



DO: GACH BALL DE CHEANTAR BARDASACH DHÚN GARBHÁN/LEASA MHÓIR
TO: EACH MEMBER OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF DUNGARVAN/LISMORE

TUAIRISC ÓN STIÚRTHÓIREACHT COMHSHAOIL

ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE REPORT

MEITHEAMH 2020

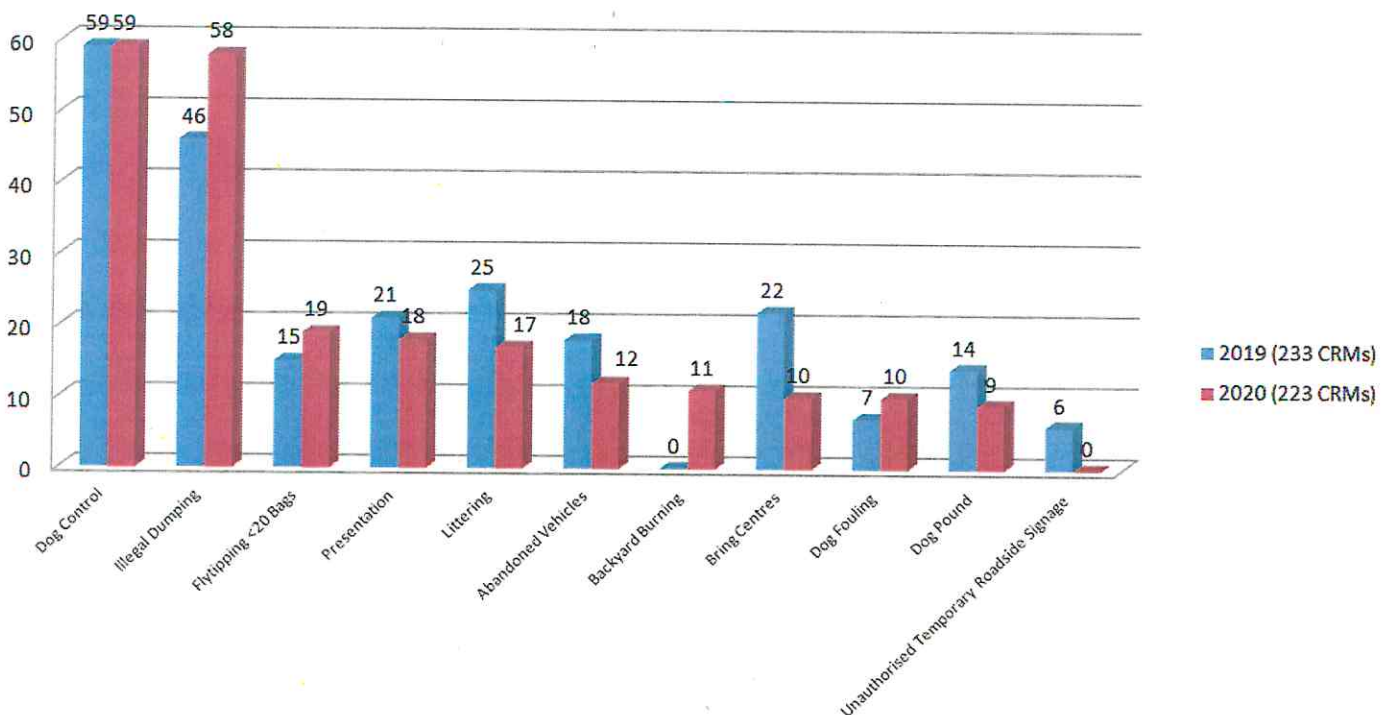
JUNE 2020

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.

The following graph shows a comparison of the top ten categories of CRM cases recorded in the Dungarvan / Lismore area during the period January to May in the years 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.

CRM Cases Dungarvan / Lismore



Presentation & Cleansing

Dungarvan:

Understandably due to the Covid- 19 restrictions all landscape works were not permitted from the period of late March up to May 18th. Basic maintenance of Walton Park; the Town Park and the Linear Park however was permitted in order to provide the public with a safe and presentable environment during this period.

