

Comhairle Chontae Chill Mhantáin

Wicklow County Council



Candidate Information Booklet

(Please read carefully)

ROLLING RECRUITMENT

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER

Ref: 04/2024

Please Note. This competition will be on a rolling recruitment process, over several phases.

Phase four will close at 12 noon on Thursday 3rd October 2024, this competition will remain live and all applications are welcome after this date for subsequent phases



Wicklow County Council

County Wicklow is located in the province of Leinster, and has a population of 155,485, 9.2% growth persons as stated in the preliminary 2022 census figures on the CSO website [https://www.cso.ie/en/csolatestnews/presspages/2022/censusofpopulation2022- preliminary results/](https://www.cso.ie/en/csolatestnews/presspages/2022/censusofpopulation2022-preliminaryresults/)

Wicklow shares its border with four other counties and has a total land area of 2,027 km². The topography of Wicklow is largely mountainous, with the Wicklow Mountains being the largest continuous upland region in Ireland. Wicklow is the 13th largest of the Republic of Ireland's 26 Counties and is the 14th largest Local Authority area in terms of population.

Wicklow County Council is the Local Government Authority for County Wicklow and is responsible for the delivery of the full range of services. Wicklow County Council seeks to enhance the county's attraction as a place in which to invest, work, and live, and takes the lead role in shaping the strategic vision of the county. It provides a diverse, multi-layered and evolving range of services to both citizens and visitors to County Wicklow, which include the provision of housing, planning, development, environmental, roads and traffic, leisure and community services. It also has an enhanced role in leading out economic and community development in the County. The Council works in partnership with other state, public and private bodies in the delivery of critical infrastructure and shared services.

Wicklow County Council has an elected body comprising of 32 elected members and employs a workforce in excess of 800 employees, currently covering 5 Municipal Districts – Bray, Greystones, Wicklow, Arklow and Baltinglass. Our employees work in a dynamic and progressive local authority which promotes training and development of our employees who are our most valuable resource.

The 2024 annual revenue budget for the local authority is approximately €160 million. The Council also continues to invest in the infrastructure of the county and through its Capital Investment Programme.

The day to day running of the Council is the responsibility of the Chief Executive and the Management Team



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QUALIFICATIONS

1 Character

Candidates shall be of good character.

2 Health

Candidates shall be in a state of health such as would indicate a reasonable prospect of ability to render regular and efficient service.

3 Education, Experience, etc.

Candidates shall:

A

- i. hold an honours degree (Level 8 in the National Framework of Qualifications) in Engineering, and
- ii. have at least five years satisfactory relevant engineering experience and
- iii. possess a high standard of technical training and experiences, and
- iv. possess a high standard of administrative experience.

- B** Candidates shall hold a valid Irish/EU full driving licence for class B vehicles or a licence acceptable to NDLS for exchange, free from endorsement and disqualification

4 The Person:

Candidates will demonstrate through their application form and at interview that he/she has/is:

- Excellent communication (written and oral) and interpersonal skills;
- Self-motivated with a record of demonstrating initiative in a work place environment;
- Sufficient knowledge and understanding of engineering works;
- Good judgement, problem-solving and decision- making skills;
- Competence in the area of information technology;
- Good technical knowledge base;
- Appreciation, understanding, knowledge and practice of health and safety issues;
- Good understanding of Local Government policy, issues, initiatives and services;
- Excellent people management skills;
- Excellent financial/budgetary skills;
- Excellent influencing and negotiating skills;
- Ability to work alone or as part of a team;
- Good planning and organisational skills;
- Ability to analyse data and formulate recommendations.



WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

CANDIDATE INFORMATION BOOKLET AND APPLICATION FORM

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**FOUR APPLICATION FORMS (one original and three copies)
SHOULD BE RETURNED TO:**

DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
ENTERPRISE & CORPORATE SERVICES
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY BUILDINGS
WICKLOW

**CANDIDATES WHO SEND THEIR APPLICATIONS BY POST SHOULD ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO
ENSURE DELIVERY NOT LATER THAN THE LATEST TIME FOR ACCEPTANCE.**

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS:

- A Curriculum Vitae will not be accepted
- It is recommended that forms are typed and not hand written.
- Before signing the form, please ensure you have replied fully to all sections/questions.
- You should satisfy yourself that you are eligible under the regulations. The Council cannot undertake to investigate the eligibility of candidates in advance of the interview/examination, and hence persons who are ineligible, but nevertheless, enter, may put themselves to unnecessary expense.
- Wicklow County Council is not responsible for any expenses which may be incurred by the candidate in attendance for interview.
- Applications received after the closing date and time specified will not be accepted.
- Applications received that do not comply with the requirements set out in the booklet i.e. four fully completed signed copies of the application form, will not be accepted.
- Wicklow County Council may decide, by reason of the number of persons seeking admission to the competition, to carry out a shortlisting procedure. Shortlisting will be based on qualifications relevant experience and information submitted on the application form. The number of persons to be invited for interview shall be determined by Wicklow County Council.

