



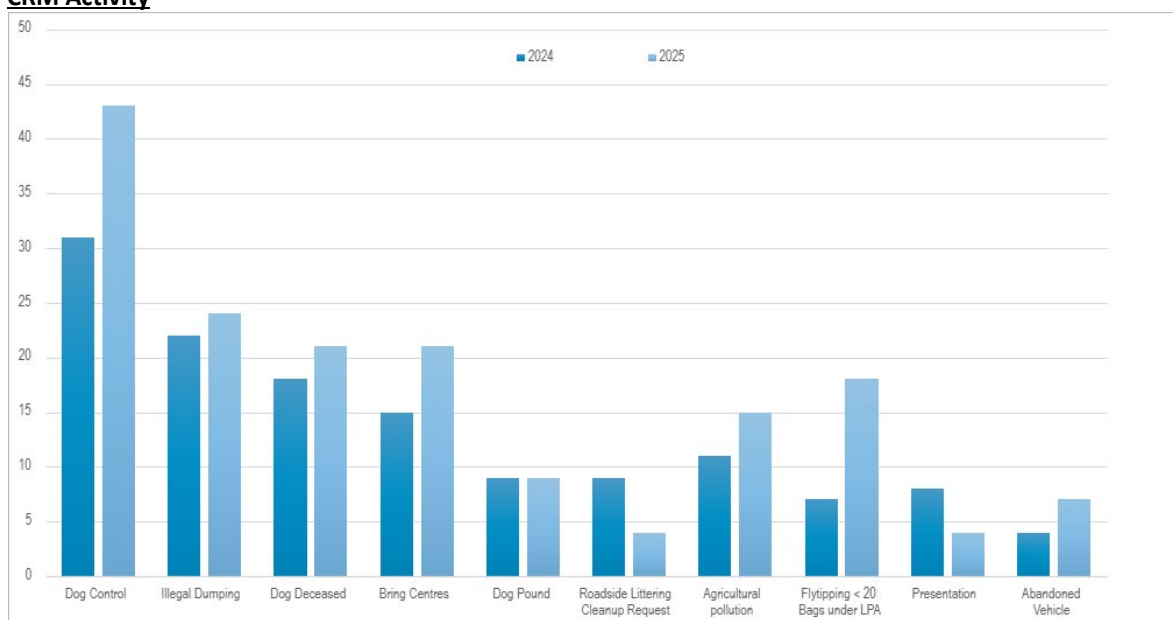
Comhairle Cathrach & Contae Phort Láirge
Waterford City & County Council

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

TUAIRISC ÓN STIÚRTHÓIREACHT COMHSHAOIL
ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE REPORT

IÚIL 2025
JULY 2025

CRM Activity



The following graph shows a comparison of the top categories of CRM cases recorded in the Comeragh area during the periods from 1 January 2024 to 30 June 2024 and from 1 January 2025 to 30 June 2025.

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.

CCTV

We are undertaking public consultation on the provision of CCTV Cameras in public areas within County Waterford. for the sole primary purpose of preventing litter and illegal dumping and enforcement of the Litter Pollution Act, 1997, and the Waste Management Act 1996. The consultation will run until 1st August 2025. The areas have been selected based on intelligence from complaints logged on CRM and information from Waste Enforcement Officers and other outdoor staff.

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. 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 organised for after the clean-up takes place.

Green Hubs:

We have been working with Waterford Chamber and local businesses in Waterford on a Green Hubs project. This is part of a nationwide initiative to promote sustainable waste management practices. These hubs provide resources and support to help businesses reduce their carbon footprint, improve recycling rates, and adopt more environmentally friendly practices. Green Hubs also act as a network for businesses to learn from each other and share best practices.

KIMO:

Waterford has now joined KIMO and a launch event will be held in Villierstown in early July to mark the fact that Waterford has signed up to become a member of KIMO. KIMO is a network that works together for healthy seas and rivers, clean beaches, and thriving coastal communities. There are over 80 member municipalities in nine countries around the North-East Atlantic and Baltic regions.

