



DO: GACH BALL DE CEANTAR BARDASACH AN CHOMARAIGH
TO: EACH MEMBER OF THE COMERAGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

TUAIRISC ÓN STIÚRTHÓIREACHT COMHSHAOIL
ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE REPORT

MÁRTA 2023
MARCH 2023

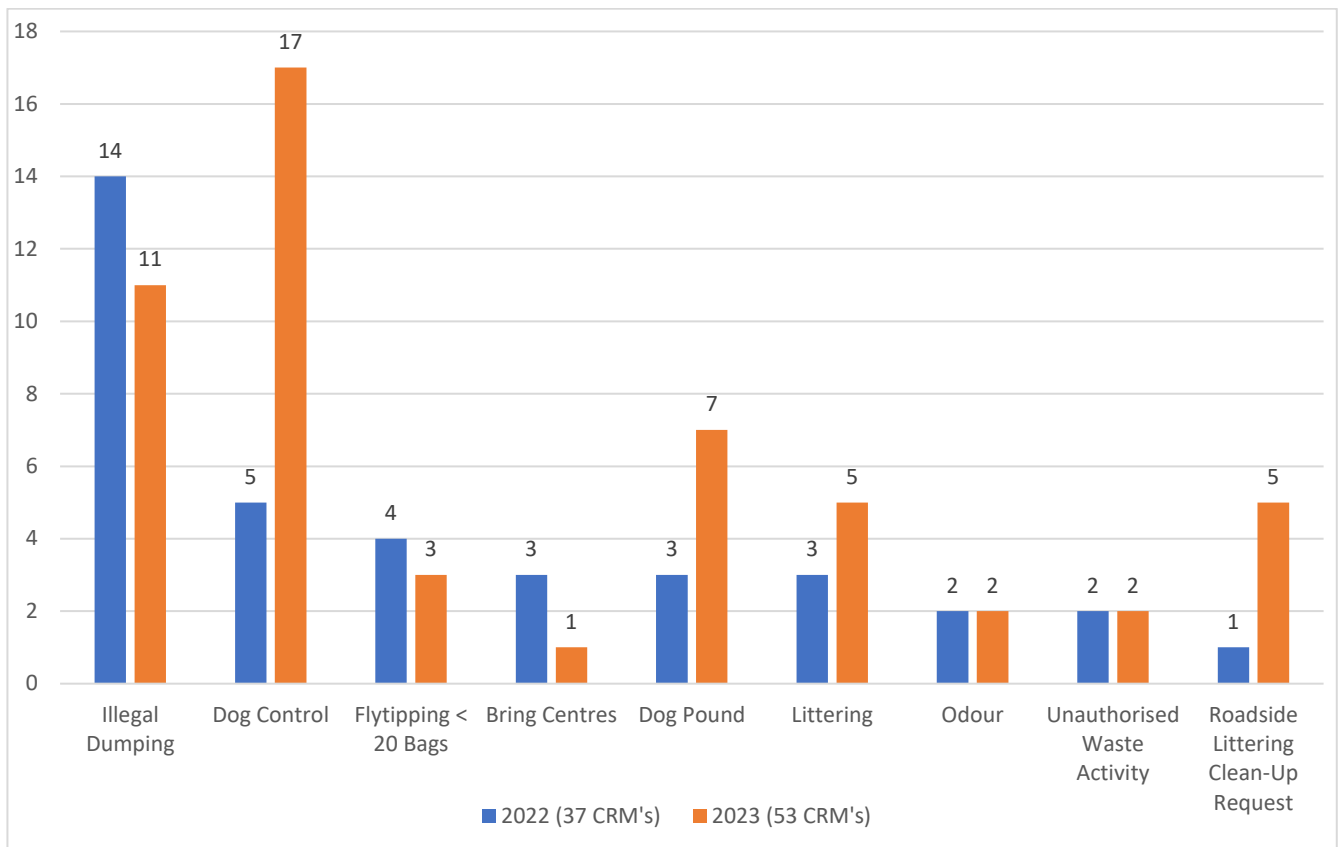
General Environment Enforcement

Environmental Inspectors continue to investigate and monitor illegal waste issues, littering, fly-tipping and illegal signage and issued litter fines where evidence of an offence is available. Waterford City & County Councils Dog Wardens continue to investigate all control of dog issues throughout the City & County.

