

Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authorities

Annual Report 2018



connacht-ulster
waste region



eastern - midlands
waste region



southern
waste region

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Contents

Introduction

Introduction from the WERLAs	05
WERLA Mission Statement	09
Stakeholder engagement	10
WERLA Work Plan 2018 Objectives and Policies	11

National Waste Priorities

Household & Commercial Waste Management Compliance	14
Waste Tyres	15
Unauthorised Sites of Concern which Require a Multi-Agency Response	16
End of Life Vehicles Pilot Compliance Project	17
Pilot Targeted Packaging Enforcement Project	17

Key Statistics

Key Statistics 2018	20
Inspections	20
Complaints	20
Enforcement Actions	21
Prosecution Actions	21
Waste Collection Holders	22
Achievements	22

Multi-Agency	24
ICT	25
WERLA Website	25
Working Together on Waste Crime	26

ANTI-DUMPING INITIATIVE CASE STUDY

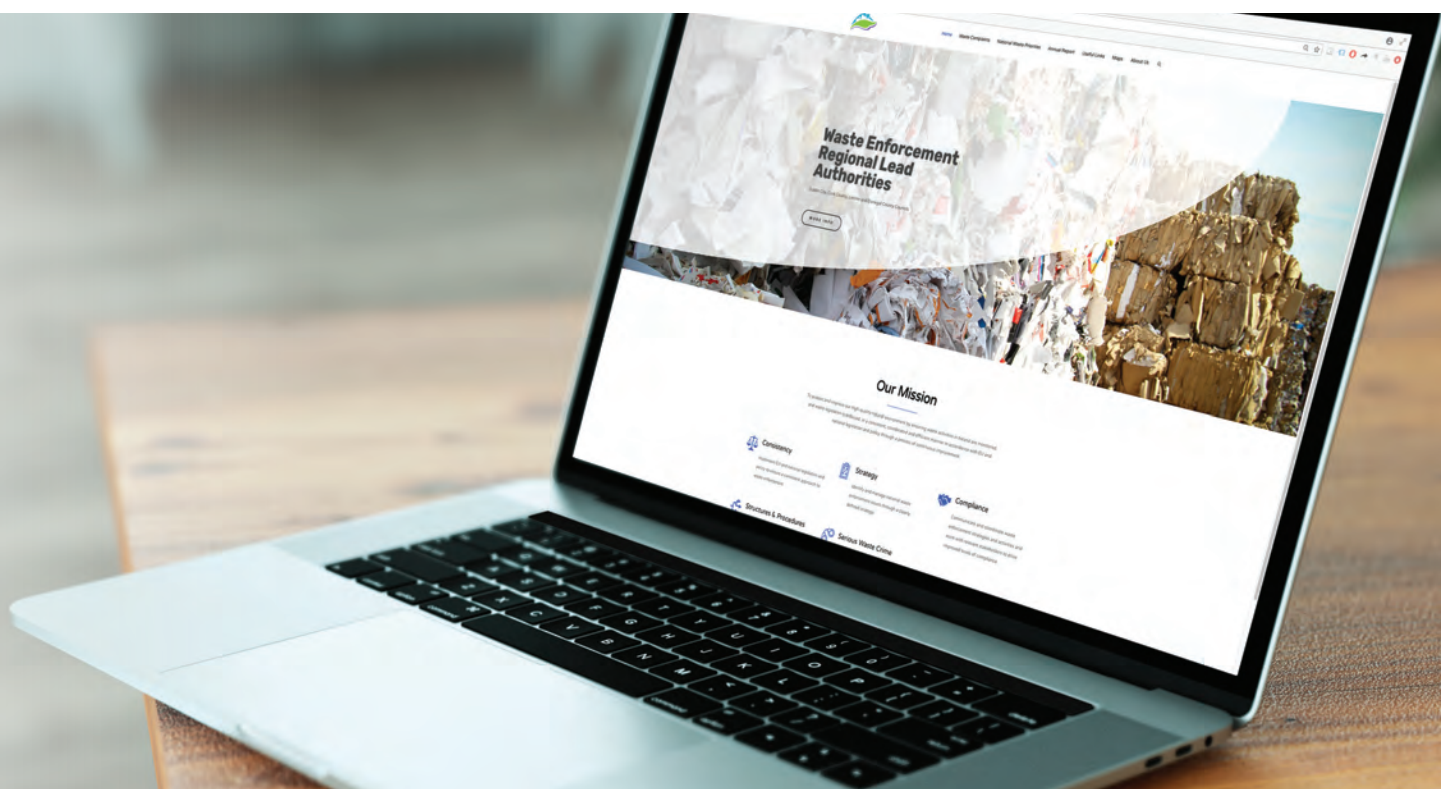
Ballymun Pocket Parks	27
Timoole Unauthorised Landfill Remediation Project	28
Household Waste Management Compliance Through Eircodes Investigation	29
CUR Case Study, Ballybane, Galway	31
Mattress Amnesty Day 2018 Clare	33
St. Killian's Crescent Clean Up Carlow	34
Training Programme	35
Publications	37

WERLA Work Plan 2019

Objective A	40
Objective B	42
Objective C	44
Objective D	45
Objective E	46



INTRODUCTION FROM THE WERLAS



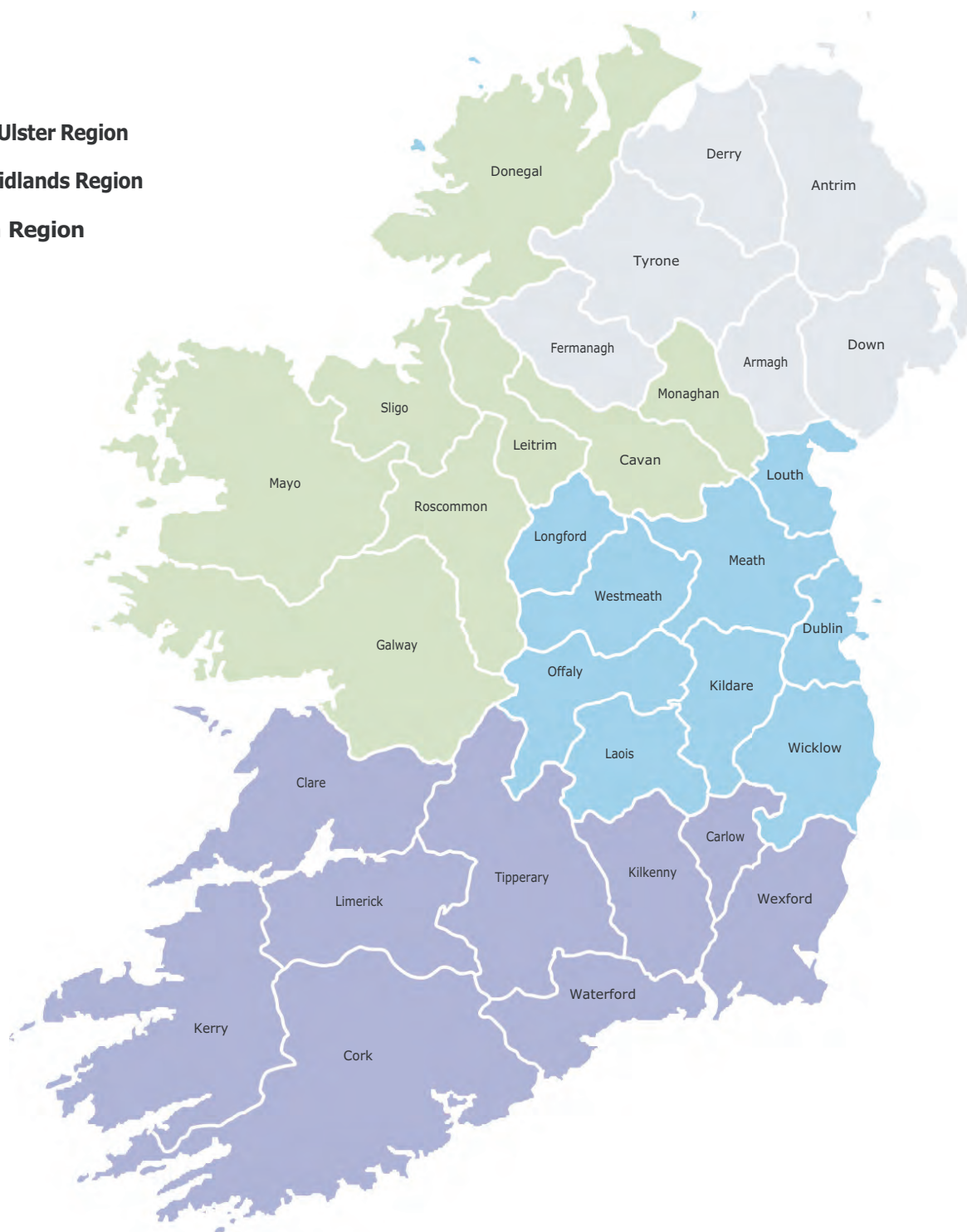
Three WERLAS, covering the Connacht-Ulster, Eastern Midlands and Southern Regions, were established in 2015 with responsibility for coordinating the waste enforcement actions of local authorities, setting priorities and common objectives for waste enforcement and ensuring consistency of enforcement of waste legislation while still leaving local authority personnel as first responders on the ground.

