

LCDC Community Progress Report and Updates – April 2026

1. Community Integration Forum/LAIT update for LCDC – 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 27th February, there were 2,812 BOTPs (increase of 31) and as of 8th March, there were 627 IPAs in Waterford (151 children). The Local Authority Integration Team carried out 15 clinic appointments in March with 63 attendees. There were 11 non clinic enquiries also. Topics included accommodation, homelessness, IRP renewal applications, and signposting to various services.

Waterford City & County Council took part in 'wear red to work' day and lit up Council buildings in red to mark anti-racism month in March.

IRPP Update

As of 19th March there are 87 refugees resettled in 30 properties under the Irish Refugee Protection Programme (IRPP). There is one remaining family of 5 to resettle, which will complete Waterford's obligation under the current IRPP.





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

Work is ongoing with Buíon Phort Láirge (formerly Waterford Area Partnership), who continue to implement SICAP on behalf of the Waterford LCDC. The budget allocation for SICAP for Waterford City and County (Lot 24-1) for 2026 is €1,497,267. The budget allocation for 'New Arrivals' for 2026 is €246,807.

3. Local Economic and Community Plan – Anita Maher

The LECP Annual Report for 2025 is approved and available on the LCDC extranet. The reporting partners will be contacted shortly to request their Q1 progress updates.

Also preparations for the LECP Implementation Plan are being made and this will involve looking at the 2nd 2 years of the plan. Review of the actions and KPI's and updating the plan to reflect this information.

4. Community Grants Update:

Supporting Waterford Communities Fund 2026 – Ger Mulhall

Over 400 applications were received for Waterford City & County Council's Supporting Waterford Communities Fund 2026. Grants totalling €240,258 were approved by the Members at the Plenary Meeting on 12th March 2026, broken down as follows:

Residents Association Fund	€63,660
Community Activity Fund	€91,819
Sports and Recreation Fund	€84,779

The Community Grants Team has contacted all applicants, successful and unsuccessful, and the processing of payments has commenced.

Local Enhancement Programme (LEP) Grants 2026 – Ger Mulhall

The Local Enhancement Programme (LEP) is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht and administered by the Waterford LCDC through Waterford City and County Council.

Funding will support groups, particularly in disadvantaged areas, to carry out necessary repairs and small capital works/improvements to facilities, or to purchase equipment. The Department approved the carry over an underspend in 2025 for reallocation in 2026 so total funding available for LEP 2026 is €248,286.

The LEP closed for applications on Friday 27th February 2026 and 218 applications were received by the deadline. The LCDC Assessment Group met to assess the applications received on Tuesday 31st March and the list of projects recommended for funding is listed on the Agenda for LCDC approval. The list of projects recommended for approval must be submitted to the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht by Wednesday 22nd April.

Community Recognition Fund (CRF) 2024 –

Window 1 (€491,392):

Window 2 (€86,557):

Window 3 (€786,625):

5. Waterford Local Sports & Physical Activity Plan – Ger Mulhall

The Community Department, in collaboration with Waterford Sports Partnership (WSP), continues to progress the development of a Sports and Physical Activity Plan for Waterford, the purpose of which will be to increase participation in sport and physical activities across Waterford.

We have received a draft Plan from the consultants and a number of meetings have taken place to review the draft plan and associated actions with further meetings planned. It is envisaged that a draft Sports and Physical Activity Plan will be presented to the SPC and Plenary Council in Q2 2026.

6. Reports from Sub-Committees:

(i) Skills / Training – Johnny Codd

No update until the May meeting.

(ii) Health, Wellbeing & Sports – Eoin Morrissey

Connecting Communities Roadshows

Two Connecting Communities Roadshows were successfully delivered in March:

- Butler Community Centre, Waterford City on 11th March
- Ballysaggart Community Centre on 18th March

Both events were well attended and provided valuable opportunities for community groups to engage with local services and supports. Feedback from participants is currently being reviewed to inform future outreach initiatives.

WHO Healthy Cities and County Accreditation

Progress continues Waterford's inclusion in Phase VIII of the WHO Healthy Cities and Counties Programme. The application has been finalised and is scheduled to be brought before the LCDC for approval and the plenary council for a resolution in April.

Healthy Ireland Fund – Round 4

Funding under Healthy Ireland Round 4 has been approved, and delivery is continuing across several projects after being approved by the Well Waterford sub-committee of the LCDC.

Place Standard Training Event

A two-day Place Standard training event is scheduled to take place in April, delivered jointly by Waterford City and County Council (WCCC) and the PPN, with participation from relevant Council sections including Planning.

EU Funding

Applications are underway and submitted for Erasmus + and CERVE as part of funding applications for projects to support health and wellbeing projects.

Sports Facilities

A part 8 application will be commencing for upgrading works to the pitches and dressing rooms at the RSC, to coincide with a funding application under the Community Sports Fund.

A feasibility study will be conducted on Williamstown Golf Course in the coming months.

(iii) Sláintecare Healthy Communities

No update until the May meeting.

(iv) SICAP Sub-Committee – Ger Mulhall

No update this month