



COMHAIRLE CONTAE
CHEATHARLACH
CARLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Recommendation of the European Parliament and the Council Providing for the Minimum Criteria for Environmental Inspections in Member States (2001/331/EC)

Inspection & Compliance Plan under RMCEI 2022

Note from the Director:

Sustainability and Climate Change have become two of the World's most important objectives for the next three decades. Each country is increasingly being tasked to work in a co-ordinated manner to ensure the success of 'Green Energy renewables', alternatively powered transport, reduced carbon emissions and the absolute minimisation of waste, in every sector of their respective economies.

This RMCEI Report outlines the planned activities, of Carlow County Council, in supporting Irish State objectives into 2022. The activities are aligned with the EPA's 'National Enforcement Priorities 2022 – 2024', issued in December 2021, to provide a targeted approach in reducing waste, reducing noise nuisance, reducing pollution to our waterways, and increasing our air quality.

As Director of Service for this section, in Carlow Local Authority, I am happy to state that we have in place the team and the dedication of staff to achieve our objectives to protect the local environment for future generations to come.

Acknowledgments:

Large tasks such as this are accomplished with the help of our multi-disciplinary team over the course of 12 months, it is imperative that this dedication, commitment and hard work must be acknowledged as without this devoted team it would neither be possible to produce the RMCEI plan nor implement it. Our Clerical and Administration Team must also be acknowledged for their record keeping, administrative support, support to the public and generally keeping the team's objectives on point. Gratitude must also be expressed to the Environmental Patrol Officers, Scientists and Engineers for completing investigations, inspections and working to ensure a safer compliant environment. Our Environmental Awareness Officer must also be credited for communicating our message to communities and assisting the team when required. Finally, thanks must be given to our Environmental Services team for ensuring the safe operation of authorised facilities in the county, while sharing their knowledge and providing a relentless willingness to help customers.

Approved by Director of Services




Pádraig O'Gorman,

Director of Services Transportation, Environment, Water Services,
Building Control & Emergency Services

Dated: 25th February 2022

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Glossary/Definitions

Activity - The aim of the activity should be to achieve the intermediate outcomes and/or the final environmental outcome associated with the National Priority

Additional Intermediate outcome – Other outcomes, identified by a Council, outside those that have been specified by the EPA in the RMCEI Return template

ATF – Authorised Treatment Facility (processing of ELVs);

Baseline - To measure the progress in achieving the intermediate outcome over time, a baseline value must be established. Data gathered in subsequent years can then be compared to the baseline value in order to measure progress towards achieving the intermediate outcome.

C&D – Construction & Demolition (Waste);

CCMA – County & City Management Association;

CoR – Certificate of Registration;

DAFM – Department of Agriculture Food & Marine;

DECC – Department of the Environment, Climate Action & Communications;

DHPLH – Department of Housing, Planning, Local Government and Heritage;

DWWTS – Domestic Wastewater Treatment System;

Environmental inspection according to RMCEI includes:

- site visits,
- monitoring achievement of environmental quality standards,
- consideration of environmental audit reports and statements,
- consideration and verification of any self-monitoring carried out by or on behalf of operators of controlled installations,
- assessing the activities and operations carried out at the controlled installation,
- checking the premises and the relevant equipment (including the adequacy with which it is maintained) and the adequacy of the environmental management at the site,
- checking the relevant records kept by the operators of controlled installations.

ELV – End of Life Vehicle;

EPA – Environmental Protection Agency;

Final Environmental Outcome - is a measurable change in the environment, e.g. cleaner air or improved water quality

GAP – Good Agricultural Practice for the protection of waters Regulations;

LAWPRO – Local Authority Waters Programme;

LoW – List of Waste

Metric – A metric is a way of measuring the progress to achieving the intermediate outcome or the objective

NIECE – Network for Ireland's Environmental Compliance & Enforcement;

NIP – National Inspection Plan;

Non-routine inspection – an inspection carried out in such cases in response to complaints, in connection with the issuing, renewal or modification of an authorisation, permit or licence, or in the investigation of accidents, incidents and occurrences of non-compliance.

NWCPO – National Waste Collection Permit Office

PMDS – Performance Management Development System;

PRI/EPRI – Producer Responsibility Initiative or EPRI Extended Producer Responsibility Initiative;

RBMP – River Basin Management Plan;

RMCEI – EU Recommendation on Minimum Criteria for Environmental Inspections;

Routine inspection – an inspection carried out as part of a planned inspections programme, e.g. scheduled inspection of a permitted facility, scheduled monitoring of a licensed discharged; compliance assessment of a regulated facility, etc.

Specified Intermediate outcome – Those intermediate Outcomes specified by the EPA in the RMCEI Return template

STG - Strategic Policy Committee

TARGET - Once the baseline is established, the goal should be to reduce/increase the baseline value over time, thereby achieving the intermediate outcome. A target is the value to which the baseline value is aimed to be reduced (or increased) to for that year. A qualitative target can be developed where a baseline has not been established or targets may also be set centrally to ensure a consistent approach to achieving an intermediate outcome/objective"

VOC – Volatile Organic Compounds;

WEEE – Waste Electrical & Electronic Equipment;

WERLA – Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authority;

WFD – Water Framework Directive;

WFP – Waste Facility Permit.

1. Introduction

1.1 Plan Details

Table 1: Plan Details

Geographic Area	County Carlow 897km ²
Population	56,932 (2016)
Calendar Year	2022
RMCEI Coordinator Name and Position	Eleanor McDonald, Executive Scientist

1.2 Expected Known Once-Off Challenges that may be Faced in Implementation of this Plan

Table 2 Expected Known Once-Off Challenges

Description of known challenge and outline of how these will be addressed
<p>1. Staff vacancies/reassignments</p> <p>A number of vacancies arose in addition to assignments in 2021 which have since been resolved. These include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Senior Executive Engineer, Env Dept, position vacated in August 2020 and temporarily filled until October 2021. Sanction for permanent filling of this position was received in January 2021 from the Department. Candidate requested from PAS processed and position filled in Q4 of 2021.• New post of Executive Scientist, Env Dept, position advertised in Jan 2021. Position filled in Q3 of 2021. Above two staff commenced Waste Enforcement training with Sligo IT in January 2022.• Senior Executive Engineer, Water Quality Dept, retired Q4 of 2021 and position will be filled through internal reassignment of Senior Executive Engineer to commence Q1 of 2022. No previous Environment experience. <p>All new staff will be registered on NIECE and required to attend WERLA/SWMO/CARO operation meetings. It is anticipated that due to the staff changes outlined above there will be a steep learning curve and requirement for staff to upskill during 2022 developing firm building blocks for 2023 and after.</p>
<p>2. Sustainable Development Goal Champions</p> <p>Carlow County Council's role as Sustainable Development Goal Champion has been extended to 2022. Carlow County Council are delighted to continue in this role as SDG Champion and while there has been considerable resource requirements to develop and support the role, it has been a great opportunity to promote and embed the SDG's. Carlow County will continue to translate the SDG's into all our actions in Environment such that they become the way we do things.</p>

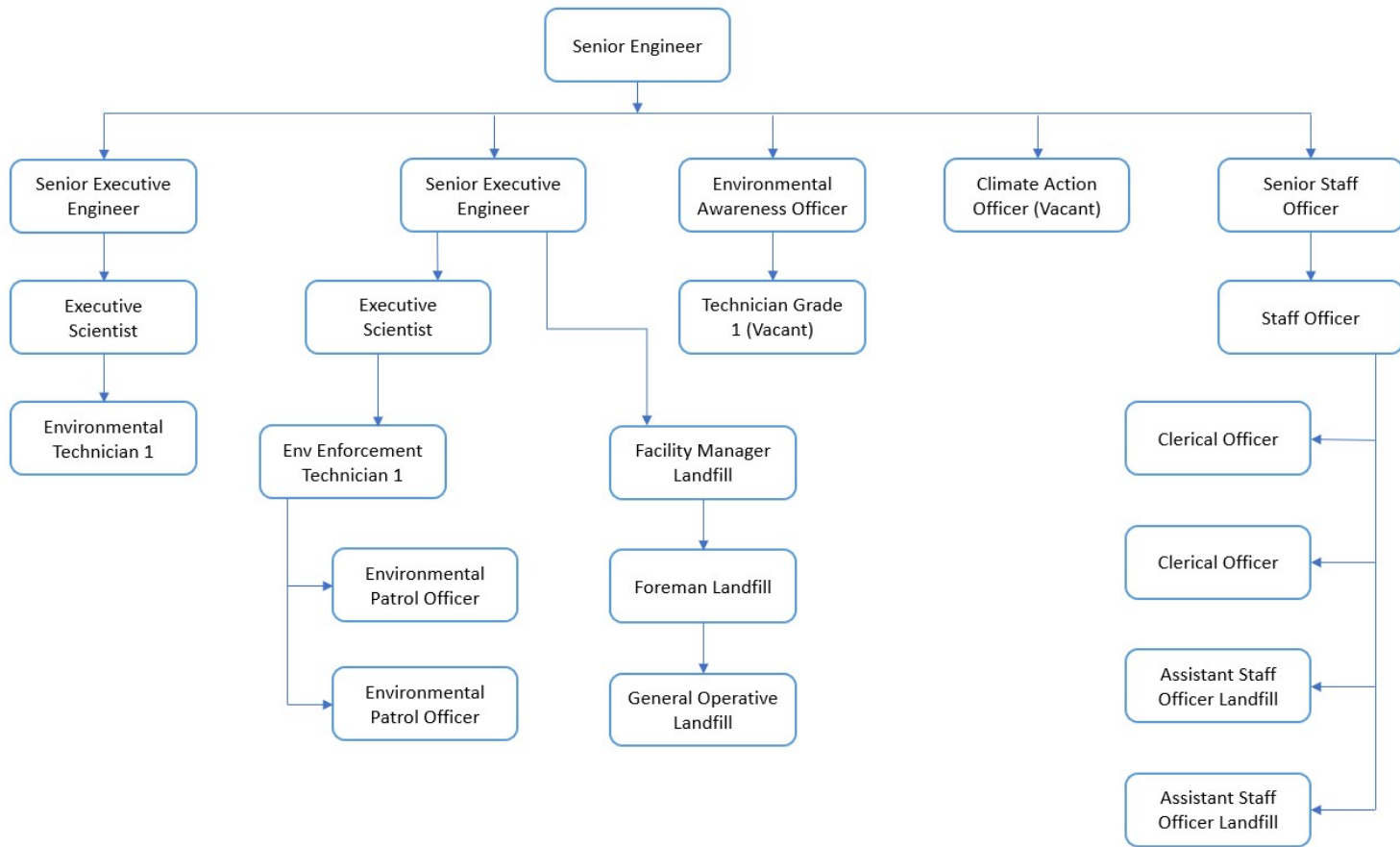
1.3 Staff Structure

The Environment Department falls under the guardianship of the Director of Transport, Infrastructure, Environment, Climate Action and Emergency Services. Environmental Services include Environmental Protection & Enforcement, Climate Action, Energy and Agriculture which are the responsibility of the Senior Engineer for Water Services, Environment and Climate Action. The section is stewarded by two Senior Executive Engineers covering Water and Waste respectively and their technical teams are strongly supported by the Administrative team. The Environmental Awareness Officer sits between both Water and Waste Teams. Their role while strongly weighted towards waste is pivotal to both sub teams.

Figure 1 overleaf shows the current organogram of the section.

Further detail on available staff resources is provided in section 5.

Figure 1 Council Organogram



1.4 Sustainable Development Goals



The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), also known as the Global Goals, were adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015 as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity by 2030 and beyond. These goals include an ambitious set of targets and cover policy areas such as protection of the environment, economic development, poverty eradication, access to health and education services, gender equality, peaceful societies and human rights.

The Department of Environment, Climate Action & Communications were assigned responsibility for preparing the SDG National Implementation Plan and the Voluntary National Review. The Plan was published in 2018 and as part of the implementation strategy Carlow County Council was appointed SDG Champion for the period 2019 -2020. Due to COVID 19, this period has been extended until Q2 2021. Carlow County Council will then undertake the role of SDG Ambassador which will involve supporting the new Champions in their endeavours.