This annual report presents activities and achievements from 2018.





- Connacht Ulster Region
- Eastern Midlands Region
- Southern Region







WERLA MISSION STATEMENT

To protect and improve our high-quality natural environment by ensuring waste activities in Ireland are monitored, and waste legislation is enforced, in a consistent, coordinated and efficient manner in accordance with EU and national legislation and policy through a process of continuous improvement.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

The work of the WERLAs is overseen by the National Waste Enforcement Steering Committee (NWESC) and is chaired by the Department of Communication Climate Action & Environment (DCCAE). The NWESC determine national waste enforcement priorities for the WERLAs and drive consistency at a central level. The Committee includes representatives from a wide range of regulatory authorities including the WERLAs, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), An Garda Síochána, National Transfrontier Shipment Office (NTFSO), National Waste Collection Permit Office (NWCPO), Department of Social Protection, Regional Waste Management Planning Offices, Office of Revenue Commissioners, County and City Managers Association (CCMA). The Committee supports the WERLAs in dealing with issues of serious waste crime.

To identify emerging issues and challenges and to ensure that local authorities have input towards the process of identifying National Waste Priorities each Region has its own network of Local Authority Groups, which include Regional Steering Groups, Regional Operations Groups and Regional Waste Enforcement Officer Groups.

The WERLAs work closely with the Waste Management Planning Lead Authorities to align enforcement activities with the requirements of the Regional Waste Management Plans and to align awareness programmes with the National Waste Priorities.

To ensure consistency in terms of enforcement across the local authority and EPA regulated waste sector, and continuously streamline the RMCEI process, the WERLAs and the EPA meet on a regular basis.

The NIECE platform enables the WERLAs to liaise with local authorities continually, to facilitate information sharing, and hold a repository of guidance documents and enforcement tools developed by the WERLAs.

The WERLAs participate in a number of Working Groups including End of Life Vehicles (ELVs), Tyres, Construction Waste Resource Group, and the Environmental Services Training Group (ESTG).

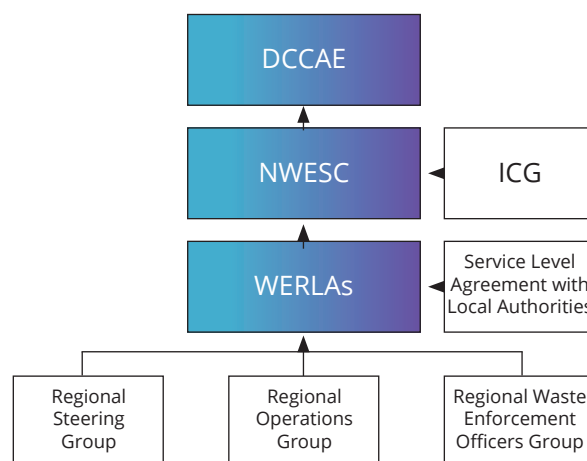
The Construction Waste Resource Group was established in 2018 and is divided into four thematic sub-groups as follows:

- Article 27/End of Waste / Permit threshold limits;
- Capacity, projections;
- Waste prevention / Best practice on site/ Circular economy;
- Enforcement / Waste flows.

The WERLAs have responsibility for the Enforcement/ Waste Flows sub-group.

The Industry Contact Group (ICG) is a forum for information exchange between key stakeholders. It is chaired by the Irish Waste Management Association (IWMA) and consists of members from the DCCAE, EPA, WERLAs, Chartered Institute of Waste Management, NTFSO, NWCPO and Producer Responsibility Compliance Schemes.

Governance Structure



WERLA WORK PLAN 2018

OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

A	OBJECTIVE A Implement EU and national legislation and policy to ensure a consistent approach to waste enforcement	POLICY Support and monitor implementation of the national waste enforcement priorities for 2018 as agreed by the National Waste Enforcement Steering Committee (NWESC)
B	OBJECTIVE B Identify and manage national waste enforcement issues through a clearly defined strategy	POLICY Review and maintain a waste enforcement strategy Develop working relationships with stakeholders and utilize the data gathered to identify enforcement challenges Deliver an integrated approach to drive consistent enforcement of legislation
C	OBJECTIVE C Communicate and coordinate waste enforcement strategies and activities and work with relevant stakeholders to drive improved levels of compliance	POLICY Ensure all guidance issued is accurate, consistent and takes account of relevant legislation Provide the structure to facilitate greater cooperation between enforcement authorities, allow for increased peer-to-peer learning and allow for the creation of forums for knowledge sharing of best practice Communicate effectively amongst stakeholders Foster links and activities with relevant stakeholders
D	OBJECTIVE D Drive improved performance and consistency of waste enforcement through clearly defined structures and procedures	POLICY Provide standard waste enforcement guidance to ensure best practices and efficiencies are adopted Work with stakeholders on structures required to develop knowledge sharing Improve performance through the use of technology
E	OBJECTIVE E Work with local authorities and other stakeholders to deal with serious environmental waste crime	POLICY Develop measures to assist local authorities with the prevention, reduction, and cessation of unauthorised waste activities Identify serious national waste enforcement issues and liaise with stakeholders in formulating appropriate responses





NATIONAL WASTE PRIORITIES & STATISTICS



NATIONAL WASTE PRIORITY 2018

HOUSEHOLD & COMMERCIAL WASTE MANAGEMENT COMPLIANCE



KEY STATISTICS

1,299

Commercial Food Waste Inspections

3,092

Household Food Waste Inspections

Under the Landfill Directive (1999/31/EC) Ireland must meet targets for the diversion of biodegradable municipal waste (BMW) from disposal to landfill.

By 2020, BMW going to landfill must be reduced to 35% of the total quantity (by weight) of BMW produced in 1995 (427,000 tonnes).

To address this, Household Waste Management Compliance (including the provision of a separate collection service for food waste), was a National Waste Priority for 2018. The WERLAs focused on compliance of both the household and commercial Food Waste Regulations.

As part of concerted actions under this priority, household waste collectors that had provided (or arranged for the provision of) a separate collection service for food waste from householders (which included the direct provision of an approved waste receptacle, designed for reuse to the address of each household customer) in line with the 2015 Food Waste Regulations, were identified and follow-up actions taken across the three Regions. Consequently enforcement actions including prosecutions and review of waste collection Permits were initiated on non-compliant operators by Local Authorities.

NATIONAL WASTE PRIORITY 2018

WASTE TYRES



The Waste Management (Tyres and Waste Tyres) Regulations 2017 (SI No 400 of 2017) came in to effect on 1st October 2017 to promote the environmentally sound management of waste tyres.

The focus of local authority inspections, using the standardized inspection form, was on unregistered retailers. In addition, the WERLAs coordinated tyre inspections of retailers with a multi-regional and multi-local authority presence.

KEY STATISTICS

2,039

Tyre Repak ELT members

947

Inspections under the Tyre Regulations

425

joined REPAK ELT during 2018

NATIONAL WASTE PRIORITY 2018

UNAUTHORISED SITES OF CONCERN WHICH REQUIRE A MULTI-AGENCY RESPONSE

A 'most revolting' case: tonnes of waste remain buried at Donegal's illegal facility



Peter Murtagh

Waste operator Jim Ferry faces jail if he does not clean up his Rossbracken site

Co Donegal waste operator Jim Ferry has been told by a High Court judge that he will be sent to jail if he does not clean up his illegal waste facility at Rossbracken, Letterkenny. Ferry was "a disgrace to the people of Donegal", Mr Justice Max Barrett told him during a hitherto unreported sitting of the court on July 28th. The hearing was sparked by a Donegal County Council application for an order of attachment and



Rossbracken: the centre of Jim Ferry's illegal waste facility near Letterkenny, Co Donegal

“
The judge seemed appalled that illegally dumped waste had not been removed from the site. ... The case was 'the most revolting to come before me on the bench to date'

seat of the fire and put it out. But crucially, the firefighters were very careful not to take

Waste crime is the collection, transport, processing, export or disposal of waste not in accordance with licensed activity or authorisations. When waste is not handled legitimately, it can potentially cause harm to human health and the environment. The unlicensed activity also has the potential to undermine legitimate business and deprive the government of tax income.

Waste crime takes many different forms: at one end, a builder reducing costs by fly-tipping rubble and at the other, seemingly legitimate operators misclassifying waste to avoid costs.

