



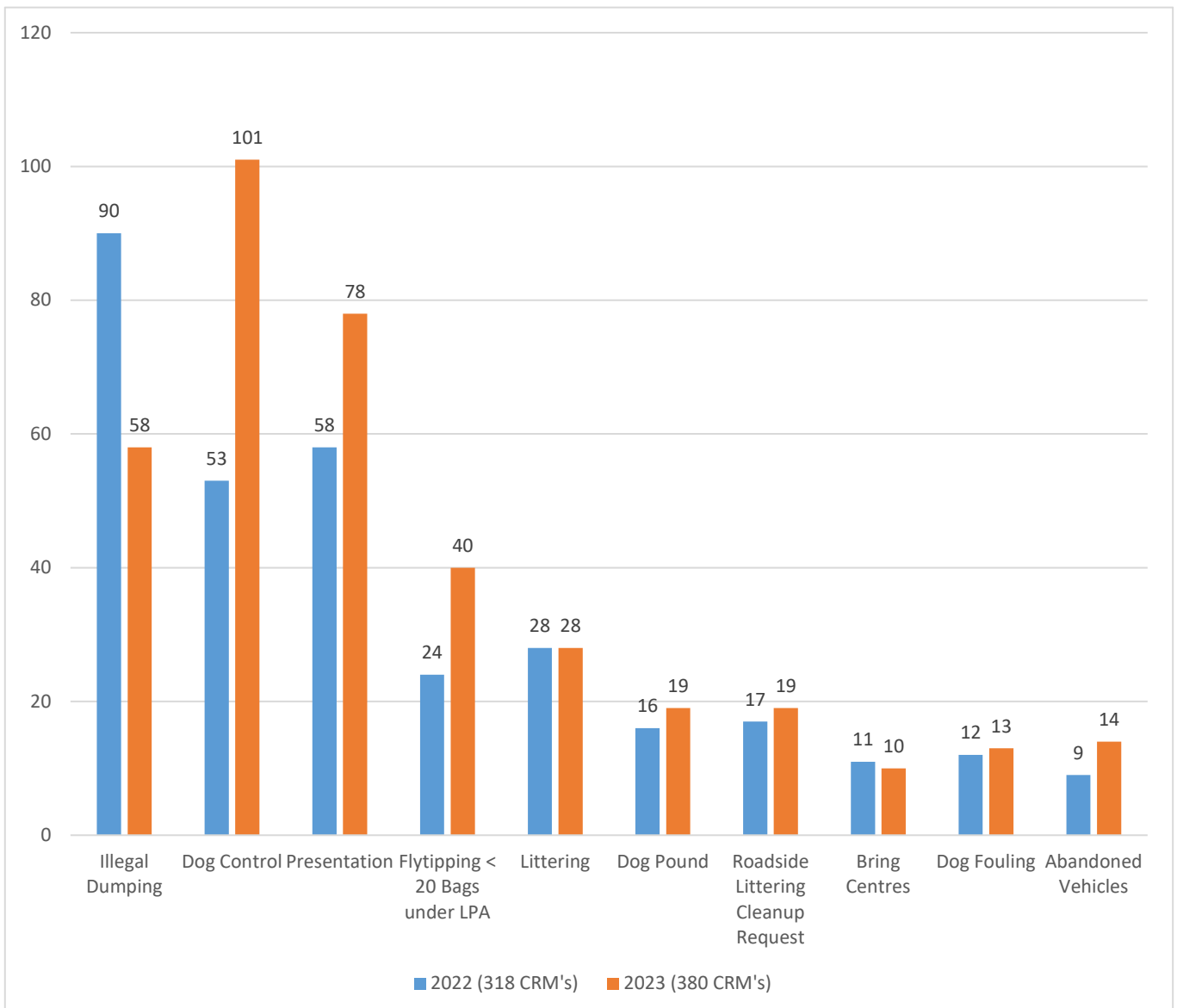
DO: GACH BALL DE CHEANTAR BARDASACH DHÚN GARBHÁN/LEASA MHÓIR  
TO: EACH MEMBER OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF DUNGARVAN/LISMORE

TUAIRISC ÓN STIÚRTHÓIREACHT COMHSHAOIL  
ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE REPORT  
MEÁN FÓMHAIR 2023  
SEPTEMBER 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 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: 0818 10 20 20.

