



## PRESS RELEASE

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### CONSTRUCTION TO COMMENCE ON €3m 'WORK WEST WATERFORD' SMART WORKING LOCATIONS

#### ***"PERFECT POST COVID-19 WORKING ENVIRONMENT"***

Construction will commence next week (November 2nd) on the first of a number of Smart Working locations in four West Waterford villages. Irish Local Development Network (ILDN) member Waterford Leader Partnership (WLP) in conjunction with Waterford City & County Councils and Tomar Trust have brought together the villages of Tallow, Lismore, Cappoquin and Villierstown to create the Blackwater Valley Economic Development Zone.

Commenting on this new Community approach to local economic development, Waterford LEADER Partnership CEO Jimmy Taaffe said; *"This capital infrastructure project will develop much needed Smart Working locations in the four West Waterford villages of Tallow, Lismore, Cappoquin and Villierstown. In total 80 office spaces will be developed. With a total capital spend of approximately €3m it is envisaged that the project will create 40 construction jobs during the duration of the development and the completed project will create 90+ full-time jobs in the area with an estimated economic salary value of €4m per annum. The project has the capacity to attract an estimated 80 new residents to the Blackwater Valley."*

The Chairman of WLP and the Blackwater Valley Economic Development Zone Micheál Cosgrove said; *"The Blackwater Valley in the heart of West Waterford is a unique place to live and work. The region is 40 minutes from the university cities of Cork and Waterford. From our Smart Working Centres, we are offering connectivity, energy efficient & carbon neutral buildings. We can also customise buildings to meet client needs with the option to expand our footprint across all four centres. Off site in the Blackwater Valley we offer a wealth of social and cultural amenities, activities and events that offer a great employee experience with liveability, affordability and a unique quality of life fostered by a welcoming and dynamic community spirit. These Smart Working Locations offer the perfect working environment for the post COVID-19 era"*