

# **ENVIRONMENT/CLIMATE ACTION/EMERGENCY SERVICES/RURAL BROADBAND**

## MANAGEMENT REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE TO: WESTERN COMMITTEE – MARCH 2024.

Environmental Enquiries & Incident Reports. How to contact us:					
Subject	Email	Phone			
Civic Amenity Sites & Recycling	recycling@corkcoco.ie	(021) 4285518			
Waste & Litter complaints	antilitterunit@corkcoco.ie	(021) 4285518			
Other Waste Enquiries	antilitterunit@corkcoco.ie	(021) 4532700			
Water, Air, Noise, Agric, other	environ@corkcoco.ie	(021) 4532700			
Veterinary/Animal Welfare	vets@corkcoco.ie	(021)4285405			
Access to Information on the Environment (AIE)	aie.requests@corkcoco.ie	(021) 4532700			
You can also make a range of environmental enquiries and reports via YourCouncil.ie					

LOUIS DUFFY
DIRECTOR OF SERVICE
DATE: MARCH 2024.

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# 1. Part 1 News & Updates

#### 1.1. Climate Action

#### 1.1.1 Climate Action Plan

The Elected Members approved Cork County Council's Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 at the Full Council meeting held on the 12th of February. The Plan was published on the 28<sup>th</sup> of February and a copy of the Plan and associated environmental reports are available for public inspection at <a href="www.corkcoco.ie">www.corkcoco.ie</a>. Physical copies of the Climate Action Plan in English and Irish are available in Cork County Council's Public Libraries during opening hours. Discussions will commence shortly with Directorates across the council regarding implementation of adopted individual climate actions.

#### 1.1.2 Community Climate Action Programme (CCAP)

Applications to the Community Climate Action Programme (CCAP) closed on Wednesday 6th March 2024. The CCAP is designed to provide targeted funding for community groups through a competitive application process to deliver community climate action. 36 applications were received and the process of evaluating these applications will commence shortly. The final decision for project approval will be made by the Minister for Environment, Climate and Communications and the CCAP has no appeal process and all decisions by the Minister are final.

(03\_2024\_W)

#### 1.2. Waste & Litter

#### 1.2.1 Publication of National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy.

**National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy** providing a new framework for the prevention and management of waste from 2024 to 2030 was launched on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March last.

Ireland currently generates around 3.2 million tonnes of municipal waste per year. This is equivalent to 644kg per person, far higher than the European average of 527kg per person. As a country it is acknowledged that we need to move away from the traditional linear 'take-make-use-dispose' model towards a 'circular economy' regenerative growth model where resources are reused or recycled as much as possible, and the generation of waste is minimised. The transition to a circular economy is essential to reduce pressure on natural resources, aid in achieving climate targets, support Sustainable Development Goals and create sustainable growth and jobs.

The plan identifies 16 focus areas with 85 priority actions and sets out an ambitious target of 0% waste growth per person over the next six years.

To read the plan visit www.mywaste.ie



Pauline McDonagh Senior Executive Scientist with the regional waste planning
Office speaking at launch of new Waste Management Plan.

(03\_2024\_W)

#### 1.2.2 Brown Bin Collection Service available to all from January 2024.

From **January 2024**, new legislation means every household with a waste collection service is entitled to a brown bin collection from their service provider.

Up until now, only approximately 69% of households in Ireland up have been able to avail of a food waste collection service from their waste service collector. Mywaste.ie is encouraging everyone who does not already have the service to contact their waste collector and request a brown bin service in 2024, because "you're never too remote to recycle!"

A brown bin service accepts all types of food including raw and cooked meat and fish, plate scrapings, along with fruit and vegetable peelings. Other items that can go into the brown bin include food-soiled paper napkins, paper towels, pizza boxes as well as grass clippings and light garden waste. There is lots of information available at <a href="https://www.mywaste.ie/brown-bin-service/">https://www.mywaste.ie/brown-bin-service/</a>



<u>Click here</u> to watch this video on how to recycle your food.

(01\_2024\_N)

### 1.2.3 National End of Waste Criteria for Recycled Aggregate

The EPA published the National End of waste Criteria for Recycled Aggregates in October last. The decision applies to aggregates recycled from construction and demolition waste, including soil and stone, concrete bricks and ceramics. The criteria will allow waste to be reclassified as a product on the market.

The decision will keep materials in use for longer and help towards our circular economy and green public procurement targets by using recycled materials in road construction and general fill. The replacement of virgin aggregates with recycled aggregates will increase recycling in the construction and demolition sectors.

Further details can be found on the link below:

https://www.epa.ie/publications/licensing--permitting/waste/-national-end-of-waste-criteria-recycled-aggregates.php



(01\_2024\_N)

#### 1.2.4 National By-Product Criteria for Site-Won Asphalt

In November last the EPA also published the National By-Product Criteria for Site-Won asphalt (e.g. road planings) which became effective immediately.

These criteria allow for the classification of road planings as a by-product, meaning it is not waste. The by-product can subsequently be used or placed on the market in the same way as virgin material. These criteria support waste prevention and facilitate the reuse of materials in new construction projects, in line with circular economy objectives.

Construction and Demolition waste accounts for over 50% of all waste in Ireland and the National decision aims to reduce waste in the road construction industry. This means that road planings are no longer considered a waste if used in accordance to the criteria. The elimination of a case-by-case assessment carried out by the EPA is welcomed as it will set a level playing field for all stakeholders and will encourage more stakeholders to participate.

Further details can be found on the link below:

https://www.epa.ie/publications/licensing--permitting/waste/consultation-paper-regulation-277-national-by-product-criteria-for-road-planings-used-in-rap-plants.php (01 2024 N)

## 1.3. Air Quality

#### 1.3.1 Sale of Non-Compliant solid fuel remains an issue.

The Environment Directorate recently undertook a county-wide market surveillance exercise alongside its regular programme of inspections of solid fuel retailers. While most retailers are compliant and sell only approved fuels, we have uncovered evidence of the sale and transport of unapproved fuels, particularly bituminous (smoky) coal. Some of the non-compliant retailers identified are in North Cork.

Although this illegal trade is confined to a small number of operators, it is damaging to compliant operators who are losing customers and revenue. The fact that much of this smoky coal is being sourced in Northern Ireland and is being transported all the way to Cork without payment of VAT or Carbon Tax allows non-compliant operators to undercut legitimate traders.

The Environment Directorate will continue to monitor closely and will initiate enforcement action as necessary, and we will also co-ordinate with Revenue & Customs services as appropriate. Anyone wishing to report the transport and or sale of unapproved fuels can do so by email to <a href="mailto:environ@corkcoco.ie">environ@corkcoco.ie</a>, by telephone to <a href="mailto:(021) 4532700">(021) 4532700</a> or online at <a href="mailto:YourCouncil.ie">YourCouncil.ie</a>.



(01 2024 N)

## 1.4. Dog Control and Animal Welfare

### 1.4.1 New Regulations increase Dog Control Fines

On 1<sup>st</sup> December last, new regulations came into force increasing fixed penalty fines under the Control of Dogs Act.

Under the new regulations, Dog Owners can receive on the spot fines of €300 for failing to keep their dog under effective control. Dog Wardens can also issue €300 fines to dog owners for failing to keep a dog muzzled or leashed in a public place where it is required.

(02\_2024\_S)

### 1.5. Community Environmental Awareness Programmes

#### 1.5.1 School Garden Competition Launch

There was a real air of spring in Atkins Garden World as The Mayor of the County of Cork Cllr. Frank O'Flynn and the Lord Mayor of Cork Cllr. Kieran Mc Carthy joined together to launch the 2024 Cork Schools Garden Competition. Sponsored by Cork County Council and Cork City Council and organised by Cork County Muintir na Tíre, the competition has a PRIZE FUND of over €5,000! The Annual Cork School Garden Competition is open to all primary schools in Cork city and county who have a school garden or are in the process of developing one. There are various award categories including School Garden of the Year, Biodiversity, Fun and Games, Gardening 'As Gaeilge', Imaginative use of Limited Space and many more.

The closing date for Competition Entry is Good Friday 29th March 2024.

Full competition details are available here



1Pictured with Mayor of the County of Cork Cllr Frank O' Flynn at the launch of the Muintir na Tíre Cork School Garden Competition 2024 are Mr Sean Holland Muintir na Tíre, teachers Clar Ui Mhaolain, James O'Murchu and pupils, brothers Darragh, Tadhg and Cillian O'Muirgheasa of Gaelscoil Charraig Ui Leighin, winners of Best School Garden in County Cork in 2023, Louis Duffy. Director of Services - Environment, Climate Change and Emergency Services, Heritage Officer Conor Nelligan, Katherine Corkery and Michelle Green Environment Directorate Cork County Council.

(03\_2024\_W)

### 1.5.2 Globe Ireland Sustainable Urban Drainage (SUDs)-Nature Based Solutions Education Initiative

This January 2024, 40 Primary and Secondary schools across the country measured precipitation and investigated flood risk and opportunities for resilience in their school and school community.

Students additionally explored the implementation of Nature Based SUDS and completed site inventories and analyses to create 'Spongy School' solutions.

Schools Participating in County Cork were:

- Carrigtwohill Community National School
- Mt. St. Michael Rosscarbery
- Kinsale Community College
- Banteer National School

The Air & Wastewater Team of the Environment Directorate are assisting and providing technical guidance with school projects, including sending pH Test Strips to schools in County Cork.

The programme is managed by An Taisce, and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and outcomes will be published in due course.



(03\_2024\_W)

### 1.5.3 Cloth Nappy Incentive Scheme

Cork County Council, in collaboration with Cork City Council, Cork University Maternity Hospital (CUMH) and Voice Ireland, launched the Cloth Nappy Incentive Scheme in December, to support parents in making a move from disposable nappies to reusable cloth nappies.

