement Notices were validated in April 2019 bringing the yearly total to 111.

4 applications for a Disability Access Certificate (DAC) or Revised DAC (rDAC) were received in April 2019 bringing the yearly total to 24.

10 DACs or rDACs were granted in April 2019 bringing the yearly total to 16.

23 Buildings were inspected during in April bring the yearly total to 23.

Building Type Commenced	Total to April	
	2018	2019
New Building	90	228
Extension	23	20
Change of use	10	8
Material Alteration	9	5

#### **LIBRARY SERVICES**



#### **Right to Read: Spring into Storytime**

Spring into Story time is a national initiative under the umbrella of Right to Read, allowing the library service to champion their children's story-time sessions and encourage more children and parents to celebrate reading together and sharing stories.

We had 622 attending our 33 storytimes sessions during the month of April. We added a new outreach stand this year, with 10 sessions in school and pre-schools, and 2 sensory friendly storytimes in Graiguenamanagh library.

#### **Collaboration with Kilkenny Carlow ETB**

As part of our CATS Age Friendly programme, we joined forces with the Community Education section of CKETB to hold free art classes in both Urlingford and Loughboy Libraries, with tutor Owen Fox.

Participants were introduced to a variety of styles throughout the 5 week course, and produced beautiful work.







**KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL**  
COMHAIRLE CHONTAE CHILL CHAINNIGH  
**MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORT**  
**MAY 2019**  
TUARASCÁIL BHAINISTÍOCHTA MÍOSÚIL

Communicating  
our work



**kilkennylibrary.ie**

Pageviews: 11,845



**@kilkennylibrary**

Followers: 2,896

Engagement: 3,437



**@kilkennylibrary**

Followers: 1,943



**@kilkennylibrary**

Followers: 1,082

Local Studies Queries April 2019



Genealogy (25.86%) Archives (8.62%)  
Education/event (18.97%) LS Research (46.55%)





**KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL**  
COMHAIRLE CHONTAE CHILL CHAINNIGH  
**MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORT**  
**MAY 2019**  
TUARASCÁIL BHAINISTÍOCHTA MÍOSÚIL

**APPENDIX 1**

**FINANCE REPORT – MAY 2019**

The expenditure by service division to the end of April is set out in table 1. Total Expenditure for the period was €24.5m compared with the annual budget of €79.7m.

<b>Table 1</b>	<b>Actual YTD April 2019</b>	<b>Budget Full Year 2019</b>
	<b>€'000's</b>	<b>€'000's</b>
Housing & Building	5,544	16,468
Road Transport & Safety	5,661	22,328
Water Services	2,150	6,674
Development Management	2,928	9,718
Environmental Services	3,186	11,169
Recreation & Amenity	1,980	6,251
Agriculture, Education, Health, Welfare	164	640
Miscellaneous Services	2,849	6,452
<b>Overall Total</b>	<b>24,462</b>	<b>79,700</b>

The bank overdraft facility was not utilised in the four months to the end of April 2019.

Cash collection for the first four months is in line with the previous year. A total of 76 appeals to the Valuation Tribunal have been heard to date. The total loss in annual rates income arising from these appeals is €280k.

The Local Government Auditor commenced the annual audit on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2019.