There are no common national guidelines defining when a crime is minor or serious. In the 'Code of Practice for the Development of an Enforcement Policy for Unauthorised Waste Activities' (Section 3.4.2) of 2009, it is specified that crime is serious: when there is a significant degree of criminality on the part of offender; or when previous administrative or civil responses to contravention by the suspect have not resulted in compliance; or where the State or community expects that a crime will be dealt with by prosecution conducted in public before a court and usually carries the risk of imprisonment in serious cases; or when the crime produced significant real or potential harm to the State or the community, including harm to the environment, culture heritage, economy, resources, assets or well-being of the State or its citizens; or when the crime is of such a nature or magnitude that it is important to deter potential offenders and prosecution will act as a very effective deterrent.

The new and more complex challenges which all Local Authorities now face require not only new solutions but also greater flexibility in the way we deliver them.

The WERLAs have adapted to the challenges that local authorities face by establishing good working relationships with other regulatory authorities such as the Health & Safety Authority, Revenue Commissioners (to include Customs and Excise), the Health Service Executive, the Department of Social Protection and An Garda Síochána among others and have developed an Intelligence led Multi-Agency Approach which recognises that it is unusual to be able to get unanimous consensus about the right thing to do but that we should "pick the most important problems and fix them"

Tackling significant illegal waste activity i.e. operators or sites engaging in a significant level of illegal activity, were identified and prioritised for a concerted enforcement approach.

Illegal dumping and unauthorised movements of waste were also targeted under this priority.

The Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment provided assistance both in terms of legal costs and site solutions to local authorities who worked with the WERLAs to identify and address such sites in 2018.

NATIONAL WASTE PRIORITY 2018 END OF LIFE VEHICLES (ELV) PILOT COMPLIANCE PROJECT



KEY STATISTICS

305

Inspections of suspected vehicle importers

110

Registered Vehicle Importers

The End of Life Vehicles Directive 2000/53/EC requires Ireland and other EU countries to recycle and recover End of Life Vehicles (ELVs).

- An End-of-Life Vehicle (ELV) Pilot Compliance Project commenced in 2018.
- Producers of specified vehicles (importers of new cars and used cars) have obligations to register either with the approved body or with each local authority within the State.
- A guidance document for the Producer/Importer of specified Vehicles was developed for Local Authorities to aid them with their inspections.
- A national list of suspected producers was developed and circulated to each Local Authority to allow for targeted inspections.
- The PRO's, when requested, accompanied and assisted waste enforcement officers on specified vehicles inspections.

NATIONAL WASTE PRIORITY 2018 PILOT TARGETED PACKAGING ENFORCEMENT PROJECT



KEY STATISTICS

4,281

Packaging Major Producer registered premises

A Pilot Targeted Packaging Enforcement Project commenced in 2017. A Memorandum of Understanding between the DCCA and Repak was agreed.

Subsequently a Communication Strategy between the DCCA, WERLA's and Repak was developed.

- The Pilot Targeted packaging Enforcement Project continued into 2018 utilising the tools developed in 2017.
- In mid 2018, a second national list prioritising one hundred and eleven suspected major producers (SMPs) was developed for targeted inspections.





KEY STATISTICS 2018



KEY STATISTICS



Waste Facility Permits /
Certificates of Registration

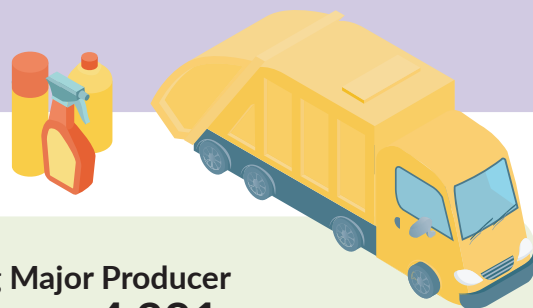
993

ATFS

200

Waste Collectors

2,153



INSPECTIONS

Waste Permitted Facility **1,667**

Multi Agency Inspections **200**

Joint inspections with WERLA **114**

Packaging Major Producer
registered sites **4,281**

Tyre Repak ELT sites **2,039**

Registered Vehicle Importers **110**



COMPLAINTS

Waste complaints investigated **40,256**



KEY STATISTICS

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

Waste Warning Letters	4,387
Direction under Section 14	935
Notice under Section 18	722
Notice under Section 55	403
Section 71 - Abandoned Cars	966
Notice under Article 25 Packaging	38
Fixed Payment Notices (FPN)	120
PRI action initiated during the year	28
TOTAL	7,599



PROSECUTION ACTIONS

Notice under Section 14	37
Notice under Section 18	112
Notice under Section 32	145
Notice under Section 55	69
DPP Files / Indictments	2
Prosecutions for failure to pay FPN	350
Prosecutions in relation to PRI Schemes	2
TOTAL	717

KEY STATISTICS

Number of Waste Collection Holders (WCP)

EMR **957**

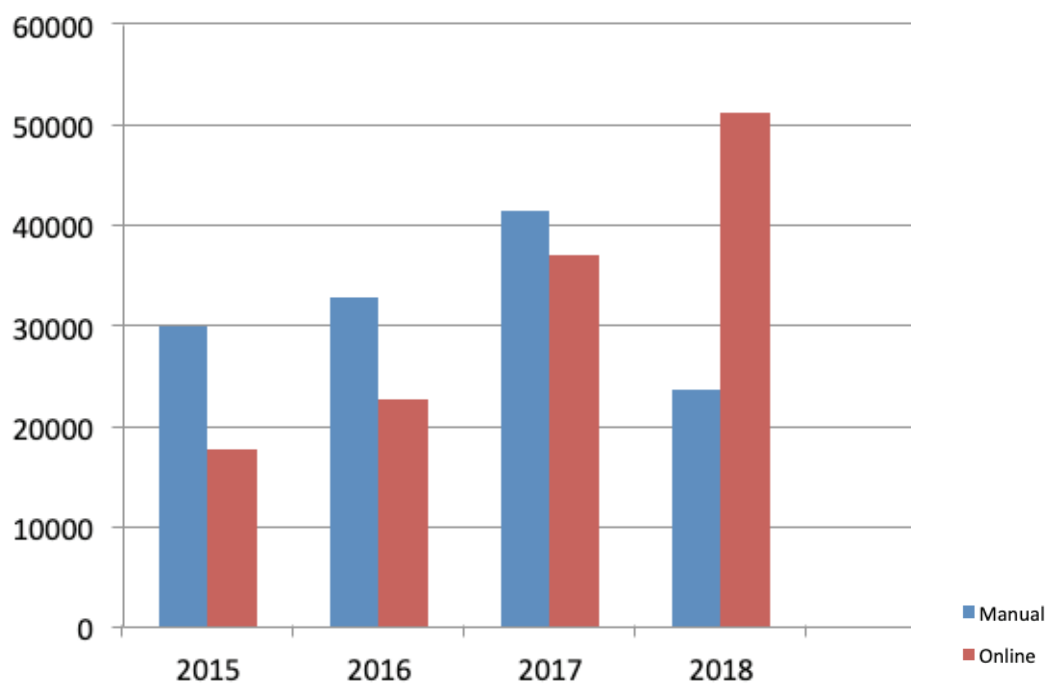
CUR **414**

SR **1,062**



ACHIEVEMENTS

Certificates of Destruction (COD) issued to registered owners of specified vehicles.



KEY STATISTICS



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland



SOUTHERN REGION WERLA

comprises of the Local authorities in Limerick, Clare, Kerry, Cork City, Cork County, Tipperary, Wexford, Waterford, Carlow and Kilkenny.



CONNACHT ULSTER REGION WERLA

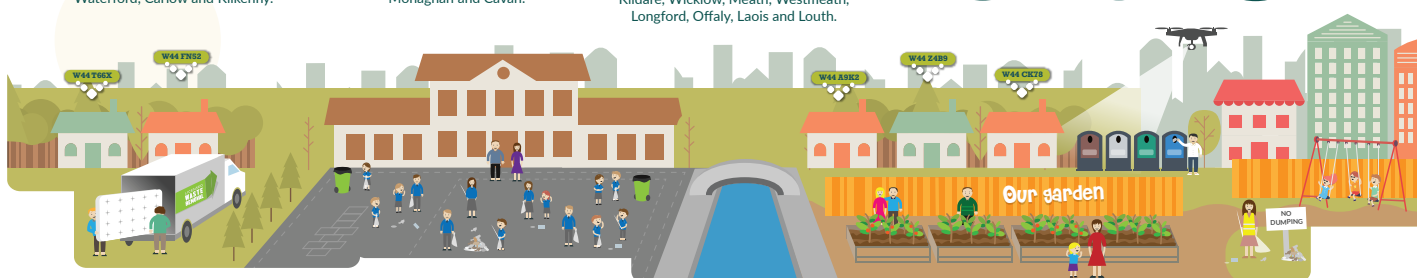
comprises of the Local authorities in Donegal, Galway City, Galway County, Mayo, Leitrim, Roscommon, Sligo, Monaghan and Cavan.



