

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

**TUAIRISC ÓN STIÚRTHÓIREACHT COMHSHAOIL**  
**ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE REPORT**

**EANÁIR 2023**  
**JANUARY 2023**

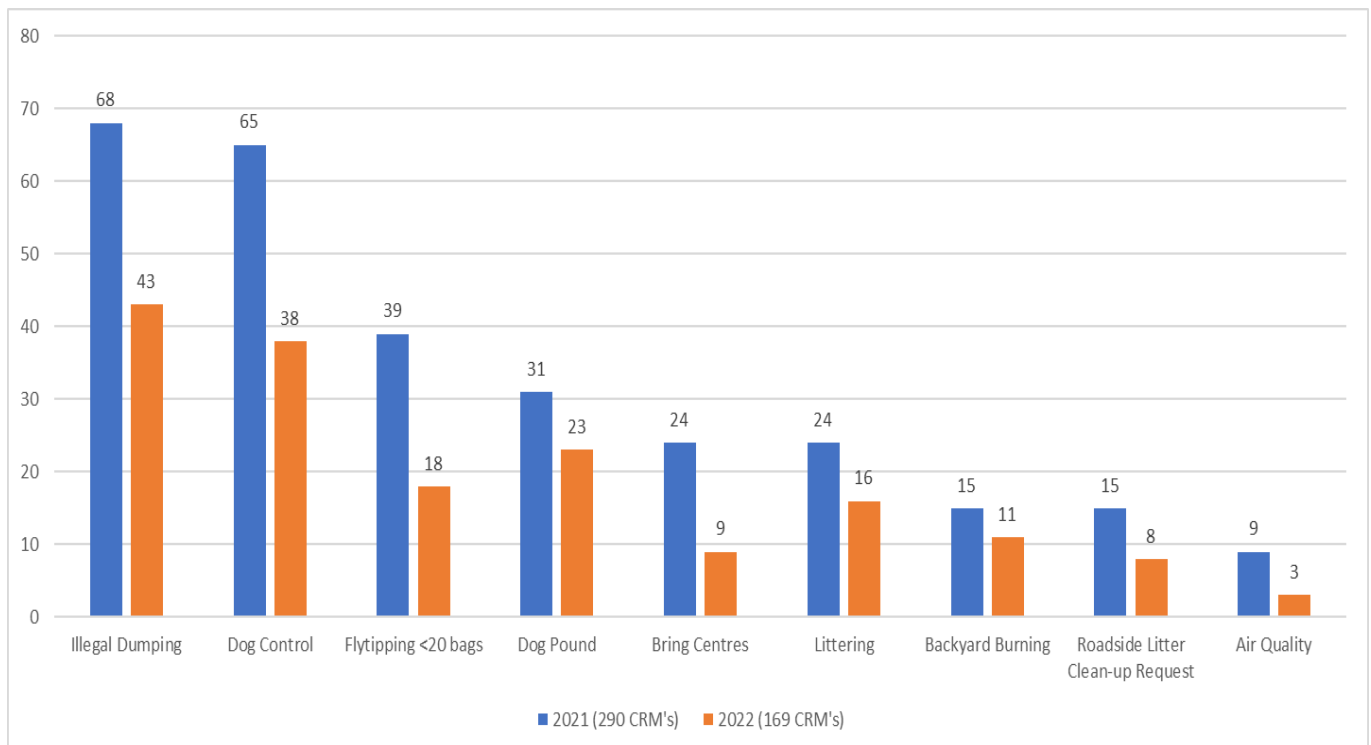
**General Environment Enforcement**

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 by the Environment Dept. in the Comeragh area during the period to January – December in the years 2021 & 2022.



## **Climate Action**

### **Climate Action Plan**

The compilation stage of data collection for the Climate Action Plan for the City and County is currently underway. In early 2023 WCCC will go out to community groups and others to obtain their input on what actions should be taken. The Climate Action Plan will include a study of all the greenhouse gas emissions in the county and will have a risk assessment of areas most likely to be impacted by climate change (flood plains, roads, piers etc.). It will contain a detailed study of the opportunities for reducing climate emissions in the city and all of these studies along with the input from the public will help us to create actions that the Council will either deliver on or will influence between now and 2029. This will be the first Climate Action Plan for the county and it will be reviewed every 5 years. WCCC will hold a workshop on 20<sup>th</sup> January next for elected members to explain the Climate Action Plan process and to obtain input from them. An invitation to the workshop will be sent to elected members.

### **Community Climate Action Fund**

January will see the publicising of the Community Climate Action fund. This fund provides over half a million euro of funding for community environmental projects. There will be many events held in January where communities can learn about this fund.

### **Environmental Education & Awareness**

The Tom Murphy Litter Competition for Secondary Schools has been completed and judged by IBAL. A prizegiving and presentation of certificates of participation took in the Mayor's Parlour in early December. 15 secondary schools across Waterford city and county entered the competition and received litter pickers, high visibility vests, gloves and bags to allow them to carry out litter picks of their designated area. Over a six week period, schools carried out clean ups, with many schools embracing the competition fully, carrying out 3 clean ups per week with different classes. The winning school which won prize money of €1,500 (sponsored by Tom Murphy Car Sales) was Blackwater Community School in Lismore, with St. Augustine's College (Abbeyside) and Mercy Secondary School (Waterford) being highly commended.

As part of Reuse Month we created a toolkit for swap events to encourage reuse and repair; this toolkit will provide tips, posters and social media posts to enable community groups, schools, etc. to reuse items by running swap events for items such as sports equipment, clothes, musical instruments, school supplies and more. This is available on the Council website and information has been sent to community groups, schools, sports groups, etc. The toolkit was presented to PPN members at their December meeting in Dungarvan. We continue to encourage schools, community groups, etc to use this when planning for 2023.

### **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](http://www.waterfordcouncil.ie)