The Department of Environment, Climate Action & Communications assigned the following goals to Carlow County Council for the lifetime of the programme.

- SDG 1 No Poverty,
- SDG 6 Clean Water & Sanitation,
- SDG 7 Affordable & Clean Energy,
- SDG 11 Sustainable Cities & Communities,
- SDG 12 Responsible Consumption & Production and
- SDG 13 Climate Action.

As SDG Champions, Carlow County Council have undertaken to ▪

Act as leaders through raising public awareness of our SDG's.

- Translate the SDG's into practical action at local level.
- Promote the chosen SDG's through local, regional and national initiatives and events.
- Work in partnership with individuals and organisations both locally and nationally promoting the SDG's

The 17 goals are intrinsically intertwined, and the achievement of targets and goals are interdependent, underpinned by Goal 17 Partnership for the Goals. Our ambitious work plan includes implementing the framework and translating, in a practical way, the process of achieving the objectives of the goals through our policies and plans. Implementation of the National Waste Priorities through the Inspection & Compliance plan under RMCEI is recognised as core part of our role as SDG Champions.

2. Priorities for Environmental Enforcement for the Year Ahead

2.1 National Environmental Enforcement Priorities for the Year Ahead

The National Priorities for 2022 – 20204 have been communicated in correspondence sent to each Local Authority on 10th December 2021 from the Programme Manager, Office of Environmental enforcement, EPA. This document is available on the NIECE portal (accessed via <https://www.niece.ie/Topics/RMCEI.aspx>). The priorities contained therein are outlined below;

Waste

- Tacking illegal Waste and Multi-Agency Sites of Concern
- Construction and Demolition Waste
- End of Life Vehicles and Metals
- Household and Commercial Waste
- PRIs and Local Priorities

Water

- Pressures from Agriculture (slurry/soiled water collection and storage)
- Pressures from Agriculture (slurry and fertilizer spreading)
- DWWTS/Septic Tanks
- Discharge Licences/Misconnections
- Local Priorities and Water Quality Monitoring

Air/Noise

- Solid Fuel
- Air Quality Monitoring and Data Use
- Environmental Noise Directive (ENDs)
- Air and Noise Control (including Planning)
- Ongoing Air and Noise Enforcement Work

Table 3 National Environmental Priorities Checklist

Ref. No	National Environmental Priorities	Have you completed a National Priority Template for this Priority (Appendix A)?		Where you have answered 'No' please provide a comment to explain.
		Yes	No	
1.0	Waste - Improving waste management and protecting our environment			
1.1	Tacking illegal Waste and Multi-Agency Sites of Concern	Yes		
1.2	Construction and Demolition Waste	Yes		
1.3	End of Life Vehicles and Metals	Yes		
1.4	Household and Commercial Waste	Yes		
1.5	PRIs and Local Priorities	Yes		
2.0	Water - Improving Water Status in all waterbodies			
2.1	Pressures from Agriculture (slurry/soiled water collection and storage)	Yes		
2.2	Pressures from Agriculture (slurry and fertilizer spreading)	Yes		
2.3	DWWTS/Septic Tanks	Yes		
2.4	Discharge Licences/Misconnections	Yes		
2.5	Local Priorities and Water Quality Monitoring	Yes		
3.0	Air – Protecting public health and to improve and maintain air quality			
3.1	Solid Fuel	Yes		
3.2	Air Quality Monitoring and Data Use	Yes		

Ref. No	National Environmental Priorities	Have you completed a National Priority Template for this Priority (Appendix A)?		Where you have answered 'No' please provide a comment to explain.
		Yes	No	
3.3	Environmental Noise Directive (ENDs)	Yes		
3.4	Air and Noise Control (including Planning)	Yes		
3.5	Ongoing Air and Noise Enforcement Work	Yes		

2.2 Ongoing RMCEI/Local Priorities

Table 4 (i) Additional Local Priorities

Local Priorities	Yes	No	Where you have answered 'No' please provide a reason why
Are additional local priorities included in the Plan for the year ahead?	Yes		

Table 4 (ii) Work Planned with Regional Lead Authorities

Authority	Plans for the Year ahead
<p>This may include work with some of the following bodies not referred to above:</p> <p>e.g. WERLA, Teagasc & Dept of Agriculture Food & the Marine (DAFM), EPA, DECC & DHPLG or LAWPRO (including LAWCO)</p> <p>If all such work has already been referred to above leave this blank.</p>	<p>DECC/WERLA Anti-dumping initiatives.</p> <p>Working with LAWCO. Facilitating grant applications on behalf of several groups and supporting them in the implementation of their plans.</p>

3. Risk Assessment

Carlow County Council has expanded the RMCEI Resource and Risk Rating tool in 2022 to develop an Inspection Plan and Tracking tool. The Inspection Plan and Tracking tool includes additional tabs for risk rating of the following identified facilities in County Carlow:

1. Permitted Waste Facilities incl ATF's
2. Certificate of Registration sites
3. Sludge Handling Facilities
4. Waste Collection Permits
5. Suspected unauthorised ELV Sites
6. Small Private Supplies
7. Group Water Schemes
8. Bottle Bank Sites
9. Discharge Licences
10. Deco Paints
11. Solvents
12. Tyres
13. Petroleum Vapours
14. Coal Merchants

Each facility/installation type is risk rated according to multiple factors unique to each facility/installation type which are specifically identified on each individual tab. Each tab for each facility/installation clearly identifies the number, location and operator of each facility/installation type.

All facilities and installations have been assessed using the risk rating tool and placed into the following categories:

Category A: Large installations with significant associated environmental risk or those with poor compliance histories.

Category B: Medium sized installations with lesser risk of environmental pollution.

Category C: Small Installations with good compliance record.

As the risk rating spreadsheets clearly names and identify owners, premises, compliance and operational history including activities/monitored results these will not be included with this public document for GDPR purposes. This spreadsheet will be securely maintained and only available to staff working in enforcement in Carlow County Council and to the EPA for audit purposes.

The risk rating tool has been used to identify and outline how the installations are selected for inspection for the year ahead and the information on the risk rating tool with regards to installation type and risk feeds directly into the planned inspection plan included on the risk rating tool.

No specific direction has yet been provided for 2022 by lead authorities to undertake additional inspections to those planned of specific regulated sites (e.g. WERLA request certain sites to be inspected or if all ELV sites are required to be inspected or LAWPRO require certain inspections/follow-up in areas for action) as yet however the Inspection Plan tool incorporating the risk rating of all 14 facility types above allows for quick adaptation.

The risk rating of facilities known in Carlow has been linked directly to the planned inspections sheet and allows for amendments to be made to the planned programme where directions are received with efficiency and due regard to overall plan and available resources. The number of inspections per facility risk rating can be changed quickly and the spreadsheets automatically update the inspection programme based on new data entered, highlighting immediately if additional resources are required.

Each individual tab for facility type provides details on how the risk has been rated. For consistency the recommended RMCEI Resource and Risk Rating tool provided by the EPA has been taken as the basis for the development of the expanded Inspection Planning and Tracking tool in Carlow.

Table 5 on the selection of sites for assessment in the year ahead is populated based on the Planned Inspection and Tracking Tool developed and is risk based.

Table 5 Selection of Sites for Assessment in the Year Ahead

Type of Regulated Installation (i.e. Discharge Licences/ Waste Permit Facilities / Certificate of Registration)	Total No. of Installations in your functional area	Total No. of Installations in your functional area Per Risk Category			No. Of Inspections Planned Per Risk Category ¹			Total No. Of Inspections Planned	Additional Comment (e.g. include rationale for selection of sites to be inspected and/or indicate whether any of the inspections planned include installations that have been recommended for inspected by Lead Authorities)
		A	B	C	A	B	C		
Waste Facility Permits	8	2	4	0	4	3	0	20	Risk rating based on class of activity, compliance, complaints, etc refer to Carlow Risk Rating Tool 2022.
Authorised ELV sites (ATFs)	3	2	1	0	4	3	0	11	Risk rating based on class of activity, compliance, complaints, etc refer to Carlow Risk Rating Tool 2022.
Certificate of Registration	7	1	4	2	4	3	2	20	Risk rating based on class of activity, compliance, complaints, etc refer to Carlow Risk Rating Tool 2022.
Waste Collection Permits	25	1	7	17	4	2	1	35	Risk rating based on class of activity, compliance, complaints, etc refer to Carlow Risk Rating Tool 2022.
Sludge Handling Facility	2	0	2	0	0	2	0	4	Risk rating based on past compliance, complaints, annual reports.
Discharge Licences	7	2	1	4	3	2	2	16	Risk rating based on past compliance, complaints, sensitivity, etc refer to Carlow Risk Rating Tool 2022.
LA Bottle Banks	28	1	8	19	52	24	12	472	Risk rating based on past compliance, complaints, etc refer to Carlow Risk Rating Tool 2022.
Small Private Supplies	57	0	0	57	0	0	2	114	Risk rating based on past compliance, refer to Carlow Risk Rating Tool 2022.
Group Water Schemes	4	2	1	1	5	3	1	14	Risk rating based on past compliance, refer to Carlow Risk Rating Tool 2022.
Petroleum Vapours	25	0	0	25	0	0	1	25	Risk rating based on past compliance, complaints, refer to Carlow Risk Rating Tool 2022.

¹ Unless directed otherwise

Solvents	5	0	0	5	0	0	1	5	Risk rating based on past compliance, complaints, refer to Carlow Risk Rating Tool 2022.
Deco paints	7	1	4	2	3	2	1	13	Risk rating based on past compliance, complaints, refer to Carlow Risk Rating Tool 2022.
Tyres	41	0	0	41	0	0	1	41	Risk rating based on past compliance, complaints, refer to Carlow Risk Rating Tool 2022.
Coal Merchants	25	0	0	25	0	0	1	25	Risk rating based on past compliance, complaints, refer to Carlow Risk Rating Tool 2022.
Total No. Of Inspections Planned								815	

4. Resource Assessment for the Year Ahead

4.1 Review of the Achievement of the Previous Years Inspection Targets

Table 6 below summarises the achievements of 2021. A full and detailed examination of 2021 performance has been completed in the Inspection Planning and Tracking Tool excel sheet under tab “Planned Inspections 2022”. Each individual target has been evaluated in this tab and revisions to planned inspections for 2022 individually considered. This excel sheet has been provided to the EPA for audit purposes but is not available for public viewing under GDPR as individual premises, operators and staff members details are provided in the tool for resource planning and risk rating.

Figures reported upon, within Table 6, are the Sub Totals that were provided in the Councils RMCEI return for the previous year.

Differences between planned and completed are considered significant if the completed number of inspections is greater or less than 25% of the planned inspections.

The table also gives a brief high-level explanation of any significant differences in the number of inspections Carlow County Council planned in the previous year versus what was completed in the previous year.

As the Inspection Planning and Tracking Tool excel sheet tab “Planned Inspections 2022” demonstrates the Plan for the year ahead identifies and addresses last year’s under/over estimation of planned (routine and non-routine) inspections.

Table 6 Review of Previous Years Inspections

Inspection Type	No. of Planned Inspections set out at the start of the Previous Year	No. of Completed Inspections at the end of the Previous Year	Outline any reason for significant difference in completed versus planned figures (i.e. +/- 25%)	Please provide a brief narrative to demonstrate that the previous years completed inspections have been considered when planning the inspections for the year ahead
Routine Waste Inspections	784	1004	New inspections under the Mercury Regs (8 inspections). Significant increase to completed inspections due in large part to Covid 19 which increased activity at bottle banks and quantities received in Carlow were 35% over previous years tonnage requiring multiple inspections to monitor capacity, respond to complaints.	A full and detailed examination of 2021 performance has been completed in the Inspection Planning and Tracking Tool under tab Planned Inspections 2022. Each individual target has been evaluated in this tab and revisions to planned inspections for 2022 individually considered.
Non-Routine Waste Inspections	135	30	Covid 19 impacted greatly on proposed inspections due to limited access to premises. Staff changes within the section caused disruption to the inspection plans. Two new permanent staff members have joined the team in Q3 and Q4 of 2021. Staff training is ongoing, and we anticipate that the number of inspections in this category will increase in 2022.	Carlow Inspection Planning and Tracking tool examined 2021 performance on each inspection type and adjustments have been made accordingly.