A baby uses between 4,000 and 4,500 nappies before potty training at roughly 2.5 years and the UNEP reported in 2021 that disposable nappies are one of the biggest contributors to plastic waste globally. The Cloth Nappy Incentive Scheme supports the use of reusable nappies among families who could not otherwise have considered trying them owing to the upfront costs in buying the nappies. The scheme was established by VOICE under funding provided by the Environmental Protection Agency for a pilot programme in Dublin which was very successful.

The scheme has been hugely popular since the launch in Cork. To date, 100 families in Cork County have been accepted on the scheme. Each family will be provided with a cloth nappy starter kit worth €100 and feedback on their experience will be collected over time.

For more information visit https://www.voiceireland.org/campaign/cloth-nappy-incentive-scheme.



Launch at CUMH: Mairead O'Riordan, Clinical Lead CUMH, expectant mothers & staff members Midwife Roisin O'Conor and Dr Cathy Rowland SPR; Dr Cathy Burke, Consultant Gynaecologist/Obstetrician CUMH. Abi O'Callaghan-Platt; Voice Ireland; Staff of Cork City & County Council.

(02\_2024\_S)

#### 1.5.4 Deposit Return Scheme (DRS)

Councillors will be aware that the Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) is now live since 1 February 2024. When you buy a drink in a plastic bottle, aluminium or steel can that feature the Re-turn logo, you pay a small deposit in addition to the price of the drink. When you return your empty and undamaged drink container to participating shops and supermarkets, you get your deposit back in full.

Issues have been raised with us by Councillors and others about "in scope" containers that do not have the Re-turn logo and accordingly we sought clarification from the **Re-turn** the administrators of the scheme.

Starting 1 February 2024, retailers have a 4-month transition period during which they can sell both new drinks containers with the Re-turn logo and older drinks containers that do not feature the logo, but whose barcode has been registered by the manufacturer/distributor under the scheme. Thus, during the transition period, drinks containers can incur a deposit in two ways:



- By having the Re-turn logo with a registered barcode
- By having a barcode that is registered as part of the scheme without the Re-turn logo.

Therefore, it is possible that, during the transition period, consumers may be charged a deposit for some containers that do not have the Re-turn logo. When the old stock has been sold, all new stock will have the Re-turn logo. All containers that have international barcodes registered with the scheme will have the deposit repaid when returned to an RVM(Reverse Vending Machine), even if they don't have the Re-turn logo.

During the transition period, there will also be old drink containers without a logo and with a barcode that has not registered with the scheme; these drinks containers will not incur a deposit charge.

From June 1, all drinks containers included in the scheme will feature the Re-turn logo and barcode. If a consumer is in any doubt about whether their container is eligible for a refund on a deposit, they can visit <a href="https://re-turn.ie/consumer/#barcodeChecker">https://re-turn.ie/consumer/#barcodeChecker</a> to verify.

(03\_2024\_W)

### 1.5.5 WEEE National Campaign Launched

The recently launched WEEE National Campaign highlights the importance of recycling broken or unused appliances. The campaign is a collaboration between the Government, MyWaste.ie and the two national compliance schemes ERP Ireland and WEEE Ireland.

Electrical items such as mobile phones, laptops, toasters, Christmas lights can all be recycled but people are either hoarding them or disposing of them incorrectly. According to WEEE Ireland chief executive Leo Donovan, "For every 10 new small electrical products sold in Ireland last year, only four are eventually coming back through the Irish-approved e-waste recycling system when they reach end of life."

The aim of the campaign is to encourage households to do a clear out of electrical items and recycle them for free at their nearest drop off point.

See www.mywaste.ie for more information.



(02\_2024\_S)

### 1.5.6 Mywaste.ie Supports Schools to Segregate their Waste.

Mywaste.ie have recently added a section on their website to assist schools in segregating their waste.

Waste prevention, waste segregation and recycling are all aspects of waste management that can be enhanced in schools across Ireland by implementing some simple practices and actions. The resources available will assist schools in their journey and include downloadable posters, bin labels, guidance booklet, a checklist and four short training animations. Materials are available in English, as Gaeilge or bilingually.

For more information, go to Schools - mywaste My Waste



(02\_2024\_S)

### 1.6. National Broadband Plan (NBP)

### 1.6.1 Digital Connectivity Strategy Update

The January 2024 Digital Connectivity Strategy Update released by DECC reports:

The process of delivering fibre to all homes in the Intervention Area is progressing with momentum. While NBI is committed to delivering a cumulative target of 185,000 premises by the end of 2023 under the revised Contract targets, NBI passed over 205,600 premises up to the end of December 2023.

NBI believe they are now making up for delays encountered due to Covid restrictions and they will continue to seek to accelerate the rollout where possible. They expect to pass over 300,000 premises by the end of 2024.

To date over 69,100 full fibre connections have been made by NBI across all counties and demand remains very strong where fibre is available. Over 3,500 connections are being made each month.

#### 1.6.2 National Broadband Ireland

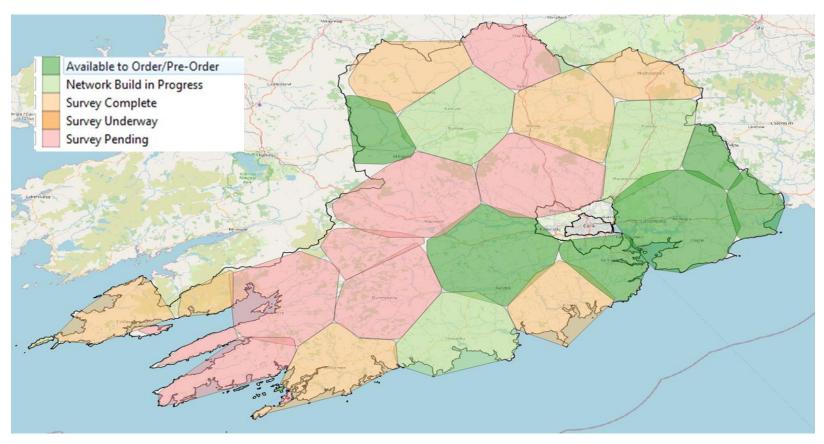
NBI rely on their parent website at <a href="https://nbi.ie/">https://nbi.ie/</a> to provide information on the National Broadband Contract. Websites <a href="https://nbi.ie/where-are-we-working/">https://nbi.ie/nbp-project-progress/</a> provides greater detail on the roll-out progress to premises across the Intervention Areas.

NBI continue to operate a dedicated e-mail service at <a href="reps@nbi.ie">reps@nbi.ie</a> for Elected Representative queries and news items are published at <a href="https://nbi.ie/news/updates/">https://nbi.ie/news/updates/</a>. NBI advise of issuing news items direct to relevant Elected Representatives.

Network build is substantially complete in Carrigaline, Midleton, Youghal, Rathmore, Tallow, Templemartin as well as the Hare and Long Island DA's. Deployment in the, Clonakilty, Fermoy and Kanturk DA's is ongoing. Survey works in the Abbeyfeale, Dursey Island, Eyeries, Horse Island, Killavullen, Kinsale, Lauragh, Meelin, Mitchelstown and Skibbereen DA's is complete. Survey works are pending at Ballingeary, Bantry, Bere Island, Cape Clear, Sherkin Island, Carriganimmy, Charleville, Dunmanway, Grenagh, Kilcrohane and Schull. DA's

Approx. 76,700 premises across Cork County will ultimately benefit from access to high-speed broadband constructed under the National Broadband. Broadband connections can now be obtained at approx. 23,500 premises in the intervention area and network build a further 14,000 premises is ongoing.

An overview of planned NBI broadband roll-out activity across the county can be captured from the <a href="https://nbi.ie/where-are-we-working/">https://nbi.ie/where-are-we-working/</a> website. Website <a href="https://nbi.ie/where-are-we-working/">https://nbi.ie/where-are-we-working/</a> can be hovered over to identify status of the individual DA's. An overview of the present status and the roll-out per Deployment Area is presented below.



**Graphical Representation of NBI Deployment across DA's** 

Status Deployment Area	Status	Anticipated Date for Connection	Number Premises MOVED_INTO_IA	Number Premises @ SURVEY_PENDING	Number Premises @ Survey Planned/Underway	Number Premises @ SURVEY_COMPLETE	Number Premises @ NETWORK_BUILD_IN_PR OGRESS	Number Premises @ Available to Order/Pre Order	Number Premises in DA to be passed by NBI
ABBEYFEALE	SURVEY_COMPLETE	July 2025 - December 2025				45			45
BALLINGEARY	SURVEY_PENDING	January 2026 - December 20		858					858
BANTRY	SURVEY_PENDING	January 2026 - December 20		3792					3,792
Bere Island (CK)	SURVEY_PENDING	October 2025 - December 20		248					248
Cape Clear/Sherkin Island (Ck	SURVEY_PENDING	March 2025 - May 2025		124					124
CARRIGALINE	Available to Order/Pre Order	Available to Order/Pre Order			16			3658	3,674
CARRIGANIMMY	SURVEY_PENDING	January 2026 - December 20		4098					4,096
CHARLEVILLE	SURVEY_PENDING	January 2026 - December 20		2261					2,261
CLONAKILTY	NETWORK_BUILD_IN_PRO	July 2025 - December 2025					5795		5,795
Default OLT	DA_NOT_ASSIGNED		<b>530</b>	13	4				547
DUNMANWAY	SURVEY_PENDING	January 2026 - December 20		4366					4,366
Dursey Island (CK)	SURVEY_COMPLETE	July 2025 - September 2025				18			18
EYERIES	SURVEY_COMPLETE	January 2025 - June 2025				1489			1,489
FERMOY	NETWORK_BUILD_IN_PRO	January 2025 - June 2025					3695		3,695
GRENAGH	SURVEY_PENDING	January 2026 - December 20		4183					4,183
Hare Island (CK)	Available to Order/Pre Order	Available to Order/Pre Order						59	59
Horse Island (CK)	SURVEY_COMPLETE	July 2026 - September 2026				7			7
KANTURK	NETWORK_BUILD_IN_PRO	October 2024 - December 20	1				3888		3,888
KILCROHANE	SURVEY_PENDING	January 2026 - December 20		469					469
KILLAVULLEN	SURVEY_COMPLETE	January 2026 - December 20				3252			3,252
KINSALE	SURVEY_COMPLETE	January 2026 - December 20				3557			3,557
LAURAGH	SURVEY_COMPLETE	January 2025 - June 2025				<b>401</b>			401
Long Island (CK)	Available to Order/Pre Order	Available to Order/Pre Order						27	27
MEELIN	SURVEY_COMPLETE	January 2026 - December 20				2050			2,050
MIDLETON	Available to Order/Pre Order	Available to Order/Pre Order			28		63	8757	8,848
MITCHELSTOWN	SURVEY_COMPLETE	January 2026 - December 20				1644			1,644
RATHMORE	Available to Order/Pre Order	Available to Order/Pre Order			33		5	2098	2,136
SCHULL	SURVEY_PENDING	January 2026 - December 20		2319					2,319
SKIBBEREEN	SURVEY_COMPLETE	January 2026 - December 20				3663			3,663
TALLOW	Available to Order/Pre Order	Available to Order/Pre Order					29	861	890
TEMPLEMARTIN		Available to Order/Pre Order			174		I 161	5815	6,050
YOUGHAL	Available to Order/Pre Order	Available to Order/Pre Order			12		<b>198</b>	2140	2,348
Totals			530	22,729	167	16,126	13,832	23,415	76,799

