

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

TUAIRISC ÓN STIÚRTHÓIREACHT COMHSHAOIL
ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE REPORT

MEÁN FÓMHAIR 2021
SEPTEMBER 2021

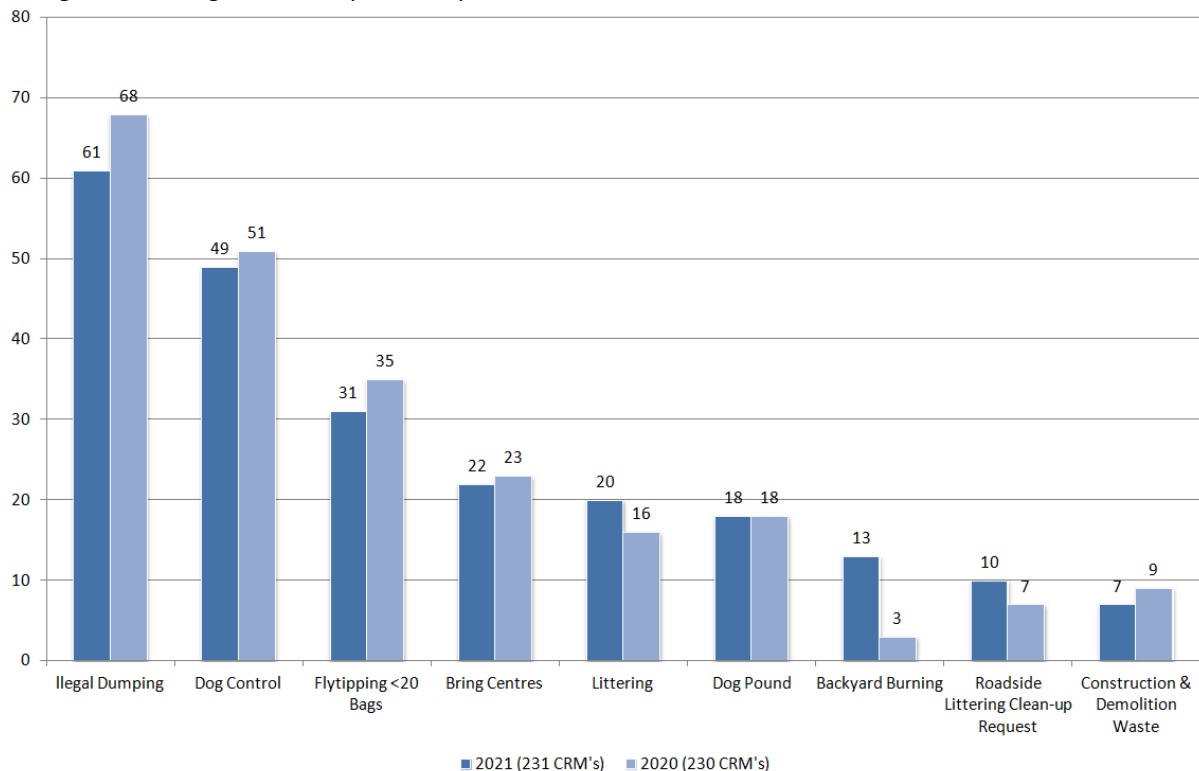
General Environment Enforcement

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.

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: 0761 10 20 20.

CRM Activity

The following graph shows a comparison of the top categories of CRM cases recorded by the Environment Dept. in the Comeragh area in the period from January to August in the years 2020 & 2021. Environmental Inspectors continue to investigate complaints received and monitor illegal waste issues, littering, fly-tipping and illegal signage and issued litter fines where offences are detected. The Waterford City & County Councils Dog Wardens continue to investigate all control of dogs issue throughout the City & County.



Environmental Education & Awareness

Litter

“Bag it Bin it”

The Bag it, Bin it regional anti-dog fouling campaign continues to evolve. The social media posts have progressed to the effects of dog fouling on others, most recently on children. We have been working with Waterford Childcare Committee on this message. The Bag it Bin it message has been produced in stencils for footpaths, and community groups, residents associations, Tidy Towns groups, Foroige, Eco Groups, etc. have been borrowing these stencils to get this message out to local communities over the summer months. These communities have received help in creating videos, social media content, stencils on footpaths, awareness days and dog litter counts, etc. A comprehensive education pack will be sent to schools in September, complete with lesson plans for teachers, worksheets for pupils and a song.

Litter Clean-ups

Waterford City & County Council continue to receive regular requests for clean-up materials and collection of litter. Waterford City & County Council offers assistance throughout the year for groups/individuals who volunteer to clean up litter and illegally dumped waste from their local environs e.g. approach roads, local beauty spots, beaches and general public areas.

Leave No Trace

Waterford City & County Council’s membership of Leave No Trace was launched recently. Leave No Trace promotes responsible outdoor recreation through education, research and partnerships. As more of us seek the beauty and pleasure of outdoor recreation this year, our combined impact on the environment increases. We ask for the public’s help in keeping our county’s beaches, parks and beauty spots clean as we promote the Leave No Trace theme.

Gum Litter Taskforce

Waterford City & County Council are taking part in the Gum Litter Taskforce’s campaign once again this year. The campaign looks to build on the success of previous years as the percentage of gum as a proportion of litter has dropped by 64% since the campaign began. The campaign is making a strong return for 2021 after being postponed last year due to COVID-19. This year’s campaign will be different in that the national and local authority launch events will be done virtually, and the campaign will have a stronger social media presence in order to reach a wider and younger audience.

Waste

Green Picnic

The Green Picnic campaign will be extended into the autumn and winter months. During the period June to September the Green Picnic campaign asked people to bring their litter home with them and bring reusable items wherever possible. We aim to promote positive and active participation in a campaign that will focus on the theme of reuse and encourage all to take responsibility for their actions and their waste. For the coming months, we will be engaging with Businesses, Secondary Schools, Tidy Towns groups and Sports Clubs to involve them in taking action on reuse also. This will be done via workshops, competitions and resources.

Fast Fashion

A Fast Fashion resource has been created for use by teachers in Secondary Schools and will be released in September. This includes a teachers pack, presentations for use in class and an online workshop for teachers to inform them about fashion and its effect on the environment. In Ireland, half a tonne of clothing is dumped every minute, producing 12 tonnes of carbon emissions. This resource will allow classes to take action on a range of environmental issues such as waste, climate change and water pollution by discussing issues around fast fashion.

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