

Appendix 16

Implementation and Monitoring



Waterford
City & County Council
Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae Phort Láirge

Waterford City and County Draft Development Plan 2022 - 2028

Appendix 16: Implementation and Monitoring

16.1 Introduction

The implementation and delivery of the Waterford City and County Development Plan 2022-2028 is a key objective of the Council. The establishment of a performance management system is important to better understand whether, and to what extent, the Policy Objectives of the City and County Development Plan are being realised.

The Waterford City and County Development Plan 2022-2028 introduces a formalised approach to Plan implementation, monitoring and evaluation, which provides a framework for measuring the outcomes of the Policy Objectives of the Plan. The framework seeks to move beyond assessment of the planning system from a primarily procedural and administrative perspective to a richer form of planning performance which incorporates planning outcome monitoring and evaluation across a range of more strategic objectives.

16.2 Implementation and Monitoring

The implementation of the Development Plan is a key strategic focus for Waterford City and County Council and requires a concerted range of actions by the entire organisation in order to be successfully implemented. The Council will need to utilise its wide range of statutory powers and responsibilities to achieve the objectives of the development plan. While ensuring that decisions on proposals for new development are consistent with the development plan through the development management system is critical, the Council also has a wide range of functions in housing, transport, development of amenities, economic development, infrastructural delivery and community involvement that can enable it to implement the development plan in practice.

The implementation and monitoring framework (Table 16.1) sets out the key measurable Policy Objectives within the Development Plan in terms of their contribution towards the achievement of the overall 'Vision' for Waterford City and County as set out in Section 1.1 and the strategic outcomes identified in Section 1.6. of the Development Plan. The Implementation and Monitoring Framework has been developed in accordance with the format and requirements of Part 10: Plan Implementation Monitoring and Reporting of the Draft Development Plan Guidelines for Planning Authorities 2021 and the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended. The Framework identifies 28 measurable elements of the Plan, to be monitored on annual/two-year cycle.

The Policy Objectives within the Development Plan are wide-ranging and while the implementation and monitoring framework does not comprise a comprehensive list it focuses on the key strategic and measurable Policy Objectives. While every effort has been made to formulate Policy Objectives in the Development Plan that are SMART (Specific, Measurable, Assignable, Realistic and Time-Related) it is acknowledged that not all Policy Objectives are measured in easily identifiable and quantitative values.

Table 16.1 - Implementation and Monitoring Framework

Indicator	
Residential (Annual Monitoring)	
1	New home completions (including through refurbishment/conversions)
2	New home completions per NPO 3
3	Planning permissions granted for residential development with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. A breakdown of 1, 2, 3 and 4+ units permitted and II. A breakdown per Tier 1 and Tier 2 lands
4	Breakdown by relevant rural area type of rural housing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. Planning Applications lodged II. Breakdown in decisions III. New home completions
Commercial (Annual Monitoring)	
5	Developed and occupied commercial floorspace
6	Planning permissions for business/employment uses (m2 of development) for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. Office II. Industrial III. Retail IV. Warehousing/Logistics
Settlement Consolidation Sites (Annual Monitoring)	
7	Specific reporting on the progression of the Settlement Consolidation Sites identified in the development plan. This shall include information on enabling infrastructural services delivery, planning permissions granted, housing constructed, funding applications made, project timelines, Vacant Site Levy commentary, etc.
Policy Objectives (Two Year Monitoring)	
8	Strategic Environmental Assessment
9	Local Area Planning (incl Local Transport and Surface Water Management planning) (CS 08)
10	Rural Strategy (CS 15)
11	Joint Retail Strategy (W City Retail 08)
12	Wide Open Space and Recreation Strategy (Waterford City) (W City 20)
13	South Quays Design Framework (W City 30)
14	Regeneration and Active Land Management (ECON 6 & 7)
15	Waterford Harbour Integrated Framework Plan (ECON 18)
16	Flagship Tourism Projects (ECON 23)
17	Renewable Energy (UTL 13)
18	Modal Shift Ambitions (Trans 01)
19	PLUTS (Trans 05)
20	Countywide Transport Strategy (Trans 06)
21	Trail Development and Public Rights of Way (BGI 10)
22	Wetland and Biodiversity Mapping and Assessment (BD 12)
23	Tree Audit and Augmentation (BD 25 & 26)
24	County Blue Green Infrastructure Strategy (BGI 03)
25	Heritage Plan Review (Heritage 01)
26	Demesnes Architectural Conservation Areas (BH 19)
27	Thatch Survey Review (BH 25)
28	City Walls Interpretation Strategy (AH 05)

16.3 Plan Evaluation and Reporting

The implementation and monitoring framework is intended to function as a formal feedback loop with the evaluation and reporting processes intended to comprise a key input into the formulation and refinement of future planning policy. In this manner, the framework is intended to serve as an important evidence-based input which will integrate with and inform the review process of subsequent City and County Development Plans. In terms of its formal evaluation role, the framework is intended to assist the Planning Authority in meeting its statutory reporting requirements including:

- The 2 Year Progress Report of the City and County Development Plan (as required under Section 15(2) of The Act).
- Report to the Southern Regional Assembly setting out progress made in supporting objectives of the RSES (as required under Section 25A(1) of The Act).

16.4 Environmental Monitoring

Article 10 of the SEA Directive requires monitoring of the significant environmental effects of the implementation of the City and County Development Plan in order to identify, at an early stage, unforeseen adverse effects and to enable appropriate remedial action to be undertaken. While the monitoring framework set out in Appendix 16 incorporates some monitoring of environment related objectives, the full and comprehensive monitoring and evaluation assessment, required to be undertaken under Article 10 of the SEA Directive, is set out in the Strategic Environmental Assessment that comprises Appendix 19 A & B of the City and County Development Plan.