Members work to find, implement and share positive solutions. KIMO stands for Kommunernes Internationale Miljøorganisation (Local Authorities International Environmental Organisation). You can find more information about KIMO at this link <https://www.kimointernational.org/about-us/mission/>. Waterford City and County Council will be represented by Cllr Niam O'Donovan.

Climate Action:

Consultation on EV charging strategy completed.

A total of 218 individuals, along with multiple agencies across the County, recently took part in a public consultation to help shape the County's Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Strategy. Arup, the consultancy firm leading the development of the strategy, will now analyse the consultation feedback alongside data on car parking, charging demand, grid capacity, and other relevant factors.

The final strategy, expected to be published in the autumn, will guide the future rollout of EV charging infrastructure across the County. Under this plan, the Council will take responsibility for installing neighbourhood chargers, while Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) will oversee charging infrastructure along major roads.

The Community Climate Action Fund – Expression of Interest Open

The second round of funding under the Community Climate Action Fund is scheduled for release before the end of the year. In preparation, the Climate Action Team is inviting expressions of interest from communities interested in submitting applications. Communities are encouraged to complete the [Expression of Interest form](#), which will assist in planning and support for the forthcoming funding round.

During the first round, 17 community-led projects were successfully funded across Waterford. These projects reflected a broad range of climate action initiatives, including the installation of solar panels, planters and biodiversity planting at Kilrossantry GAA. Photographs of the participating communities are included below.



Biodiversity:

Waterford Biodiversity Action Plan Development

Biodiversity Working Group – Initial Meeting and Next Steps

The first meeting of the Biodiversity Working Group was held in June. Over the coming months, a series of further meetings will take place, incorporating input from expert advisors, community conversations, and public consultations. This collaborative process will form the foundation for the development of the draft Waterford Biodiversity Action Plan.

All stakeholders will have the opportunity to contribute throughout the process. Members are encouraged to monitor the WCCC Consult platform for updates on the pre-draft public consultation phase, as well as details of scheduled library drop-in events within their respective Municipal Districts.

Community Biodiversity Training Days

In June, the Biodiversity Officer supported two successful biodiversity training events. On 21st June, volunteer training with Seal Rescue Ireland was held aimed at equipping local volunteers with the skills to assist in marine wildlife rescue. This was followed by a fully subscribed Dragonfly and Damselfly identification workshop on 28th June in Dunhill which was supported by the National Biodiversity Data Centre. Both events are part of ongoing efforts to build volunteer capacity, enhance community knowledge, and improve biodiversity literacy across the County.

Further biodiversity training events are scheduled for July, including:

Native Plants Workshop in Lismore on 18th July, in collaboration with the Environmental Awareness Officer.

National Sand Dunes Forum

Marina Mulligan, Biodiversity Officer represents Waterford City and County Council on the National Sand Dunes Forum. This forum plays a key role in promoting knowledge sharing, community engagement, and the development of collaborative projects related to sand dune restoration.

Within the Comeragh District, Bunmahon sand dunes have secured funding for the development of Sand Dune Management Plans, in partnership with the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS). These plans aim to guide the sustainable conservation and restoration of these important coastal habitats.

The National Sand Dunes Forum aims to raise the profile of sand dune restoration at a national level and to connect projects and researchers in order to ensure the application of best practice methodologies on the ground. Waterford's active involvement in this forum helps to position Waterford City & County Council as a leader in coastal habitat protection and nature-based climate resilience.

Control of Dogs

Upgrade works at the County Pound in Bilberry are ongoing, with drainage work scheduled to commence in September as part of continued improvements to the facility.

In a recent enforcement matter, one of the Council's Dog Wardens appeared as a witness on behalf of An Garda Síochána at the District Court. The court imposed a €600 fine on the defendant for failure to hold a valid dog licence, reinforcing the importance of compliance with dog ownership regulations.