

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

TUAIRISC ÓN STIÚRTHÓIREACHT COMHSHAOIL
ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE REPORT

BEALTAINÉ 2022
MAY 2022

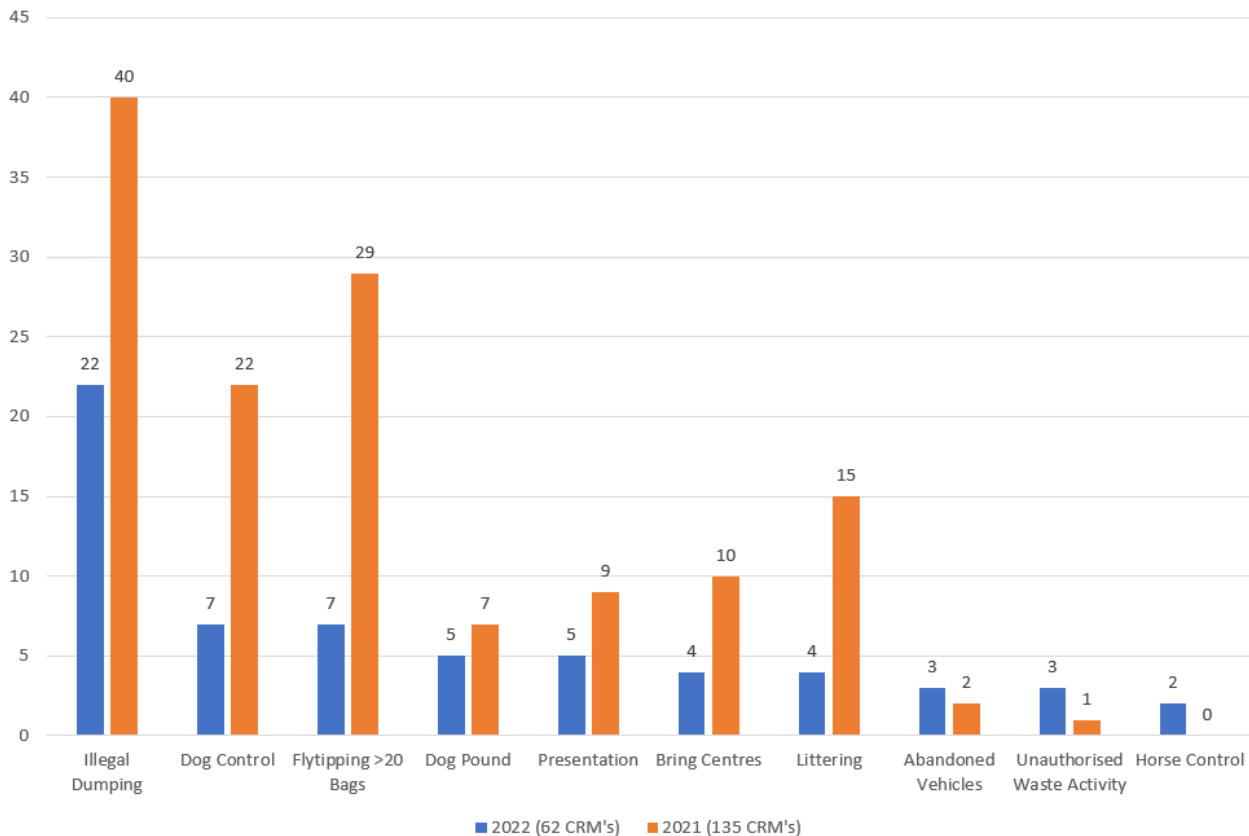
General Environment Enforcement

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: 0818 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 to the end of April in the years 2021 & 2022. 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 Warden continues to investigate all control of dog issues throughout the City & County.



Environmental Education & Awareness

Anti- Dumping Initiative 2022

The following projects in the Comeragh and wider city & county area have obtained approval for funding under the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications sponsored Anti-Dumping Initiative 2022.

Project Title	Total Amount Approved
Bulky Waste Days	€25,000
Brownwood C&D Clean Up	€6,000
Community Groups bag trolleys	€400
Drone Purchase	€6,000
ELV Mystery Shopper Project	€4,000
Illegally dumped tyres Comeragh mountains	€3,000
Man in the Van cinema advertising campaign	€7,500

Environmental Education & Awareness

Tidy Towns

A series of short online talks for Tidy Towns groups has been taking place during March and April, on the topics of litter management, sustainability, special awards categories and planting for pollinators. Speakers included winning Tidy Towns groups from Clare, the Biodiversity Data Centre about the Pollinator Plan and the Tidy Towns Unit itself. All local Tidy Towns groups were contacted with details of these events and invited to attend.

Waste prevention

We are working to encourage the use of reusable cups at cafes in conjunction with 2GoCup. With 22,000 single use cups used every hour in Ireland, we are seeking to get cafes involved in a reuse campaign. The timing is good for a campaign of this nature, with the lifting of Covid restrictions and the recent announcement of the levy on single use cups. Waterford City & County Council will work with 2GoCups to engage 10 cafes in this campaign; 5 cafes along the Greenway and 5 in Waterford. Having identified local cafes for participation in this campaign, we will then organise an informal meeting of all 10 cafes, 2GoCup and WCCC to discuss details of how the scheme will work and have a questions and answers session. It is hoped that these 10 cafes will then become case studies to encourage other cafes to accept and move towards reusable cups.

Green Flag Programme

School visits and assessments have taken place for green flag renewals and first time applicants. There are 51 schools due to renew their Green Flag this year. Green School visits can take place either in person or virtually, however most schools have chosen to have an in-person visit.

Biodiversity

The interactive Growing Together Course ran during March and April. Participants learnt to grow their own vegetables and pollinator plants. It was of special interest to Tidy Towns groups and Green School coordinators.

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. National Spring Clean took place throughout the month of April, in supporting this event Waterford City & County Council supplied bags, gloves and litter pickers to many of the groups taking part, as well as collecting the bags of litter afterwards.

Local grants

Applications for two grants closed on 1st April and are now being assessed: The Local Anti-Graffiti and Anti -Litter Awareness Grant 2022 assists local communities to tackle litter and graffiti. The Local Waste Prevention Grant 2022 is designed for community groups who want to help to take steps on waste prevention, re-use and repair activities in their local area.

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

