

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

TUAIRISC ÓN STIÚRTHÓIREACHT COMHSHAOIL
ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE REPORT

FEABHRA 2022
FEBRUARY 2022

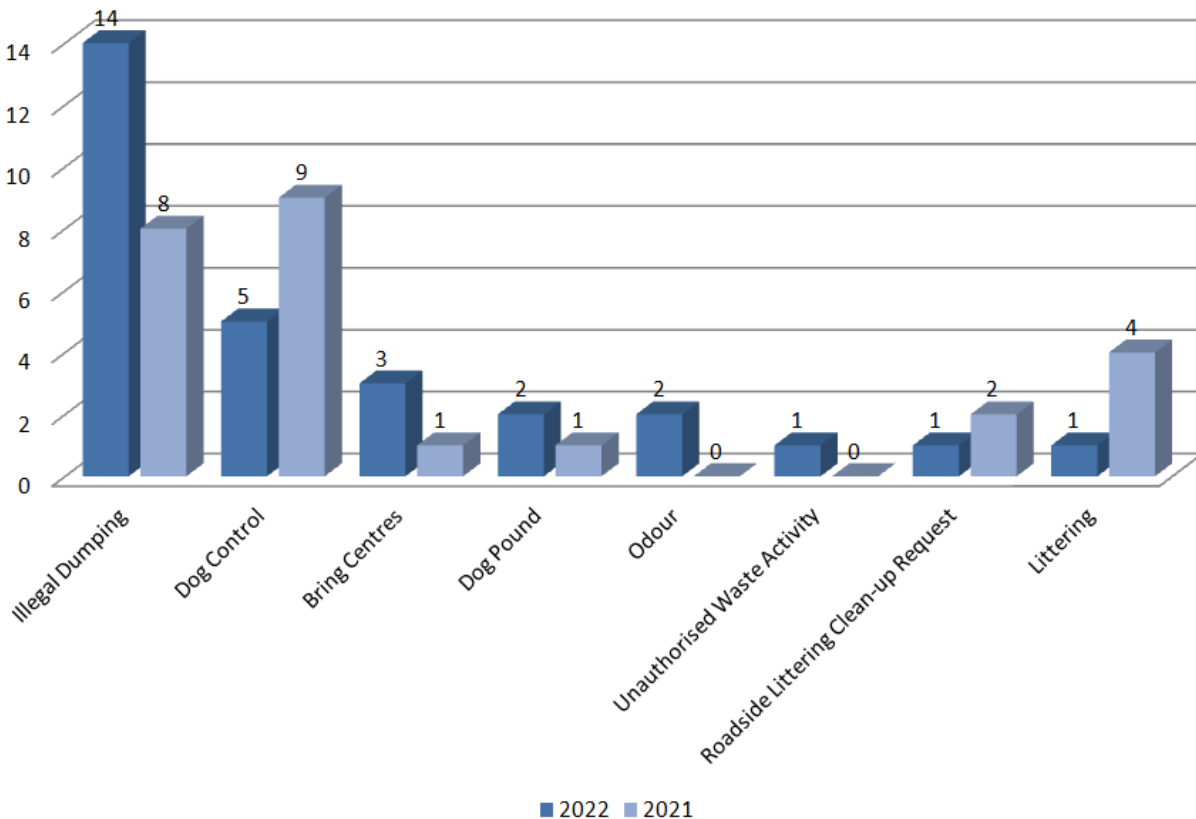
General Environment Enforcement

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 month of January 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 Warden continues to investigate all control of dogs issue throughout the City & County.



Environmental Education & Awareness

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 will take place during the month of April; registrations are now being taken at www.nationalspringclean.org

Green Flag Programme

School visits and assessments are well underway for green flag renewals. Fifty one schools are due to renew their Green Flag this year. The deadline for renewal applications is on Friday, April 1st 2022 for the 2021/2022 academic year. Schools applying for their first Green Flag, Litter & Waste theme, can submit an application by Tuesday, March 1st, 2022. Green School visits will take place virtually once again this year until Covid advice allows in person visits once more. Schools have been seeking advice online via Zoom, email and also by telephone to date. Online workshops with secondary schools continue to be requested, with recycling and various waste prevention issues continuing to be the most popular topics.

Workshops for Schools

Secondary schools involved in biodiversity themes of the Green Schools programme are currently being offered themed workshops to help them in their work. This includes primary, secondary and special schools in Co. Waterford who are working on biodiversity and may include advice on developing a school garden or encouraging pollinators into their school grounds.

Waterford City & County Council has also been working with the Waterford Teachers Centre to pilot a Climate Literacy programme with four secondary schools this Spring. This involves a 10- week Climate Literacy programme, focused on improving climate literacy and fostering behavior change in schools. The course is developed to include teacher training, resources, and lesson plans. The teacher training is designed to equip teachers with the knowledge, attitudes, behaviors, and skills required to effectively and confidently deliver not only this course, but also across their curriculum subject as the course can complement any subject framework that has an environmental strand. There will be training sessions weekly online (due to Covid limitations) to support teachers to deliver the content of the class. After the teachers have been trained they will be fully qualified to deliver the course to as many groups of students as they wish.

Waste prevention

The recently advertised five week interactive Sustainable Gardening Course quickly booked up. This course for community groups or individuals interested in reducing their impact on the environment began in mid January. Topics covered include reducing your waste, growing your own vegetables, planting for pollinators, alternative to chemicals and much, much more. We are currently taking bookings for a Growing Together Course for anyone interested in growing their own vegetables and pollinator plants. This will be of special interest to Tidy Towns groups and Green School coordinators. Registration is being taken at <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/growing-together-sponsored-by-waterford-city-county-council-registration-201977097937>

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