EASTERN-MIDLANDS REGION WERLA

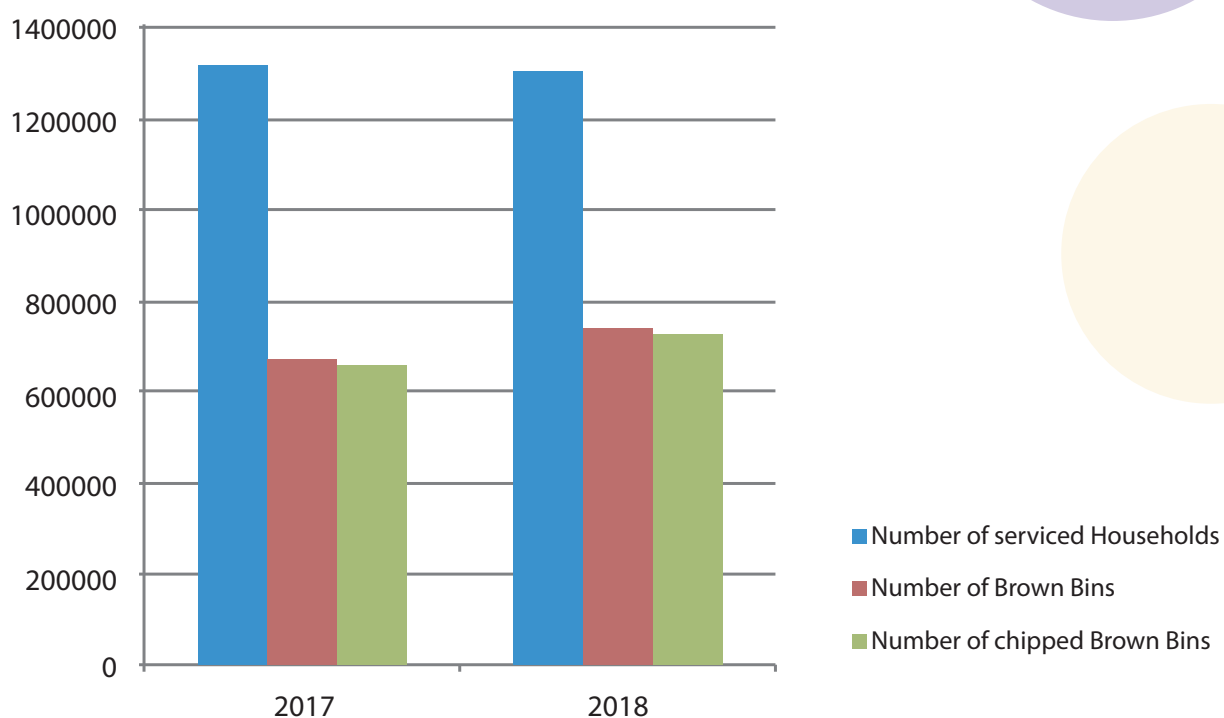
comprises of the Local authorities in Dublin City, Fingal, Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown, South Dublin, Kildare, Wicklow, Meath, Westmeath, Longford, Offaly, Laois and Louth.

ANTI-DUMPING INITIATIVE 2018 OVERVIEW



The 2018 Anti-Dumping Initiative was co-ordinated through the WERLA offices and funded by the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment

Statistic Increase of Brown Bins from 2017 to 2018 = **75,282**



MULTI-AGENCY

The Business Case for the WERLAs outlines the requirement to develop intelligence led and coordinated multi-agency enforcement of unauthorised waste activities. The Governance structure for the WERLAs facilitates the sharing of information between key enforcement agencies to allow for a strategic approach to serious waste crime.

The WERLAs are working through the NWESC to ensure the establishment of regional multi-agency groups comprising the EPA, An Garda Síochána, Department of Social Protection, NTFSO, Work Place Relations Commission, and the Office of Revenue Commissioners. While the groups' primary focus is unauthorised waste activities other offences such as tax and welfare fraud, or other criminality are key for the involvement of other Agencies.

The role of the WERLA is to coordinate multi-agency actions within the Regions to target unauthorised activities. The WERLAs also work with the various agencies at local level where there are issues of concern or in carrying out scheduled activities such as checkpoints or joint enforcement operations. This has resulted in targeted operations on permitted sites that have ultimately concluded with their closure because of failure to comply with permit conditions.

The WERLAs have liaised with the EPA in 2018 with a view to a coordinated approach on issues of common concern. An example would be the management and enforcement of biodegradable/organic waste streams. This cooperation also resulted in the delivery of a National Waste Enforcement Conference in October 2018 – Working Together on Waste Crime.

The WERLAs work closely with the relevant stakeholders to ensure better enforcement outcomes for Producer Responsibility Initiatives. This has resulted in increased compliance with the Tyre, End of life Vehicle and Packaging regulations.

The objective is to protect our environment. In some instances, High Court actions have been taken through the Coordinated Multi-Agency approach to ensure this outcome is achieved.

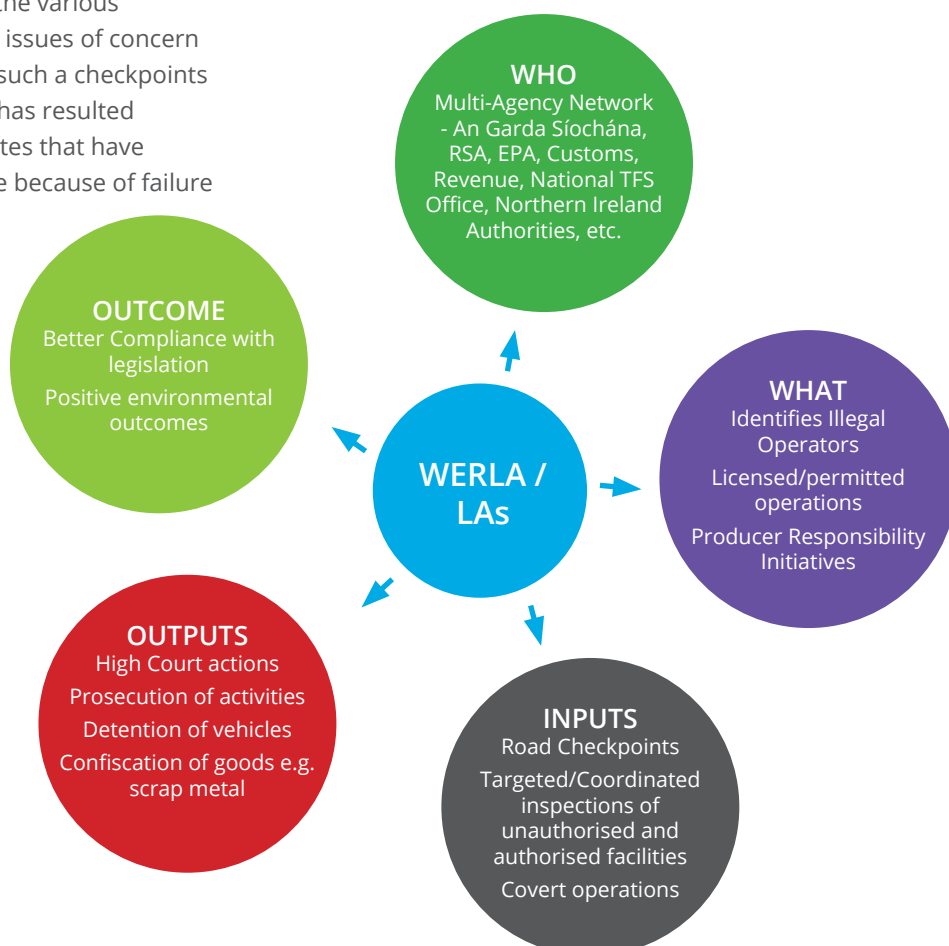


Figure 1: Visual aid as to what is envisaged through a Multi-Agency approach.

