

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

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

**FEABHRA 2020**  
**FEBRUARY 2020**

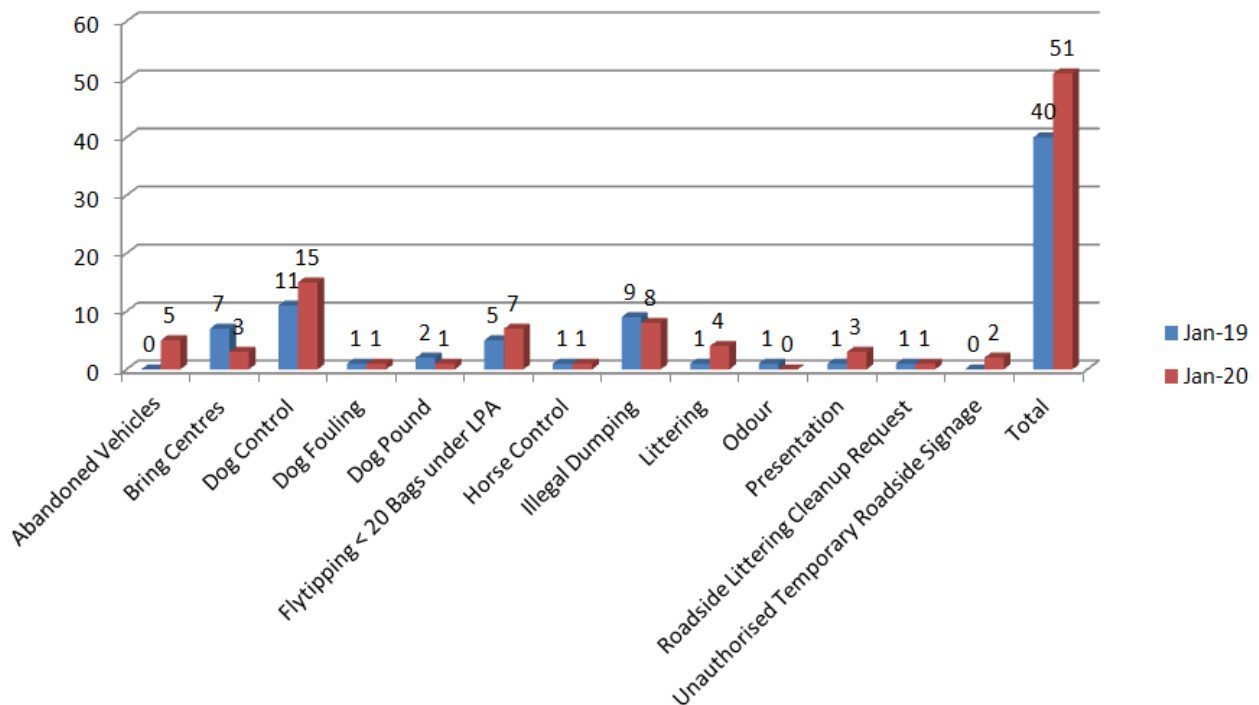
**General Environment Enforcement**

Environmental Inspectors continue to investigate and monitor illegal waste issues, littering, fly-tipping and illegal signage and issued litter fines where offences are detected.

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 all categories of CRM cases recorded in the Comeragh area in January 2019 & 2020. 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**

### **Green Schools Programme**

As part of Waterford City and County Council's support of the An Taisce's Green Flag programme for schools, work is ongoing with schools to provide advice and support them in their work. Renewal visits for the next flag and first time assessments are also underway and will continue until the deadline of 27th March. These renewal visits cover topics such as energy, water, biodiversity, etc. while the first time assessment addresses litter and waste.

### **Local Litter Awareness Grant**

The Local Anti Litter Awareness Grant has been advertised in local newspapers and through social media channels. This grant is idea for groups who are interested in receiving funding for public education and awareness initiatives regarding litter or graffiti. Previous grants aided those holding a cleanup, running an event or creating an information board. Application form are available on the [www.waterfordcouncil.ie](http://www.waterfordcouncil.ie) website or by phoning 0761 10 20 20. The grant application form should be completed and returned to the Environment Section for consideration by the closing date 7<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

### **Local Waste Prevention Grant**

This grant supports communities to take steps on waste prevention, re-use and repair activities in their local areas, and encourage partnership between local businesses, schools, charities and voluntary groups. Waterford City and County Council is offering community groups an opportunity this year to promote waste prevention, creating an opportunity to look at waste differently and to determine if we can handle our resources better and encourage a circular economy. Previous examples of funded projects include up-cycling community workshops creating sustainable products from waste, food waste prevention, repair/up-cycling events for Re-Use Month (October annually), bicycle repair workshops and projects that encourage the elimination of single use plastic within a community setting. The application form is available on our website [www.waterfordcouncil.ie](http://www.waterfordcouncil.ie) or from the Environment Section, Waterford City and County Council, phone no.: 0761 10 20 20. The Grant Application Form should be completed and returned to the Environment Section for consideration by the closing date 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

### **Tidy Towns Competition**

Tidy Towns groups around the Comeragh area are working towards entering this year's competition. Waterford City & County Council have been providing information and advice to groups on projects completed in their area for inclusion in applications.

### **Community Clean Ups.**

Waterford City & County Council offer assistance throughout the year to the general public to clean up litter and illegally dumped waste from their local environs e.g. approach roads, local beauty spots, beaches and general public areas. Waterford City & County Council support groups and individuals by providing the clean up materials and collecting the bags of litter for disposal. Further information can be obtained from Ms Ella Ryan, Environmental Education & Awareness Officer, [eryan@waterfordcouncil.ie](mailto:eryan@waterfordcouncil.ie)

## **Waterford Energy Bureau**

### **Home Energy Upgrades**

To date under the SEAI private homes energy upgrades via the home energy grants and the free energy upgrades for fuel poor housing over 24% of the housing units in Waterford have received upgrades

which equates to 12,707 homes. Of this sum 8,407 housing units received grant funding and 4,300 housing units received free energy upgrades. Currently there are a range of grants available for a range of energy efficiency measures which include heat pump installation, heating system control system, solar water heating, solar photo voltaic electric grant, attic, cavity / external wall insulation measures. Further details on energy grants for businesses and farms are available from the [SEAI](#) website.

### **Support Scheme for Renewable Heat**

The “Department of Communication, Climate Action and Environment”, has launched a “Support Scheme for Renewable Heat” (SSRH). This scheme includes grant funding for air-source heat pumps for businesses and farmers and tariff payment for biomass boilers, biomass / anaerobic digestion CHP’s and anaerobic digestion boilers. The SSRH scheme is operated by SEAI and open to applications. Further information is available from the [SEAI](#) website.

### **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)