During this period the grassed areas of our parks were not cut on the regular ten day rotation and were in some instances left to grow for a period of up to seven weeks. One of the success of this difficult period has been the biodiversity of our parks due to grass being uncut which resulted in the strengthening of the biodiversity of the town, as while the grass flourished so also did all the flowering species within the grass get the chance to flower; provide an invaluable food source for the much threatened bee and insect life and equally provided the public with a colourful display, where this would never have happened whilst cutting as regular as every ten days.

Meadow areas which have been developed off the Youghal Road, within Seapark estate and within the Linear Park have had a very successful spring period this year. We have decided to continue with a number of suitable temporary meadows within some of the larger green areas where some can actively grow while still provide the residents with maintained green areas to allow for all the other activities they need to offer. Parts of the green areas of the following areas have continue to thrive as meadows, the Sports Centre, Childers Estate, Town Court, Gallows Hill, Colligan View, Estuary Height, Southway's, Pinewood, Meadowland's. Whilst these areas have been allowed to continue to grow, it is still important to ensure a level of maintenance is carried out therefore staff have, as part of the overall cycle, carried out regular cutting of the perimeter areas, around the base of any trees within the grassed area and litter picks of the entire area. The above areas have been chosen on the basis that they can be facilitated within residential areas and have not entirely been chosen based the variety of species which they contain. These areas are important in providing support for the aims of the All Ireland Pollinator Plan to which Waterford City & County Council is committed. As the summer season approaches and restrictions on movement are relaxed there will be more demand to access green open space areas. To meet this demand increased grass cutting will be required and some of these areas will revert to a regular grass cutting regime.

The June bank holiday is ordinarily a key date in the Dungarvan calendar and whilst this year is very different, our work programme did not alter significantly therefore summer seasonal planting was in place for this weekend around key focal points such as Walton Park; the Civic Offices, the planters and hanging baskets through the central part of the town and Grattan Square, the Quays and the Look out. These will provide colour and interest throughout the summer. In the coming weeks the hanging baskets will be erected through the town.

Dungarvan Coastal Path

Work in nearing completion on the Greenway to White Strand section of the Dungarvan Coastal Path. Funding for this initiative was allocated to Waterford City & County Council by the Department of Rural & Community Development under the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme. The overall plan, subject to further funding, is to develop a marked coastal path along the coastline of Dungarvan Harbour within the urban area. This will create a coastal walk from Barnawee to Youghal Road without leaving the coastline using a combination of Greenway, coastal paths, beaches, boardwalk, footpaths, Causeway, quayside and harbour.

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, assessment visits for the next flag were ongoing until schools closed due to COVID-19. Advice continued via phone calls

and emails (An Taisce are still accepting applications due to difficulties that schools are experiencing.) To date, a total of 25 primary and secondary schools in Co. Waterford have been awarded a Green Flag, including 8 schools from this area achieving their renewal flag and Blackwater Community College who achieved their first flag this year.

National Spring Clean

National Spring Clean is taking place at the moment instead of its usual time of the month of April. Community groups, youth groups, schools, Tidy Towns groups, etc are not holding their cleanup of their local area. Waterford City & County Council continue to offer assistance 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, in line with advice from the National Spring Clean office regarding COVID-19.

Clean Coast Programme

Coastal communities are being engaged with and supported in conjunction with An Taisce's Clean Coasts programme. Waterford City & County Council support groups by providing the clean up materials and collecting the bags of litter for disposal.

Climate Change

Climate change training workshops for community groups funded through the Local Environment Action Fund Local Agenda 21 are now taking place as online training courses with smaller groups of people over the autumn months and will be offered to any community group interested in learning how to take action about climate change at a local level.

Anti Litter Campaign

A regional litter campaign is commencing on 20th June to highlight the effects of litter on our roadsides and to ask road users to bring their litter home with them. This will take place on social media and on local radio. It is hoped that this will help to reduce the amount of litter on our roadsides.

Bealtaine Festival of Outdoor Education.

A workshop which was due to take place at Waterford Nature Park as part of WIT CALMAST's Bealtaine Festival of Outdoor Education has been replaced with an online workshop on waste prevention, based around making a reusable beeswax wrap at home. This was then made available through CALMAST's website during the festival.

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