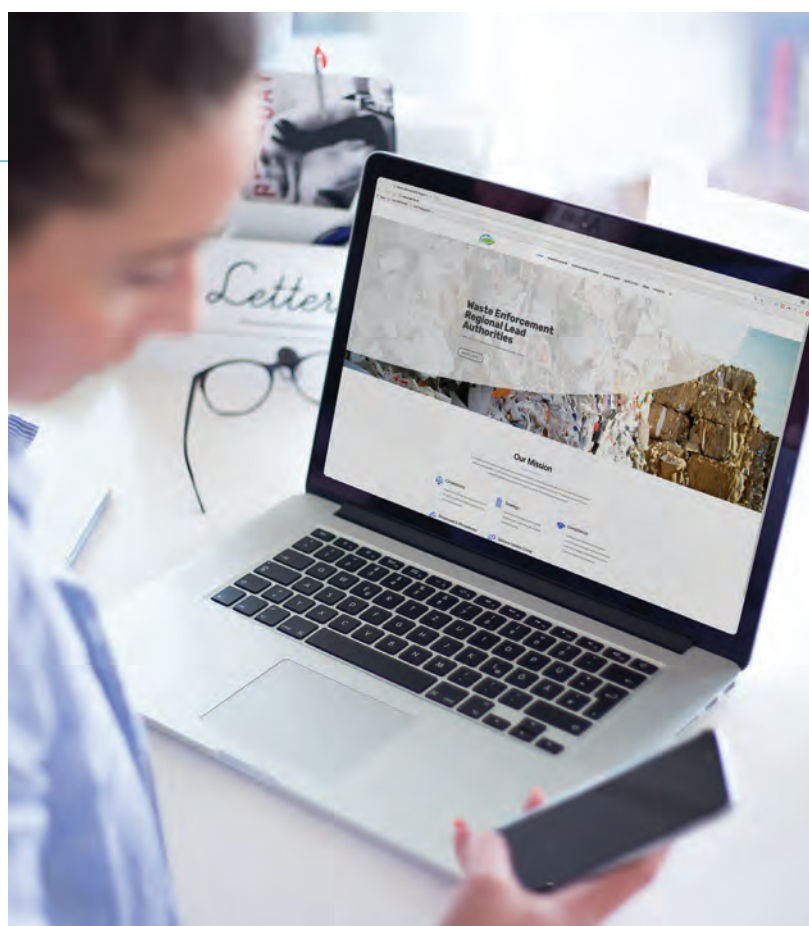
- **Annual Report (AR) Anomalies:** Authorised Waste Collectors and Authorised Facilities are required to furnish an Annual Report (AR) in relation to their waste activities carried out by the permit holder in the preceding calendar year. WERLA ICT has been working with AR data to develop reports that will assist in the risk profiling of AER audits. In 2018, the focus was on Chapter 17 (C&D) Waste.
- **Online Advertising Investigations:** Social Media and Online classified advertising is a growing opportunity for illegal operators. WERLA have been assisting local authorities in investigations using Open Source Intelligence techniques.
- **Satellite Technology:** WERLA was a core group member of an European IMPEL project to investigate the use of Satellite technology in the detection of unauthorised activity. A detection model is currently in development.
- **UAV:** Drone (UAV) technology is an emerging tool to assist in the investigations and monitoring of suspicious activity. WERLA has developed a capacity in this area over 2018 and has provided operational assistance, on request, to multiple local authorities over the year.
- **NIECE:** The NIECE Portal Development Group has convened in Sept 2018 with WERLA as a core group member.
- **Mobile Workforce:** WERLA has continued to provide support to this pilot project, in multiple local authorities, in meeting the challenges, technically and operationally, of integrating mobile inspections into current processes.
- **LA Complaints/Inspections System Survey:** WERLA has undertaken a survey of ICT systems in use by Waste Enforcement staff, across the local authority sector and also in related central bodies. This will be available as a central repository of information in early 2019.

WERLA Website

The WERLA website (<http://www.werla.ie>) has been developed to provide information to the public, and industry, on the activities of the WERLA offices and also support the work of Waste Enforcement staff in local authorities.

The website features information on the following:

- National Waste Priorities 2019
- 2017 WERLA Annual Report
- How to make a Waste Complaint via Local Authorities and the EPA
- Useful Links to other agencies and organisations involved in, and providing support to, the Waste Enforcement sector.
- Maps related to waste
- About Us – information on the WERLAs and their offices



WORKING TOGETHER ON WASTE CRIME

National Waste Enforcement Event 2018 Wednesday 24th and 25th October 2018

After a lapse of a number of years, the WERLAs and EPA worked together to deliver a National Waste Enforcement Conference entitled;

“Working Together on Waste Crime”.

This conference provided an opportunity for local authorities, the EPA, and other public authority personnel to build and share their expertise in waste compliance and enforcement.

This was a one-and-a-half-day event which addressed current and emerging challenges by:

- Sharing experiences through Case Studies
- Highlighting national waste priorities
- Detailing recent legal developments particularly in the use of audio visual recordings
- Providing networking opportunities
- Identifying supports available in this area.

The event was opened by Tom Ryan, Director EPA and included discussions and presentations from the EPA, WERLAs, local authorities, the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment and legal experts.



The event was approved by Engineers Ireland for the purposes of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) and concluded with two studies examining options for “SMART Enforcement”

The WERLAs wish to acknowledge the speakers and thank them for taking the time to prepare their presentations and deliver them at the conference. We also wish to thank the EPA for their support and cooperation in organising the event. It is anticipated that this will be a biannual event.



ANTI-DUMPING INITIATIVE CASE STUDY

BALLYMUN POCKET PARKS

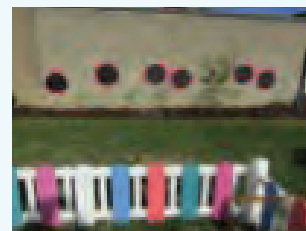
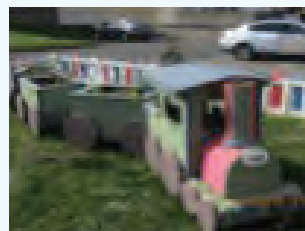


Transformation of 7 illegal dumping blackspots in residential areas into pocket parks for the community. Activation of community engagement and buy in to ensure success is maintained and community ownership fostered. Hard and soft landscaping was provided at different locations to address design and engagement was sought from a broad range of stakeholders including schools, voluntary organisations and NGO's

Case Study Details

Belclare Crescent - The entrance to this estate was a significant dumping hotspot. It scored badly in the IBAL report and as it is a main thoroughfare in Ballymun it reflected badly on the area. There were no community groups or any resident engagement. This project has transformed that. Local residents, local businesses, the Tidy Towns Group and Ballyrunners all worked steadily together to transform this space. The project has transformed the area physically but also socially, as community spirit has grown. Dumping has ceased, residents are out daily working on the area.

Carton Estate - Carton Estate has been an area that Dublin City Council (DCC) have struggled to engage residents over the years. The area was subject to significant dumping. When the planting project started residents slowly came out to say that it was a wonderful idea and started to help out. As a result of this projects success residents are keen to continue with more projects and clean ups in the future.



Sillogue Gardens - This was a patch of land next to a crèche at which there was constant dumping of household rubbish. DCC linked in with the crèche and local residents to see if they would work together to enhance this area. It was decided that a small garden for the crèche would be perfect, providing a place for the children to tend to plants and play safely. It has prevented people dumping on the site and created huge community togetherness. This area also has a large proportion of older residents. The result was a very successful inter-generational project. Local schools also made stones coloured as bugs to dot around the garden and give them a sense of inclusion in their area.

Knowth Court - Scored badly on the IBAL report. The residents engaged brilliantly and the local shops contributed food and refreshments throughout, building relationships between residents and local businesses. Since completion both the residents and local shops have been instrumental in keeping the area clean and watering plants. Our Estate Management team have targeted offenders and interviewed residents who did not have a bin collection in place. This has been particularly successful in bringing the settled and travelling community in the area together to carry out the project.

Outcomes

7 former dumping blackspot locations which suffered from daily dumping of household waste remain dumping and litter free. The communities have taken ownership of the spaces.

ANTI-DUMPING INITIATIVE CASE STUDY

TIMOOLE UNAUTHORISED LANDFILL

REMEDIATION PROJECT



70,000 tonnes of household, C&I and C&D waste deposited in 2000/2001. Complicated, complex and lengthy legal proceedings, still ongoing. Site located in a remote location at the bottom of a heavily populated cul-de-sac. Remediation commenced in October 2017 and was completed 2 months ahead of schedule and on budget.

Case Study Details

- Open and transparent Communication Strategy and tackled early in the project. Strategy identified 6 types of stakeholders and stakeholder analysis completed for each. Project Liaison Officer (PLO) present on site.
- Engineering challenges – deep excavations, management of water course, confined site with numerous buildings very close to excavation, management of emissions (gas, leachate, odour) and traffic management.
- Other challenges including Section 56, getting vacant possession of site, aggressive and threatening behaviour from neighbours (save the dump!), landfill closure and hauliers (only 1 haulier who wasn't under investigation or had successful legal proceedings against, use FPNs).
- Communications included 2 no. open evenings, SPC meeting, letter drops, door-to-door visits, webpage, dedicated phone number and email address, weekly update to Elected Members, contractor involvement in PR, 'meet the team' information.
- Lots of rumours about the site relating to criminality and also 'benefits' Meath County Council (MCC) were giving to residents. Clear message was given – only

believe information on webpage and from PLO.

- Over 12,000 truck movements to site, zero tolerance approach to traffic management issues, 3 drivers removed.
- Health concerns – cluster of Guillain Barré disease locally, engaged the services of a medical doctor but didn't publicise info.
- Working groups – steering group, multi-agency group and emergency preparedness plan.