Inspection Type <i>Figures available from your RMCEI return (Section 6) or previous years RMCEI plan</i>	No. of Planned Inspections set out at the start of the Previous Year	No. of Completed Inspections at the end of the Previous Year	Outline any reason for significant difference in completed versus planned figures (i.e. +/- 25%)	Please provide a brief narrative to demonstrate that the previous years completed inspections have been considered when planning the inspections for the year ahead
Routine Litter Patrols/Investigations	750	750	On target	Carlow Inspection Planning and Tracking tool examined 2021 performance on each inspection type and adjustments have been made accordingly.
Routine Water/Wastewater Inspections	509	445	Some issues with regard to access.	Carlow Inspection Planning and Tracking tool examined 2021 performance on each inspection type and adjustments have been made accordingly.
Non-Routine Water/Wastewater Inspections	16	52	Increased complaints	Carlow Inspection Planning and Tracking tool examined 2021 performance on each inspection type and adjustments have been made accordingly.
Routine Air/Noise Inspections	92	48	Over targeted for Solid Fuel inspections. Number of days required to carry out inspections was included in the target which should not have been. Number of inspections undertaken considered good.	Carlow Inspection Planning and Tracking tool examined 2021 performance on each inspection type and adjustments have been made accordingly.
Non-Routine Air/Noise Inspections	5	7	Above target	Carlow Inspection Planning and Tracking tool examined 2021 performance on each inspection type and adjustments have been made accordingly.
Routine producer Responsibility Inspections	70	81	Above Target	Carlow Inspection Planning and Tracking tool examined 2021 performance on each inspection type and adjustments have been made accordingly.
Planning inspections	221	131	In excess of 500 Planning Applications were reviewed and comments made. This is not reflected here in number of inspections. This is taken into consideration for 2022 Plan.	Carlow Inspection Planning and Tracking tool examined 2021 performance on each inspection type and adjustments have been made accordingly

4.2 Number of Staff Days Available

Table 7 below identifies the resources available for 2022 to undertake the required work of Carlow County Council Environment Team for the year ahead. The template identifies the available resources to undertake the work mapped out for the year ahead, identifying what National Priority the resource will be assigned to and the days available for each resource to complete all work required under RMCEI.

The basis/method used for calculating the available days available for each resource has considered the number of days available for work on RMCEI (routine and non-routine) considering other duties assigned by the local authority, whether full time/part time, meetings/training to be attended in the course of the year and whether the resource is availing of other leave including maternity, paternity or parental leave. For this reason, it is not appropriate to provide the details in this table as to how the number of days available has been calculated for each individual in accordance with GDPR. These details are provided in the Inspection Planning and Tracking Tool which will be provided separately to the EPA for audit purposes only.

Carlow County Council is satisfied that the days available for each resource have been assessed and are reflective of available staff resources at time of planning.

Table 7 Resources Available to undertake required Work for the Year Ahead

Department	Available Resources	Name	Focus Area for this Resource (please ensure you outline which National Environmental Priority area this resource will be associated with)	Available days for RMCEI (both routine and non-routine)	Basis of calculating Resource Available days (take account of e.g. job-sharing, full/part-time working, expected leave, secondment to other work areas and therefore unavailable, basis for a standard working year e.g. 220 days)
Water Services & Environment	Senior Engineer	OB	All	20	Complete
Environment	Senior Executive Engineer	TM	1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5	50	Complete
Environment	Senior Executive Engineer	DL	2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5	10	Complete
Environment	Executive Scientist	FM	2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5	160	Complete
Environment	Executive Scientist	EMcD	All. RMCEI Co-Ord	200	Complete
Environment	Environmental Technician Grade 1	CB	2.5, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.5	160	Complete
Environment	Environmental Patrol Officer	JL	1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5	200	Complete
Environment	Environmental Patrol Officer	PK	1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5	200	Complete
Environment	Environmental Awareness Officer	JO'B	1.5	10	Complete
Environment	Staff Officer	MO'B	1.4, 1.5, 3.1	30	Complete
Environment	Clerical Officer	PM	1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5	20	Complete

Landfill	Environmental Technician Grade 1	MW	1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5	10	Complete
Landfill	Foreman	JC	1.1	52	Complete
Roads	Community Warden	Community Warden	Litter	0	Complete
Roads	Community Warden	Community Warden	Litter	0	Complete
TOTAL DAYS AVAILABLE				1122	

4.3 Training Requirements

The implementation of the Plan requires the development and maintenance of certain competencies within the team. A number of new staff have joined the Environment Department in late 2021 including the following: Executive Scientist and Senior Executive Engineer. A Senior Executive Engineer is due to commence in Q1 of 2022 to replace a SEE, Water Quality Department, who retired in late 2021. This new SEE has no previous environment experience. Training for these new team members will be seen as the priority for the year to build competency. Below is an outline of proposed training for 2022 subject to the availability and running of training courses.

Certificate in Environmental Management with Sligo IT - This course will be completed by the new Senior Executive Engineer and the new Executive Scientist.

Environmental Inspection Skills Training – to be scheduled.

Local Authority Climate Awareness Training – Online by all staff in Environment in 2022.

Other training courses identified by staff will be considered on a need basis throughout the year based on requirement to build skills in the team, availability and financial resources.

All training proposed/requested through PMDS will be facilitated where possible in accordance with the needs of the environment section, availability and financial resources.

4.4 Health and Safety

Carlow County Council believes that effective health and safety management supports our delivery of services to the people of Carlow.

We consider health and safety to be an integral part of what we do and will pursue continual improvement in performance through the setting of objectives and targets.

We recognize that while overall responsibility for health and safety lies with senior management, line managers and supervisors who have direct responsibility for activities and employees under their control. However, our employees have a role to play in ensuring their own safety, the safety of their colleagues, and the safety of the public while carrying out the activities of the County Council.

We are committed to:

- Preventing accidents and work-related ill health.
- Complying with statutory requirements.
- Assessing and controlling the risks that arise from our work and activities.
- Providing effective information, instruction and training.
- Providing a safe and healthy work environment.
- Ensuring safe working methods.
- Monitoring and reviewing systems and preventative measures to ensure they are effective.
- Developing and maintaining a positive health and safety culture through communication and consultation with employees and their representatives.

Carlow County Council has adopted a parent Safety Statement, latest revision is 2020 (update in preparation). In addition to the parent safety statement and in recognition of the diverse nature of the services provided by the local authority, a number of individual site-specific statements have been prepared. These site-specific statements include statements for Powerstown and Kernanstown waste facilities. In addition to this, a number of safe operating procedures are utilised by the Environment Section in the performance of its enforcement duties. Routine H&S inspections are carried out throughout the year to ensure that operating procedures are being followed and are fit for purpose. All dangerous incidents/accidents and or near misses are reported and fully investigated.

5. PLANNED INSPECTIONS/OTHER ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR AHEAD

5.1 Planned Routine & Non-Routine Inspections

Table 8 below (and Appendix B) have been completed to detail all inspections planned (both routine and non-routine) to be carried out by Carlow County Council for the year ahead. The estimated time (days) per inspection is included (all time associated with carrying out each inspection including the time to write up the inspection report).

Comments have been provided to indicate which specific national and local priorities the planned inspections relate to. The Inspection Planning and Tracking tool developed by Carlow County Council includes a list of facilities/installations in operation in the County together with their individual risk rating. This plan has informed the planned inspections for the year ahead. The performance of previous years, RMCEI plan, and lessons learned, have been considered in preparing the inspection plan and detailed comments are provided in the Planned Inspections 2022 Tab.

Consideration of the available resources in Carlow has also been pivotal in preparing the plan for the year ahead and takes account of available staff, competency of staff and potential new staff who will fill existing vacancies. Where new staff join the organisation with no previous experience they will only be considered at 50% capacity in year 1.

Table 8 Summary of Planned Routine & Non-Routine Inspections for the Year Ahead

Inspection Types	Planned Inspections Year for	Estimate time per inspection & write up (days)	No. of Inspections Days for this Inspection Type	Local Authority Comments for Planned Inspections for the Year Ahead
Waste				
Total Routine Inspections end of year	787	Varies by inspection type. See Appendix B	185.85	Priority 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5
Total Non-Routine Inspections end of year	90	Varies by inspection type. See Appendix B	40.65	The number of inspections are based on the previous year. This number can/will vary depending on the volume of public complaints etc.
Total Inspections end of year	877		226.5	
Litter				
Total Routine Inspections end of year	1024	Varies by inspection type. See Appendix B	361.9	Priority 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5
Total Inspections end of year	1024		361.9	
Water/Wastewater				
Total Routine Inspections end of year	516	Varies by inspection type. See Appendix B	159.5	Priority 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5
Total Non-Routine Inspections end of year	16	Varies by inspection type. See Appendix B	8	The number of inspections are based on the previous year. This number can/will vary depending on the volume of public complaints etc.
Total Inspections end of year	532		167.5	
Air/Noise Inspections				
Total Routine Inspections end of year	76	Varies by inspection	32	Priority 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5

Inspection Types	Planned Inspections for Year	Estimate time per inspection & write up (days)	No. of Inspections Days for this Inspection Type	Local Authority Comments for Planned Inspections for the Year Ahead
		type. See Appendix B		
Total Non-Routine Inspections end of year	5	Varies by inspection type. See Appendix B	2.5	The number of inspections are based on the previous year. This number can/will vary depending on the volume of public complaints etc.
Total Inspections end of year	81		34.5	
Producer Responsibility Inspections				
Total Routine Inspections end of year	75	Varies by inspection type. See Appendix B	29.15	Priority 1.5
Total Non-Routine Inspections end of year	0	Varies by inspection type. See Appendix B	0	The number of inspections are based on the previous year. This number can/will vary depending on the volume of public complaints etc.
Total Inspections end of year	75		29.15	
Planning (Environmental) Inspections				
Total Routine Inspections end of year	518	Varies by inspection type. See Appendix B	263	Priority 2.5, 1.5, 3.4
Total Non-Routine Inspections end of year	0	Varies by inspection type. See Appendix B	0	The number of inspections are based on the previous year. This number can/will vary depending on the volume of public complaints etc.
Total Inspections end of year	518		263	

5.2 Outstanding Enforcement Actions & Complaints Requiring Resources for the Year Ahead

A number of staff changes, due to retirement and promotions, have resulted in vacancies. These vacancies together with court restrictions due to Covid-19 have all contributed to a number of enforcement actions and complaints being carried over to 2022. These have been captured in table 9 below.

Table 9 Outstanding Enforcement Actions & Complaints to be Closed Out

Inspection Type	No. of Inspections to close out in the Year Ahead	Estimate time per inspection+ write up (days)	Time for all Inspections (days)
Outstanding Complaints			
4.1.1 Litter (excluding fly tipping and illegal dumping)	1	0.5	0.5
4.1.2 Waste, non C&D. Includes fly tipping and illegal dumping	5	0.5	2.5
4.1.3 Waste, C&D.			
4.2 Water/Wastewater			
4.3 Air/Odour	1	0.5	0.5
4.4 Noise	1	0.5	0.5
Outstanding enforcement Actions			
Warning Letters	1	0.5	0.5
Section Notices	3	0.5	1.5
Complaints	8	1	8
Court Cases	8	2	16
Etc.			
Total	28		30

5.3 Summary of Resource Requirements

Assessment of proposed planned (routine and non-routine) inspections for the coming year to help achieve National and Local objectives have been considered together with outstanding matters from the past year. Table 10 demonstrates that Carlow County Council has sufficient resources to complete the proposed inspection plan together with completing outstanding matters from the previous year. It is noted new staff members joined the team in late 2021 and are undergoing relevant training.

Table 10 Summary of Inspections to Complete and Resources Required for the Year Ahead

Inspection Type	No. of Inspections Planned for the Year Ahead	Total Time for all Inspections (days)
Total Routine Inspections – (obtained from completed rows A-F of Section 6 of the RMCEI Return)	2996	1031.4
Total Non-Routine Inspections end of year – (obtained from completed rows A-F of Section 6 of the RMCEI Return)	111	51.15
Outstanding Enforcement Action & Complaints to be Closed out – (outlined in Table 10)	28	30
Totals	3,135	1,112.55
Total Available Resources (Days) – (outlined in section 5 Table 8 of the Plan)		1122

6. PLAN REVIEW MECHANISMS

RMCEI as the name suggests, is a recommended plan which is subject to review and revision throughout the period of its implementation. Following a year during which circumstances changed more than any year before we can clearly see the need for regular review. Ongoing review and realignment allows us to ensure that targets and goals are realistic and achievable within in the time frame given and available resources. All these factors are a moveable feast.

