



Comhairle Cathrach & Contae Phort Láirge  
Waterford City & County Council

## **Waterford welcomes announcement of €7.35m URDF Funding**

Waterford City and County Council welcomes this week's announcement by An Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar TD, the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government, Eoghan Murphy TD, and Minister of State, John Halligan, TD.

A total of €7,350,000 has been allocated under the 'First Call for Proposals' to be funded under the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF). €6m has been allocated to infrastructure enabling works at the Waterford City North Quays and €1.35m has been allocated to Public Realm Works in Tramore Town centre. Waterford City and County Council received the largest allocation of funding under the URDF and almost 32% of the announcement has been allocated to projects within the Southern and Regional Assembly area. This is the first round of funding with further rounds in 2019 and a total investment of €2bn over the next 10 years, leading up to 2027.

This funding, in addition to co-funding from the National Transport Authority, will allow the North Quays project to progress through the detailed design stage. We look forward to further announcements in February 2019 which will allow the project to move on to the construction stage. The successful delivery of the North Quays is critical in the development of Waterford and in achieving the targets as set out by Government in Project Ireland 2040.

The timeline for the North Quays project is progressing in accordance with the project plan and the allocation of funding today ensures this timeline. Two Part 8 applications are currently on display for Rock face stabilisation and railway project works and a second Part 8 application for SDZ access and public road infrastructure. The submission period is to be concluded by 20<sup>th</sup> December 2018. An application for the sustainable transport bridge is being prepared for submission to An Bord Pleanála before year end and it is envisaged that

a decision on the bridge will be received in summer 2019. Designs for the transport hub are currently being reviewed and costed with a Part 8 application to be presented in late spring 2019. Associated works will also include track realignment and a new signalisation system. Designs are also progressing on a flood defence scheme and an application for such a proposal will be submitted to An Bord Pleanála in early 2019 with a decision expected mid-2019.

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