Outcomes

- Environmental risk was completely removed, project came in 2 months ahead of schedule and on budget, road reinstatement was also carried out by Contractor, this was not included in remediation tender.
- Communication and PR Strategy considered a success and are now used on other MCC projects.
- Knowledge sharing with other local authorities, lessons learnt and what we would do differently.
- Exploration of new technology – Enose.

ANTI-DUMPING INITIATIVE CASE STUDY

HOUSEHOLD WASTE MANAGEMENT COMPLIANCE



Sligo County Council is currently implementing a national pilot project namely 'Sligo County Council Waste Management Compliance through Eircodes Investigation' which was officially launched on Tuesday 20th March 2018, and is being supported and funded by the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment and the Connacht Ulster WERLA Office.

This Pilot aims to tackle and address the source of illegal dumping in the County once and for all. Under the National Anti Dumping Initiative 2017, the Local Authority spent in excess of €40k on cleaning specific black spot areas in the County with over 70 tonnes of waste removed. Unfortunately within a very short space of time, two of these areas had returned to significant levels of illegal dumping again. Despite the cost associated with cleaning these areas, a significant amount of time and resources were invested in these cleanups.

To ensure future clean-up operations remain successful and to maintain the natural beauty of Sligo, the Waste Enforcement Office of Sligo County Council have stepped up enforcement efforts to address the source of this problem by investigating household waste management accountability through Eircodes Investigation. Not only will this allow for a clear picture of how households in Sligo are managing their waste, but it will also work towards addressing the source of illegal dumping practice by identifying those responsible for this behaviour. It will also allow for a knock on effect of reducing costs associated with cleaning up illegal dump sites.

This Pilot Project is the start of an intense investigation into household waste management compliance in the County and will run for the next couple of years until accountability of all households has been achieved.

This Pilot Project is the start of an intense investigation into household waste management compliance in the County and will run for the next couple of years until accountability of all households has been achieved.

Case Study Details

Sligo County Council served Section 18 Notices under the Waste Management Act 1996, as amended, on all permitted Waste Collectors operating in the County. Information on customer details and tonnages collected from both domestic and commercial customers has now been requested from all Waste Collectors on a quarterly basis.

The Local Authority reviews all of this information Eircodes into one list in order to 'unaccountable households in Sligo'.

This 'unaccountable' list is then further mapped and categorised into areas in Sligo. Waste Enforcement Officers will then undertake an intense investigation of identifying what these households are doing with their household waste, in accordance with our Waste Bye-Laws.

The Sligo County Council Waste Management Bye-Laws 2013 place an obligation on all householders to manage their domestic waste by complying with any one of the following options:

1. Registration with a permitted Waste Collector operating in the area, for the provision of kerbside waste collection.
2. Transport segregated domestic waste to a Transfer Station/Civic Amenity Site as required. Receipts must be retained as proof that this is the option opted for. We are also now requesting the provision of the household eircode to the staff member on duty.
3. Bin-Sharing. This is an option for two households to come together sharing the same bins and waste account. Financial maintenance of this account will be up to both households. A Declaration Form must be submitted and approved by the Local Authority if this is the option opted for.

A Section 18 Notice will be served on these unaccountable Households, followed by an inspection if non compliance has been noted and the issuing of OTS Fines as well as court appearances will take place as required. The pilot is being trialled in 2 areas of Sligo with results to be determined via the October 2018 Quarterly Returns.

To strengthen and create awareness of this initiative, a 10 week education and awareness Social Media Campaign titled 'Green Aware Sligo' was carried out during summer 2018. Further information on this element of the pilot can be viewed on www.sligococo.ie/greenaware.

Outcomes

The environmental outcome will be:

- Reduced costs associated with illegal dumping practice.
- Accountability of all Households in Sligo.
- Accurate figures regarding how many Households avail of kerbside collection; disposal of waste to Civic Amenity Sites and number of bin-sharing households in the County.

Tips

Local Authorities wishing to undertake a similar initiative should ensure the following:

- Project Manager should be appointed specifically to this project for a minimum of 6 months. It's a large undertaking - delivery of this project on top of a full time job is quite difficult.
- Administration support should be dedicated to this roll as its labour intensive.
- Work associated with this project should be factored into the RMCEI at the start of the year.
- Meetings should be held with all permitted Waste Collectors in the County to brief them on the new requirements and to ensure you have buy-in from the start. This initiative will benefit them in the long run as it will ultimately increase their customer base.
- Social Media Campaign should be delivered in order to provide as much awareness as possible on the need for this project, its benefits and also to create a united approach against this practice i.e. we need the assistance of the public to help us tackle this issue.

ANTI-DUMPING INITIATIVE CASE STUDY

CUR CASE STUDY

BALLYBANE AREA, GALWAY CITY



Galway City Council submitted an application to fund a City wide waste/environmental awareness campaign in conjunction with a pilot anti-dumping initiative in the Ballybane area collectively known as Managing Your Waste, Caring for our Environment.

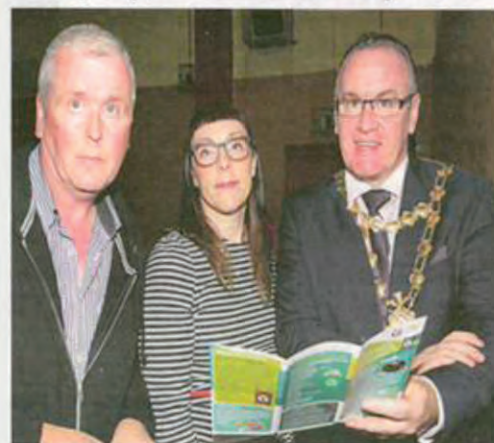
The aim of the environmental awareness campaign was to:

- Provide advice on waste and environmental matters, including food waste and the correct use of the recycling and waste bins.

Information was provided on the range of waste disposal options available to householders living in Galway City which range from the Civic Amenity Site located at Liosbaun Industrial Estate, Tuam Road to the Galway City Council Bulky Goods Collection Service to Bring Banks which are located at various locations throughout Galway City.

The targeted clean-up of the Ballybane area worked in conjunction with the awareness element of the project. Also, consultations are in train with the Galway City Council Tenant Liaison Officer for the area in relation to the possible roll-out of the Stop Food Waste Challenge to a number of interested householders.

Mayor launches pilot anti-dumping initiative in Ballybane



Mayor of Galway Pearse Flannery with Ariene Finn, Galway City Council European Green Leaf project co-ordinator and Donal Lynch, Ballybane, the launch of Managing Your Waste, Caring for Our environment Campaign Photo: Mike Shaughnessy

Earlier this year, Galway City Council submitted an application to fund a city-wide waste/environmental awareness campaign in conjunction with a pilot anti-dumping initiative in the Ballybane area collectively known as Managing Your Waste, Caring for our Environment.

The campaign was officially launched in the Ballybane Community Resource Centre recently by the Mayor of Galway City, Councillor Pearse Flannery.

Speaking at the launch, Mayor Flannery said that he welcomes the campaign for the city. The aim of the campaign is to provide advice on waste and environmental matters, including food waste and the correct use of the recycling and waste bins.

Further, information will be provided on the range of waste disposal options available to householders living in Galway City which range from the Civic Amenity Site located at Liosbaun Industrial Estate, Tuam Road to the Galway City Council Bulky Goods Collection Service to Bring Banks which are located at various locations

throughout Galway City. Further information is available from Galway City Council on 091-536400 or www.galwaycity.ie.

The 2017 Anti-Dumping Initiative campaign was launched by Minister Denis Naughton, Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment last Spring. The aim of the initiative is to provide funding for projects tackling illegal dumping including the provision of support for monitoring and surveillance of dumping blackspots and the development of an integrated community based and effective approach to dealing with this issue. The Department advised that an initial allocation of €650,000 was being made available to support this initiative which would be delivered through the WERLA (Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authority) offices.

Galway City Council received approval of a maximum grant of €20,889 in respect of the 2017 Anti-Dumping Initiative application submitted.

The Campaign was officially launched in the Ballybane Community Resource Centre on Wednesday, 30th August 2017 by the Mayor of Galway City, Councillor Pearce Flannery.

Members of the public from the Ballybane area were invited. An invitation was hand delivered door-to-door. Residents and Reps from the Resident Associations in the area attended and engaged with discussions on the night. Local press were invited to attend.

A press release was circulated by Galway City Council's press officer following the launch. Information leaflets were distributed to 26,000 approx households in Galway City (including the Ballybane area) as part of the campaign.

A considerable amount of positive feedback has been received to-date from members of the public in relation to the information provided on the leaflet. The information is also being posted through social media, via facebook, twitter and Galway City Council website.

Outcomes from the Ballybane Project:

- 19.44 Tonnes of waste was collected and removed from the Ballybane site.
- 1700 household surveys completed in the Ballybane area to ascertain how household waste was being disposed of and provided information on the services provided by Galway City Council.
- Information leaflet issued to all householders in Galway City on various environment topics.
- Letters issued to all residents in the Fana Glas estate following clean up detailing contact numbers for reporting illegal waste activity in the area.

