



DO: GACH BALL DE CEANTAR CATHRACH PHORT LÁIRGE
TO: EACH MEMBER OF THE METROPOLITAN MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

TUAIRISC ÓN STIÚRTHÓIREACHT COMHSHAOIL
ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE REPORT

IÚIL 2023
JULY 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 102020

Presentation/Parks & Open Spaces

Waterford City

- Stump grinding contract works complete in city and environs.
- Maintenance of our parks and open spaces is ongoing. No mow May initiative for biodiversity was successful. Some areas that had been left grow have now been cut.
- Summer Bedding has been completed in People's Park, TF Meagher, Millennium Plaza and Apple Market planters amongst other areas throughout city. New planting is complete around Bishops Palace.
- Large planters have been installed around Waterford Train Station this week, hanging baskets have also been installed.
- Peoples Park Fountain – final tender evaluation completed and tender award to completed shortly. Works expected to start August 2023.
- Graffiti Waterford City – A rise on offensive graffiti around parts of the city since the new year. Upsurge in Graffiti over the last 6 weeks. Amenities team are working to remove graffiti continuously.
- City Centre Cleansing – Cleaning regime ongoing with crews power washing inner city streets.
- Kilbarry Cemetery – New footpaths and plinths have been completed for Bahá'í community.

Playground in Kilcaragh Park

Planning Department contacted to identify if development contributions can be allocated to this project.

Tramore

- Maintenance of our parks and open spaces is ongoing. No mow May initiative in various areas was successful. Some areas will continue to be left uncut.
- Tender to be completed for an electric scut truck vehicle for beach and parks cleansing and general open spaces works.
- Stump grinding contract for Tramore works has been completed.
- Many large bins repaired and repainted along with railings and other public realm features. Cleansing regime ongoing.
- Summer bedding and hanging basket bedding has been completed.
- Discussions on Sensory Garden and Adult Exercise equipment progressed in June moving towards tender stage in July.

Update on Anti-Dumping Initiative 2023

City & County Wide Projects include:

Project Title	Current Status	Total Amount Approved
Coastal and Soft Ground Clean Ups.	25 ground mats ordered.	€5,000
Rural roads litter removal.	Tender is complete. Toorodoo Construction awarded tender. Will commence in Autumn when growth dies back.	€19,500
Community Clean Ups Waterford City & County.	County cleanups currently ongoing with more being arranged in conjunction with Housing.	€10,000
Anti Dumping Signage for WCCC Vehicles.	In progress.	€2,000

Climate Action

Rates Energy Discount Scheme

The Rates Energy Discount Scheme is now open. Businesses with rates of less than €10,000 per annum or hospitality businesses are eligible to apply. All eligible businesses have been contacted and they have until the end of September to either upload evidence of an energy audit or to complete an Energy Self Assessment. Once the businesses have completed either they will receive information on grants available to them to undertake energy renovations or for investment in energy efficient equipment.

Climate Action Plan

The pre-draft consultation for the Climate Action Plan closed on 23rd June. 19 submissions were received online and 4 written submissions were received by the Climate Action office. The Climate Action team is now into the drafting stage with a draft due at the end of September. The Climate Action team will be looking for involvement from elected members throughout this process.

Environmental Education & Awareness

Waste Prevention

National Food Waste Recycling Week took place from 5th to 11th June with the intention of promoting food waste recycling as a positive climate action but also reminding people to do it correctly. Recent research shows a 2% increase in plastic found in food waste collections, a trend that needs to be kept in check and reversed. As part of this, ads were ran on local radio, social media campaign to promote food recycling and an event to distribute a total of 500 food waste caddies and information packs free of charge at Dungarvan Civic Amenity Site, through Tramore Tidy Towns and Central Library in Waterford (as part of a week-long food waste recycling display).

A clothes swap was hosted at Central Library on 21st June, in conjunction with Europe Direct, alongside a clothing repair demonstration. Each participant was invited to bring up to 5 items to swap. The event was well attended with a number of repairs also taking place on the night.

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. These have begun again in earnest. We continue to supply bags, gloves and litter pickers to many of the groups taking part, distributing them from both our Dungarvan and Waterford offices. Collection of any bags of litter is then arranged following the clean-up.

Energy Efficiency

- WCCC are open to partner with community groups to include buildings within the 2023/2024 WCCC application to Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland under the "Better Energy Communities Scheme". Funding of between 30% is available for businesses and 50% for community projects. Community building upgrades can include insulation, heating system, renewable energy technologies. A funding application is to be submitted in September.

- Contractor has been appointed to the heating system upgrades, insulation upgrades at the Tramore Library. Works are in progress and will be completed by July 2023. The existing oil boiler is to be replaced with an air-water heat pump.
- The existing gas boiler at the Bolton Street Yard, has been removed and replaced with an air-water heat pump. The heat pump provides all the building heating and hot water requirements.



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