To ensure the viability of the plan and that issues are addressed as quickly as they arise, a number of plan review mechanisms will be in utilised for 2022. These include:


- New Inspection Planning and Tracking Tool (includes risk rating) Excel Sheet
- Regular Environment Team Meetings to agree weekly programmes and adapt to evolving situations & WERLA/SWMO/EPA requests.
- Continuous recording of data on all databases to include Carlow County Council Complaints, Notices & Warnings, and Inspections databases. Monthly assessments to ensure all data is up to date by Complaints Manager, followed up by targeted emails where an incomplete or outstanding progress update is required. This data will inform RMCEI meetings.
- Regular monthly/quarterly RMCEI meetings including planning meetings. The template for implementation review appended in Appendix C will be used to track progress at meetings together with the tracker template in Appendix C.
- Monthly/Quarterly RMCEI progress meetings will be a trigger for action. If any area of the plan is below planned output but considered to be viable, then resources will be directed to align activities with the targets. If a circumstance arises where more than one area is behind target priority will be given to activities with a statutory basis, followed by any inspections related to specific national enforcement priorities and finally any other inspection types.
- Liaison/regular updating with Management Team, Cross Functional Team, The Elected Members. Updated information provided in CE monthly report on environmental inspections and enforcement statistics together with the latest environmental awareness updates.
- Co-ordinating with Departments outside the organisation including EPA, Gardai Siochana, Departments of Local Government/Agriculture, WERLA, SWMO, Teagasc, CARO, NWCPO, NTS.
- Co-operating with and learning from our neighbouring enforcement counties.

It is anticipated that regular actions will be set and recorded at meetings to ensure continued and clearly defined progress. Proposed progress review meetings which will inform and chart the implementation of the RMCEI 2022 Plan are detailed below in Table 11 including frequency and purpose. Also included are a number of other mechanisms that will inform and co-ordinate progress on the implementation of the plan.

Table 11 Summary checklist of plan review mechanism


Question	Yes	No
Q1 Have progress implementation meetings been planned to be undertaken to assess Plan progress through the year?	Yes	
Q2 Will the Director of Services, Senior Engineer, Senior Management and Environment Strategic Policy Committee be informed of Plan progress (on a monthly or quarterly basis).	Yes	
Q3 Are objectives for the delivery of the RMCEI Plan incorporated within staff PMDS Team Development Plans?		No
Q4 If aspects of the Plan need to change (i.e. achieved good progress in some areas and are behind in other areas), as a result of a quarterly review, is there a mechanism in place to implement the change?	Yes	
Q5 Will monitoring of the progress of the Plan be documented (i.e. monthly/quarterly monitoring reports, preparation of minutes and circulation of same in relation to any progress meetings)?	Yes	

Appendix A NATIONAL ENFORCEMENT PRIORITIES

National Priority: 1.1 Tackling illegal waste activities and MultiAgency Sites of Concern	
	Activities
Looking forward to the year ahead 	Tell the story of what your council plans to do on this priority in the year ahead. You are not required to duplicate other information within this plan. <i>[Guideline of up to 500 words per priority area]</i>
<p>1. Describe the work to be carried out to address this National/Additional Local priority <u>FOR THE YEAR AHEAD</u> – including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For authorised sites, a compliance rate and context/analysis; • Appropriate site selection methodology, and/or early interventions; • Detection of non-compliances/unauthorised activities and follow up; • Progress in the NEP; • Positive environmental outcomes – not simply reaching a target of inspections; • Collaborative work with WERLA, LAWPRO, EPA, Catchment Care Projects; • Data analysis/sharing for enforcement targeting – and other activities as described in Table 1 of the Guidance. 	<p>A total of 10 waste movement road checkpoints are planned for 2022. Having a visible presence on the roads with other agencies is sending the message to potential illegal waste collectors and authorised Waste Collectors that Carlow County Council are monitoring waste movements throughout the county and taking enforcement actions as required. Also, all Waste Collection Permit Annual Returns in Carlow’s functional area will undergo a desktop review and site inspection if required. There are 25 waste Collection Permit Holders in County Carlow.</p> <p>The AER’s for Waste Facility Permits, Certificate of Registrations will be reviewed and validated by Carlow County Council in 2022. This process assists in close monitoring of waste movement and in the detection and reduction of misclassification of waste within County Carlow. This is a time-consuming duty which involved desktop validations, site inspections and monitoring waste vehicle movements to ensure waste materials are being deposited correctly, as per NWCPO permits and authorised sites. Carlow County Council has 9 Waste Facility Permits and 7 Certificate of Registration in force.</p> <p>By Product Notifications are catered for under Article 27 Notifications. These will be reviewed as they occur during the year. There were zero Notifications of this type received in 2021.</p> <p>Litter Pollution and Litter Quantification Surveys TOBIN Consulting Engineers were appointed in 2021 as the Litter Monitoring Body for National Litter Pollution Monitoring System.</p> <p>Litter Pollution and Litter Quantification Surveys will be undertaken in 2022 and will be compared to the benchmark years survey results. The work involves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quantifying the litter present. 40 of these will take place in 2022. • Visual inspection and counting of litter items. 104 of these will take place in 2022 <p>Annual statistics will be used to observe trends in litter composition and identify litter blackspots.</p> <p>The results database will be returned to the Litter Monitoring Body in October of 2022.</p> <p>Carlow County Council has two Waste Facility Permit sites which are due to expire in 2022. Inspections will be carried out to ensure no waste activity is taking place after the expiry dates and all close out conditions of the permit have been met.</p> <p>Carlow County Council liaise closely and share information and services with EPA, NWCPO, NTFSO, WERLA and other Local Authorities. RMCEI reports and statistics are shared at Chief Executive Meetings and with Local Government Management Agency.</p>
2. Have appropriate resources being assigned to carry out the work associated with this activity <u>FOR THE YEAR AHEAD</u> ?	Yes – Resourcing of this priority has been considered as part of inspection planning process and allocated appropriately in the Carlow Inspection Planning and Tracking Tool Excel sheets. Individuals have been assigned to this activity accordingly.
The Final Environmental Outcome to be achieved?	That there is a reduction in significant Illegal waste activity in 2022.

National Priority: 1.2 Construction and Demolition Waste

Activities

Looking forward to the year ahead 

Tell the story of what your council plans to do on this priority in the year ahead. You are not required to duplicate other information within this plan.
[Guideline of up to 500 words per priority area]

3. Describe the work to be carried out to address this National/Additional Local priority FOR THE YEAR AHEAD – including:

- For authorised sites, a compliance rate and context/analysis;
- Appropriate site selection methodology, and/or early interventions;
- Detection of non-compliances/unauthorised activities and follow up;
- Progress in the NEP;
- Positive environmental outcomes – not simply reaching a target of inspections;
- Collaborative work with WERLA, LAWPRO, EPA, Catchment Care Projects;
- Data analysis/sharing for enforcement targeting – and other activities as described in Table 1 of the Guidance.

Carlow County Council identified two sites in 2021 for C&D inspections.

It is intended that the waste enforcement team will continue to monitor these two sites: IDA Site and Penneys construction sites in Carlow Town. sporadic inspections are planned throughout the year to ensure compliance.

A further 2 sites in Carlow are under Construction Phase. These are Merck Sharp & Dohme site and Carlow IT’s new Science Block which will be monitoring throughout 2022 to ensure compliance also.

The waste enforcement team monitor all planning applications and associated commencement notices and will highlight the larger sites to carry out further inspections to ensure compliance and to remind the contractors of the obligations in relation to the relevant legislation:

- Waste Management Acts 1996
- Waste Management (Collection Permit) Regulations 2007 (SI No. 820 of 2007)
- Waste Management (Collection Permit) Amendment Regulations 2008 (SI No. 87 of 2008)
- Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government – Best Practice Guidelines on the Preparation of Waste Management Plans for Construction and Demolition Projects – July 2006.
- The Eastern-Midlands Region Waste Management Plan 2015-2021.
- EPA “Guidance on Soil and Stone By-Products in the context of Article 27 of the European Communities (Waste Directive) Regulations – Version 3 June 2019
- South Dublin County Council Development Plan 2016 – 2022. Waste Management Acts 1996 Waste Management (Collection Permit) Regulations 2007 (SI No. 820 of 2007) Waste Management (Collection Permit) Amendment Regulations 2008 (SI No. 87 of 2008) Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government – Best Practice Guidelines on the Preparation of Waste Management Plans for Construction and Demolition Projects – July 2006. The Eastern-Midlands Region Waste Management Plan 2015-2021. EPA “Guidance on Soil and Stone By-Products in the context of Article 27 of the European Communities (Waste Directive) Regulations – Version 3 June 2019
- Carlow County Council Development Plan 2015 – 2021 – the new plan will be for 2022 to 2028 and has yet to be adopted.

The Objective for the waste enforcement team is to minimise the quantity of waste generated by construction activities, to maximise the use of materials in an efficient manner and to maximise the segregation of construction waste materials on-site to produce uncontaminated waste streams for off-site recycling.

The waste enforcement team will ensure the contractors have a Construction and Demolition Waste Management Plan (C&DWMP) in place to ensure maximum recycling and the reuse and recovery of waste generated on site to divert from landfill. We also ask contractors to furnish the appropriate collection and transport of waste information/receipts from the site to prevent littering or more serious environmental pollution.

Inspection steps:

- Site visit and review
- Review of any planning stipulations that exist at this time regarding waste and demolition from the Local Authority
- Assess the proposed construction process
- Inspect the Construction and Demolition Waste Management Plan
- Inspect waste segregation on site
- Inspect signage for waste segregation
- Examine receipts for waste collections
- Cross check of NWCPO and WFPs


Hauliers of C&D waste will be stopped and interviewed during our 10 Waste Movement Vehicle Checkpoints to ascertain if the requirements of the Waste Collection Permit Regulations are being adhered to. Enforcement action will be taken if necessary. Also, all Waste Collection Permit Annual Returns dealing with C&D waste in Carlow’s functional area will undergo a desktop review and site inspection if required.

Similarly, Waste Facility Permits and Certificate of Registrations handling C&D waste will be monitored by Carlow County Council. There are 21 inspections planned for WFP sites of this type and 6 inspections planned for COR sites of this type in 2022. The conditions of each WFP and COR will be checked and any breaches corrected or enforcement action taken if necessary. Warning letter, Legal Notices and Prosecutions will be used if necessary.

4. Have appropriate resources being assigned to carry out the work associated with this activity <u>FOR THE YEAR AHEAD</u> ?	Yes – Resourcing of this priority has been considered as part of inspection planning process and allocated appropriately in the Carlow Inspection Planning and Tracking Tool Excel sheets. Individuals have been assigned to this activity accordingly.
The Final Environmental Outcome to be achieved?	That existing sites continue to improve compliance issues and unauthorised activities cease.

National Priority: 1.3 End of Life Vehicles and Metals

Activities

Looking forward to the year ahead  Tell the story of what your council plans to do on this priority in the year ahead. You are not required to duplicate other information within this plan.
[Guideline of up to 500 words per priority area]

5. Describe the work to be carried out to address this National/Additional Local priority FOR THE YEAR AHEAD – including:

- For authorised sites, a compliance rate and context/analysis;
- Appropriate site selection methodology, and/or early interventions;
- Detection of non-compliances/unauthorised activities and follow up;
- Progress in the NEP;
- Positive environmental outcomes – not simply reaching a target of inspections;
- Collaborative work with WERLA, LAWPRO, EPA, Catchment Care Projects;
- Data analysis/sharing for enforcement targeting – and other activities as described in Table 1 of the Guidance.