Future Plans

- CCTV
- Drones through community initiative
- Further anti-dumping initiatives at known "hot" spots
- Roll out of further signage on other council vehicles
- Further stakeholders meeting including in-house departmental meetings.



ANTI-DUMPING INITIATIVE CASE STUDY

MATTRESS AMNESTY DAY 2018

CLARE CO. COUNCIL



The 2017 Anti-Dumping Initiative saw the delivery of over 200 projects across all 31 Local Authorities. The Minister for Communication, Climate Action and Environment provided additional funding in 2018 to build on the projects completed in 2017 he expressed a particular interest in the mattress amnesty and so Local Authorities were encouraged to roll out similar projects in the 2018 ADI. Clare Co. Council was one of a number of Local Authorities Nationally that held a Mattress Day.

Case Study Details

End of life mattresses are generally collected at civic amenity or in a skip waste as bulky waste. Unfortunately this mixed collection system can contaminate mattresses and remove them from the recycling stream. Collection systems for reuse must allow for segregated, clean, dry and non-damaged mattresses. Workers then disassemble the mattresses and bed bases to their component parts. All the main component parts in mattresses have potential end uses.

Manual forms of recycling (e.g. dismantling mattresses) tend to be very labour intensive, covering a broad range of skills from craft to business and retail skills. For this reason, reuse and recycling activities across Europe tend to be successfully delivered through Social Enterprise models.

Social Enterprise is “an enterprise that trades for a social/societal purpose where at least part of its income is earned from its trading activity, is separate from

government and where the surplus is primarily invested in the social objective”.

There are currently three (3) such schemes operating in Ireland

1. Boomerang Recycling based in Cork City provides employment for a project manager and a minimum of 6 TUS Scheme Workers. They provide training and up-skilling for its employees under this scheme
2. Eco Recycling based in Dublin was also set up as a Social Economy Enterprise. Employees get safety Training and the opportunity to carry out Fetac training programs.
3. First Class Recycling are in Galway they have 3 full time/ 5 part time employees who are also provided with training.

Outcomes

On Saturday 26th May between 8.30 am -1pm Clare County Council the collection at Inagh Waste Management Facility. We collected 680 mattresses. Clare had taken in approx 220 mattresses in the first 45 minutes 8.30am-9.15am. It was a great success.

Tips

We would charge €5 or €10 per mattress if we held this in the future. It is important to have a place to store any excess mattresses as they need to be dry for recycling.

ANTI-DUMPING INITIATIVE CASE STUDY

ST. KILLIAN'S CRESCENT CLEAN UP

CARLOW



St Killians Crescent is an older estate Town Centre Location. Mix of older residents & young families. The rear access Laneway with entry and exit points runs adjacent to Railway track. Tradition of dumping of large quantities of domestic rubbish, furniture etc., both on laneway and over railway fencing. Despite efforts of both Council workers and local Community Employment Schemes, the dumping problems at this location escalated and became unmanageable.

The following issues were identified:

- Volumes of materials being dumped increased.
- Frequency of dumping increased.
- Residents despondent and not willing to take any interest in the area
- Increasing H&S risk for local Residents.
- Increasing H&S risks for Irish Rail & Eir.
- Increasing reports of Rodent infestation in area.
- Negative impression of Carlow Town for Irish Rail users.

Works included:

- Provision of pest control prior to commencement.
- Clearing of hedgerow on laneway and inside of railway track in order to access dumped materials
- Removal of dumped materials along laneway and inside of Railway side of track
- Removal of large quantity of material in both corners of laneway
- Erecting of CCTV
- Erecting of signage
- Intensive litter picking of entire area

Partnership approach

Carlow County Council (Project Lead), Irish Rail, Eir, Local Residents, Local Business, Carlow Tidy Towns,



Carlow Probation Services, Tullow Road Development Association, local Volunteers.

Outcomes

Over 200 tonnes waste cleared from site, Comprising of;

- Green Waste
- Non-Hazardous residual waste

Replacement of enforced fencing alongside railway track. Dumping eliminated. Significant reduction in anti-social behaviour. Positive ongoing engagement with residents in the area. Ongoing Litter picking and general clean-up of laneway by Tullow Road Development Association (TUS scheme) and volunteers.

Tips

Multiagency approach extremely effective. Shared resources combined with a single plan for the area ensured the project was delivered on time and within budget. Significant financial support was received by Irish Rail in the installation of new fencing for the area.

Public engagement crucial to the success of the project. All residents and business in the area were invited to attend a Public Information / Awareness Meeting 24th July 2017. Representatives from Carlow County Council & Irish Rail attended as well as;

- 30 residents
- 3 Elected Members
- 2 local Business

Agreement was reached that the works would take place outside of nesting period and when the local children were at school. Residents and business were kept updated of all works through the following platforms; Door to door letter drop, KCLR (Local Radio), Carlow Nationalist, Parish New Letters, Local Elected Members and Public meetings.

TRAINING PROGRAMME

A significant challenge for the WERLAs in coordinating the implementation of waste policy in Ireland is managing the gap between standardisation and established local work patterns. This gap can be addressed by empowering and up-skilling through targeted training, the standardisation of forms, guidance manuals and the development of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).

The Environment Services Training Group (ESTG) was setup to meet the developing requirements of the Environment Services Sector through the provision of courses at the five Regional Training Centres.

The following training courses were delivered in 2018 across the training centres:

- Waste Policy & Legislation.
- Regulation of Waste Activity.
- Dealing with Difficult & Aggressive Behaviour.
- Environmental Inspection Skills.

The identification of current training deficits among waste enforcement staff is ongoing. Training on Waste Management Policy & Legislation and Regulation of Waste Activities covers approximately 500 environmental protection requirements contained in 100 pieces of legislation.

The increasing number of waste enforcement cases contested coupled with the lack of day-to-day court experience within local authorities highlighted the need for inspection skills and courtroom training.

The work of the waste enforcement officers is often undertaken in potentially adversarial circumstances and in order to assist in dealing with incidents involving aggressive behaviour a training course was tailored to meet this requirement. This equipped waste enforcement officers with the necessary skills to stay safe when confronted with difficult and aggressive behaviour while continuing to undertake their key duties.

Multi-agency work has led to the WERLAs working in tandem with other enforcement agencies. As a result An Garda Síochána offered to provide specialist level one and two interview skills training for waste enforcement officers. The trained officers are available to assist other local authorities in enforcement activities if required.

Peer-to peer learning, knowledge sharing and cross training are all key aspects of the WERLA work plan.

The development of standard guidance documents, inspection forms, enforcement documentation and SOPs have proved to be very effective. Ease of access to up to date Information key and this is achieved through NIECE.

The feasibility of training videos and webcasts are also being investigated to facilitate further capacity building in 2019.



Environmental Services Training Group

The Environmental Services Training Group is comprised of representatives from LASNTG, Local Authorities, Department of Communications, Climate Action and the Environment, LGMA, EPA, Local Authority Waters Programme and Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authorities. The Group coordinates the development and delivery of training for Environmental Services staff to meet current and emerging needs in the sector. Training is delivered through the five Regional Training Centres, details of which are set out overleaf. Funding for Local Authority Environmental Staff is available for relevant training; this is provided by the Department of Communications, Climate Action and the Environment and the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government and can be accessed via the Regional Training Centres. News and events e.g. details of upcoming conferences, information on newly launched programmes etc. is posted on our website www.lasntg.ie.

Environmental Courses Available through the Regional Training Centres

- Waste Management o Policy and Legislation o Regulation of Waste Activities
- Management and Enforcement of Construction and Demolition Waste Activities
- Management of Household Hazardous Waste in Civic Amenity Sites
- Enforcement of Waste Management Packaging Regulations
- Solid Fuel Regulations

Agricultural Pollution Investigation and Inspection
Management of Invasive Plants and Biosecurity
Small Stream Risk Scoring

- Site Suitability Assessment for On-Site Wastewater Treatment Systems (QQI Level 6 Course)
- Derelict Sites and Dangerous Structures
- Environmental Inspection Skills
- Preparing and Responding to a Serious Incident
- Dealing with Aggressive Behaviour
- Litter Warden Training
- Accident Investigations
- Courtroom Skills
- Evidence Gathering for Local Authority Preparing and Responding to a Serious Incident Aggressive Behaviour Authority Waste Operatives

To enquire about or book any of these courses please visit To enquire about or book any of these courses please visit www.lasntg.ie/estg or contact your or contact your local Regional Training Centre.

PUBLICATIONS

WERLA Publications

The development of guidance notes and standardised inspection forms is a key component of the WERLA work plan.

Numerous guidance documents and standard forms have been prepared to date.

A document control system is in place to track and control these documents.

