

# COUNCIL REVIEW

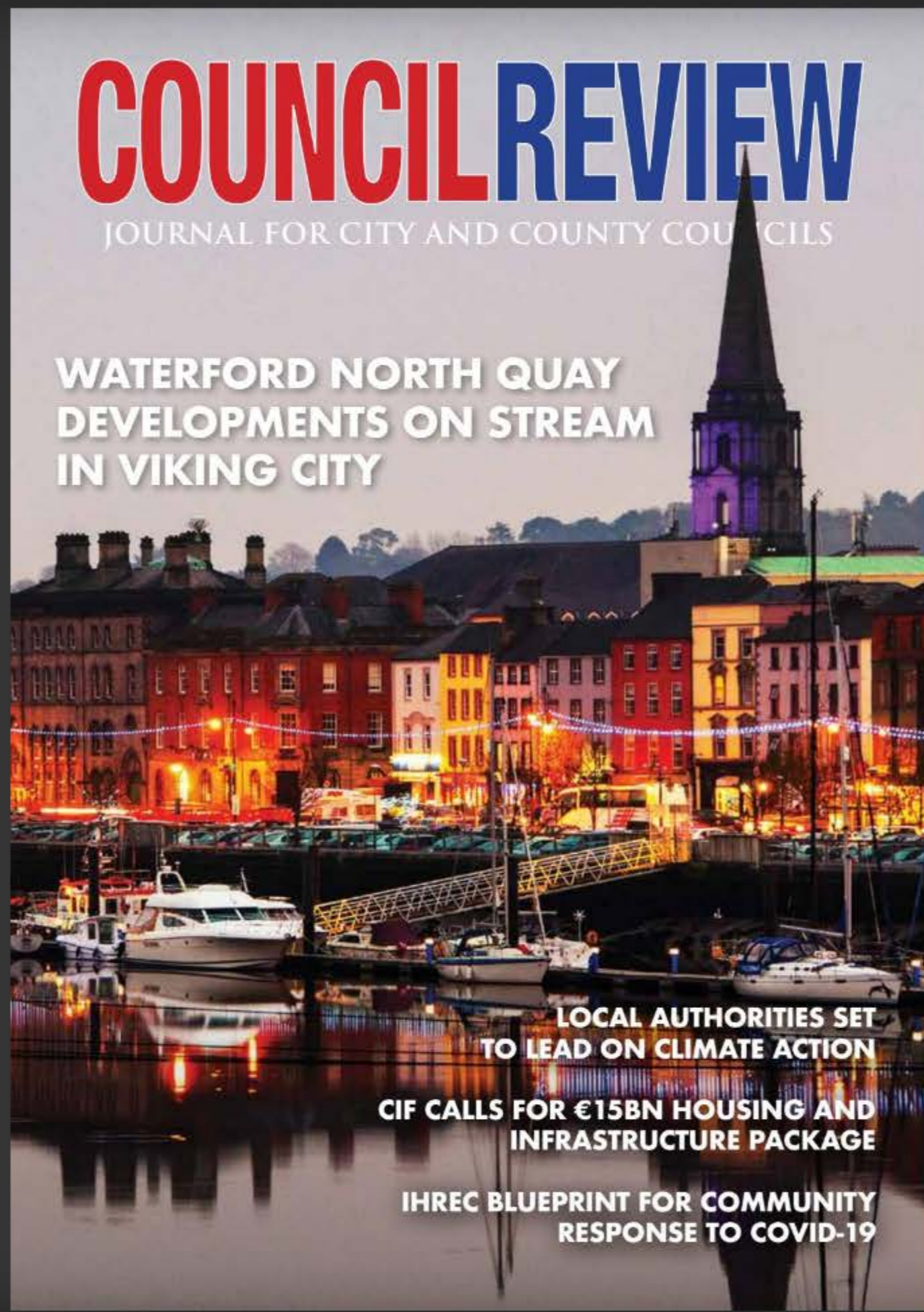
JOURNAL FOR CITY AND COUNTY COUNCILS

**WATERFORD NORTH QUAY  
DEVELOPMENTS ON STREAM  
IN VIKING CITY**

**LOCAL AUTHORITIES SET  
TO LEAD ON CLIMATE ACTION**

**CIF CALLS FOR €15BN HOUSING AND  
INFRASTRUCTURE PACKAGE**

**IHREC BLUEPRINT FOR COMMUNITY  
RESPONSE TO COVID-19**



# McGreevy Enterprises Limited

1st Floor, Block One, Quayside Business park, Dundalk, Co. Louth



## NEWS UPDATE

the latest news from around the country

### THREE-MONTH EXTENSION BREAK ON LOCAL AUTHORITY MORTGAGE PAYMENTS

The mortgage payment break, already in place for local authority home loan borrowers, will be extended by a further three months, for those continuing to face difficulties due to the Covid-19 emergency.

In making the announcement, Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage Darragh O'Brien TD (pictured here) said that due to the continuing economic uncertainty associated with COVID-19, many local authority home loan borrowers continue to face difficulties in paying their mortgage or have very real fears that they will face repayment problems in the future.

"To help people in this situation, I am extending the mortgage payment break period by another three months, allowing people a total of nine months to get back on their feet. I am also extending the deadline for applying for a payment break until the end of 2020 to provide for borrowers who may yet suffer setbacks in the coming months.

Local authority home loan borrowers could already avail of two payment breaks totalling up to six months and borrowers who take up a third payment break will be contacted by their local authority during the payment break to assess their financial situation and discuss options if necessary.

"Any local authority home loan borrower facing difficulties due to Covid-19 are urged to contact their local authority

as soon as possible, in particular, to access the application form and information that will be available on each local authority's website.

"Importantly, no additional costs to the original home loan balance will arise for the borrower who avails of these measures, as borrowers are not charged interest for the period of the breaks," concluded Minister O'Brien.