Tabular Representation of NBI Deployment across DA's

#### 1.6.3 Broadband Connection Points

A total of 25 BCP's are now completed across the county and are operational. Remote working is being accommodated at a number of BCP's.

The Council continues to support the Broadband Connection Points (BCPs) initiative and is co-funding the monthly broadband retail service costs at BCP's in association with Dept. Rural and Community Development. Many of the BCP's availed of Town and Village funding support to purchase furniture and fittings to enhance remote working opportunities.

Centres across the county hosting BCP sites will benefit to amounts of €320K following successful applications under the Community Centre Investment Fund grant scheme aimed at upgrading and development of community centre facilities which had become aged and dilapidated over time. The successful groups are:

Aubane Community School, Millstreet	€16,000.00
Bere Island Old School Heritage Complex	€25,000.00
Castlelyons Community Centre	€22,628.25
Courtbrack Community Association, Gilough	€16,033.86
Diarmuid O'Mathuna GAA club, Castletownkenneigh, Enniskean	€16,117.00
Dromina Community Council Ltd, Newtownshandrum	€23,406.27
Whitechurch & Waterloo Community Association Company	€100,000.00
Riverstick Community Association	€100,916.73

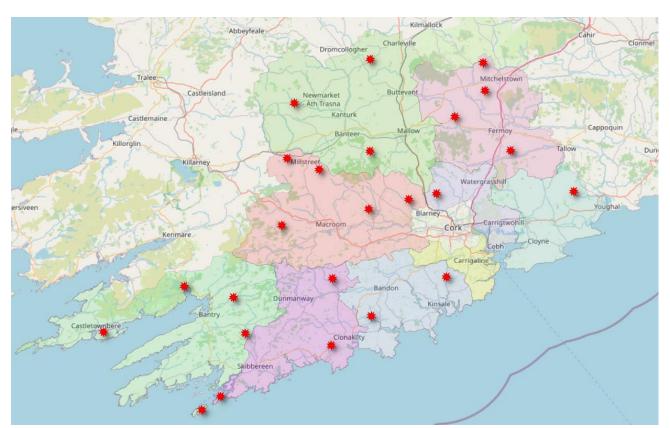
All projects funded under the Community Centre Investment Fund must be completed by March 2024 for drawdown of the approved funding.

Caheragh Community Hall was recently awarded €1,000 under the RISE Community Fund. The RISE Community Fund is supported by NBI and is aimed at addressing the rural digital divide. It awards grants of €1,000 each to empower local businesses, community groups and social enterprises to enhance their digital capacity. The Fund offers an immediate financial injection into the local community, boosting the digital ecosystem.

The list of BCP's is categorized by MD as set out below:

- Bandon-Kinsale MD
  - Clogagh Community Hall and Riverstick Community Centre
- Cobh MD
  - Whitechurch Community Centre
- Fermoy MD
  - Ballindangan Community Centre, T.O Park Community & Sports Centre, Castlelyons Community Centre and The Old Mill, Castletownroche
- Kanturk-Mallow MD
  - Glash School Community Centre, Laharn Heritage Centre and The Old Schoolhouse, Dromina
- Macroom MD
  - Aghabullogue Community Centre, Aubane Community Centre, Ballydaly Community Hall, Courtbrack Community Centre and Ionadh Áise, Renaniree
- East Cork MD
  - Inch Community Centre
- West Cork MD
  - Bere Island Heritage Centre, Castletownkenneigh
    Community Centre, Clonakilty ETB, Coláiste Phobal Cléire, Lisavaird Community Centre, Mealagh Valley Community Centre and Sherkin Island Community Hall, Caheragh Community Centre and Glengarriff Community Centre.

    (02 2024 S)



## 1.7. Emergency Services

### 1.7.1 Community Smoke Alarm Scheme

Cork County Fire Service will provide local Community Groups/Organisations with 10 year battery operated smoke alarms for distribution and installation in elderly and vulnerable resident's dwellings. These smoke alarms are only available to individuals through local Community Groups/Organisations. Representatives of such group who want further information on this scheme can contact Cork County Fire Service at <a href="mailto:fireinfo@corkcoco.ie">fireinfo@corkcoco.ie</a> for details and application forms.

The scheme is supported by the National Directorate for Fire and Emergency Management (NDFEM).

The importance of having a working smoke detector fitted cannot be over emphasised. Most deaths caused by house fires can be prevented if a working smoke alarm is installed.

Statistics show that 20% of households do not have a working smoke alarm. Working Smoke alarms can save lives!



(02\_2024\_S)

#### 1.7.2 Controlled Burning

Cork County Council wishes to remind all land and property holders that it is illegal to cut, grub, burn or otherwise destroy, any vegetation growing on land not then cultivated, or in the course of cultivation, for agriculture or forestry between **1st March and 31st August** each year pursuant to the Wildlife Acts, 1976 and 2000.

The burning of waste is an illegal practice and is an offence under the Waste Management Act, 1996, as amended, the Air Pollution Act, 1987 and the Waste Management (Prohibition of Waste Disposal by Burning) (Amendment) Regulations, 2020.

The previous exemption under the Waste Management Regulations which allowed farmers to dispose of green waste generated by agricultural practices by burning ended on the 30<sup>th of</sup> November 2023.

Consequently, Farmers/Landowners are no longer permitted to burn agricultural waste and must instead apply the following waste hierarchy:

- Waste arisings are reduced in accordance with best agricultural practice.
- Waste is reused where practicable.
- Waste is recycled through shredding and used as compost or wood chippings.
- Waste is salvaged for use as fuel where practicable.

Uncontrolled fires pose a danger to wildlife, property, infrastructure, the environment, and potentially human life. They can be a significant and prolonged draw on Cork County Council Fire Service resources and may compromise their ability to respond to other incidents such as road traffic collisions or domestic fires.

Farmers carrying out limited controlled burning outside of the prohibited period of 1<sup>st</sup> March to 31<sup>st</sup> August must first notify the Fire Service by calling 999/112 to ensure that the Fire Service is not needlessly mobilised to the fire because of calls from concerned members of the public.

(02\_2024\_S)

## 1.7.3 External Emergency Plan Test-Irving Oil, Whitegate Refinery

Iriving Oil, Whitegate, is Ireland's only refinery where light, low-sulphur crude oil, sourced from the North Sea and West Africa is processed. The facility produces transportation and heating fuels such as gasoline, diesel and kerosene that are then distributed across Ireland and Europe. Since it opened in 1959, Ireland's only crude oil refinery has played a critical role in the country's energy infrastructure. The site is considered an Upper-Tier establishment under the COMAH Regulations which requires External Emergency Plans to be tested every three years.

A test of the Iriving Oil External Emergency Plan took place on site at the refinery on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024. The exercise tested a major accident scenario by simulating an activation of the External Emergency Plan for the site. External Emergency Plans are specific Sub-Plans of the Major Emergency Plan of each Principal Response Agency, including Cork County Council.

The event was well supported by the Interagency Emergency Management Office, Cork County Council, HSE, An Garda Siochana, the HSE, the EPA, the Port of Cork and Irving Oil Staff.



















## 1.7.4 Cork West Civil Defence Volunteer Hours

(03\_2024\_W)

Month/Total Operational Hours	Operational Activities (December – February)
December/68hrs	<ul> <li>Ballineen/Enniskeane Christmas Parade - Medical Responder Duty, Vehicle Parade</li> <li>Skibbereen Christmas Parade - Medical Responder Duty, Vehicle Parade</li> <li>Homecoming for O'Donovan Rossa Junior A Ladies All Ireland Champions – Medical Responder Duty, Vehicle Parade</li> </ul>
January/16hrs	<ul> <li>Skibbereen Rowing Club 5Km Fun Run - Medical Responder Duty</li> <li>Launch of New West Cork Rapid Response Jeep - Cork West Civil Defence volunteers attending the launch of Dr Jason Van Der Velde's new West Cork Rapid Response jeep on Sunday the 21st of January 2024 which was held in Ballinscarthy.</li> </ul>
February/48hrs	<ul> <li>Missing Person Search Operation – Ballineen Area (Person Located Safe and Well) - Search Responder Duty</li> <li>Guest Speaker – Officer Commanding of the 122<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Battalion in UNIFIL (Lebanon) Lieutenant Colonel Cathal Keohane</li> <li>Lt Col Cathal Keohane met with the Cork West Civil Defence volunteers on Friday the 16<sup>th</sup> of February. He spoke about his recent experience in Lebanon, and the importance of training, and mission readiness.</li> </ul>



Rest Centre exercise held in Skibbereen.

