

Investment in Education



Kilcoole



Delgany



Greystones



Bray

In the last 5 years the Government has invested record amounts in education in Co. Wicklow. Major investments include over €5.5 million on Marino Special School, Bray. Over €2.6 million was invested in St. Cronan's National and St. Patrick's National Schools, Bray, a new second level college, Colaiste Craobh Abhann, Kilcoole, costing over €8.5 million and major investment in St. Kevin's CBS National School and St. Laurence's National School, Greystones and at Delgany National School.

"As a person involved in education and as a parent, I am particularly proud of this Government's record of investment in education in Co. Wicklow. Fianna Fail has always seen education as a key area for State funding. No Government in the history of the State has ever invested as much in Co. Wicklow schools", Dick Roche said.

More Money for Housing

Dick Roche has announced the provision of almost €36 million in capital funding for local authority house construction in 2005 to Wicklow County Council and the Bray, Arklow and Wicklow Town Councils.

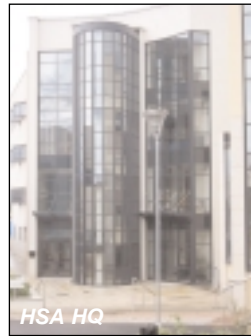
When the Rainbow Coalition was in government and Deputy Liz McManus was in charge of housing €8.6m was allocated for housing in County Wicklow 1995, €10.6 in 1996 & €12 in 1997- €5m less in three years than this year's allocation.

Bray and Greystones Swimming Pool Projects

Following sustained lobbying by Minister Dick Roche, the green light has been given for the Bray and Greystones swimming pool projects to move to the next stage of development – the preparation of contract documents and advance to tender. Government funding for the two new indoor heated swimming pools was agreed last year.

When the new swimming pools are completed County Wicklow will have received funding for 4 publicly owned pools since Fianna Fail replaced the Rainbow Coalition in 1997. In Government, Fine Gael & Labour failed to provide any funding for swimming pools in Wicklow.

The Changing Face of Bray



HSA HQ



The Mermaid



Trinity Bio

The many new developments in and around Bray are a welcome sign that the 'Celtic Tiger' has reached North Wicklow and that the area is benefiting significantly from prudent Government policies" Minister Roche told a recent meeting.

Fassaroe Scheme

Minister Dick Roche has given Bray Town Council permission to prepare a scheme to refurbish its housing estates at Fassaroe. The scheme will involve all of the estates in Fassaroe and is likely to have a price tag of over €8m.

DID YOU KNOW?

THE 2005 BUDGET PROVIDES MORE THAN 3 TIMES AS MUCH MONEY FOR DISABILITY SERVICES AS PROVIDED IN 1997 BY THE FINE GAEL/LABOUR PARTY GOVERNMENT.

Footbridge at Enniskerry Junction

As a Councillor, Dick Roche was one of those who called for a footbridge at the dangerous junction of the N11 and the old Bray to Enniskerry Road. Now as Minister for the Environment, Dick Roche has allocated a sum of €3 million for the building of the footbridge to allow pedestrian access from Herbert Road to the Enniskerry Road. The necessary preparatory planning work is now well underway. The funding is part of the record funding of €15m. allocated to Wicklow for non-national roads in 2005. The footbridge when in place will again open the way for walkers between Bray and Enniskerry.

You can also contact Dick by phone, fax or e-mail at any of the following addresses:

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DICK ROACHE

www.dickroche.com

RAISING THE ISSUES. GETTING RESULTS. WORKING FOR YOU.

BRAY NEWSLETTER

Dear Constituent,

I hope you find this latest Bray Newsletter interesting. I would very much welcome your feedback and I would particularly welcome suggestions as to items which you would like to see covered in future Newsletters.

As always, you can reach me at my Constituency Office at 2 Herbert Terrace, Herbert Road, Bray phone (01) 2863211. Alternatively please feel free to drop in to my local Clinics at 2 Herbert Tce. any Monday morning at 10.30 or Friday evening at 6.30. You can also get in touch with me at my office in the Department of the Environment, Heritage & Local Government at (01) 8882000, or contact me by e-mail at dick.roche@oireachtas.irlgov.ie

Finally, you may like to know that in addition to my Newsletters, I have opened a website aimed at keeping Constituents up to date with events in the Constituency. You can contact the 'site via the Internet at www.dickroche.com

All the very best for the present.

Yours sincerely

Dick Roche, TD

Minister for the Environment,
Heritage & Local Government

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FIANNA FAÏL
THE REPUBLICAN PARTY

Roche Sanctions €54m Investment

An investment of €54 million in upgrading the Bray – Shanganagh Sewerage Treatment Scheme has been sanctioned by Minister Dick Roche. The New Scheme will mean that a major new treatment plant will be installed at Shanganagh. This will take wastewater from the Bray sewerage system. The new investment will lead to a major upgrading of water quality in the coastal area from Shanganagh to Greystones. It will be recalled that Bray Beach lost its Blue Flag status because of issues relating to water quality. When the new plant is in operation Bray will be in line for the reinstatement of its Blue Flag.