Members of the public are encouraged to contact the local authority to report all incidents of illegal dumping or littering by using the following telephone number: 0818 10 20 20.

CRM Activity

The following graph shows a comparison of the top categories of CRM cases recorded in the Comeragh area during the period to the end of February in the years 2022 & 2023.



Climate Action

Community Climate Action Fund Launch in March – Over €500,000 to go to Waterford communities

Friday, 10th March is the official launch date of the new Community Climate Action Fund. A webinar will be held on that day and on Wednesday, 8th March an information session will be hosted for communities in the Park Hotel, Dungarvan, and the same session will be held on Thursday, 9th March in Waterford City (details to be confirmed). Communities will have until Friday, 19th May to submit their Expression of Interest. Communities are advised to work with the Community Climate Action Officer in developing their project idea. The Community Climate Action Officer can be contacted via email at: climateaction@waterfordcouncil.ie. The projects will be under the themes of Home/Energy, Transport, Shopping and Recycling, Food and Waste and Environmental Awareness. This fund is open to Community Groups and Sports Teams and projects must be able to demonstrate the impact that they will have.

Climate Action Plan Drafting

Monday, 6th March was the day by which the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications must officially launch the statutory process of Climate Action Plan drafting. Each county will draft a Climate Action Plan and that plan will set out the actions each county will take in reducing our emissions and in preparing for extreme weather. Consultation documents will be shared with elected members as we develop them, and as per the requirements of the legislation.

Energy Efficiency

WCCC are open to partner with community groups to include buildings within the 2023/2024 WCCC application to Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland under the “Better Energy Communities Scheme”. Funding of between 30% is available for businesses and 50% for community projects. Community building upgrades can include insulation, heating system, renewable energy technologies.

WCCC have agreed with Eir on the installation of electrical vehicle charging points at the Greenway Car Park – 22 KW AC unit at Carriganore and at the Kilmacthomas Greenway car park.

Environmental Education & Awareness

Green Flag Programme

Green-Schools promotes long-term, whole-school action for the environment Green-Schools with primary and secondary schools. There are 61 schools in Co. Waterford due to renew their Green Flag this year. A renewal visit must take place before a school submits a renewal application form for their renewal Green Flags (Energy, Water, Travel, Biodiversity and the Global Citizenship themes). Renewal visits are carried out by the Environment Awareness Officer. The purpose of the visit is to demonstrate that the school has an active Green-Schools programme in operation and has been maintaining previous themes in addition to working on the current theme. Schools applying must first complete an assessment visit from the Environment Awareness Officer before submitting their renewal application. The deadline for renewal applications is on Friday, 24th March next for the 2022/2023 academic year. This has meant lots of school visits have been taking place recently to meet with Green School Committees and talk to classes.

Community Clean-Ups

Waterford City & County Council facilitates community clean ups throughout the year to clean up litter and illegally dumped waste from approach roads, local beauty spots, beaches and general public areas. These have begun again in earnest. We continue to supply bags, gloves and litter pickers to many of the groups taking part, distributing them from both our Dungarvan and Waterford offices. Collection of any bags of litter takes place after the clean-up takes place. National Spring Clean takes place throughout the month of April. Registrations are now being taken at www.nationalspringclean.org As part of this we supply bags, gloves and litter pickers to many of the groups taking part, as well as collecting the bags of litter for all clean ups. Groups are encouraged to register their clean up as a National Spring Clean event to receive additional resources from An Taisce.

Website

Environmental Information continues to be added to the Environment section of the Waterford City & County Council website which can be found at www.waterfordcouncil.ie