

# Ireland

## Waterford Greenway



**TYPE OF TOOL:**  
*Project*



**MAIN SECTOR:**  
*Transport*



**THEME:**  
*Green*



**INFRASTRUCTURE GOVERNANCE PILLARS:**  
*Transparent, systematic and effective stakeholder participation*

### In a nutshell:



**OBJECTIVE:** The Waterford Greenway aims to promote the sustainable development of tourism and enhance sustainable regional mobility.



**Agency in charge**  
**Waterford City and County Council**



**Levels of government**  
**National and sub-national**



**Year of implementation:**  
**2014**



**Current status:**  
**Operation**



**Value:**  
**€21 million**

### Overview:

The Waterford Greenway is a 46km off-road cycling and walking trail along the old railway line between Dungarvan and Waterford City. The Greenway is a significant tourist attraction in the southeast of the country and serves as a sustainable mobility route for commuters in Waterford City, as well as other towns and villages along its route. Lessons from the project informed the 'Strategy for the Future Development of National and Regional Greenways'. It highlights the need to engage in extensive stakeholder and landowner consultation when planning national and regional greenways that are a minimum of 20km in length and completed to Transport Infrastructure Ireland standards.

A survey was implemented to collect data from Greenway users through on-site interview surveys over four days in August and October 2017 at four locations along the Greenway. It is expected that other such surveys will be carried out at regular intervals in order to gather information from users of the Greenway to inform its future management and maintenance.

**Challenges:** Challenges with the Waterford Greenway included reaching agreements on accommodation works with landowners. This resulted in the need for a higher amount of fencing and underpasses than originally envisaged. Although land access was not a major issue, access for agricultural animals meant that extra infrastructure had to be put in place.

**Lessons learned:** The biggest lesson learned was with regard to the development of the 'Charter for Greenway Accommodation Works' which deals with fencing, animal safety and crossing and the importance of stakeholder engagement, particularly with land and property owners.

#### REFERENCES:

- Department of Public Expenditure and Reform (2021), Project Ireland 2040 - Investment Impact Case Studies, <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/77fe2-national-development-plan-phase-1-report-2021/>