Bray Recycling Centre

Shortly after taking office Dick Roche indicated to the local Council he was prepared to give a major grant towards the cost of a recycling centre for Bray Town. Dick has now called on the local Council to "resolve outstanding issues in relation to this site as soon as possible. It is clear that the residents of Bray and indeed throughout North Wicklow are very anxious to play their part in reducing waste and to increase the level of recycling", said Dick.

It is odd that a Council controlled by a coalition of Green, Labour & Sinn Fein Councillors has failed to find a site for a recycling centre in spite of the fact that funding has been offered.

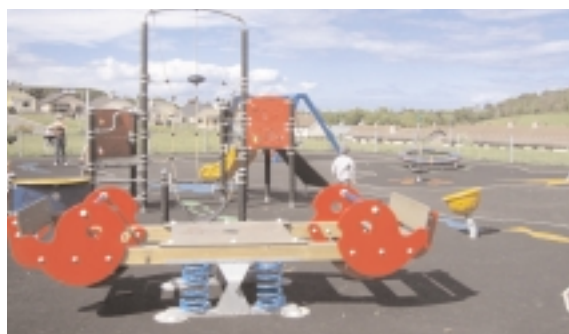
Green Schools



County Wicklow has the highest level of "Green Schools" in the country. Currently 80% of Wicklow Schools are in the Green School system. Recently Minister Dick Roche presented Green Flags to 10 Co Wicklow schools in a ceremony at Dublin's Tailors' Hall

Playgrounds & Skateboard Parks

In addition to funding of €2 million for playground equipment to Councils, nationally, for 2005, Minister Dick Roche has allocated €1m for skateboard parks. Under the new scheme Councils are being invited to submit proposals for facilities for skateboarders.



The newly opened Kilmacanogue playground which was grant aided by the Department of the Environment and Wicklow County Council.

Bray Air Show



One of the most exciting proposals to come forward from Bray in recent years is the suggestion that Bray would have an air show to parallel or even surpass the highly successful Salthill, Galway air show. The Bray proposals ran into difficulties when it emerged that Iarnród Éireann decided to close the DART service at weekends in order to carry out further improvements. Following pressure from Dick Roche the company reversed its decision to close the DART service over the weekend of the air show, making the show possible. The CIE group also agreed a package of measures including extra bus services to Bray and a publicity programme to promote Bray throughout the Summer season.

Ballywaltrim's New Community Centre

The new Ballywaltrim Community Centre has received over €2.6 million from Government and a further €0.3 million from Bray Town Council. The Community Centre was the brainchild of a small committee led by Cllr. David Grant.

The new Community Centre has a dedicated youth section, Community Meeting Rooms, Sport & Recreational Facilities and will also have, before the end of the year, a full child care centre.

"I am delighted to have been in a position to support David Grant in his efforts to win record levels of Government funding for this vital Community Project", Minister Roche said recently. "I can think of no other project in Co. Wicklow or indeed in the country where a local Councillor has so successfully lobbied for major funding across a variety of Government agencies. Huge credit is due to Cllr. Grant and his committee for bringing this very ambitious project to fruition".



Funds for Bray Harbour

Bray Harbour is a wonderful amenity with huge potential. Over the years it has been allowed to slip. Access to the Harbour is difficult and the area has generally declined. Dick Roche a long-term supporter of better recreational use of Bray Harbour has allocated a sum of €500,000 to the Council for improvement works in the Harbour.



The Kilmac Wall Saga



On the eve of last year's local elections when the Kilmac & Glen of the Downes stretch of the N11 was being officially 'opened' Minister Dick Roche, the then County Council Chairman, Dr O'Connell and local Councillor Eleanor Roche met with residents



from Rockfield and the neighbouring estates who were asking 'where is our wall'. Dick and his colleagues promised that the wall would be completed and as our picture shows it has.

Central Heating

Since becoming Minister for the Environment, Dick Roche has allocated over €500,000 to Bray Town Council for central heating in local authority houses – more than any previous Minister ever allocated. This is part of a programme to provide all local authority housing with central heating by 2008.

"I am most anxious that local authorities install central heating and to carry out other improvements in all Council houses. Central heating is a very basic requirement in a modern home. I am calling on all local Councils to ensure that we get value for the money for the record funding which I have allocated in this year's budget for local authority home improvements. As a resident of Bray I would hope, in particular, that the Bray Council will lead the way in this regard", Minister Roche said.

Roche Approves €1.7m for James Everett Park

Dick Roche has approved €1.7m in grants to Bray Council for the refurbishment of houses at James Everett Park. The scheme will involve the installation of central heating, replacement of windows and doors, rewiring, insulation of roof areas, replacing eaves, gutters and downpipes. Works will also be undertaken to the front elevations of the houses that are privately owned on the basis of an agreement of 50/50 shared cost with private home owners.

FINE GAEL + LABOUR + GREENS = HIGHER TAXES

Under Fianna Fail, a worker in Bray on the average industrial wage in 2005 will earn €11,300 more & pay €200 less tax than in 1997 when Fine Gael & Labour were in charge of the public finances. The Green Party, potential partners with Fine Gael & Labour, has indicated clearly that in Government it would favour changes that would increase the tax burden on workers.

For a full list of Dick Roche's Constituency Clinics please telephone 01 286 3211.