Month	Training Activities (December – February)			
December	Emergency First Responder Course: 1 newly qualified Emergency First Responders			
	People Handling: 8 Volunteers			
	<ul> <li><u>UCC Interagency Education &amp; Training Day</u></li> <li>On Saturday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December, Cork City Civil Defence hosted an Interagency Education &amp; Training Day in UCC. Thirteen Cork West Civil Defence volunteers attended the event.</li> <li>Guest speakers included:</li> </ul>			
	Dr Tony Lynch, GP/First Responder, Dr Hugh Doran, GP/First Responder, Ger Ryan, Fire Officer, Cork Fire Brigade, Dr Sandra Peake, CEO Wave Trauma Centre Belfast, Dr Colm Henry, Chief Medical Officer, Ger O'Dea, National Ambulance Service, Prof C. Farrell, Director of EMS Harvard University Boston.			
January	Cardiac First Responder Recertification: 17 volunteers recertified.			
	<ul> <li>Rest Centre Exercise – The Aim of the exercise was to test the "MEM Region South Evacuation Guide". The exercise included</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>Testing of mobilisation procedures.</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>Exploring each Agency's roles and responsibilities</li> </ul>			
	Exploring Inter-Agency cooperation			
	<ul> <li>Testing of communications</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>Review of the "MEM Region South Evacuation Guide"</li> </ul>			
February	Weekly training has resumed on Thursday nights in Ballineen and Skibbereen. February training covered Medical Skills.			
	Fortnightly boat training has resumed every second Sunday morning.			



**Swift Water First Responder Course** 

# 2. Work Programme Reports for Q4 2023

(DATA IS UP TO THE END OF Q3 UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED)

## 2.1. Fire and Building Control

## 2.1.1 Fire Operations for Q4.

Fire Operations	
Total number of turnouts to fires	232
Average of turnout times	308.61secs
Average of response times	794.25secs
% of calls with a response time of less than 10 minutes	34.91%
% of calls with a response time of between 10 and 20 minutes	37.50%
% of calls with a response time greater than 20 minutes	13.79%
Total number of turnouts to non-fire emergencies	422
Average of turnout times	302.60secs
Average of response times	1008.12secs
% of calls with a response time of less than 10 minutes	27.25%
% of calls with a response time of less than 20 minutes	35.07%
% of calls with a response time greater than 20 minutes	22.51%

#### 2.1.2 Fire Prevention

### Fire and Building Control Statistics Q3-2023

#### **Fire Prevention**

#### Fire Safety Certificates (FSC)

The following statistics relate to the number of Fire Safety Certificate applications received and the number of Fire Safety Certificate applications granted on a month-by-month basis during the period covered by this report. (FSC received includes invalid applications. Decisions does not include invalidation)

Month	No. Fire Certificates received	No. Fire Certificates decided
October 2023	22	39
November 2023	27	35
December 2023	19	13
Total	68	87

### **Building Control**

#### **Commencement Notices and 7 Day Notices**

The following statistics relate Commencement Notices (CN) submissions received on a the period covered by this

Month	No. of Buildings covered by Valid Notices (CN + 7DN)	No. of Notices made valid (CN + 7DN)
October 2023	349	98
November 2023	201	75
December 2023	295	49
Total	845	222

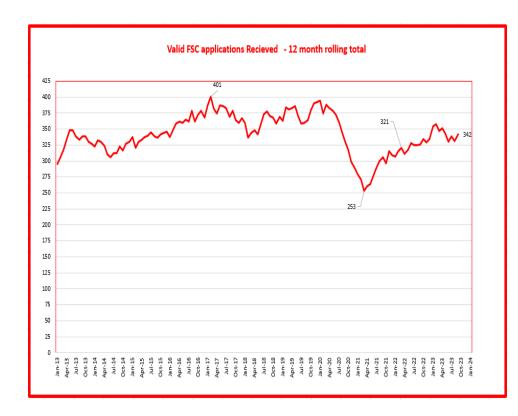
to the number of valid & 7 Day Notices (7DN) month by month basis during report.

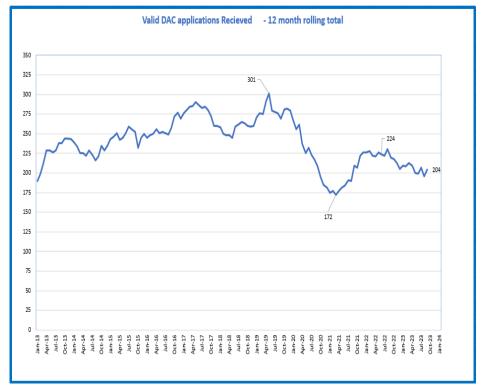
NB: the difference between the number of Notices and buildings is mostly accounted for by housing estates.

## **Disability Access Certificates (DAC)**

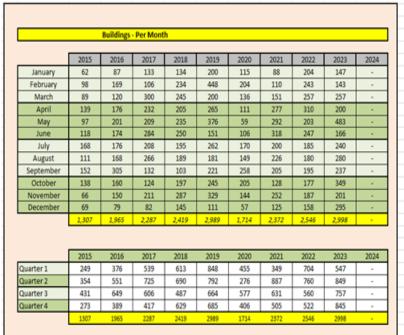
The following statistics relate to the number of Disability Access Certificate (DAC) applications received and the number of DAC applications granted on a month by month basis for the period covered by this report. (DAC received includes invalid applications. Decisions does not include invalidation)

Month	No. Access Certificates	No. Access Certificates
	received	decided
October 2023	11	25
November 2023	19	18
December 2023	21	13
Total	51	56









Notices - Submitted Per Month											
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
January	50	70	94	93	128	82	72	94	81	-	
February	67	91	90	110	137	83	50	95	81		
March	63	88	136	88	133	96	105	115	101		
April	87	95	117	120	126	54	158	98	100		
May	74	111	117	146	137	59	147	121	123	-	
June	86	111	130	134	101	95	132	107	135	-	
July	121	99	127	112	138	124	105	113	100		
August	70	111	116	112	104	90	117	110	105		
September	88	106	96	91	93	119	125	79	103		
October	102	98	95	112	123	98	103	88	98		
November	66	81	95	81	73	82	80	86	75		
December	46	43	52	57	55	52	54	55	49		
	920	1,104	1,265	1,256	1,348	1,034	1,248	1,161	1,151		
Notices - Submi											
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
Quarter 1	180	249	320	291	398	261	227	304	263		
Quarter 2	247	317	364	400	364	208	437	326	358		
Quarter 3	279	316	339	315	335	333	347	302	308		
	214	222	242	250	251	232	237	229	222		

### Note:

Further to SI 306 Planning development charges exemption, a number of CNs from Q1 were notified as not commenced and new CN were submitted in Q2 This effected at least 148 houses.

#### 2.2. Water

### 2.2.1 Public Drinking Water

Full functional management of public water transferred to Uisce Éireann (UÉ) in September 2023. Monitoring information on individual water supplies can be found at <a href="https://www.water.ie/water-supply/water-quality/">https://www.water.ie/water-supply/water-quality/</a>

#### 2.2.2 Private Drinking Water Compliance Monitoring

Following updated HSE advise, sampling at nursing homes recommenced in 2022, subject to the incidence rate of Covid-19 at the time, as well as the agreement by management at individual nursing homes. In Q1 2023 priority was given to these nursing homes, as well as schools and creches.

Under the terms of our Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Irish Water, the Environment Directorate delivers an extensive sampling & testing programme in relation to public drinking water supplies. Summary data on progress against overall targets is given below. It is not currently possible to break this data down by Municipal District.

Detailed information on individual water supplies can be found at https://www.water.ie/water-supply/water-quality/.

Private WS supply type	No of drinking water Private supplies	No of samples scheduled for 2022	No of samples taken by end-Q4 2022	No of parameters scheduled for analysis in 2022	No of parameters analysed by end-Q4 2022	% of parameters Compliant with Drinking Water Standards up to end-Q4 2022
Private Group WS	25	50	52	800	845	97.2 %
Q4/2021	25	50	69	950	1,238	95.6%
Small private supplies	101*	202	202	3,686	3,350	96.9 %
Q4/2021	159*	200	210	3,600	3,638	87.3

<sup>\*</sup> Number stated is number of supplies prioritised to be monitored based on a risk assessment (e.g. schools, crèches, nursing homes, etc.). This number may be reviewed during the year, depending onlaboratory resources. Approximately 400 Small Private Supplies in County Cork

### 2.2.3 Bathing Water Compliance Programme 2022

Note: Bathing Season monitoring extends from mid-May to mid-September\*. In addition to bathing water sampling and testing outlined below, the Water Quality Laboratory also undertakes environmental education activities as required by the Blue Flag rules.

Below table outlines the planned bathing water monitoring programme for 2023.