A co-ordinated project with WERLA, the Department of Transport, Shannon, Co Clare and The National TFS Office will be undertaken in 2022 to analyse data from individual Authorised Treatment Facilities to establish whether the ATF is achieving national targets, is compliant with End-of-Life Vehicle regulations, and to investigate if ATFs are facilitating the unauthorised treatment of waste in unauthorised sites. This project will involve conducting joint inspections between a number of agencies to ensure for example Fluorinated-gases (F-gases) are recovered from all vehicles prior to dismantling and disposed of appropriately. Where required Carlow County Council will initiate appropriate enforcement actions on unauthorised ELV sites, and unauthorised ELV collectors. This coordinated approach of all stakeholders working together will achieve both common goals and national targets.

Carlow County Council has three ATFs in force. It is proposed to carry out 11 planned inspections in 2022 to ensure compliance with conditions of the permits. Enforcement actions will be taken if necessary. One open Section 55 Notice is carried forward from 2021 on one of these ATF sites. It is envisaged that this Section 55 Notice will be closed in Q1 of 2022.

It is proposed to educate ATF permit holders in relation to correctly assigning LoW codes and reporting of LoWs in their Annual Returns. A close working relationship with WERLA will be required to fulfil this.

Carlow County Council has identified 13 alleged unauthorised ELV sites. It is proposed to carry out 24 inspections on these sites throughout 2022. This will involve surveillance, gathering evidence, desktop investigations and onsite inspections. The evidence gathered may lead to enforcement action, liaising with other departments including Planning and any means that needs to be taken to bring these sites into compliance if illegal waste activity is taking place.

Again, the 10 waste movement road checkpoints will identify any waste collectors of ELVs on the day and if they are in compliance. Enforcement action will be taken if necessary.

ELV Regulations (Car Importers).

The European Union (End-of-Life Vehicles) Regulations 2014 (as amended) places specific obligations on vehicle owners, producers and authorised treatment facilities regarding the deposit, treatment and disposal of ELVs. The regulations encourage the reuse, recycling and recovery of ELVs. ELVES CLG is the approved body appointed by the DCCAE. Producers of specified vehicles (importers of new and used cars) have an obligation to register with each Local Authority within the state or with the approved body, ELVES. The national list of specified vehicle producers continued to be used by Carlow County Council enabling us to carry out targeted inspections.

Currently in Carlow there are 4 potential car importers operating, who are not registered with ELVES in 2022 to date. Carlow County Council will carry out site inspections of all these premises in 2022 to establish if they are obligated under the regulations and if obligated to ensure compliance with the regulations in 2022.

6. Have appropriate resources being assigned to carry out the work associated with this activity FOR THE YEAR AHEAD?


Yes – Resourcing of this priority has been considered as part of inspection planning process and allocated appropriately in the Carlow Inspection Planning and Tracking Tool Excel sheets. Individuals have been assigned to this activity accordingly.

The Final Environmental Outcome to be achieved?

Higher rates of compliance with authorised sites and reduction in number of suspected operators.

National Priority: 1.4 Household and Commercial Waste	
	Activities
Looking forward to the year ahead	Tell the story of what your council plans to do on this priority in the year ahead. You are not required to duplicate other information within this plan. <i>[Guideline of up to 500 words per priority area]</i>
<p>7. Describe the work to be carried out to address this National/Additional Local priority <u>FOR THE YEAR AHEAD</u> – including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For authorised sites, a compliance rate and context/analysis; • Appropriate site selection methodology, and/or early interventions; • Detection of non-compliances/unauthorised activities and follow up; • Progress in the NEP; • Positive environmental outcomes – not simply reaching a target of inspections; • Collaborative work with WERLA, LAWPRO, EPA, Catchment Care Projects; • Data analysis/sharing for enforcement targeting – and other activities as described in Table 1 of the Guidance. 	<p>Considerable effort has been made by Carlow County Council to ensure that the provision of a kerbside waste collection service includes the direct provision of a “Brown Bin” to households in agglomerations > 500 persons in line with the European Union (Household Food Waste and Bio-Waste) Regulations 2015. This enforcement effort has included</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspections under the Presentation of Waste Bye Laws to ensure that Householders are source segregating their waste • Audits of Household Waste Collectors • Referral of Household Waste collection permits for review by NWCPO • Serving of Notices under Section 18 of the WMA on Household Waste Collectors to provide information on a monthly basis as to compliance with the Food Waste Regulations • Serving of Notices under Regulation 10 of the Food Waste Regulations seeking information on the direct provision of Brown Bins • Prosecutions of Household Waste Collectors for not providing the Brown Bin to their customers <p>37 homes were issued with a Household Waste Information request in 2021 in the Cluin an Mhuliann, Burrin Road, Carlow area. 38 additional requests were sent to persons issued with a litter fine from Carlow County Council. A further 4 requests were issued based on our complaints database. Some of the above returned information relating to how they deal with their household waste. It is proposed to further follow up on the outstanding requests in 2022.</p> <p>A further 100 Household Waste Information requests will be issued in 2022. It is also proposed to send same out to any persons who has been issued with a litter fine and any persons suspected of littering as a result of a complaint logged on the complaints database 2022.</p> <p>10 food waste inspections were carried out in 2021 in commercial businesses including delis and restaurants. 7 warning letters were issued as a result of the inspections in relation to contamination in general waste bins. Follow up inspections are planned for 2022 to ensure compliance of these 7 premises, or enforcement action taken if necessary.</p> <p>It is proposed in 2022 to carry out 10 food waste inspections on commercial premises including hotels, nursing homes, restaurants etc. It is proposed to check all their waste streams including the use of the food waste bin.</p> <p>Again the 10 waste movement road checkpoints will identify any waste collectors of this type and if they are in compliance. Enforcement action will be taken if necessary.</p>
<p>8. Have appropriate resources being assigned to carry out the work associated with this activity <u>FOR THE YEAR AHEAD</u>?</p>	<p>Yes – Resourcing of this priority has been considered as part of inspection planning process and allocated appropriately in the Carlow Inspection Planning and Tracking Tool Excel sheets. Individuals have been assigned to this activity accordingly.</p>
The Final Environmental Outcome to be achieved?	<p>That once non-compliant householders are identified, enforcement actions will be taken against them. That these actions will lead to increased compliance with the Household Regulations and The Waste Presentation Bye Laws in the County. That the 25 Waste Collectors operating in Carlow comply with their permit, and any breaches are identified will have enforcement action taken in order to increase compliance. To increase awareness and reduce contamination in the commercial food waste sector.</p>

National Priority: 1.5 Producer Responsibility Initiatives and additional local priorities


	Activities
<p>Looking forward to the year ahead </p>	<p>Tell the story of what your council plans to do on this priority in the year ahead. You are not required to duplicate other information within this plan. <i>[Guideline of up to 500 words per priority area]</i></p>

<p>9. Describe the work to be carried out to address this National/Additional Local priority <u>FOR THE YEAR AHEAD</u> – including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For authorised sites, a compliance rate and context/analysis; • Appropriate site selection methodology, and/or early interventions; • Detection of non-compliances/unauthorised activities and follow up; • Progress in the NEP; • Positive environmental outcomes – not simply reaching a target of inspections; • Collaborative work with WERLA, LAWPRO, EPA, Catchment Care Projects; • Data analysis/sharing for enforcement targeting – and other activities as described in Table 1 of the Guidance. 	<p>Mercury Regulations. Carlow County Council issued 18 letters and Dental Surgery Self Declaration forms to dental surgeries operating in County Carlow at the end of 2020. Carlow County Council received ten 10 replies and issued another eight 8 in early 2021. All 8 replied; two dental surgeries have gone out of business as the Dentist has retired.</p> <p>Carlow County Council currently has 15 dental surgeries operating in County Carlow. Carlow County Carlow have planned to carry out site inspections at all these dental surgeries to confirm data received from them is correct and that they are all compliant with the Mercury Regulations in 2022.</p> <p>Tyre Regulations. Repak ELT compliance can be very dynamic, as the list of revoked members can change monthly. Currently Carlow County Council have 2 revoked members and 3 unregistered potential retailers within the County in 2022 to date.</p> <p>Carlow County Council will focus inspections on unregistered and revoked tyre retailers who are operating outside the regulatory framework within County Carlow in 2022. The use of the communication portal between the approved body, REPAK ELT and Local Authorities and WERLA will ensure a targeted enforcement drive.</p> <p>Carlow County Council have 41 registered tyre retailers all of whom will be inspection during 2022. For all inspections where non-compliance continues, further enforcement actions will be used as appropriate using guidance documents that were developed.</p> <p>Carlow County Council will issue advisory letters to all Tyre Retailers operating within Carlow, reminding them of their obligations under the regulations and specially to ensure that they secure all waste tyres to avoid theft for fuel for bonfires at Halloween which would cause major environmental pollution. These letters were issued in 2020 and 2021, due to Covid restrictions and not getting to visit all sites of tyre retailers and it has proven to be a successful tool of communication.</p> <p>Packaging Regulations. Major producers of packaging have an obligation to register with each Local Authority or with the approved body, REPAK. Currently no major producers of packaging are registered with Carlow County Council. If this situation changes Carlow County Council will plan for inspections and enforcement as necessary.</p> <p>For 2022, there are 5 potential major producers identified as operating within county Carlow. Carlow County Council have already started engaging with these companies and will be starting site visits and audits in the coming months to ensure compliance with the regulations.</p> <p>WEEE & Battery Regulations. WEEE Ireland and ERP operate the compliance scheme for WEEE & Batteries in County Carlow. Carlow County Council carried out inspections of premises selling WEEE and batteries in Carlow each year. The findings were 100% compliance under the regulations.</p> <p>The plan for 2022 is to carry out 8 inspections under these regulations and to concentrate resources in areas not previously inspected in recent years by Carlow County Council.</p> <p>Carlow County Council plans to host recycling events in the County in 2022. In relation to WEEE, 12.9kg of e-waste was recycled per person in Carlow last year – exceeding both the 2019 collection rate of 11.7kg, and the 2020 national average of 10.9kg per person. However, the County’s e-waste target for 2022 has increased to 14kg per person, to reflect yearly increases in electrical goods consumption as accelerated by Covid-19. In February, two events will be hosted by WEEE Ireland where all household items with a plug or a battery will be accepted free of charge, including old washing machines, TVs, toasters and kettles, electronic tools and toys, cables, IT equipment, mobile phones, remote controls, and even watches.</p> <p>Anti-Idling Initiative Idling vehicles emit higher levels of carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide and hydrocarbons. These pollutants contribute to global warming and worsen air quality. An idling engine can produce up to twice as many exhaust emissions as an engine in motion and international studies have found that idling for over ten seconds uses more fuel and produces more carbon dioxide than restarting the engine. This means that the air quality around schools can be especially poor – posing a threat to children, who are particularly susceptible to health risks caused by air pollution. For example, Ireland has the fourth highest prevalence of asthma worldwide and studies have shown that air pollution can cause asthma in young children. Banning car idling at schools is one way to make a simple, and environmentally friendly, decision that</p>
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	<p>can have an immediate and positive impact on communities. It will not only benefit children, and the wider school community, but help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and tackle climate change.</p> <p>In this regard, Carlow County Councils Environmental Awareness officer is developing an anti-idling campaign for our local schools and hopes to launch this in Q1 of this year. The goal is to create awareness for students and parents on the damage it causes. It is hoped to make the students “Agents of change”.</p> <p>By developing a “community” type package which includes;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-assessment/Audit kit • Awareness/information package <p>Carlow County Council intend to do a roadshow and take this to our organisations/schools/ sports facilities etc. which is simple enough for them to use, but effective enough to see an improvement in air quality over a short enough timeframe. It will also be something that we pilot in a few areas encompassing a wide range of demographics and with a long-term view to making these tools available to borrow through our library network, much the same as the home energy kits available from libraries throughout the country.</p> <p>It is anticipated that Carlow County Council will also link in with GLOBE Ireland school-based Air Quality Campaign which is also launching shortly. The GLOBE Ireland Air Quality Campaign is a free school-based citizen science project to assess traffic-related air pollution outdoors at schools in Ireland. This is an educational project designed to raise awareness about air pollution and showcase the potential of citizen science to gather unique datasets and insights into our environment. The next Air Quality campaign will run during Spring 2022. The campaign is coordinated by GLOBE Ireland, as part of The Environmental Education Unit (EEU) of An Taisce and is sponsored by the Irish Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Primary or Secondary school Teachers can avail of this to implement this with their school class/year group. This year the measurement period will be in March 2022, and teachers will receive their Air Quality packs the week before the measurement period starts.</p> <p>Other Campaigns</p> <p>An Energy Awareness Week is planned in February in partnership with Kilkenny County Council to include social media, printed media, radio and workshops on the topic.</p> <p>National Tree Week will take place in March of 2022. This will involve distribution of 2,000 native Irish saplings to community and voluntary groups and provision of biodiversity workshops.</p> <p>National spring clean will take place in April of 2022 in partnership with Carlow GAA, which will focus on litter. This will be the role out of the biggest ever voluntary spring clean of our County. Carlow County Council already work with up to 50 local volunteer groups per year. They are given the equipment required and Carlow County Council dispose of the waste.</p> <p>A Small Things Campaign was piloted in Borris in Q4 of 2021 in the primary school. Children were encouraged to bring small WEEE for example into school for recycling. Based on the success of this pilot it is planned to roll out a mini WEEE day in each primary school in the County. Children can bring the smaller items of unwanted WEEE from their homes to school for recycling. Often this type of waste ends in the general waste bin.</p> <p>Carlow County Council has also undertaken weekly surveys in Carlow town in Q4 of 2021 with Transition Year Students. The students counted cigarette butts littered on the streets. According to the IBAL Litter Survey Carlow has a higher incidence of cigarette litter than the national average. Carlow County Council proposes to run a campaign to tackle the issue in 2022.</p> <p>National reuse month will be promoted in County Carlow. This is an ongoing initiative with Carlow Institute of Technology which has a reach of 10,000 students and staff. This will focus on waste prevention, energy savings and food waste.</p> <p>The Green Schools Awareness Programme will continue in 2022 with visits to schools to include workshops on litter, waste, recycling, air, water biodiversity and global citizenship.</p>
<p>10. Have appropriate resources being assigned to carry out the work associated with this activity <u>FOR THE YEAR AHEAD?</u></p>	<p>Yes – Resourcing of this priority has been considered as part of inspection planning process and allocated appropriately in the Carlow Inspection Planning and Tracking Tool Excel sheets. Individuals have been assigned to this activity accordingly.</p>
<p>The Final Environmental Outcome to be achieved?</p>	<p>That all suspected producers under relevant compliance schemes are identified and brought into compliance. To increase awareness around these programmes and run campaigns to better protect our local environment.</p>


