

LCDC Community Progress Report and updates – Sept 2025

1. Community Integration Forum – Noeleen Osborne:

Community Integration Forum (CIfO)

Waterford Council's Ukrainian Team working with arrivals to the Designated Accommodation Centre (DAC) has now concluded and the building has been returned to owners. New pledge properties are now offered to the other DACs and the team will work with DAC staff to ensure occupancy of properties and management of the licenses going forward. The team continues to support those in pledged accommodation and are still seeking pledge properties (vacant and shared) and can be contacted at 058/22059 or OFFERAHOME@WATERFORDCOUNCIL.IE

Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT):

As of 29th August, there are 2,553 BOTPS in Waterford (increase of 61 on July) This figure has been updated to reflect the CSO decision to focus on the cohort of BOTPs who **had recent activity in administrative data**. Previous iterations of the report mapped all arrivals who were recorded as a BOTP and were allocated a PPSN. However, this count is not necessarily indicative of how many BOTPs are currently residing in Ireland, as some may have subsequently left. Therefore, for future statistics the CSO chose to focus on the cohort of this population displaying recent activity in administrative data (in the three months before a release date).

As of 10th August there are 636 IPAs (165 children) in the 7 IPAS centres.

For the period of May to August 2025 the team carried out 50 engagements which included 4 networking events and 17 information clinics with 272 attendees. There were also had 58 non clinic enquiries (Facebook/email/telephone)

The outcome is individual queries answered/ advice and information packs provided and signposting to relevant services.

Information clinics on identified needs have been very successful with topics including Discussion of the Waterford Welcome Pack, Introduction to LAIT, Deportation, Housing in Ireland, HAP, managing a Tenancy, Derelict housing grants, Beginning and managing self-employment in Ireland

There were 169 BOTPs relocated to Waterford commercial properties from the closure of other properties outside of Waterford. One property in Tramore - The Hibernian Hotel closed on 14th August with residents relocated to a city-based Waterford property. On 29th August 11 residents from The Fountain in Dungarvan were relocated to Waterford city property in order to facilitate families with children requiring school places. The remaining residents are being assisted by LAIT in their accommodation searches.

The LAIT continues to progress resettlement under the IRPP – currently there are 28 individuals residing in 10 WCCC provided houses. There are 5 further resettlements booked for September.

Collaborative events for August

On Saturday, 9th August 2025, an intercultural event themed “**Folklore**” was successfully hosted at the Lismore Courthouse Theatre. The event was a collaborative initiative between Lismore Heritage Centre and Rising Stars Academy, with additional support from Lismore Dramatic Society and parents of participating children. Funding was provided by LAIT

On Saturday 23rd of August, a Family Fun Day in Williamstown Sports Complex for the catchment area of the Sacred Heart Family Resource Centre. The day was designed to be inclusive, engaging, and welcoming for families of all backgrounds. A range of activities were carried out by local sports clubs, such as poc fada and penalty shootouts, encouraging children and young people to get active and try something new. For younger children or those less interested in sport, there were creative stations including painting, playdough, face painting, and balloon sculpting, ensuring that everyone had an opportunity to take part and enjoy themselves.

2. Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) – Ger Mulhall

Work is ongoing with Waterford Area Partnership (WAP), who continue to implement the SICAP Programme on behalf of the LCDC. The SICAP budget allocation for 2025 Waterford City & County (Lot 24-1) is €1,452,756. The budget allocation for ‘New Arrivals’ for 2025 is €246,807. In June, additional New Arrivals funding of €29,080 was allocated to Waterford City & County.

KPIs are on target and the 2025 case study is being prepared for submission in October.

	Actual	Target	
KPI 1 (Groups)	72	79	91%
KPI 2 (Individuals)	829	949	87%
% of Supported Individuals who fall into local priority target group(s)	93%	88%	-

The SICAP Annual Engagement Meeting between the SICAP Sub-Committee, Waterford Area Partnership and Aileen Gilchrist, SICAP Development Co-Ordinator for Waterford, will take place on Friday 3rd October 2025. These annual engagement meetings are carried out by Pobal and provide an opportunity for LDC staff and SICAP Subcommittee members to engage directly with their assigned Pobal Development Co-Ordinator.

3. Local Economic and Community Plan – Orla Kelly:

All Lead Reporting Partners were contracted in late July and requested to provide a progress report on their specific LECP actions for the 2024 period, with the intention of reporting progress at September's LCDC meeting. To date, some reports remain outstanding, but all reports that have been received will be collated and circulated to the LCDC.

4. Community Grants Update – Claire Flavin

Supporting Waterford Communities Fund 2025

Waterford City and Council's Supporting Waterford Fund budget for 2025 was €240,338, which was allocated to 305 groups throughout the county. Processing of payments to approved applicants continues, with 98% of grants processed to-date, and only 4 payments are outstanding. The deadline for submission of receipts is 30th November.

Community Recognition Fund (CRF) 2024

Window 1 (€491,392): Two of the seven projects are now complete, with a third due for completion in the coming weeks. The remaining projects have been contacted with regard to their status.

Window 2 (€86,557): Work is progressing with the project approved under Window 2 project.

Window 3 (€786,625): Two of the seven projects have commenced and are almost 50% complete.

5. Local Enhancement Programme (LEP) Grants 2025 – Ger Mulhall

A total fund of €236,645 has been allocated under the Local Enhancement Programme (LEP) 2025. The Community Department contacted all groups, both successful and unsuccessful, in relation to their applications.

Grants are paid to successful applicants once receipts are provided and the issuing of payments has already commenced. The deadline for submission of receipts is 30th September.

6. Waterford Local Sports Plan – Ger Mulhall

The Community & Sport Department and Waterford Sports Partnership have commenced the process of developing a Sports Plan for Waterford, the purpose of which will be to increasing participation in sport and physical activities across the County. The tendering process to appoint a consultant to develop the Sports Plan has concluded and S3 Solutions Ltd were awarded the contract.

Preparations are now underway for the public consultation process, which will commence in the coming months. It is envisaged that a draft Sports & Physical Activity Plan will be presented

to the LCDC in December 2025 before being presented to the elected members early in the new year.

7. Reports from Sub-committees:

- a. Skills / training – Johnny Codd
- b. Health & Wellbeing:
- c. Sláintecare Healthy Communities – Ovi Matiut
- d. SICAP Sub-Committee – Ger Mulhall
Nothing to report.