Total No of beaches in	No of samples scheduled for 2023	No of samples taken 2023	No. of compliant samples	No of non-compliant samples 2023
monitoring programme 2023	Bathing water Season (May – Sept)	vater Season (May – Sept)		E. coli > 500 OR
			I. Enterococci <100	I. Enterococci >100
29	158	176	175	1
By End – 2022	177	202	197	5

### 2.2.4 Bathing water quality status for Identified & Blue flag beaches.

Municipal District	Identified Bathing water	2023 Blue Flag Award	2022 Blue Flag Award	2021 Blue Flag Award	2021 Bathing water status (2017-2020 results)	2022 Bathing water status (2018-2021 results)	2023 Bathing water status*
Bandon/Kinsale	Coolmaine	Not BF	No	Not BF	Good	Good	Good
	Garrylucas	Yes	Yes	Yes	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
	Garretstown	Yes	Yes	Yes	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
Carrigaline	Fountainstown	Yes	Yes	Not BF	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
East Cork	Garryvoe	No BF	No	No	Sufficient	Good	Good
	Redbarn	Yes	Yes	Yes	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
	Youghal Claycastle	Yes	Yes	Yes	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
	Youghal Front strand	Yes	Yes	No	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
West	Barleycove	Yes	Yes	Yes	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
	Inchydoney West	Yes	Yes	Yes	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
	Inchydoney East	Yes	Yes	Yes	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
	Ownahincha	Yes	Yes	Yes	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
	Tragumna	Yes	Yes	Yes	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
	Warren	No BF	No	Yes	Good	Good	Good

11 Identified Bathing waters attained Blue flag for the 2022 bathing season - Barleycove, Fountainstown, Garretstown, Garrylucas, Inchydoney East, Inchydoney West, Owenahincha, Redbarn, Tragumna, Youghal Claycastle, Youghal Front Strand.

#### 2.2.5 Bathing water quality status for Green Coast Awards & candidate beaches

15 no. applications for Green Flag beaches submitted to An Taisce for the 2023 bathing season were awarded in June 2023.

Municipal District	Beach	2023 Green Coast Award	2022 Green Coast Award	2021 Green Coast Award	2021 Bathing water status (2017-2020 results)	2022 Bathing water status (2018-2021 results)	2023 Bathing water status*
Bandon/Kinsale	Oysterhaven	Yes	Yes	No	Excellent	Excellent	Good
Carrigaline	Rockybay	Yes	Yes	Yes	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
	Fountainstown	Yes	Yes	Yes	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
East Cork	Ring Beach	Yes	Yes	Yes	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
	Inch Beach	Yes	Yes	Yes	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
	Shanagarry (Ardnahinch)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
	Ballynamona	Yes	Yes	No	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
West Cork	Ballyrisode	Yes	Yes	Yes	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
	Cadogens	Yes	Yes	Yes	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
	Galleycove	Yes	Yes	Yes	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
	Garinish	Yes	Yes	Yes	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
	Inchydoney East	Yes	Yes	Yes	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
	Red strand	Yes	Yes	Yes	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
	Dooneen	Yes	Yes	Yes	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
	Sherkin island	Yes	Yes	Yes	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent

<sup>\*</sup>The EPA is the sole arbiter of Bathing Water status, and this is based on 20 samples over 4 years. The status shown here is based on EPA/HSE criteria for assessment of a single sample.

<sup>\*</sup>The EPA is the sole arbiter of Bathing Water status, and this is based on 20 samples over 4 years. The status shown here is based on EPA/HSE criteria for assessment of a single sample

## 2.2.6 Agricultural Inspection Program

No of farm inspections		No of farm inspections undertaken	No of farm inspections undertaken	No of warning	% of farms with non	No. of Cross	% of farms with Cross
scheduled for 2023	Municipal District	1/1/2022 to 31/12/2022	1/1/2023 to 31/12/2023	letters sent	compliances detected	reports to DAFM	reports to DAFM
	Carrigaline	25	7	2	22%	1	14%
	Bandon/ Kinsale	75	80	21	26%	0	0
	Macroom	67	113	31	27%	4	4%
	Cobh	49	73	32	44%	0	0
885	East Cork	76	72	17	24%	4	6%
	Fermoy	145	214	72	34%	1	0.5%
	Mallow/Kanturk	216	162	43	27%	10	6%
	West Cork	130	211	51	24%	12	6%
	Total	783	932	269	29%	32	3%

The most frequent non-compliances detected during the farm inspections were as follows, (non-compliances with Good Agricultural Practice Regulations);

Non-Compliance	Number detected 1/1/2023 - 31/12/2023
Inadequate Soiled Water Collection & Storage	119
Inadequate Slurry Collection & Storage	79
Discharge with Potential to Impact Water Quality	66
Inadequate Management of Farmyard Manure	97
Spreading of Slurry/Soiled Water at the Wrong Times	17

Note multiple non-compliances on some inspections.

### 2.2.7 Septic Tanks Inspection Programme 2023.

Municipal District	No. of Septic Tank inspections scheduled for period <b>2023</b>	No. of Septic Tank inspections undertaken for period 1/1/23 - 31/12/23	No of non-compliant systems identified	% non- compliances identified	No. of Advisory Notices issued	No. of Advisory Notices Complied with
Carrigaline	11	11	4	36%	4	3
Bandon/Kinsale	18	19	6	32%	6	2
Macroom	24	25	13	52%	13	9
Cobh	11	11	2	18%	2	2
East Cork	11	11	4	36%	4	4
Fermoy	18	17	9	53%	9	6
Mallow/ Kanturk	18	18	7	39%	7	1
West Cork	25	24	8	33%	8	5
Total	136	136	53	39%	53	32

#### Notes;

- 1. Under the 2022-2026 Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems National Inspection Plan, (NIP), the minimum number of inspections has increased from 60 in 2021 to 113 in 2022 & 136/annum from 2023 -2026
- 2. There is small variation between scheduled & actual inspections in some divisions in order to achieve required number of inspections in each risk zone, & to group inspections for more efficient work.

#### The 2022-2026 National Inspection Plan identifies 3 Risk Zones.

Risk Zone 1; These are areas where DWWTS pose a higher relative risk to surface waters. NIP requires 23 inspections in Zone 1 in 2023.

Risk Zone 2; These are areas where DWWTS pose a higher relative risk to private wells. NIP requires 91 inspections in Zone 2 in 2022.

Risk Zone 3; Zone 3 covers the rest of the country. NIP requires 22 inspections in Zone 3 in 2022. Sites for inspection have been selected in compliance with the requirements of the NIP.

## 2.2.8 Update on Septic Tank Inspection Program 2013 – 2023

	No. of Septic Tank inspections scheduled for period 1/7/2013 to 31/12/2022	No. of Septic Tank inspections undertaken to 31/12/2022	No of non- compliant systems identified	% non- compliances identified	No. of Advisory Notices issued	No. of Advisory Notices Complied with by 31/12/2023
Total	797	813	448	55%	448	418

## 2.2.9 Update on Tracking of Compliance with Advisory Notices 2013 – 2023

National Inspection Plan  Domestic Wastewater Treatment System Inspections			Numb	Number of Advisory Notices Complied with in				No of Advisory Notices Not Complied with by 31/12/2023	
Dates of Inspections	No of inspections	No. of Advisory Notices Issued	< 3 months	4-6 months	7-12 months	>12 months	>6 months	>12 months	
1/7/2013 – 31/12/2014	146	79	25	19	17	17	0	1	
1/1/2015 – 31/12/2015	99	58	9	19	18	11	0	1	
1/1/2016 – 31/12/2016	102	68	25	16	8	18	0	1	
1/1/2017 – 31/12/2017	112	63	10	17	2	26	0	8	
1/1/2018 – 31/12/2018	60	21	6	3	2	10	0	0	
1/1/2019 – 31/12/2019	60	31	8	12	3	8	0	0	
1/1/2020 – 31/12/2020	59	32	7	6	3	13	0	3	
1/1/2021 – 31/12/2021	62	37	8	15	7	3	0	4	
1/1/2022-31/12/2022	113	59	15	21	7	4	0	12	

#### Notes;

- We continue to engage with all householders who have not yet complied fully with their Advisory Notices.
- There are 8 notices not complied with for 2017. All 8 of these are in one location & are liaising with Irish Water re provision of public sewers.

#### 2.2.10 DWWTS Grant Payments by Cork County Council (to 30/09/2023)

Grant Scheme	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
National	2 Grants	8 Grants	9 Grants	6 Grants	3 Grants	4 Grants		1 Grant	8 Grants	2 Grants
Inspection Plan	€3,151	€17,185	€18,282	€15,031	€6,867	€7,177		€5,000	€22,560	€2,532
High Status	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	1 Incomplete	1 Grant paid	1 grant €5,000
Areas								Application	€5,000	
									1 applications	
									submitted, &	
									approved,	
									works in	
									progress	
<b>Priority Areas for</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	2 referrals to	1 Grant Paid	
Action								LAWPro for	€5,000	
								Approval.		

#### Notes;

- Total of 45 DWWTS grants, worth €107,785, have been paid out since 2014, by Cork County Council.
- All grant payments have been recouped from Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage.
- The grant schemes for High Status Areas, & Priority Areas for Action, were not available until 2020.

#### **Key Message**

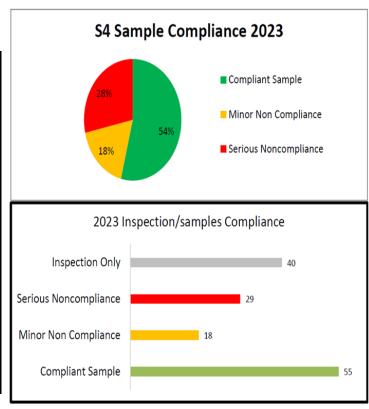
Too much sludge in the tank is one of the reasons for non-compliance in over 50% of cases. Householders are encouraged to desludge their septic tanks using an authorized desludging contractor every 2-3 years. A list of local authorized desludging contractors is available from the Environment Directorate at Inniscarra.

