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February 26th, 2025

Subject: Letter of Support for RRDF Funding for Rosslare Harbour & Rosslare Strand

To whom it may concern,

As the largest business network supporting and representing businesses across County Wexford, we are delighted to see Wexford County Council's ambitious proposal for the development of Rosslare Harbour and Rosslare Strand. We fully support the Council's application for RRDF funding to enhance these two vital coastal villages, which play a crucial role in attracting economic activity to the county.

Rosslare Harbour was once a thriving commercial hub, but in recent years, it has suffered significant decline. Without strategic intervention, this area risks further deterioration. While the new access road to Rosslare Europort is a welcome improvement for increased commercial traffic, diverting vehicles around the village has raised concerns about the impact on local businesses. The proposed public realm investment is a critical opportunity to revitalise the village, ensuring that the economic benefits from the port's multi-million-euro investment are felt locally. Securing this funding will help stimulate business activity, encourage tourism, and create new commercial opportunities, ultimately breathing new life into this strategically important area.

Similarly, Rosslare Strand has long been recognised as one of Ireland's premier seaside resorts, drawing visitors for over a century. However, while the village thrives during the summer months, it struggles to sustain visitor and business activity during the off-peak season. The proposed public realm enhancements and capital investment will be instrumental in transforming Rosslare Strand into a vibrant, year-round destination. By improving its attractiveness as an evening and off-season hub, these investments will extend the tourist season, support existing businesses, and attract new enterprises, creating sustained economic and employment opportunities.

At County Wexford Chamber, we firmly believe that securing this funding will be transformational, not just for these two villages but for the county as a whole. This initiative aligns with broader economic and tourism strategies aimed at supporting sustainable growth. We are fully committed to supporting Wexford County Council's efforts to secure this vital investment and urge decision-makers to recognize the profound benefits it will bring to the region.

We appreciate your time and consideration and would be happy to discuss this further at your convenience.

Yours sincerely,

Paula Roche

Chief Executive Officer