National Priority: 2.1 Pressures from Agriculture (slurry/soiled water collection and storage)	
	Activities
Looking forward to the year ahead	Tell the story of what your council plans to do on this priority in the year ahead. You are not required to duplicate other information within this plan. <i>[Guideline of up to 500 words per priority area]</i>
11. Describe the work to be carried out to address this National/Additional Local priority FOR THE YEAR AHEAD – including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For authorised sites, a compliance rate and context/analysis; • Appropriate site selection methodology, and/or early interventions; • Detection of non-compliances/unauthorised activities and follow up; • Progress in the NEP; • Positive environmental outcomes – not simply reaching a target of inspections; • Collaborative work with WERLA, LAWPRO, EPA, Catchment Care Projects; • Data analysis/sharing for enforcement targeting – and other activities as described in Table 1 of the Guidance. 	Carlow County Council proposes to ensure farm inspections are carried out in conjunction with planning applications from the Planning Department, and inspections are conducted on sites relating to farmyards in priority areas for action. If a farmyard is located in a recognised high risk water catchment in line with LAWPRO guidelines a GAP and Nitrates farm inspection may also be carried out at the same time as the Planning site visit. 7 inspections are planned for 2022, with emphases on dairy enterprises and the collection and management of slurries and soiled water. Our Water Treatment Plants are equipped with Ammonia monitors and this information can be used as baseline, if necessary.
12. Have appropriate resources being assigned to carry out the work associated with this activity FOR THE YEAR AHEAD ?	Yes – Resourcing of this priority has been considered as part of inspection planning process and allocated appropriately in the Carlow Inspection Planning and Tracking Tool Excel sheets. Individuals have been assigned to this activity accordingly.
The Final Environmental Outcome to be achieved?	Inspect farmyards and ensure no slurries or effluents are being released into watercourses. Ensure adequate slurry storage capacities are available on all dairy farms.

National Priority: 2.2 Pressures from Agriculture (slurry and fertiliser spreading)


	Activities
<p>Looking forward to the year ahead </p>	<p>Tell the story of what your council plans to do on this priority in the year ahead. You are not required to duplicate other information within this plan. <i>[Guideline of up to 500 words per priority area]</i></p>
<p>13. Describe the work to be carried out to address this National/Additional Local priority <u>FOR THE YEAR AHEAD</u> – including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For authorised sites, a compliance rate and context/analysis; • Appropriate site selection methodology, and/or early interventions; • Detection of non-compliances/unauthorised activities and follow up; • Progress in the NEP; • Positive environmental outcomes – not simply reaching a target of inspections; • Collaborative work with WERLA, LAWPRO, EPA, Catchment Care Projects; • Data analysis/sharing for enforcement targeting – and other activities as described in Table 1 of the Guidance. 	<p>Carlow County Council proposes to inspect as many farms as possible in the priority areas of action in conjunction with LAWPRO guidelines.</p> <p>Carlow County is small in area but has very strong tillage base, as opposed to some other counties with a predominately dairy industry. There is a strong culture with some of these tillage farmers to spread treated sewage sludge and Digestate from AD plants on their tillage ground in the Spring or Autumn. This is especially so if the fields have been in continuous tillage for several years.</p> <p>Management of the Sludge Record Database in County Carlow is considered very important, and this work requires farm inspections and the reviewing of all Nutrient Management Plans prior to spreading, inspections of the landbanks prior and post spreading, inspections of the sludge storage facilities in the County, with the final aim of maintaining an accurate sludge register for the County.</p> <p>The intended outcome is to ensure the safe recycling of approx. ~9,000 tonnes of treated sludge in County Carlow, into the correct type of soil in the proper quantities needed for the individual crops being grown on that landbank. Examination of the farm NMP is done in a similar way to a Nitrates inspection, and this combined approach to sludge and farm nutrient reviews will bring in an additional 45 farm inspection minimum in County Carlow. The subsequent chemical fertilizer usage on those farms will be less, resulting in a reduction of Nitrogen run off into surface waters in Carlow.</p> <p>Carlow County Council Water Services Department take audit samples which indicates seasonal Nitrate levels in Carlow’s surface water. These levels can be used as baseline performance indicators.</p>
<p>14. Have appropriate resources being assigned to carry out the work associated with this activity <u>FOR THE YEAR AHEAD</u>?</p>	<p>Yes – Resourcing of this priority has been considered as part of inspection planning process and allocated appropriately in the Carlow Inspection Planning and Tracking Tool Excel sheets. Individuals have been assigned to this activity accordingly.</p>
<p>The Final Environmental Outcome to be achieved?</p>	<p>To bring about an overall improvement in water quality status in County Carlow, and to maintain existing good quality sites where they exist, following the LAWPRO guidance.</p>

National Priority: 2.3 DWWTS/Septic Tanks	
	Activities
Looking forward to the year ahead	Tell the story of what your council plans to do on this priority in the year ahead. You are not required to duplicate other information within this plan. <i>[Guideline of up to 500 words per priority area]</i>
15. Describe the work to be carried out to address this National/Additional Local priority <u>FOR THE YEAR AHEAD</u> – including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For authorised sites, a compliance rate and context/analysis; • Appropriate site selection methodology, and/or early interventions; • Detection of non-compliances/unauthorised activities and follow up; • Progress in the NEP; • Positive environmental outcomes – not simply reaching a target of inspections; • Collaborative work with WERLA, LAWPRO, EPA, Catchment Care Projects; • Data analysis/sharing for enforcement targeting – and other activities as described in Table 1 of the Guidance. 	Carlow County Council propose to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspect septic tanks in the areas highlighted by the EPA in the 2022-2026 National Inspection Plan, with priority in County Carlow going to the protection of domestic wells. • Ensure all advisory notices issued in 2022 are closed off as quickly as possible to protect surface & ground waters. • Follow up on any septic tank referrals from LAWPRO, with the view to improving local water quality in the areas they are working on in the County. • Inspect any septic tanks complaints received from the public and ensure all such problems are delt with under the Water Pollution Act with the aim of protecting the associated wells/ public health and streams in that area.
16. Have appropriate resources being assigned to carry out the work associated with this activity <u>FOR THE YEAR AHEAD</u> ?	Yes – Resourcing of this priority has been considered as part of inspection planning process and allocated appropriately in the Carlow Inspection Planning and Tracking Tool Excel sheets. Individuals have been assigned to this activity accordingly.
The Final Environmental Outcome to be achieved?	Reduce the risk to ground and surface waters by ensuring all systems inspected pose no risk.


National Priority: 2.4 Discharge licences/ Misconnections

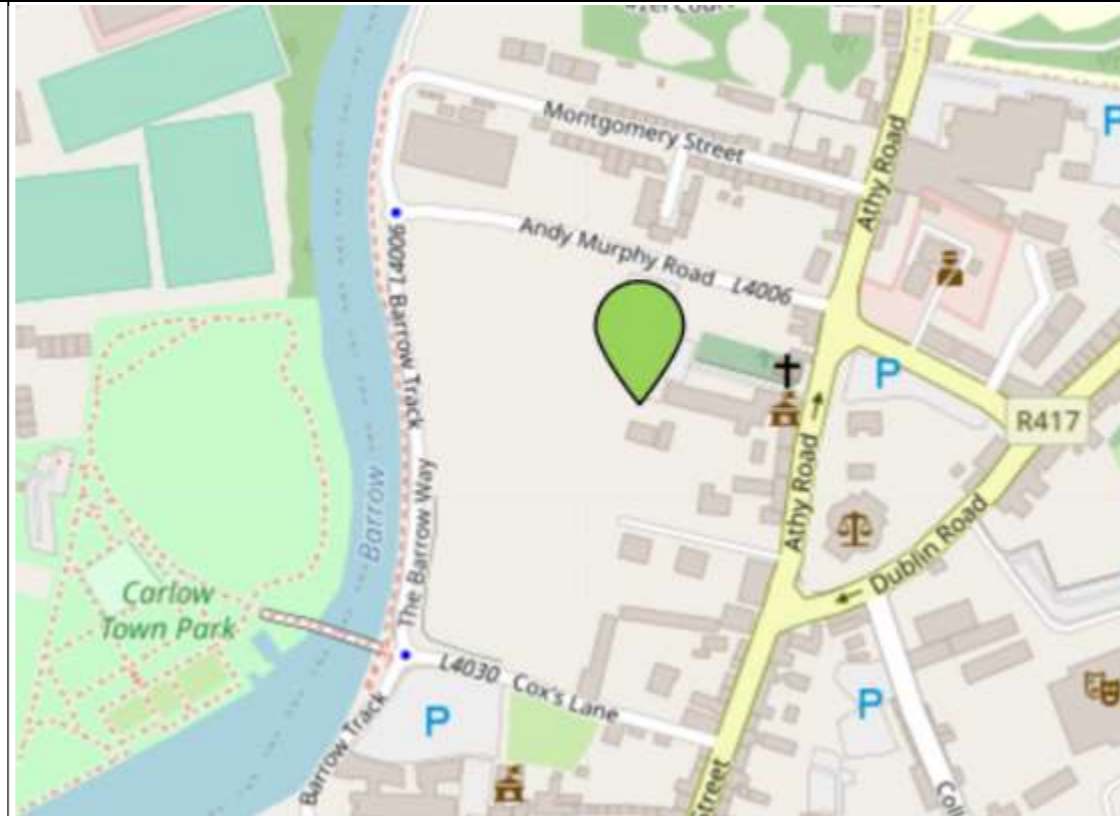
Activities	
Looking forward to the year ahead 	Tell the story of what your council plans to do on this priority in the year ahead. You are not required to duplicate other information within this plan. <i>[Guideline of up to 500 words per priority area]</i>
17. Describe the work to be carried out to address this National/Additional Local priority <u>FOR THE YEAR AHEAD</u> – including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For authorised sites, a compliance rate and context/analysis; • Appropriate site selection methodology, and/or early interventions; • Detection of non-compliances/unauthorised activities and follow up; • Progress in the NEP; • Positive environmental outcomes – not simply reaching a target of inspections; • Collaborative work with WERLA, LAWPRO, EPA, Catchment Care Projects; • Data analysis/sharing for enforcement targeting – and other activities as described in Table 1 of the Guidance. 	<p>Misconnection survey work in County Carlow is carried out in conjunction with the Water Services drain inspection team. Pipelines in towns suspected of being misconnected are surveyed by a drain camera and dye tests carried out where necessary. In this way poor quality building works can be detected and remedial measures carried out by developers or Council staff. The mis-directed effluent is channelled to the correct sewer line and the discharge to the surface waterway is immediately stopped, improving local water quality. For large housing estates this can have a large beneficial impact on WFD water samples taken for the EPA sampling programme.</p> <p>Smaller individual misconnections from older houses are also found this way, and the overall result will be an improvement in local streams. This work is combined with the WFD water sampling program in County Carlow, and poor results can be traced back to an individual pipeline in a town with a possible misconnection on the line.</p> <p>Carlow County Council Planning Department check for misconnections at the start of the Taking in Charge process and share this information to ensure faults are corrected before signoff.</p> <p>Any referrals from LAWPRO in 2022 may also require the use of this drain inspection team, with their specialist equipment, together with the water pollution scientist.</p> <p>The 7 Discharge Licenses are monitored for compliance with the limits in the individual licenses. Each facility will be sampled at least once throughout the year, and some facilities may be checked 3-4 times, based on the knowledge of the water pollution scientist. Some of the site inspections will be based on background WFD river sampling results, where downstream poor results may be linked to a specific discharge from a meat plant, service station or quarry. By checking the EPA website for WFD results for an area, the individual site owners will be made aware of the impact of their activities on the local waterways. This has proven successful in the past in dealing with elevated discharge results from a meat plant. This should bring about quicker resolutions to water quality issues in the area of Section 4 license and WFD sampling station.</p>
18. Have appropriate resources being assigned to carry out the work associated with this activity <u>FOR THE YEAR AHEAD</u> ?	Yes – Resourcing of this priority has been considered as part of inspection planning process and allocated appropriately in the Carlow Inspection Planning and Tracking Tool Excel sheets. Individuals have been assigned to this activity accordingly.
The Final Environmental Outcome to be achieved?	Improvements in local water quality, displayed in WFD sample analysis.