#### 2.2.11 Public Municipal Wastewater Sampling Programme

Full functional management of public wastewater treatment transferred to Uisce Éireann (UÉ) in September 2023. Information on individual treatment systems can be sought from UÉ (https://www.water.ie/)

#### 2.2.12 Trade Wastewater Discharge License Inspection Program – S4 Discharges to water

No. of S4 Inspections sch	eduled	No inspections undertaken YTD						
	Target	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Σ		
Carrigaline	19	0	8	6	3	8		
Bandon-Kinsale	18	1	9	6	4	10		
Macroom	18	0	3	14	2	3		
Cobh	10	0	9	1	1	9		
East Cork	17	0	12	6	1	12		
Fermoy/Mitchelstown	13	0	5	3	3	5		
Mallow/Kanturk	33	0	11	4	11	11		
West Cork	32	0	1	19	6	1		
Total	160	1	58	59	31	153		
% Inspection plan comp	96%							



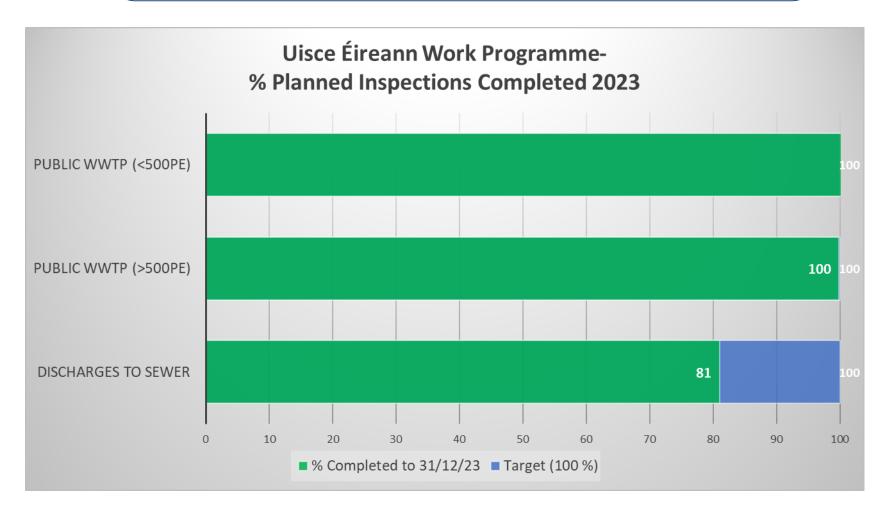


Figure 1: IW Work Programme-Inspections

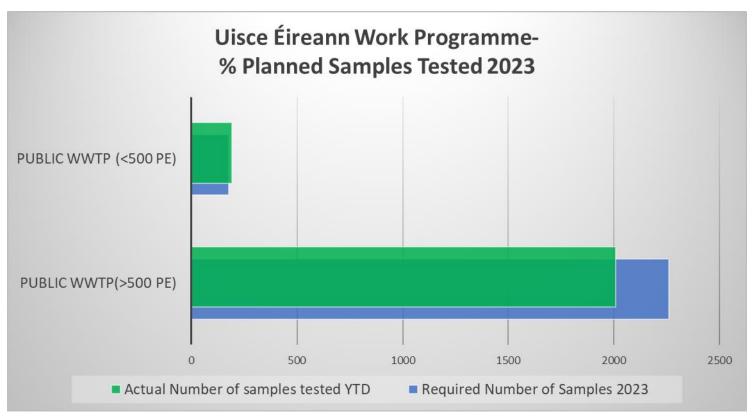


Figure 2: IW Work Programme – Samples

### 2.3. Air & Noise

## 2.3.1 Numbers of licenses under Air Pollutions Acts and related regulations

Licence Type	Municipal District	Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	+/- on Q1 2023
	Bandon/Kinsale	5	5	5	5	0
	Carrigaline	3	3	3	3	0
	Macroom	0	0	0	0	0
	Cobh	1	1	1	1	0
Solvent Regulation Certificates (Dry	East Cork	2	2	2	3	0
Cleaners)	Fermoy	3	3	3	3	0
Cleaners)	Kanturk/Mallow	1	1	1	1	0
	West Cork	0	1	1	1	0
	TOTAL	15	16	16	17	2
	Bandon/Kinsale	4	6	5	6	2
	Carrigaline	3	3	3	3	0
	Macroom	2	2	2	2	0
Deco Paint Regulation	Cobh	2	2	2	3	1
Certificates (spray painters)	East Cork	9	9	9	10	1
painters	Fermoy	5	5	5	6	1
	Kanturk/Mallow	6	6	6	6	0
	West Cork	6	6	6	6	0
	TOTAL	37	39	38	42	5

	Bandon/Kinsale	15	16	16	16	1
Petroleum Vapour Certificates	Carrigaline	5	5	5	5	0
	Macroom	12	12	13	13	1
	Cobh	10	10	10	10	0
	East Cork	10	10	10	10	0
	Fermoy	14	14	14	15	1
	Kanturk/Mallow	14	14	14	14	0
	West Cork	20	19	20	20	0
	TOTAL	100	100	102	103	3
	Bandon/Kinsale	0	0	0	0	0
	Carrigaline	1	1	1	1	0
	Macroom	1	1	1	1	0
Class II Balasla	Cobh	1	1	1	1	0
Stage II Petroleum Vapour Certificates*	East Cork	2	2	2	2	0
vapour certificates	Fermoy	1	1	1	1	0
	Kanturk/Mallow	3	3	3	3	0
	West Cork	1	1	2	2	1
	TOTAL	10	10	11	11	1

## 2.3.2 Inspections under Air Pollution Acts and related regulations

No. APA Inspections sched	duled		No inspec	tions undert	aken YTD	
	Target	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Σ
Carrigaline	4	0	1	1	2	4
Bandon-Kinsale	2	0	1	0	1	2
Macroom	2	0	1	0	1	2
Cobh	8	0	4	0	4	8
Mallow/Kanturk	2	0	1	0	1	2
West Cork	2	0	1	0	1	2
Total	20	0	9	1	10	20
% Inspection plan completed		100%				

Note: Air Pollution Acts Monitoring for 2023 is scheduled for Q2 and Q4.

### 2.3.3 Solid Fuel Regulation Inspection Program

Year 2023	No. of Inspections Planned	Advisory Letters[1]	Inspections carried out 2023	Non- Compliances	Warning Letters	Enforcement Proceedings	% Overall Compliance level rel. to inspections undertaken
Q1	60	0	55	0	0	0	100%
Q2	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/A
Q3	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/A
Q4	60	0	66	1	0	0	99%
Total	120	0	121	1	0	0	100%

#### 2.3.4 Solid Fuel Regulations - Mobile/Multi-Agency Checkpoints

Year 2023	No. of Inspections Planned	Advisory Letters	Inspections carried out 2023	Non- Compliances	Warning Letters	Enforcement Proceedings	% Overall Compliance level rel. to inspections undertaken
Q1	1	0	1	0	0	0	100%
Q2	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/A
Q3	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/A
Q4	2	0	1	0	0	0	100%
Total	3	0	2	0	0	0	100%

Note: Coal Inspections occurs primarily in Q1 and Q4 each year i.e., during the heating season.

<sup>\*</sup> New regulations governing solid fuels came into force on October 31st, 2022 and apply nationwide. Therefore, the distinction between Low-Smoke Zones and non-ban areas no longer applies. All inspections that took place in Q4 2022 are recorded in Table 2.2.1. Under the new regulations Cork County Council no longer has the power to issue fines.

#### **2.4.** Waste

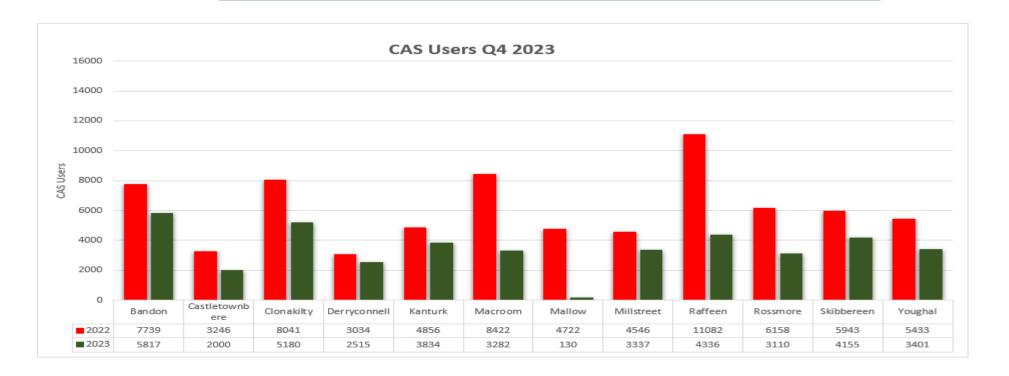
### 2.4.1 Inspections 1<sup>st</sup> October to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023.

					Municipa	al District				
	Bandon -Kinsale	Carrigaline	Cobh	East Cork	Fermoy	Kanturk- Mallow	Macroom	West Cork	Q3 Totals	Year Total
Waste Enforcement Complaint 1 <sup>st</sup> Inspection	21	36	17	21	19	30	17	21	182	375
Waste Presentation & Backyard Burning	1	1	0	3	1	3	1	5	15	87
Abandoned Vehicles	1	3	0	3	10	1	1	3	22	98
Article 27 By-Product	0	3	0	3	1	0	3	2	12	30
Producer Responsibility (WEEE/Tyres/Packaging/etc.)	6	0	6	2	6	7	6	6	39	189
Food Waste (includes domestic and commercial)	3	6	2	2	1	3	1	6	24	76
Vehicle Checkpoints*	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	4	13
Other Waste Enforcement Inspections	1	4	2	2	10	21	10	5	55	276
Total									353	1144

<sup>\*</sup>Vehicle Checkpoint Inspections refers to the number of Vehicle Checkpoints carried out in the quarter. Each checkpoint is attended by multiple staff, and many multiples of vehicles are inspected.