Advice Note

- Advice note on “What is an imported Vehicle”.
- Advice note - Prosecution template on non compliance of Regulation 5

Inspection Forms

- Article 27 Notification Inspection Forms
- Producers and inspection forms for pay to use compactors (PTUs)
- Determination of producer obligations inspection form
- Abandoned vehicle complaint report form
- Site inspection form

Reports

- REPAK progress report on packaging pilot A National priority
- Progress report of WERLAS to CCMA –July 2018
- Progress report to PSROG
- Progress report to DCCAE

Submissions

- Submission to ESTG CD Waste
- Submission to DCCAE Re ATFs and Online CoDs
- Submission to SR WMPLA on draft waste facility permits
- Submission to EPA WAC and development of soil trigger values

Other Documents – Workflow Diagram

- Annual Environmental report Work Flow Diagram AER
- Inspection Workflow Diagram
- Commercial Food Waste Workflow Diagram

Guidance Manuals

- Certificate of Authorisation
- Roadmap SURVERY FPN under S10B Waste Management Act Version
- Form of fixed payment notice
- Food Waste Regulations
- EPA Waste Enforcement Manual Guidance
- Enforcement of Tyres and Waste Tyre Regulations
- Enforcement of food waste regulations in Ireland 2018
- The use of audio-visual recordings
- Abandoned Vehicles
- Guidelines for producers (cars and light vans)
- Producer- importer of specified vehicles
- Weighing of household waste
- Management of end of life vehicles



WERLA WORK PLAN 2019



WERLA WORK PLAN 2019

Objective A: Implement EU and national legislation and policy to ensure a consistent approach to waste enforcement

A.1

National Priority - Illegal Activity and Unaccounted for Waste

Sub-National Priority - Authorised Treatment Facilities (Scrap Yards)

Policy	Action	Target 2019
Support and monitor implantation of the national waste enforcement priorities for 2019 as agreed by the National Waste Enforcement Steering Committee (NWESC)	Improve recovery, reuse and recycling rates of ELVs through data gathering and compliance with WFPs and ELV Regulations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To improve compliance rates to achieve targets set out by the ELV Directive (85% reuse and recycling and 95% reuse and recovery). To enforce WFP & ELV Regulations.
	Ensure appropriate enforcement actions are taken against unauthorised ELV sites / Scrap Yards.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure only Authorised Treatment Facilities operate in the ELV sector.

Sub-National Priority - Man in the Van

Develop programme to identify and address Man in the Van operators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinate test purchase operations.
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Sub-National Priority - Anti-Dumping Initiative (ADI)

Subject to funding from DCCAE, roll-out ADI Programme.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To identify appropriate projects for funding subject to DCCAE criteria.
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National Priority - Construction and Demolition Waste and Capacity Challenges

Sub-National Priority - Household and Commercial Food Waste including Brown Bin Roll-Out

Action	Target 2019
To ensure consistent enforcement of household & commercial waste legislation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compliance of waste operators with relevant food waste legislation & Waste Management Plan. Conduct inspection to ensure compliance with Waste Collection Permit and Food Waste Regulations.

Sub-National Priority - Construction and Demolition Waste

Design and implement a programme to monitor construction and demolition waste activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roll out programme to monitor construction and demolition waste activities.
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National Priority - Dealing with Sites containing Illegally deposited Waste

	Action	Target 2019
	Design and implement a strategy for addressing sites of concern.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Address sites of concern using funding available from DCCAE.

A.2

National Priority - Vehicle Producer Compliance Project

Policy	Action	Target 2019
Support and monitor implementation of PRI schemes in 2019 as agreed by the National Waste Enforcement Steering Committee (NWESC)	Ensure a consistent approach in the application of the ELV Regulations to include vehicle producers and importers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To increase the number of compliant producers.

Sub-National Priority - Waste Tyres

	Ensure continued compliance with the tyre regulations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To increase the number of registered retailers.

Sub-National Priority - Packaging Enforcement Compliance Project

	Ensure continued compliance with the Packaging regulations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure SMPs are compliant with the Regulations.

A.3

National Priority - Compliance with Mercury Regulations

Policy	Action	Target 2019
Support and monitor implementation of Mercury Regulations in 2019 as agreed by the National Waste Enforcement Steering Committee (NWESC).	Ensure compliance with Mercury Regulations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure compliance as per DCCAE guidance.

WERLA WORK PLAN 2019

Objective B: Identify and manage national waste enforcement issues through a clearly defined strategy

B.1

Policy	Action	Target 2019
Review and maintain Annual Work Plan.	To prepare and maintain an annual work plan to prioritise enforcement actions and activities across the region taking account of the national enforcement priorities laid down by the EPA, DCCAE and PRIs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In line with Policy Action F3.3 of RWMP. 2019 work plan agreed by Jan 2019.• Circulated to all LAs for RMCEI planning.• Maintained/updated throughout the year.

B.2

Policy	Action	Target 2019
Continue working relationships with stakeholders and utilise the data gathered to identify enforcement challenges.	Maintain working relationships with stakeholders and utilise the data gathered to address and identify waste enforcement challenges.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In line with Policy Action F2.2 work in partnership with stakeholders to address ongoing regulatory obligations.• To identify and recommend waste enforcement challenges to the NWESC for consideration as future national priorities.
	Identify local authorities who have become centres of excellence for enforcement functions in specific waste streams.	



B.3



Policy	Action	Target 2019
Deliver an integrated approach to drive consistent enforcement of legislation.	Continue to work with the EPA to develop consistency of approach with RMCEI plans and enforcement of legislation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To ensure the local authority waste enforcement plans across the regions are consistent with the national waste priorities.
	Improve enforcement through greater regional coordination, information sharing and prioritisation of enforcement activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In line with Policy Action F.2.1 deliver annual work plan (B1.1.1) to LAs through the regional structure.
	To ensure local authorities are aware of obligations under the Waste Management Plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To ensure local authorities fulfill their requirements under Objective F of the Waste Management Plan.

WERLA WORK PLAN 2019

Objective C: Communicate and coordinate waste enforcement strategies and activities and work with relevant stakeholders to drive improved levels of compliance

C.1

Policy	Action	Target 2019
Ensure all guidance issued is accurate, consistent and takes account of relevant legislation.	Continue to maintain a document control system.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Manage a document control system.
	Maintain appropriate structure for provision of legal advice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maintain current structure for sharing legal advice.

C.2

Policy	Action	Target 2019
Provide the structure to facilitate greater cooperation between enforcement authorities, allow for increased peer to peer learning and allow for the creation of forums for knowledge sharing of best practice.	To identify current training deficits among waste enforcement staff within the region and future training requirements including specific specialist training where necessary and utilising the network of training centres to organise the relevant training and refresher training.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meet the training needs of the region.

C.3

Policy	Action	Target 2019
To communicate effectively amongst stakeholders.	To communication effectively with stakeholders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maintain effective communications within governance structure and with other stakeholders.

Objective D: Drive improved performance and consistency of waste enforcement through clearly defined structure and procedures

D.1

Policy	Action	Target 2019
Provide standard waste enforcement guidance to ensure best practices and efficiencies are adopted.	To maintain a funded Regional Waste Enforcement Office and the requisite structures (including administrative, technical and communication) to implement national and regional policy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure a funded regional office is maintained. • Maintain SLA and other related policy documents.
	To maintain a Regional Coordinator, Regional Technical Officer, PRO and administrative support or as agreed with the DCCAE.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure roles are in place and maintained.

D.2

Policy	Action	Target 2019
Work with stakeholders on structures to develop knowledge sharing.	To develop and disseminate guidance for waste enforcement practices.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and implement guidance for waste enforcement practices as required.

D.3

Policy	Action	Target 2019
Improve performance through the use of technology.	Explore opportunities for the use of IC technologies that add value to waste enforcement policies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress MIS Project. • Develop ICT Proposal.

WERLA WORK PLAN 2019

Objective E: Work with Local Authorities and other stakeholders to deal with serious environmental waste crime

E.1

Policy	Action	Target 2019
Develop measures to assist Local Authorities with the prevention, reduction, and cessation of unauthorised waste activities.	Ensure all Local Authorities maintain the role of Environmental Complaints Coordinator to manage an unauthorised waste activity database based on complaints received and monitoring.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Complaints Coordinator in place in each local authority. • Consistent database of unauthorised waste activities in place in each LA.
	Support local authorities in their responsibilities in carrying out investigations and issue notifications, as required, as dictated by the unauthorised waste activity database and as directed by the EPA.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased investigation and prevention of unauthorised waste activities.
	Scope out an appropriate response (subject to AA screening) to deal with the prevention and management of waste from significant unauthorised activities and waste arising from other criminal activities. Coordination required between the regions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevent and address unauthorised activities in the region.

E.2

Policy	Action	Target 2019
Identify serious national waste enforcement issues and liaise with stakeholders in formulating appropriate responses.	Coordinate Regional / National response to unauthorised activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure a co-ordinated approach to unauthorised activities.
	Support the development of intelligence led and coordinated multi-agency enforcement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish and support multi-agency group.

