



Press Release

Tuesday 28th June 2016

35, The Mall Opens as Economic Development hub

Waterford City and County Council have celebrated the official opening of 35 The Mall, the new home of their Economic Development Department and the Local Enterprise Office.

Following two years of renovations, Mayor of Waterford City and County Council, Cllr. John Cummins, officially opened the premises on Tuesday 28th June 2016. The building, which is an early 20th Century purpose-built commercial Edwardian structure of architectural and artistic interest, is built on the site of an earlier Georgian town house.

Strategically located within the city centre at the confluence of two main thoroughfares - the junction of The Mall and Lombard Street - and linked with No.'s 3 & 4 Lombard Street, the building stands as a substantial prominent structure with significant internal space.

The renovation of this building was carried out primarily by a Community Employment Scheme, under the supervision of Waterford City and County Council. Huge credit is due to the participants on the scheme who delivered such excellent workmanship in restoring this nine bay, four storey structure, complete with canted bay forming the corner elevation.

The premises feature a strong mix of window designs, elliptical-headed and round headed window openings to the ground floor as well as a round headed door opening. The main entrance door in particular, contains moulded surrounds and the existing up and down timber sash windows and timber panelled doors have been retained throughout.

Great credit is also due to the Department of Social Protection for facilitating such an innovative approach to the renovation. This was the 4th project delivered by this scheme, with the others being the new Tourist Office and Mc

Leary's restaurant on Waterford's Quays, the Fumbally Exchange building at Greyfriars, Squashy Couch and now, 35 The Mall.

The renovation of these historic buildings was made possible by this innovative CE scheme, whereby public money to run the scheme is utilised to restore otherwise derelict public properties. Waterford City & County Council footed the material costs in this case.

The offices will play home to Waterford City & County Council's Economic Development Department, as well as the Waterford Local Enterprise Office. The Local Enterprise Office provides support for people interested in starting a new business or those that are already in business including entrepreneurs, early stage promoters, start-ups and small business looking to expand.

The renovation of 35 The Mall is another great example of the urban renewal works in this area of the city. The updated facade and colourful evening lighting has already made 35 The Mall another iconic landmark in the Viking Triangle.

ENDS



CE Scheme workers and Waterford Council staff, with Mayor Cummins, at opening of Economic Development building - 35 The Mall.