### 2.4.2 Civic Amenity Sites

Zone	Location	Material	Tonnage	Tonnage	Tonnage	Tonnage	TOTAL	TOTAL
			Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	2022	2023
	Castletownbere	Recyclables	77.60	87.46	100.73	66.39	342.94	332.18
		Waste	73.98	85.14	93.25	80.04	299	335.71
	Clonakilty	Recyclables	192.52	210.16	217.72	197.58	787.75	817.98
1		Waste	142.18	127.64	135.02	121.56	532.92	526.40
1	Derryconnell	Recyclables	92.54	84.62	98.73	71.73	376.84	349.78
		Waste	90.75	94.54	115.75	102.62	383.44	403.66
	Skibbereen	Recyclables	70.99	67.17	80.21	75.86	313.34	293.95
		Waste	43.89	51.12	66.88	47.71	175.65	209.60
	Bandon	Recyclables	370.82	383.30	322.64	383.59	1,448.74	1,480.02
		Waste	179.54	187.84	209.84	182.06	914.22	759.28
2	Macroom	Recyclables	238.28	255.47	291.60	240.68	1,027.48	1,024.57
		Waste	240.32	234.16	251.46	253.50	1,053.38	1,003.66
	Raffeen	Recyclables	610.04	810.44	835.67	618.54	2,601.04	2,960.42
		Waste	483.20	550.10	554.62	551.54	2,114.30	2,192.84
	Rossmore	Recyclables	308.93	429.23	408.53	358.64	1,299.83	1,505.33
3		Waste	386.60	406.26	449.83	408.29	1,413.97	1,650.98
3	Youghal	Recyclables	154.56	93.82	202.80	210.36	652.04	741.33
		Waste	221.48	165.02	272.04	282.66	1,004.32	1,015.94
	Kanturk*	Recyclables	156.38	152.98	228.49	147.83	642.45	841.47
		Waste	181.52	155.91	228.84	210.20	836.8	836.20
4	Mallow*	Recyclables	199.04	77.87	234.82	189.93	740.67	863.68
		Waste	202.28	53.96	198.16	186.64	742.36	812.08
	Millstreet*	Recyclables	168.13	58.49	160.19	118.81	495.86	578.98
		Waste	211.74	73.70	207.60	203.69	714.99	788.79



### 2.4.3 Bring sites

Material	Tonnage Q1 2023	Tonnage Q2 2023	Tonnage Q3 2023	Tonnage Q4 2023	Total Ytd 2023	Total 2022
	Q1 2023		-			2022
Glass Bottles	1,874.00	1,488.00	1,470.00	1,325.00	5,690.00	6948.37
Beverage Cans	27.75	11.41	21.71	14.61	77.50	99.29
Food Cans	35.22	14.32	21.34	24.17	97.22	105.85

2.4.4 Decisions made Waste Facility Permit & Waste Cert of Registration Applications 1st January to December 31st.

Waste Facility Permit/		Municipal District								
<b>Certificates of Registration</b>	Bandon -Kinsale	Carrigaline	Cobh	East Cork	Fermoy	Macroom	Mallow- Kanturk	West Cork		
Q1	0	0	2	1	0	1	0	1		
Q2		1	1			3				
Q3		1	1		1	1	2			
Q4	2						1			
2023 Totals	2	2	4	1	1	5	3	1		
2022 Totals	3	2	2	5	2	3	3	4		

Inspections 1st Octo	Inspections 1 <sup>st</sup> October – 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2023												
		Municipal District											
	Carrigaline	Bandon / Kinsa	e Macroom	Cobh	East Cork	Fermoy	Mallow / Kanturk	West Cork					
Waste Facility Permit	2		4	3	6		1	7					
Waste Collection Permit			3	1	8								
Decisions made by	the Waste Regula	tion Team under S	I 821 of 2007 Wast	e Management (F	acility Permit & R	egistration) Regu	lations						
Туре	Period												
	Municipal Distric	t											
Waste Facility Permit/ Certificates of Registration	Fermoy	Kanturk/ Mallo	w Carrigaline	Macroom	Cobh	East Cork	Bandon/ Kinsale	West Cork					
Q4 2023		1					2						

### 2.4.5 Litter Fines - Environment Directorate Litter Wardens ytd 2023

		lss	ued		Cancelled			Paid				Sent for Prosecution				
MDC	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Carrigaline	0	2	1							1	1					
Bandon / Kinsale	1	2							1	2						
Macroom	1	2	2						1	2	2					
Cobh	2	1	2		1				2		1					
East Cork	1	1							1	1						
Fermoy	1		1								1					
Kanturk / Mallow	15	10	20						11	9	8		3	4	5	8
West Cork	6	1	3						1	2	3			1	1	
TOTAL 2023	27	19	29		1				17	17	16		3	5	6	8
TOTAL 2022	28	22	19	15	4	2	0	2	15	14	16	6	2	7	4	0

<sup>\*</sup>For data on fines issued by staff of other Municipal Districts see 2.5.7.

### 2.4.6 Litter Fines by Category - Environment Directorate Litter Wardens

		Issu	ed	
Fine Category	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
LW detection via patrol or report Section 3(1)	22	17	27	8
CCTV Section 3(2) b				
Duties of Occupiers Section 6		1	1	
Mobile outlets Section 15				
Unauthorised Sign Section 19	5	1	1	
TOTAL 2023	27	19	29	8
TOTAL 2022	28	22	19	15

### 2.4.7 Litter Fines - Municipal District Litter Wardens ytd 2023 (Data not available)

MDC		lss	ued			Cano	elled		Paid				Sent for Prosecution			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Carrigaline																
Bandon / Kinsale																
Macroom																
Cobh																
East Cork																
Fermoy																
Kanturk / Mallow																
West Cork																
TOTAL 2022																
TOTAL 2021																
Notes:		•			•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•			

2.4.8 Anti Litter Unit & Other Environmental Complaints by Type

Туре	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Air	32	57	38	20	147
Noise	21	32	23	21	97
Waste	394	286	233	251	1164
Waste water	21	8	29	20	78
Water (to be categorised)	26	15	11	16	68
Water Quality	34	33	34	24	125
Total excl Dumping Line 2023	528	431	368	352	1679
Total excl Dumping Line 2022	516	448	438	330	1732
Notifications to Burn	45	0	6	42	93

### 2.4.9 Anti Litter Unit & Other Environmental Complaints by MDC

				Municipa	l District				
	Bandon - Kinsale	Carrigaline	Cobh	East Cork	Fermoy	Macroom	Mallow- Kanturk	West Cork	Not Assigned MDC/ Not in Co.Cork
Q1	43	56	49	93	40	61	77	99	10
Q2	48	40	47	60	44	46	62	63	21
Q3	39	56	27	32	29	45	64	59	17
Q4	43	60	26	35	31	44	53	46	14
2023 Totals	173	212	149	220	144	196	256	267	62
2022 Totals	136	231	146	210	164	178	234	289	144

Anti-Litter Unit Statistics 2021	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD 2023	Total 2022
Fly-tipping Complaint Investigations	327	279	161		767	1141
Fly-tipping Cleanup Jobs	204	260	126		590	757
Fly-Tipping Units on Litter duty (Days)	24	31	25		80	115
Waste Collected (Tonnes)	41.20	56.90	21.50		98.10	131.80

#### 2.4.10 Total Prosecutions (under WMA 1997)

				Municipal	District			
Q4	Fermoy	Kanturk /Mallow	Carrigaline	Macroom	Cobh	East Cork	Bandon/ Kinsale	West Cork
COMPLETE	3	3					2	
PENDING	0	1			2	2	3	
TOTAL	3	4			2	2	5	

### 2.5. Veterinary & Food Safety

2.5.1 No. of Dog Licences issued

Licence Type	Carrigaline	Macroom	Cobh	East Cork	Kanturk Mallow	Fermoy	West Cork	Bandon Kinsale	Total No. Issued as 31/12/2023	at	Total 2023	Total 2022
Ordinary Dog Licenses	2963	3104	2879	3830	4559	3076	4419	3146	27	,976		
									An Post 19,276	Online: 8,700	27,976	29,912
General Dog Licences	7	18	1	9	14	11	12	14		86		
									An Post n/a	CCC Office: 87	87	71
Life Time Licences	71	97	68	91	120	68	192	131	1	338		
									An Post	Online:	838	855
									243	595		

Total Number of Stray Dogs Entering Pound /Surrendered /Seized for period: 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2023 – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023: 293

Total No. Rehomed / Reclaimed: 203 Total No. Euthanised:, 90

### 2.5.2 Number of Lifetime Dog Licenses Purchased over past 10 years.

Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
No. of Lifetime Dog Licenses	14	7	18	24	129	305	545	655	825	855	838	4215

#### 2.5.3 No. of Dog Fines Issued

Licence Type	Carrigaline	Macroom	Cobh	East Cork	Kanturk Mallow	Fermoy	West Cork	Bandon Kinsale	Total No. Issued as @ 31/12/23	Total 2022
Fines Issued	6	25	29	40	69	23	26	39	257	277
Section 16(1) notices issued	123	129	119	159	189	127	184	138	1168	1878
Prosecutions issued	2	9	10	19	16	0	16	4	76	63

2.5.4 No. of Registered Dog Breeding Establishments

Type of DBE	Carrigaline	Macroom	Cobh	East Cork	Kanturk Mallow	Fermoy	West Cork	Bandon Kinsale	Total No . of Registered	Total
									Establishments as at 31/12/23	2022
Commercial Dog Breeders	0	0	0	0	3	2	2	2	9	10
Hunt/Harrier	1	4	0	3	3	5	0	3	19	20
Boarding Kennels	0	1	0	0	2	1	2	0	6	6
Charities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total No. Establishments.	1	5	0	3	8	8	4	5	34	37

#### 2.5.5 Approved/Registered Food Premises

Type of premises	Cork City	Carrigaline	Macroom	Cobh	East Cork	Kanturk Mallow	Fermoy	West Cork	Bandon Kinsale	Total 31/12/23	Total Year End 2022
Slaughter houses (Active)	2	0	0	0	3	1	5	9	1	21	22
Slaughter houses (Inactive)	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	3	1	7	7
Meat Manf. Premises	15	1	4	1	0	1	3	3	0	28	30
Reg'd Premises	0	0	2	2	2	2	1	1	0	10	10
Totals	17	1	6	3	5	6	10	16	2	66	69

2.5.6 Control of Horses

Category	Carrigaline	Macroom	Cobh	East	Kanturk	Fermoy	West Cork	Bandon Kinsale	Total as @	Total
				Cork	Mallow				31/12/23	2022
Number of Stray Horses collected	0	5	3	2	25	2	4	0	41	21
Number Reclaimed	0	0	1	0	11	0	0	0	12	6
Number Rehomed (Rescues/Charities)	0	5	2	2	14	2	4	0	29	15
Number Euthanised at Pound	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number to Sanctuaries	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No. at Pound 31/12/23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No. Aborted Trips	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	4	6

<sup>\*</sup>Note: Total recoupment payable by DAFM to LAs for horses for collection to disposal from 1st Jan, 2015 is €375 (Circular 2 2014 - reduction of €75).

