



Press Release
2nd October, 2018

Urban Regeneration and Development Fund 2018

Waterford City and County Council are delighted to announce that it has made application to the **Urban Regeneration and Development Fund 2018** last Friday for projects to significantly enhance City Centre Access and to facilitate development on the north side of Waterford including the North Quays. The proposals have been developed with support from Kilkenny County Council, Waterford Port Company, Irish Rail, the National Transport Authority and private sector interests, including the Alhokair Group.

The developments include:

- The provision of an integrated transport hub
- The provision of a sustainable transport corridor, including a new bridge at the Clock Tower
- Improvements to City Centre access routes on the north side of the River Suir
- Provision of a new link between Belmont and Abbey Roads and other serviced land initiatives in the Belview area

The total cost estimate for the infrastructure is €139m (including inflation and VAT) where 75% of the cost is eligible for grant aid. The estimated cost for the project has increased from that submitted in 2018 due to:

- a) Additional works in the Kilkenny administrative area being included
- b) Additional works required by Irish Rail
- c) The provision of additional bus priority measures at the behest of the National Transport Authority
- d) Provision for construction inflation and contingencies following detailed design and risk analysis.

The development will see the exciting transformation of an existing brown field riverside site on the North Quays and open up land for development in the Ferrybank/Belview area. Private sector investment of over €300 Million is envisaged relatively immediately, with the creation of over 90,000 square metres of mixed use development, comprising a new retail centre, hotels, visitors' centre, 200 residences, fourth generation offices, underground car parking, and amenity facilities. Such a development will see the creation of over 2,300 direct jobs, with many more being created in the wider economy.

A planning scheme for the North Quays Strategic Development Zone was made and adopted in June of 2018. The planning scheme allows for a holistic plan-led approach to the development on the North Quays and a fast-track planning procedure. The developers have already appointed a full complement of consultants to plan, design and oversee the project and a planning application for the SDZ site is envisaged by the end of the year or in the early weeks of 2019.

Waterford City and County Council in collaboration with Kilkenny County Council and Irish Rail will develop the infrastructure, the subject of these proposals. Roughan O'Donovan Civil, Environmental and Structural engineers have been appointed by Waterford City and County Council as lead consultants throughout the project programme and they will see the project from current preliminary design stage to the final handover of completed works in 2022.

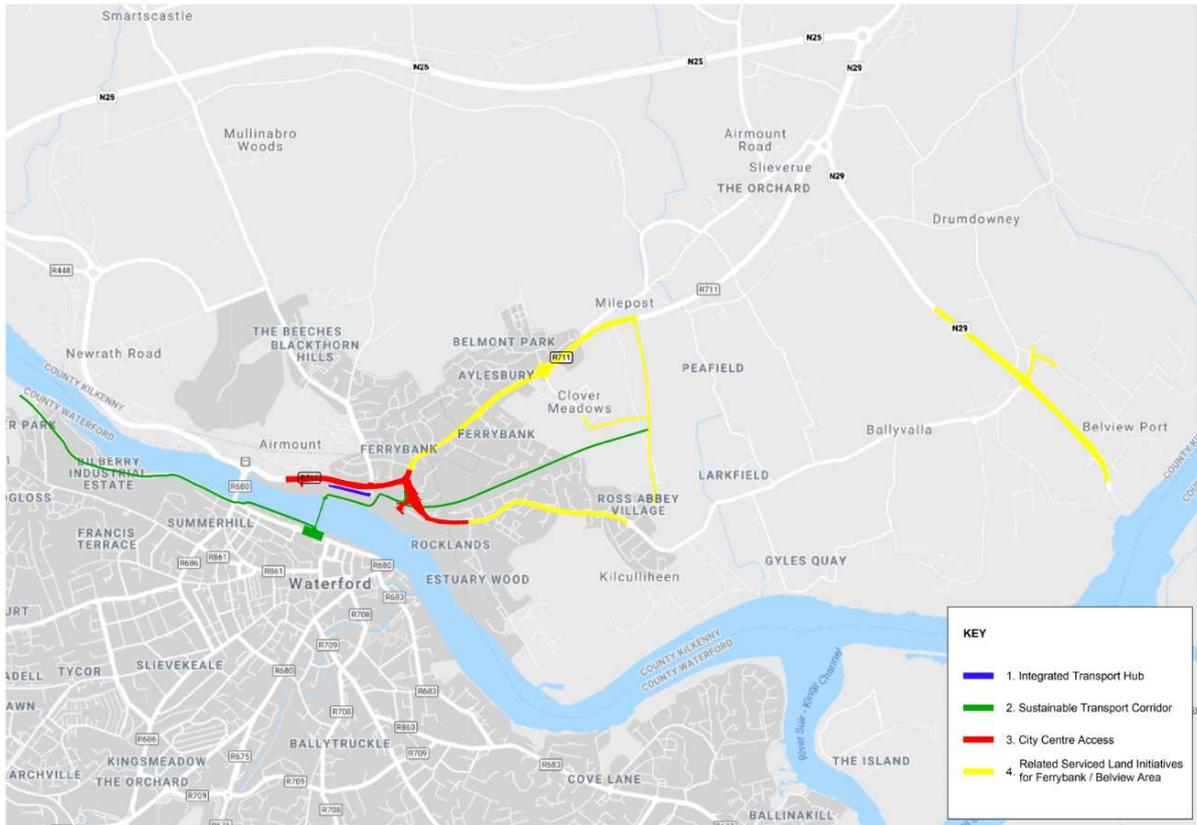
In July, drawings and visuals for the Sustainable Transport Bridge were presented at a well attended public consultation event and an application for the Sustainable Transport Bridge will be submitted to An Bord Pleanála next month. The planning application for all road and bridge infrastructure along Dock and Abbey Roads will be submitted before the end of the year. It is envisaged that the infrastructure works will commence on site in October 2019, with private sector works commencing in mid 2019.

The combined public and private investment of almost €500 million will be a catalyst for the transformation of Waterford City from a social, economic, tourism and infrastructure development perspective and will lead to the delivery of the largest single regeneration project in the country. This Council is convinced that the case being made in the application for funding is compelling and completely compatible with the objectives of the National Planning Framework.

PROJECT 2: URBAN REGENERATION - SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT CORRIDOR



WATERFORD & ENVIRONS URBAN REGENERATION - PROJECT PROPOSAL



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