

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 Greystones, 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.

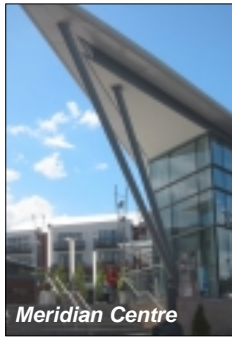
The Changing Face of Greystones



New office development



Shopping at Charlesland



Meridian Centre

The many new developments in and around Greystones 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.

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.

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

Too much money for North Wicklow?

Dick Roche was taken to task by a national Sunday newspaper for paying too much attention to his constituency. Following criticism by Ireland on Sunday, Minister Roche said, "Over the years towns like Bray and Greystones have not won the level of funding particular for the creation of recreational and other amenities that they deserve. I find it somewhat bizarre that a Sunday newspaper would find criticism in the fact that I have decided to allocate funding to the area for much-needed amenities".

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

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DICK ROACHE

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RAISING THE ISSUES. GETTING RESULTS. WORKING FOR YOU.

GREYSTONES • DELGANY • KILCOOLE NEWSLETTER

Dear Constituent,

I hope you find this latest 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

Record Funding for Greystones Club

Following intensive lobbying by Minister Dick Roche, Greystones United Football Club has won top place in the allocation of the Sports Capital Grants for 2005. Greystones United, which has been "looking for a home" for many years, will receive €400,000 in the 2005 Sports Capital Programme. Greystones Éire Óg will receive a further grant of €50,000 this year. The club has been allocated over €360,000 since 2000. Kilcoole St. Anthony's Football Club, Kilcoole received an additional €15,000 allocation. The club has received several other allocations in recent times. In all, over €1.5 million has been allocated in grants to County Wicklow clubs.



Going Somewhere at Last

The Greystones Southern Access Route, the road intended to create a direct link between the N11, at Kilpedder, and Greystones was brought to an abrupt halt within a couple of hundred metres of the N11, because part of the site was contaminated with material which had been dumped over the years.

Following an intervention by Minister Dick Roche, an arrangement has finally been "hammered out" which will create a connection between the Southern Access Road and the N11. This breakthrough is the first step to completing a full interchange at Kilpedder.

Local people were outraged when it materialised that Wicklow County Council had selected a route that had major problems. Residents in Greystones, Kilcoole and Delgany are still asking, how local councillors, particularly long time council members, could have allowed this situation to arise.

If all goes well, roadworks should be completed within a matter of months. At that stage, commuters will have direct access to the N11.



Kilcoole Health Centre

Following the changes in the Kilcoole Health Centre, Minister Dick Roche has been in regular contact with the Health Service Executive, the Department of Health and the Tanaiste and Minister for Health. Following Minister Roche's intervention, the Health Service Executive has given an assurance that the Health Centre in Kilcoole will remain in operation, contrary to the suggestions that have been circulated in the area by the Labour Party, who have claimed that the facility is to close.

Special Funding for Greystones Footpaths

Greystones will receive special funding for footpaths under a new scheme introduced by Minister Dick Roche. In January, Minister Roche indicated that he was establishing a new scheme, for footpath repair programmes in former Town Commission areas.

Minister Roche has now provided funding for all six applications submitted for Greystones. Works to be funded include footpath improvements at Church Lane, new footpaths at Trafalgar Road, Rathdown Road, Applewood Heights, Mountain View Park – La Touche Park and at Carrig Villas. The work will cost over €120,000.

Announcing the funding for Greystones, Minister Roche said, "The new funds are intended to be additional to the funding which was announced earlier this year to County Councils. I will be expecting Greystones Town Council and other similar Town Councils to ensure that they are getting the full value of this scheme"

Funding for Greystones Health Centre

Following protracted lobbying from Minister Dick Roche, the Health Service Executive has allocated funding for an extension to Greystones Health Centre. On completion, the Health Service Executive will be in a position to expand the level of services provided.

Services at the centre will include nursing care, speech therapy, social work, mental health, antenatal clinics, hearing and optical clinics, childcare development clinic, dental care and chiropody.



Delgany Traffic

With the impasse on the Greystones Southern Access Route nearing completion, the traffic calming measures, which have been promised for some time for Delgany village, can now be put in place.

Minister Roche has thrown his weight behind the campaign to have traffic calming measures introduced in Delgany. The Minister has also indicated, in correspondence with the Council, his support for the suggestion made by local residents, that speed limits on the R762, the road from Barry's Bridge to Killincarrig, should be revised and reduced. "It is, to put it mildly, ironic that the speed limit on the motorway standard road which runs through Kilmacanoge is lower than the current speed limit on the very inadequate road from Barry's Bridge to Delgany and onward to Killincarrig," Minister Roche said.



Tern Colony

Councillor Eleanor Roche and Minister Dick Roche at the Little Tern Breeding Colony at Newcastle. The Colony which is under the control of the National Park and Wildlife Services Section of Minister Roche's Department, contains 80% of the Little Tern breeding pairs in Ireland



Central Heating

Since becoming Minister for the Environment, Dick Roche has allocated over €560,000 to Wicklow County 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. I would hope that Wicklow County Council will lead the way in this regard", Minister Roche said.

Funding for the Cliff Walk

Since coming into politics in the early 1980's, Dick Roche has been a major supporter of the Bray to Greystones Cliff Walk. As Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, Dick has initiated studies on the creation of a coastal walk, which will ultimately run from Bray to the Wexford border. Recently, Dick was instrumental in winning funding, totalling €185,000 for the restoration of the Bray to Greystones Cliff Walk. €138,750 was provided by the Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources, and the balance by Wicklow County Council.

**FINE GAEL + LABOUR + GREENS =
HIGHER TAXES**

Under Fianna Fail, a worker in Greystones 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.