#### 2.6. Energy Management

#### 2.6.1 SEAI

Public bodies are required under Statuary Instrument 426 of the European Union Energy Efficiency Regulations (2014) as amended to report their energy performance annually. The system by which public bodies report their energy consumption is through the Monitoring and Reporting (M&R) system, managed by the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI).

Under the Climate Action Plan, Cork County Council had an energy efficiency improvement target of 50% from the baseline year of 2009 by 2030.

#### 2.6.2 Energy Efficiency Status 2030 (preliminary)

At the end of 2021, Cork County Council's energy efficiency was 25.3% better than baseline. The NEEAP target glide path presented in the current SEAI monitoring and reporting scorecard is shown in Figure 1.

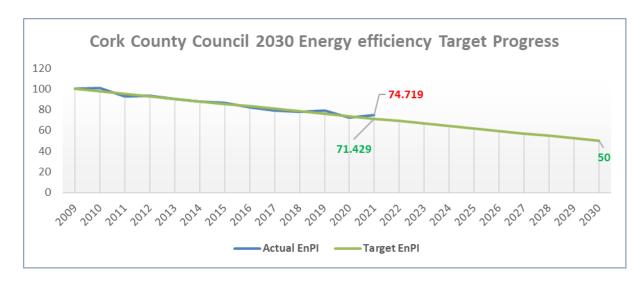


Figure 1 Cork County Council's energy efficiency performance glide path to 2030 from SEAI M&R

The figures presented were published by the SEAI in their Annual Report 2020 on Public Sector Energy Efficiency Performance. The major findings are as follows:

- 2.8% worse than 2020
- 25.3% better than baseline (2009)
- 49.4% improvement required by 2030

Cork County Council's 2021 scorecard is expected to be published by SEAI in October 2023.

#### 2.6.3 Energy Management Action Plans 2023

Individual Directorates and SEUs were invited to submit Energy Management Action Plans (EMAP) for 2023. The actions for 2023 and progress to date are shown in Table 1.

Directorate	Section	Action	Comment		
Corporate Services		lighting control upgrade (phase 1 of 2 - 'smart sockets')	Complete		
	County Hall	Capital programme to replace the Philips lighting controllers and software	Close to completion		
	Campus	Fluorescent lighting upgrade to LED lighting – County Hall	Scoping Stage		
		Fluorescent lighting upgrade to LED lighting – Multi-storey carpark	In progress		
Roads & Transportation	Public Lighting	Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project (PLEEP) — South West Region	Contracts signed 28/1/2022. Works have commenced		
	Inniscarra Env building	Replace geothermal with air-to-water heat pump/ Replace kerosene oil boilers/	Consultants appointed- review of site has been undertaken & proposals being considered by CCC		
		Indoor Lighting replacement`- phase 2 (10 buildings)	SSIP approval secured; procurement is progressing		
5t		Mallow – energy audit	Awaiting completion by consultant		
Environment		Energy Management Software (eLighthouse – Phase 4)	Phase 4 – work has commenced		
		Display Energey Certificates	Consultant procured		
	Energy &	Airtightness tests	Env building (Innicarra) will be tested for air- tightness.  Additional buildings may be added		
	Climate Change		Fire & Building Control building completed during 2022		

Roads & Transportation	Fleet Mgmt Unit	Machinery depot - energy review & onsite energy generation	Procurement of assessment of energy use in Newberry & Skibbereen yards including fabric upgrade requirement. Will include review of onsite Solar PV generation to supply bitumen production
Municipal		Fermoy – review of heating system	complete
Districts		Skibbereen – windows replacement phase 2	Contractor appointed- Replacement of the existing single glaze windows
	Library Service	Carrigaline roof	Complete
		Clonakility – door and draft lobby	Complete
		Bantry - major building energy updgrade	Under review
			Successful Heritage Grant application to replace the windows. Grant is €259,920, with a match funding
			requirement of 25%.
	Architects	Kinsale - Old Mill Library	Works ongoing
		Macroom - Briery Gap Theatre & Library	Works ongoing
	Mallow Leisure		Mallow Swimming Pool has been approved by SSIP for
	Centre	Detail Design regarding the Upgrade of Mallow Pool including energy efficiency works such as new windows, roofing, and improved AHU's	funding for Design - A letter of Intent has been issued to Consultant. It will be 6 months before any design is complete. Funding has not been approved to go to construction – this will require further approval by the SSIP Group at a future date.
	Fermoy Leisure Centre	Fermoy Leisure Centre - replacement boiler, shower calorfier, dressing room AHU	2023 Action Request for Tenders have been approved to be sought and are now issued for the following works at the Pool (05/05/2023):

		(a) New Cascade Boiler (b) New Shower Heater Unit (c) New Dressing room AHU
Dunmanway Leisure Centre	Dunmanway Pool - Energy & Carbon Emissions Saving Report Heat Pump installtion	Opportunity for Improvement identified:  - Heat Pump Installation  - Boiler replacement  - AHU dampers bypass  - Heating System - Remove regulating valves on three port valves and optimize variable flow

#### Table 1 2023 EMAP actions

Note the above actions are dependent on funding approval within the respective Directorate.

#### 2.6.4 Important dates

Date	Description
26th & 27th March 2023	ISO 50001 surveillance audit
19 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	Monitoring & Reporting Deadline
October 2023	Annual Report 2022 on Public Sector Energy Efficiency Performance

Table 2 2023 key dates

#### 2.6.5 ISO 50001

Cork County Councils Energy Management System (EnMS) is accredited to the ISO 50001 standard. Cork County Council is therefore compliant with SI 426, which is the statutory instrument that requires all large organisations to either have completed an organisational energy audit or have implemented an approved EnMS. An ISO 50001 surveillance audit was successfully completed on the 27<sup>th</sup> of April 2023.

#### 2.6.6 Significant Energy Users (SEU)

ISO 50001 is an organisational energy management system. A requirement of the ISO 50001 accreditation is that Cork County Council continuously monitors and reports on its SEU's. Cork County Council has four nr. Significant Energy Users (SEU). Cumulatively they account for more than 80% of all energy consumption. The 2022 percentage breakdown is provided below:

- Public Lighting (30%)
- Fleet (37%)
- County Hall campus (5%)
- Leisure Centres (7%)
  - Fermoy
  - Mallow
  - Dunmanway
- Other buildings (20%)

#### 2.6.7 Energy Efficiency Status

The Energy & Climate Change Section monitor the energy consumption of each SEU monthly using Energy Performance Indicators (EnPI). The EnPI for each Significant Energy User is described as follows:

#### County Hall has two EnPIs

- A formula called CUSUM predicts what energy should have been used based on past performance and is adjusted for weather conditions.
- kWh/m²/year
- Fleet
  - Is based on the average monthly litres/100km over the past 12 months.

#### The Swimming Pools

- A formula called CUSUM predicts what energy should have been used based on past performance and is adjusted for weather conditions.
- **Public lighting** is calculated as the average wattage per lamp in the County. This energy performance indicator (EnPI) is reviewed annually.

		SEU Ener				
		Count	y Hall	Fleet	Public Lighting	
		Monthly Actual Gas		Litres! 100km! year (rolling 12 monthly EnPl)	Watts <i>l</i> lamp	
	Heating Degree Days	V Predicted Gas use	Total Energy kWh/m2/year	17.70	101.26	2022 average
		(above/below baseline of 0%)	(rolling 12 monthly EnPI)	18.41	105.31	>4% above Ave. = Yellow warning
				19.12	109.36	>8% above Ave. = Red warning
Jan-22	271		112	16.68	102.94	
Feb-22	229		111	16.79	102.80	
Mar-22	257		111	16.99	102.76	
Apr-22	201		112	17.12	102.64	
May-22	113		112	17.00	101.91	
Jun-22	81	No space heating	112	17.20	101.93	
Jul-22	30	No space heating	113	17.10	101.82	
Aug-22	26	No space heating	114	17.36	101.62	
Sep-22	67	No space heating	115	17.19	101.53	
Oct-22	103	3.5%	115	17.33	101.58	
Nov-22	198	-11%	117	17.24	101.25	
Dec-22	329	0%	120	17.70	101.26	
Jan-23 Feb-23	287 226	12%	124 127	17.83	101.18	
	226	-7%		17.77	101.16	
Mar-23 Apr-23	203	-7% -39%		17.75 17.89	101.15	
	99	-135%		17.89	101.12	
May-23	99	-13270	125	17.95	101.14	Į.

Figure 2 SEU Monthly Energy Performance Indicators (Leisure Centre EnPis will be present once energy data received from suppliers)

Coordination and compilation of report led by Debbie Hennessy, assisted by the Support Services Team Environment, Climate Action, Emergency Services & Rural Broadband Directorate and edited by Ted O'Leary, Senior Exec Officer.

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