COMPLETING A COMPETENCY BASED APPLICATION FORM

A competency based application form requires, you, as the candidate, to describe some of your personal achievements to date, to demonstrate certain competencies (necessary skills & qualities) required for the position you are applying for. All question areas must be answered; as you will be questioned on all areas should you be called for interview.

You should describe situation(s) from your own experience, which you think is the best example(s) of what you have done which demonstrates the specific competency. It is essential that you describe how you demonstrated the skill or quality in question. The example(s) may be drawn from your experience in various settings, including employment, community, sporting or voluntary.

Please do not use the same example to illustrate your answer to more than two areas of competence. Please note the interview board may look for additional examples of where you demonstrated the skills required for the post.

Wicklow County Council is seeking candidates that demonstrate strong administrative and communication skills. They must also be self-motivated and committed to delivering quality public services.

Executive Engineer role can include responsibility for the management and successful delivery of a range of projects and services across a range of disciplines, including, but not limited to, Regeneration, Road Maintenance, Construction and Design, Water Services, Housing Construction and Design, Housing Maintenance, Planning and Community Development.

Executive Engineer Competencies:

- Management & Change
- Delivering Results
- Performance through people
- Personal Effectiveness

Key Competencies for the post are set out as follows:

| COMPETENCY | BEHAVIOURS |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Management & Change | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proactively identifies areas for improvement and develops practical suggestions for their implementation • Demonstrates enthusiasm for new developments/changing work practices and strives to implement these changes effectively • Delegates work effectively, providing clear information and evidence as to what is required • Successfully manages a range of different projects and work activities at the same time |
| Delivering Results | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Takes responsibility and is accountable for the delivery of agreed objectives • Structures and organises their own and others work effectively • Is logical and pragmatic in approach, delivering the best possible results with the resources available • Applies appropriate systems/processes to enable quality checking of all activities at the same time |
| Performance through People | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Works with the team to facilitate high performance, developing clear and realistic objectives and addressing performance issues if they arise • Provides clear information and advice as to what is required of the team • Is flexible and willing to adapt, positively contributing to the implementation of change • Leads by example, coaching and supporting individuals as required |
| Personal Effectiveness: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicates in a fluent, logical, clear and convincing manner verbally and in writing • Is able to listen effectively and develop a two-way dialogue quickly • Treats other with diplomacy, tact, courtesy and respect; even in challenging circumstances • Collaborates and supports colleagues to achieve organisational goals |



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PRINCIPALS OF EMPLOYMENT

A panel may be formed from which any future permanent and temporary positions may be filled. The position will be full time and pensionable.

1. Duties

The duties of the office are to give to the local authority and

- (a) to such other local authorities or bodies for which the Chief Executive, for the purposes of the Local Government Acts 2001 – 2014, is Chief Executive, and
- (b) to any other local authority or body with which an agreement has been made by the local authority or by any of the authorities or bodies mentioned in subparagraph (a) of this paragraph.

Under the general direction and control of the Chief Executive or of such other officer as the Chief Executive may from time to time determine, such appropriate professional/technical and ancillary services of an advisory, supervisory or executive nature as may be required by any local authority or body hereinbefore mentioned in the exercise and performance of any of its powers, functions and duties, including the duty of servicing all committees that may be established by any such local authority or body. The holder of the office will, if required, act for an officer of a higher level.

2. Probation

Where persons who are not already permanent officers of a Local Authority are appointed, the following provisions shall apply;

- (a) there shall be a period after such appointments take effect, during which such persons shall hold office on probation;
- (b) such period shall be six months but the Chief Executive may, at his discretion, extend such period;
- (c) such persons shall cease to hold such office at the end of the period of probation, unless during such period, the Chief Executive has certified that the service of such persons is satisfactory.

3. Salary €57,336 - €79,701 gross per annum (includes 2nd LSI) E.L. 02/2024

The salary shall be fully inclusive and shall be as determined from time to time. Holders of the office shall pay to the local authority any fees or other monies (other than their inclusive salary) payable to or received by them by virtue of their office or in respect of any services, which they are required by or under any enactment to perform.

Starting pay shall be determined in accordance with appropriate Departmental circular letters.

4. Hours of Work

The person appointed will be required to work a 35 hour week Monday to Friday (which equates to 7 hours per day). There may be a requirement to work additional hours from time to time for which Time in Lieu will apply. No overtime applies to this post. A Flexi Time Scheme is also in place.

