

**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

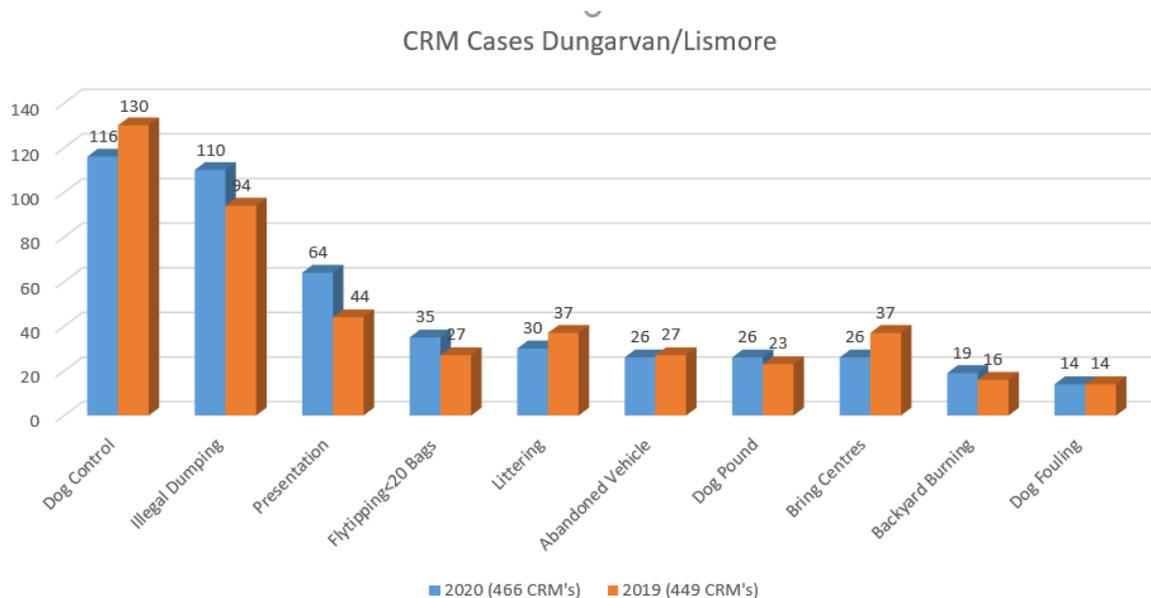
SAMHAIN 2020

NOVEMBER 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 October in the years 2019 & 2020.



Presentation & Cleansing

Dungarvan:

In recent weeks Dungarvan presentation staff have been preparing for Autumn. All of the meadow areas dedicated to biodiversity have now been cut, these included Stokes field, the area to both sides of the Strandside bridge and the central part of the Linear Park. These meadows have provided a variety of flowering species and provided feeding sites for many insects. All of the summer bedding displays have now served their purpose and are currently being removed to be updated with some winter –spring displays, most notably in Walton Park, other more permanent displays are being positioned in our planters at key locations around the town.

With the removal of trees along the N25 section of the town now complete the next step in this process is the commencement of replacement tree planting to compensate for this overall loss. While Dungarvan enjoys good tree cover as a whole, it still is important to maintain this level; new plantings will be suiting to their location and the urban environment in which they are to be positioned. The maintenance of Walton Park and playgrounds will continue through the coming weeks and remain a high priority as most certainly they may receive increased footfall during current Covid-19 restrictions.

Environmental Education & Awareness

Waste prevention

October was National Reuse Month. A full calendar of events was scheduled around the country, from online tutorials and workshops to videos and podcasts. All events were listed on www.mywaste.ie. Two of the events which took place in Waterford were a schools competition and a sustainable textiles webinar. The webinar was well attended, with all 45 spaces filling up within 3 days. A follow up textile upcycling workshop will take place on 27th November.

Waterford will host a virtual waste roadshow on the 23-29th November, including a website & social media account take-over, virtual workshops will be delivered each day – the topics are: Recycling, Household Hazardous Waste, Reuse of Textiles, Food Waste and a video of some of our recycling facilities. Traditional media articles including radio & print press, accurate and most of all up to date.

LAPN funding was recently granted by the EPA for two associated projects. The first of these is a joint project with Carlow County Council and Kilkenny County Council (with Waterford City & County Council as the lead authority in this project) to prevent paint waste by raising awareness about top tips to purchase, store and dispose of paint to create least waste. These will be shared online through social media posts and videos, on radio and at point of sale in hardware and paint shops. The over purchasing of paint has been an ongoing issue in Ireland and has particularly escalated during COVID 19. In previous hazardous waste collection days at our Civic Amenity Sites, we have noticed a significant collection of non-hazardous paints. In order to prevent wasted paint, we propose to raise awareness of how to calculate paint required, store paint, dispose of paint, etc with a longer term aim of identifying how best to set up a paint reuse scheme for any paint that cannot be prevented. It is hoped to launch this project on 26th November, to link it in with the virtual waste roadshow taking place between 23rd – 29th November. The second project receiving funding from the EPA is a feasibility study to assess the viability of establishing a paint reuse social enterprise in Co. Waterford working through our Civic Amenity Sites.

Litter

Waterford City & County Council continues to offer assistance throughout the year to the general public and schools to clean up litter and illegally dumped waste from their local environs e.g. approach roads, local beauty spots, beaches and general public areas. These clean ups continue throughout the winter months.

Schools

This year's Green Schools Seminars were held online on between 5pm – 8pm on Monday 19th October, with a seminar for each theme to accommodate schools on the various themes i.e. litter & waste, energy, water, travel, biodiversity, etc. Anyone who couldn't attend the seminars on the night were offered an individual presentation afterwards to convey the information to them. Some schools are beginning to take the opportunity to receive workshops and talks online now, particularly waste prevention and recycling workshops.

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