

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

TUAIRISC ÓN STIÚRTHÓIREACHT COMHSHAOIL
ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE REPORT

MÁRTA 2022
MARCH 2022

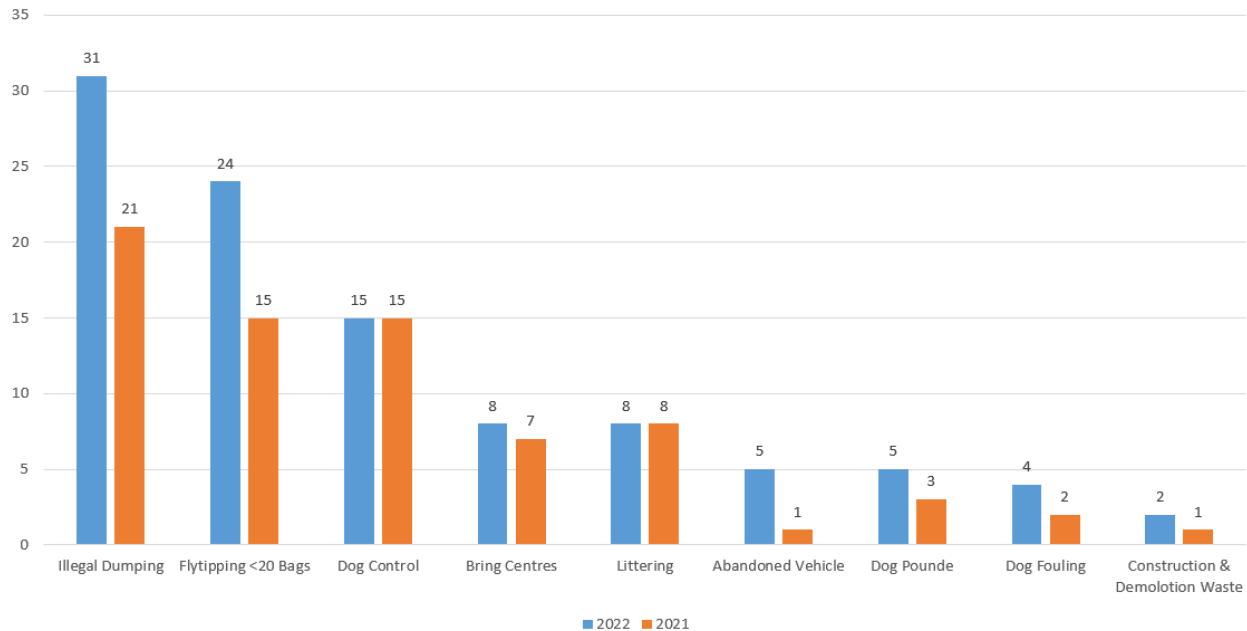
General Environment Enforcement

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 February 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 dogs issue throughout the City & County.



Grant Assistance for Landfill Remediation Works 2022

The Landfill Remediation Grant Programme fund provides for the allocation of capital grants to Local Authorities in recognition of the financial burden placed on them in carrying out the essential risk assessment and remediation of unregulated landfill sites in accordance with the Regional Waste Management Plans 2015 – 2021 and any subsequent Regional Waste Management Plans.

The remediation works and risk assessment costs are currently 100% funded by the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC) while the Local Authorities are responsible for on-going aftercare costs on completion.

Grant assistance under the above programme totaling €65,000 has been secured by Waterford City & County Council for the remediation of the following landfills within the Comeragh area:

Site Name	Allocation	Objective 2022
Bawnard	€25,000	Appoint Consultants to do detailed capping design to existing landfill and prepare tender documents
Portlaw (Coolfin)	€15,000	Monitoring, provision of additional boreholes
Portlaw Tannery	€25,000	Appoint Consultants to do detailed capping design to existing landfill and prepare tender documents

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 have commenced 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 litter.

Green Flag Programme

School visits and assessments are well underway for green flag renewals. There are 51 schools 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 can take place either in person or virtually. 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

Schools involved in biodiversity themes of the Green Schools programme are currently being offered biodiversity 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.

Tidy Towns

A series of short online talks for Tidy Towns groups will take place in March and April, on the topics of litter management, climate action, biodiversity and planting for pollinators, etc. All groups will be contacted with details of these events shortly.

Climate Change

Four Home Energy Saving Kits now available to borrow from our libraries. We are providing these as a toolkit that helps to save energy at home. With 5 easy-to-use tools and 6 practical exercises, this kit allows you to get a better understanding of the energy usage in your home, problem areas that may need your attention and ways to improve energy efficiency.

Waterford City & County Council have been working with the Waterford Teachers Centre to pilot a Climate Literacy programme with 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 to support teachers to deliver the content of the class. After the training the teacher will then be able to deliver the course by his/herself with as many groups of students as they wish.

Local grants

Applications are currently being invited for two grants: Local Anti Graffiti and Anti Litter Awareness Grant 2022 <https://bit.ly/AntiLitterGrant2022> to tackle litter or graffiti in a community and the Local Waste Prevention Grant 2022 <https://bit.ly/WastePreventionGrant2022> for any group that wants to help to take steps on waste prevention, re-use and repair activities in their local area. Closing date for applications is 1st April 2022. Application forms and terms & conditions are available from www.waterfordcouncil.ie

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