National Priority: 2.5 Local Priorities and water quality monitoring	
	Activities
Looking forward to the year ahead	Tell the story of what your council plans to do on this priority in the year ahead. You are not required to duplicate other information within this plan. <i>[Guideline of up to 500 words per priority area]</i>
19. Describe the work to be carried out to address this National/Additional Local priority <u>FOR THE YEAR AHEAD</u> – including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For authorised sites, a compliance rate and context/analysis; • Appropriate site selection methodology, and/or early interventions; • Detection of non-compliances/unauthorised activities and follow up; • Progress in the NEP; • Positive environmental outcomes – not simply reaching a target of inspections; • Collaborative work with WERLA, LAWPRO, EPA, Catchment Care Projects; • Data analysis/sharing for enforcement targeting – and other activities as described in Table 1 of the Guidance. 	<p>WFD Sampling is carried out to ensure all WFD water samples are collected in 2022 and dispatched to arrive with minimum delay to all the EPA water laboratories.</p> <p>Carlow County Council will consult with the EPA laboratory staff to arrange alternative sampling dates when problems arise with sampling dates.</p> <p>Additional investigative water samples will be taken by the water scientist from streams in the LAWPRO high risk areas and river/ stream walks and investigations will be conducted at sites where farm inspections reveal possible problems with background water quality.</p> <p>There is a good working relationship with the road’s supervisors in Carlow County Council, and they will quickly inform the water pollution staff about any concerns they have with suspected pollution in road side drains and gullies, from septic tank run off or local farms.</p>
20. Have appropriate resources being assigned to carry out the work associated with this activity <u>FOR THE YEAR AHEAD</u> ?	Yes – Resourcing of this priority has been considered as part of inspection planning process and allocated appropriately in the Carlow Inspection Planning and Tracking Tool Excel sheets. Individuals have been assigned to this activity accordingly.
The Final Environmental Outcome to be achieved?	All water samples will be delivered to the EPA lab, and additional investigative samples will be collected from streams with suspected background pollution. In this way analysis of the results should lead to more targeted farm inspections in problem areas, and thereby bring about an improvement in local water quality, when any problems on those farms are found and addressed.

National Priority: 3.1 Solid Fuel	
	Activities
Looking forward to the year ahead 	Tell the story of what your council plans to do on this priority in the year ahead. You are not required to duplicate other information within this plan. <i>[Guideline of up to 500 words per priority area]</i>
<p>21. Describe the work to be carried out to address this National/Additional Local priority <u>FOR THE YEAR AHEAD</u> – including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For authorised sites, a compliance rate and context/analysis; • Appropriate site selection methodology, and/or early interventions; • Detection of non-compliances/unauthorised activities and follow up; • Progress in the NEP; • Positive environmental outcomes – not simply reaching a target of inspections; • Collaborative work with WERLA, LAWPRO, EPA, Catchment Care Projects; • Data analysis/sharing for enforcement targeting – and other activities as described in Table 1 of the Guidance. 	<p>Carlow Town has two main Coal Merchants in the town, and fuel products such as coals, anthracite and briquettes are mainly distributed through a network of shopping outlets and service station garages in Carlow town.</p> <p>Low smoke fuel inspections are carried out by Carlow County Council authorised enforcement personnel in the first or last quarter of the year as this is when most fuels are in demand.</p> <p>Carlow County Council is currently reviewing the list of suppliers and updating data as required. It is planned to write to the 25 identified coal merchants and retailers in 2022 to remind them of their obligations under legislation and asking them to provide evidence of compliance. The list of 25 will be reviewed and updated and any new suspected supplier will be added to the list.</p> <p>The aim of these inspections is to tackle the sale of non-compliant fuel and the sale and use of high Sulphur content fuel in low smoke zones and enforcement will be taken if non-compliance is found. All of the retailers inspected in 2021 were found to be compliant.</p> <p>10 waste movement checkpoints are planned for 2022. Hauliers of Solid Fuels will be stopped and interviewed to ascertain what is on board the vehicle and what the final destination is. Enforcement action including fixed payment notice will be used if necessary.</p>
22. Have appropriate resources being assigned to carry out the work associated with this activity <u>FOR THE YEAR AHEAD</u> ?	Yes – Resourcing of this priority has been considered as part of inspection planning process and allocated appropriately in the Carlow Inspection Planning and Tracking Tool Excel sheets. Individuals have been assigned to this activity accordingly.
The Final Environmental Outcome to be achieved?	Ensure no smokey fuel is being distributed in the Low Smoke Zone Specified Area identified to ensure better air quality.

National Priority: 3.2 Air Quality Monitoring and Data Use

	Activities
<p>Looking forward to the year ahead </p>	<p>Tell the story of what your council plans to do on this priority in the year ahead. You are not required to duplicate other information within this plan. <i>[Guideline of up to 500 words per priority area]</i></p>
<p>23. Describe the work to be carried out to address this National/Additional Local priority <u>FOR THE YEAR AHEAD</u> – including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For authorised sites, a compliance rate and context/analysis; • Appropriate site selection methodology, and/or early interventions; • Detection of non-compliances/unauthorised activities and follow up; • Progress in the NEP; • Positive environmental outcomes – not simply reaching a target of inspections; • Collaborative work with WERLA, LAWPRO, EPA, Catchment Care Projects; • Data analysis/sharing for enforcement targeting – and other activities as described in Table 1 of the Guidance. 	<p>Carlow County Council carry out maintenance inspections of the ambient air monitor at the Council offices in Carlow Town and meet EPA personnel and contractors as required. This is done on a quarterly basis.</p> <p>The Environment Section carries out assessment of Planning Applications for Planning where air impact assessments are included. This work depends on the type of applications for 2022.</p> <p>There is one air pollution licence in the county, and this is regulated by the Environment Section. The monitored parameters include Sox, NOx, Particulates. We examine submitted results and advised on compliance. 4 inspections of this site are planned for 2022.</p> <p>National Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Programme On 6th November, 2017, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) launched the <u>National Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Programme 2017-2022</u> and published the latest report on air quality: <u>Air Quality in Ireland 2016 – Indicators of Air Quality</u>. Carlow County Council adheres to this programme.</p> <p>The National Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Programme (AAMP) will involve a greatly expanded national monitoring network providing enhanced real-time information to the public, supplemented by an additional increased local authority capacity to conduct local monitoring. The network will be supported and augmented by increased modelling and forecasting capability, with the aim of providing an ongoing air quality forecast to the public. Supporting both of these elements will be citizen engagement and citizen science initiatives to encourage greater understanding and involvement of the public in air quality issues. In this regard, it is hoped to expand on the current monitor at Carlow County Council offices to encourage greater understanding and involvement of the public in air quality issues utilising citizen engagement and citizen science initiatives.</p> <p>A new national monitoring network will be established which will provide improved spatial coverage across rural and urban centres. The siting of the stations is based on the criteria of population size, vulnerability to air quality issues and spatial distribution. The network of sites will monitor a range of important air quality parameters including particulates, heavy metals, inorganic and organic gases.</p> <p>There is an increasing awareness of the need for Ireland to develop its capacity and capability in ambient air quality modelling. Air quality related citizen engagement and citizen science will be progressed to raise awareness and understanding of air quality issues and encourage individual participation in improving air quality.</p> <p>Detailed information and real-time data relating to air quality levels in Carlow Town is available on the EPA website and can be accessed at the following link: https://airquality.ie/station/EPA-54 .</p> <p>This is referred to as Station 54 Carlow Town by the EPA. The station is located at Carlow County Councils Main Office on the Athy Rd in Carlow as shown below:</p>



The air quality station in Carlow was commissioned in September 2018. Automated, provisional results are available on this website for Chief Pollutants PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}.

Using a nationwide network of monitoring sites, the EPA has developed ambient air quality trends for particle pollution, also called Particulate Matter (PM). PM₁₀ describes inhalable particles, with diameters that are generally 10 micrometers and smaller. Under the Air Pollution Act 1987, the EPA sets and reviews national air quality standards for PM. Air quality monitors measure concentrations of PM throughout the country. EPA, state, tribal and local agencies use that data to ensure that PM in the air is at levels that protect public health and the environment. Nationally, average PM₁₀ concentrations have decreased over the years. Fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) is an air pollutant that is a concern for people's health when levels in air are high. PM_{2.5} are tiny particles in the air that reduce visibility and cause the air to appear hazy when levels are elevated.

Carlow also has an EMEP observation station located at Teagasc in Oak Park, Carlow. EMEP also acts as the co-ordinating body for measurements of ambient levels of key pollutants across Europe. The EPA working with Met Eireann monitor this station on air pollution and acidification.


24. Have appropriate resources being assigned to carry out the work associated with this activity FOR THE YEAR AHEAD?

Yes – Resourcing of this priority has been considered as part of inspection planning process and allocated appropriately in the Carlow Inspection Planning and Tracking Tool Excel sheets. Individuals have been assigned to this activity accordingly.

The Final Environmental Outcome to be achieved?


To comply with appropriate air legislation and improve local air quality.