The following graph shows a comparison of the top categories of CRM cases recorded in the Dungarvan/Lismore area during the period to the end of August in the years 2022 & 2023.



## **Dungarvan:**

- Fairlane Park Pump Track works are substantially complete. The line marking of the track is now complete and the only remaining item is the signage which should be installed shortly. Tree planting and landscaping works will need to be tendered to complete the park, hopefully with input from the Executive Parks & Landscape Officer.
- The Adult Exercise Equipment contractor has begun on site in Fairlane Park by undertaking initial concrete work which will be followed by wet pour installation. Exercise equipment should be installed by late September.
- Sensory Equipment has been tendered with the intention to install this in Walton Park.
- Presentation Crew are working to catch up on grass cutting, weed spraying and weed removal following wet weather during the summer months.

## **Climate Action**

### **Climate Action Plan**

The pre-draft consultation for the Climate Action Plan closed on 23<sup>rd</sup> June. 19 submissions were received online and 4 written submissions were received by the Climate Action office. The Climate Action team has completed a set of draft actions for the County and for the City (Waterford's Decarbonising Zone). The Climate Action team will be looking for involvement from elected members throughout this process and will present at District Council meetings in the next few weeks with the proposed actions that have been formulated from the consultation with the public and from consultations within the Council. The draft plan consultation will go live on 23<sup>rd</sup> October.

### **Rates Energy Discount Scheme**

The Rates Energy Discount Scheme is open for applications until 29<sup>th</sup> September. Businesses with rates of less than €10,000 per annum or hospitality businesses are eligible to apply through our Submit Portal: <https://waterford.submit.com/show/151> Businesses who complete the application and have their rates paid in full will have the discount applied to their account.

## **Environmental Education & Awareness**

### **Tidy Towns**

The Environment Department have been working with Tidy Towns groups to further their work towards the 2023 competition. The national Super Valu Tidy Towns competition is an annual contest organised by the Department of Rural and Community Development. The competition involves participating areas being rated on all aspects of their local environment and prizes awarded to the best under many different categories, from Litter to Sustainability. The overall winner is "Ireland's Tidiest Town". which is announced at a national ceremony in September each year.

### **Litter**

The annual survey of coasts and inland waterways by business group Irish Business Against Litter (IBAL) showed that Dungarvan Harbour was found to be Clean to European norms. However, the study of 33 areas nationwide revealed the majority of beaches falling short of clean status, despite the unsettled summer meaning lower visitor numbers.

Dungarvan particularly impressed the judges and the overall impression created at Dungarvan was a very positive one and notably improved on 2022 IBAL Marine surveys. The report stated that: "This time around it was very much deserving of the top litter grade. The paving, planted areas, seating, water fountain, lifebelts, litter bins and visitor information notices were in very good order, creating a very positive impression. Despite the presence of cigarette butt disposal units there was a definite butt presence, particularly beneath the seating – perhaps the provision of dedicated cigarette butt notices may help. The 'novel' plastic drinking bottles only facility was being well used. Hopefully alcohol related litter doesn't build up under the bridge as was the case in previous years. The 'Love this Place, Leave no Trace' illustration on the Big Belly bins was an attractive way of delivering this message."

### **Recycling**

Waterford householders were encouraged to bring their batteries, electrical, and electronic waste to a series of free collection days around the county during August. The events, hosted by WEEE Ireland in partnership with Waterford City and County Council, began on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> August at the Rainbow Community Centre, Kilmacthomas before moving to the Old Lismore Recycling Centre, Lismore that evening. All household items with a plug or a battery were accepted free of charge, including old washing machines, TVs, toasters and kettles, electronic tools and toys, cables, IT equipment, mobile phones, remote controls, batteries, including farm fence batteries, and even watches.

**Green Flag Programme**

Green Schools visits are already underway. The Green Schools Seminar will be online on 3<sup>rd</sup> October as the majority of teachers found this to be a convenient way to take part. The Environmental Awareness Officer will be available to visit schools or answer any questions that they might have, as will An Taisce's Green Schools team.

**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. The Environment Department continue to supply bags, gloves and litter pickers from both Dungarvan and Waterford offices to many of the groups taking part, in addition to collecting the bags of litter for all clean ups.

**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)