### CORK COUNTY TOWNS REVEAL A NEW VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Eight towns across Cork County have been developing new visions for their respective towns as part of the 'My Town, My Plan' Community Training Programme, with the concept of developing greenways/trails and parks being a general theme across most towns.

Community representatives from Carrigaline, Cobh, Clonakilty, Kinsale, Midleton, Rosscarbery, Skibbereen and Youghal committed to several months of engagement and participation to collaborate and develop new ideas.

The Hincks Centre for Entrepreneurship Excellence, part

of the School of Business at Cork Institute of Technology (CIT) designed and delivered the programme, funded through SECAD Partnership CLG. The face-to-face training and consultative sessions began last September with the April and May sessions moving online when Covid-19 hit in mid-March.

Dr Helen McGuirk, Head of the Hincks Centre said: "We noticed that one general theme across most towns is the idea of developing greenways/trails and parks, opening up new areas to be explored and enjoyed by locals and visitors. "This is particularly pertinent with many Irish holidaymakers opting for a staycation this year due to Covid-19. The shared learning between the towns has been incredible and the centre is delighted to have played a part in empowering these local communities."

The programme comprised of four core topics on developing community projects and enterprises, moving from ideas to validation, legal structures/governance and strategic planning, delivered in each town over eight evening sessions. In addition to these topics, each town group selected four specialist topics most relevant to their own town's future development.

Two online shared learning evening events on 29 September in West Cork and 7 October in South Cork showcased each town's work so far, covering topics such as social enterprise, retail in towns and tourism.

For more information visit [www.hinckscentre.ie](http://www.hinckscentre.ie)



Programme participants pictured at Fernhill House Hotel in Clonakilty (l-r): Sandra Gallagher, Skibbereen; Alan Clayton, Kinsale; Denis Calnan, Rosscarbery and Margaret O'Donovan, Clonakilty including Ballineen, Enniskeane and Dunmanway.