5. Travel

The holder of the office will be required to hold a valid Irish/EU full driving licence for class B vehicles or a licence acceptable to NDLS for exchange, free from endorsement and disqualification. They must be a competent driver and shall drive a motor car in the course of his/her duties and for this purpose, provide and maintain a car to the satisfaction of the Local Authority. The Local Authority must be indemnified on their insurance.

6. Residence

Holders of the office shall reside in the district in which their duties are to be performed or within a reasonable distance thereof.

7. Health

For the purpose of satisfying the requirements as to health, it will be necessary for the successful candidate, before he/she is appointed, to undergo at his/her expense, a medical examination by a qualified Medical Practitioner to be nominated by the Local Authority. On taking up appointment, the expense of the medical examination will be refunded to the candidate.

8. Annual Leave

Annual leave entitlement will be 30 days per annum exclusive of public holidays and Good Friday.

9. Retirement Age

With effect from 1st January 2013, persons who are pensionable under the terms of the Single Public Service Pension Scheme will have a minimum retirement age of 66 years initially rising in line with the State Pension age changes. Members of the Single Public Service Pension Scheme have a compulsory retirement age of 70 years.

There is no mandatory retirement age for new entrants to the public service as defined in the Public Service Superannuation (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2004.

Anyone who is not a new entrant to the public service, as defined in the Public Service Superannuation (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 2004 and The Public Service Superannuation (Age of Retirement) Act 2018, are subject to a compulsory retirement age of 70 years.

10. Superannuation

Persons who become pensionable public servants on or after 1st January 2013 will become members of the Single Public Service Pension Scheme and, as such, will be required to pay contributions of 3% of pensionable remuneration and 3.5% of net pensionable remuneration (i.e. pensionable remuneration less twice the annual rate of social insurance old age contributory pension payable at the maximum rate to a person with no adult dependant or qualified children).

Persons who become pensionable officers of a local authority who are liable to pay the Class A rate of PRSI contribution will be required in respect of their superannuation to contribute to the local authority at the rate of 1.5% of their pensionable remuneration plus 3.5% of the net pensionable remuneration (i.e. pensionable remuneration less twice the annual rate of social insurance old age contributory pension payable at the maximum rate to a person with no adult dependant or qualified children).

Persons who become pensionable officers of a local authority who are liable to pay the Class D rate of PRSI contribution will be required in respect of their superannuation to contribute to the local authority at the rate of 5% of their pensionable remuneration.

All persons who become pensionable officers of a local authority will be required in respect of the Local Government (Spouses and Children's Contributory Pension) Scheme, to contribute to the local authority at the rate of 1.5% of their pensionable remuneration in accordance with the terms of the scheme.



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RECRUITMENT

Selection shall be by means of a competition based on an interview conducted by or on behalf of the local authority. Panels may be formed on the basis of such interviews.

Wicklow County Council reserves the right to shortlist candidates in the manner it deems most appropriate. **Short listing may be on the basis of information supplied on the application form and the likely number of vacancies to be filled. It is therefore in your own interest to provide a detailed and accurate account of your qualifications/experience on the application form.** The candidates shortlisted will be invited to attend for interview. **Interviews may be held in person or by online process through Microsoft Teams.** The Council will not be responsible for any expenses incurred by candidates in attending for interview.

Candidates whose names are on a Panel and who satisfy the local authority that they possess the qualifications declared for the office and that they are otherwise suitable for appointment may, within the life of the Panel, be appointed as appropriate vacancies arise.

The life of the Panel will be for one year from the date it is formed, it may be extended at the discretion of the Chief Executive.

Wicklow County Council will require the person to whom appointment is offered to take up the appointment within a period of not more than one month and if the person fails to take up the appointment within such period or such longer period as Wicklow County Council in its absolute discretion may determine, Wicklow County Council will not appoint him/her.

Employment may be terminated by either side by giving at least one calendar months' notice. In the event that employment is terminated prior to the completion of any particular contract, the appointee shall co-operate with the Council in ensuring that all files/records are up-to-date and present in an acceptable manner.

It should be noted that the terms of Paragraph 13 of Circular Letter EL 02/09 - Incentivised Scheme of Early Retirement may need to be considered in some instances. It is a condition of this scheme as set out in the Department of Finance Circular 12/2009 that retirees, under that Scheme, are debarred from applying for another position in the same employment or the same sector.

Furthermore, persons who have availed of a Redundancy Payment Scheme should note that is a condition of the Collective Agreement that persons availing of the agreement will not be eligible for re-employment in the public service by any public service body (as defined by the Financial Emergency Measures in the Public Interest Acts 2009 – 2011) for a period of 2 years from termination of the employment. Thereafter the consent of the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform will be required prior to re-employment.

Applicants will be required to declare whether they have previously availed of either of the above schemes.

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WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER