



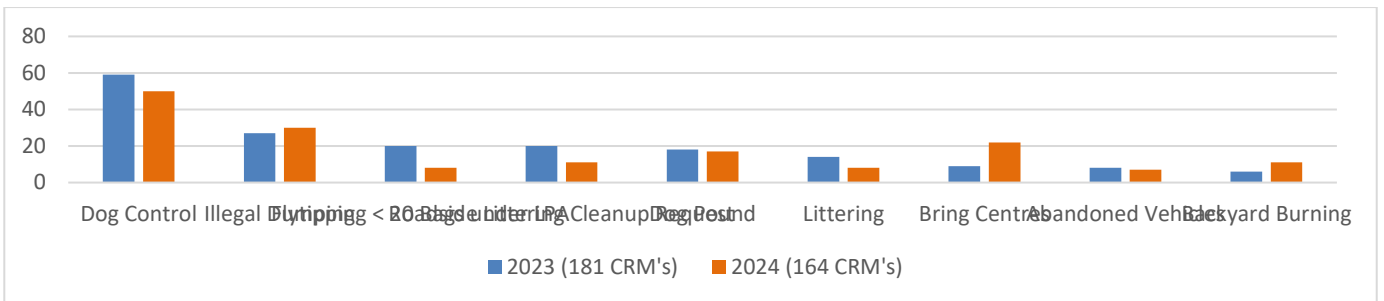
DO: GACH BALL DE CEANTAR BARDASACH AN CHOMARAIGH
TO: EACH MEMBER OF THE COMERAGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

TUAIRISC ÓN STIÚRTHÓIREACHT COMHSHAOIL
ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE REPORT

DEIREADH FÓMHAIR 2024
OCTOBER 2024

CRM Activity

The following graph shows a comparison of the top categories of CRM cases recorded in the Comeragh area during the period to the end of September in the years 2023 & 2024.



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. Waterford City & County Councils Dog Wardens continue to investigate all control of dog issues throughout the City & County.

Today with Claire Byrne

On Wednesday 25th October our Enforcement Officer Paul M. Flynn and Senior Executive Engineer Niall Kane featured on the Today with Claire Byrne show on RTE Radio 1. The feature highlighted the daily problems faced by the Council with illegal dumping and inappropriate use of public litter bins and the proactive measures being undertaken by the Enforcement Team to tackle this problem. Paul and Niall accompanied Researcher Brian O’Connell to Dungarvan and Ardmore where they discussed recent cases of illegal dumping and highlighted the methods being taken to identify and prosecute offenders.



Paul with Brian O’Connell surveying a recent incident of illegal dumping.

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.

Climate Action

The Business Pledge for a Cleaner, Greener Waterford – Deadline October 18th



Businesses with rates of less than €10,000 per annum, along with hospitality and leisure businesses, are setting out their plans to become more sustainable businesses through the Business Pledge for a Cleaner, Greener Waterford. Those who make the Pledge are eligible for a Rates discount of 9%. With almost 25% of greenhouse gas emissions coming from business in Waterford, the Council in 2021 decided to use its influence to help businesses save energy and reduce emissions through a rates discount, allowing businesses to use the money saved to invest in energy efficiency. Businesses have until October 18th to apply. This is an opportunity that should not be missed, as our Business Pledge ambassadors like Dooley's Hotel will

tell you, going green for business saves money and attracts customers.

European Car Free Day

Two residential streets in Waterford City, Collins Avenue (image) and Grange Manor, and the Lower Promenade in Tramore joined streets across Europe in closing off to traffic for European Car Free Day. There were community activities in all three areas, as kids and adults alike played safely on the street across the afternoon. Back in August, Waterford City and County Council put out a call to communities who would like to host a European Car Free Day and three areas applied. It was a great afternoon of fun, activity and improved air quality.



GAA clubs leading the way to a Sustainable Future

GAA clubs from across the County have come together to form a Sustainable Energy Community and with the support of Susan Lee, Community Climate Action Officer and Yvonne Byrne, SEAI and other mentors such as the Southeast Energy Agency they have been able to learn how they can best reduce energy costs for their club, reduce waste, conserve water and plan for the impact of changing climate on the facilities they operate. This has been a practical learning programme over 6 months with Waterford CCC facilitating learning exchanges at clubs across the County where clubs could see the changes in action in Clubs that have been

working on sustainability for slightly longer. The 8 participating clubs were Ardmore, Bricky Rangers, Killrosanty, Passage, Dunhill, Ballygunnar, Ferrybank and Erins Own. Waterford County Board gave their full support to the initiative and is keen to build on the success of this programme. Many of the clubs involved in this scheme applied and were successful in their bids for the



Community Climate Action Grant and the recently announced Sports Capital Grant.

Air Quality Schools Campaigns

Following on from the successful citizen science initiative that was delivered in Dungarvan where air quality measurements were taken and modelling completed, the Climate Team are continuing this work this time with schools in the Metro area. Students in Waterpark and De la Salle are doing a project with local research company Trilateral research to collect particulate matter data and to model what impact that might have on air quality and young people's health. St Stephen's School and Tramore Educate Together will also take regular readings on air quality but they will also put together a school-wide plan for improving air quality in their area. We look forward to seeing their findings. Students will be taking readings and running their campaigns across the month of October.

Support for households on energy grants through the Community Energy Hub

The Southeast Energy Agency in partnership with Waterford's Library have developed a website called the [Community Energy Hub](#). This website is a source of all of the information you might need to make energy improvements in your home. Also please note that if you would like printed information for your constituents the Climate Team have Energy Booklets that can be sent out to you. Please contact climateaction@waterfordcouncil.ie

The Control of Dogs (XL Bully Type Dog) Regulations 2024

From 1st October, 2024 new ownership rules are being introduced to protect public safety following a number of attacks by XL Bully type dogs.

From 1st October 2024 the Control of Dogs (XL Bully Type Dog) Regulations 2024 will prohibit the importing, breeding, selling and re-homing of XL Bully type dogs. From 1st February 2025 it will be illegal to own an XL Bully type dog without a 'Certificate of Exemption' issued by the local authority in which the dog resides.

XL Bully owners have between 1st October 2024 and 31st January 2025 to apply for a Certificate of Exemption. A Certificate of Exemption is issued by the Local Authority and authorises the owner of an XL Bully type dog to keep that dog at a particular premises until the natural end of the dog's life.

This certificate will be unique to each XL Bully type dog and owner, and will specify the dog's licence details, microchip details, neutering details, age and description. It will also specify the dog owner's name, address, date of birth and contact number.

After 1st February 2025 all XL Bully type dog owners should either be in possession of a Certificate of Exemption or have proof that they applied for a Certificate of Exemption. Owners may be required to present their Certificate of Exemption to a Dog Warden or a member of An Garda Síochána within 10 Days of a request to do so.

Any XL Bully types that are in pounds or rescues on or before 1st October 2024 may be rehomed.

Owners can apply, free of charge, to Waterford City & County Council from 1st October 2024 for a Certificate of Exemption through our website, through email or by post. Further details are available on our website or at www.gov.ie/xlbully

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