National Priority: 3.3 Environmental Noise Directive (ENDs)	
	Activities
Looking forward to the year ahead	Tell the story of what your council plans to do on this priority in the year ahead. You are not required to duplicate other information within this plan. <i>[Guideline of up to 500 words per priority area]</i>
<p>25. Describe the work to be carried out to address this National/Additional Local priority <u>FOR THE YEAR AHEAD</u> – including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For authorised sites, a compliance rate and context/analysis; • Appropriate site selection methodology, and/or early interventions; • Detection of non-compliances/unauthorised activities and follow up; • Progress in the NEP; • Positive environmental outcomes – not simply reaching a target of inspections; • Collaborative work with WERLA, LAWPRO, EPA, Catchment Care Projects; • Data analysis/sharing for enforcement targeting – and other activities as described in Table 1 of the Guidance. 	<p>Carlow County Council has developed a Noise Action Plan in accordance with the requirements of EU Directive 2002/49/EC (known as the Environmental Noise Directive, or “END”. The Directive applies to noise from transport, road traffic, rail traffic, air traffic, and from sites of industrial activity.</p> <p>The action planning area covers sections of the M9, N80, R724, R448 R430 & R417. It is a follow up to the 2013 Noise Action Plan which addressed environmental noise from roads with more than three million vehicles per annum and the 2008 Noise Action Plan which addressed environmental noise from roads with more than six million vehicles per annum.</p> <p>Carlow County Council has drawn up a number of general principles which it considers the Noise Action Plan aims to support.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carlow County Council’s Noise Action Plan aims to avoid, prevent and reduce, where necessary, on a prioritised basis the harmful effects, including annoyance, due to long term exposure to environmental noise; • Carlow County will adopt a strategic approach to managing environmental noise by following a balanced approach which promotes: Noise reduction at source; Land use planning adapted to noise targets; Procedures to reduce noise impact; and Operating restrictions to reduce noise emission. • Carlow County Council’s Noise Action Plan will have regard to the principles of sustainable development and integrate with other strategic policy objectives of Carlow County Council. <p>Measures which are available at a local level to Carlow County Council are set out below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning zones as part of strategic developments and local area plans; including siting noise sensitive zoned areas away from planned road corridors and other major noise sources; • Planning restrictions or control measures for sensitive developments close to existing high trafficked roads. • Review and enforcement of speed limits; • Traffic re-routing in urban areas, development of pedestrian zones; • Developing heavy goods cordons; • Replacement of local authority diesel vehicles with Compressed natural gas, hybrid or electric; • Night time delivery restrictions or limits; • Road re-surfacing; Smoothing broken surfaces; Use of low noise road surfaces on higher speed routes of non-national roads; • Façade insulation requirements: Enhanced glazing as a mitigation measure; Building construction detailing for new developments exposed to environmental noise; • Noise barriers. <p>It is proposed in 2022 that some road resurfacing will take place with low noise surfacing. A plan will be drawn up to provide details on this. Other measures in the plan are to be considered and roll out is yet to be determined.</p>
26. Have appropriate resources being assigned to carry out the work associated with this activity <u>FOR THE YEAR AHEAD</u> ?	Yes – Resourcing of this priority has been considered as part of inspection planning process and allocated appropriately in the Carlow Inspection Planning and Tracking Tool Excel sheets. Individuals have been assigned to this activity accordingly.
The Final Environmental Outcome to be achieved?	Return annual progress report on Noise Plan each year as required.

National Priority: 3.4 Air and Noise Control (including Planning)	
	Activities
Looking forward to the year ahead 	Tell the story of what your council plans to do on this priority in the year ahead. You are not required to duplicate other information within this plan. <i>[Guideline of up to 500 words per priority area]</i>
<p>27. Describe the work to be carried out to address this National/Additional Local priority <u>FOR THE YEAR AHEAD</u> – including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For authorised sites, a compliance rate and context/analysis; • Appropriate site selection methodology, and/or early interventions; • Detection of non-compliances/unauthorised activities and follow up; • Progress in the NEP; • Positive environmental outcomes – not simply reaching a target of inspections; • Collaborative work with WERLA, LAWPRO, EPA, Catchment Care Projects; • Data analysis/sharing for enforcement targeting – and other activities as described in Table 1 of the Guidance. 	<p>It is anticipated Carlow County Council will receive in excess of 500 planning applications again in 2022. These applications will be fully vetted by the Waste Enforcement Section in relation to air and noise activities. It is noted that the reliance on fossil fuel heating is being replaced by air / ground water household heating systems.</p> <p>Carlow County Council is aware of National Protocol for Dealing with Noise Complaints and documents drafted by NIECE and adheres to this in addition to the Carlow Noise Action Plan. The Air Pollution Act refers to air issues in planning terms and is looked at closely for authorised sites and also all planning permissions.</p> <p>Air and Noise Complaints that are received will be logged and assigned to the appropriate person. All complaints of this nature will be investigated and enforcement action taken if necessary. There were 102 of these types of complaints received in 2021 of which only one air complaint remains open and carried into 2022 for follow up action.</p> <p>Existing planning permissions are required to be checked for compliance with air and noise planning conditions. In general, these conditions include EPA guidelines for noise contained in NG4 and the German Standard VDI 2119 for dust. There are other requirements to be checked from time-to-time such as odours and other air emissions. Wind Farm planning applications are assessed for noise impacts, having regard to the 2006 national guidelines and draft proposed guidelines. For quarries there is an inspection system in place to check for planning compliance.</p> <p>In Carlow there are approximately 13 operational quarries of various sizes which are checked annually for compliance with planning conditions such as surface water monitoring, groundwater monitoring, dust, noise etc. These requirements are generally set out in the form of an Environmental Management System. In some cases, there will be a macadam plant in place and in these cases additional air monitoring will be in place for Particulates, NOx, SOx etc.</p> <p>It is anticipated that more Environmental Impact Assessment Reports will be received in 2022. These most likely will include chapters on air and climate. Impacts will be assessed by the Environment Section having regard to national guidance documents and best practice.</p> <p>It is also anticipated that a number of Appropriate Assessment reports will be received 2022. Impacts will be assessed by Environment Section staff, including air and noise impacts on Natura 2000 qualifying interests.</p> <p>Environment Section staff will be expected to attend a number of pre-planning meetings where potential environmental impacts, including air and noise can be identified at planning stage.</p>
28. Have appropriate resources being assigned to carry out the work associated with this activity <u>FOR THE YEAR AHEAD</u> ?	Yes – Resourcing of this priority has been considered as part of inspection planning process and allocated appropriately in the Carlow Inspection Planning and Tracking Tool Excel sheets. Individuals have been assigned to this activity accordingly.
The Final Environmental Outcome to be achieved?	To provide comments for environmental reports to ensure air and noise controls are catered for. Close out air/noise complaints.

National Priority: 3.5 Ongoing Air and Noise Enforcement Work

Activities

Looking forward to the year ahead 

Tell the story of what your council plans to do on this priority in the year ahead. You are not required to duplicate other information within this plan.
[Guideline of up to 500 words per priority area]

29. Describe the work to be carried out to address this National/Additional Local priority FOR THE YEAR AHEAD – including:

- For authorised sites, a compliance rate and context/analysis;
- Appropriate site selection methodology, and/or early interventions;
- Detection of non-compliances/unauthorised activities and follow up;
- Progress in the NEP;
- Positive environmental outcomes – not simply reaching a target of inspections;
- Collaborative work with WERLA, LAWPRO, EPA, Catchment Care Projects;
- Data analysis/sharing for enforcement targeting – and other activities as described in Table 1 of the Guidance.

Petroleum Vapour Regulations
 Carlow County Council have 25 sites that have been identified as having obligations under the Stage 1 Petroleum Vapour Regulations in County Carlow in 2022. There are four sites identified that are not obligated under the regulations.

Carlow County Council has a list of Approved Assessors under the Petroleum Vapour Regulations, and this list is supplied with a warning letter which is sent to site operators a few months prior to the expiry of their current Certification. The site operator engages an Approved Assessor, and a site inspection and audit are carried out when a load of petroleum is being delivered. The AA report along with the appropriate fee is forwarded to Carlow County Council for approval and when satisfied a new Certificate is issued for the site. Due to Covid 19 restrictions the service station operators were having issues in engaging the Approved Assessors and arranging inspection dates to coincide with deliveries.

There are 25 sites that are subject to the Regulations for selling petroleum in County Carlow and in 2022. Carlow County Council have 7 sites that are due for renewal in 2022 and the plan is to visit each of these sites and ensure that these sites are made compliant in 2022, and achieve 100% compliance under the Stage 1 Petroleum Vapour Regulations.

Carlow County Council are planning on issuing letters to the larger Service Stations in relation to their obligations under the Stage II Petroleum Vapour Regulations in 2022.

Solvents Regulations
 Carlow County Council have identified 6 Dry Cleaning businesses operating in County Carlow in 2022. There were two Dry Cleaners registered and certified with Carlow County Council in 2021. One Dry Cleaners had switched over to water-based machines and are no longer using solvents and are no longer obligated under the Solvents Regulations.

The remaining three Dry Cleaning businesses are sub-contracting out the dry cleaning to the other two dry cleaning businesses due to the low volume of garments for cleaning as it is not financially viable to operate themselves under the Regulation. It is planned to carry out 5 inspections of Dry Cleaners operating in 2022.

Deco Paints Regulations
 Carlow County Council had 3 car finishers whose Certificates have expired in 2021 and Carlow County Council issued warning letters to these businesses to ensure compliance with the Regulations. Due to Covid-19 restrictions these businesses were not operating fully during the year and one had issues engaging Approved Assessor.

Carlow County Council issued 4 Warning Letters to known and potential car repair businesses that may have obligations under the Deco Paint regulations in 2021.

One of these operators have engaged the Approved Assessor and an application has been received by Carlow County Council for decision in 2022.

One operators' Certificate will be due for renewal in May 2022 and an advisory letter will be issued to this operator to remind him to engage an Approved Assessor and submit an application prior to expiry date. It is planned to carry out 13 inspections of this type in 2022.

Air pollution monitoring around Carlow Town
 Carlow Town has been designated as Carlow County Councils Decarbonisation Zone. Under Action 165 of the Climate Action Plan 2019, a requirement was placed on the Council to identify a Decarbonisation Zone (DZ) in the County, as a 'living laboratory' for demonstrating climate innovation and reduction of greenhouse gases. This requires consideration of not just energy, but transport, spatial planning, the natural environment, and community engagement. The criteria for selecting the DZ was set out by the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage, and guidance on how to develop a DZ has been issued by the Climate Action Regional Office (CARO). The Department have defined a DZ as a "spatial area identified by the local authority, in which a range of climate mitigation, adaptation and biodiversity measures and action owners are identified to address local low carbon energy, greenhouse gas emissions and climate needs to contribute to national climate action targets". The DZ of Carlow Town includes a broad outline of implementable projects with potential outcomes for delivering reductions in carbon emissions. These outcomes must meet the Government's targets for carbon emissions reductions, and namely a 7% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from 2021 to 2030. To be an effective demonstrator, the DZ must cover either (a) urban areas and agglomerations with a population not less than 5000 persons, or (b) rural areas with an area of not less than 4km². Carlow town meets all of these criteria. It is an objective of this plan to measure the baseline emissions within the town and to revisit this exercise in a number of years to show progress achieved. To aid with this Carlow County Council plan to install a number of air quality monitors around the town at strategic locations to complement the

	existing EPA air quality monitor located at County Hall on the Athy Road. Nox gases, particulates and CO2 will be of particular interest. The Climate Section will be organising the implementation of air quality monitors during the year, data will be freely available on line.
30. Have appropriate resources being assigned to carry out the work associated with this activity <u>FOR THE YEAR AHEAD?</u>	Yes – Resourcing of this priority has been considered as part of inspection planning process and allocated appropriately in the Carlow Inspection Planning and Tracking Tool Excel sheets. Individuals have been assigned to this activity accordingly.
The Final Environmental Outcome to be achieved?	Compliance with air and noise regulations to ensure good quality air in functional area.

Overall concluding remarks for the reporting year:

This RMCEI Plan has been compiled with the consultation of all staff involved in carrying out the aims and objectives of the Plan. The 2022 National Priorities have been the core instrument in its development. Carlow County Council is committed to the prevention of pollution and to managing and continually improving our environmental performance.

Enforcement systems are in place to ensure the continued successful delivery of the Plan for Carlow County Council. The resources are in place and training will continue in 2022 to ensure the successful delivery of services proposed.

Appendix B Planned Routine & Non-Routine Inspections for the Year Ahead

	Inspection Types	Planned Inspections for Year	Estimate time per inspection & write up (days)	No. of Inspections Days for this Inspection Type	Local Authority Comments for Planned Inspections for the Year Ahead
Waste					
6.1	Routine Waste Inspections				
6.1.1	Waste Permitted Facilities	20	1	20	
6.1.2	Joint inspections with NTFSO	2	1	2	
6.1.3	Inspections of Cert of Registration sites (private)	20	1	20	
6.1.4	Inspections of LA Cert of Registration sites	472	0.1	47.2	
6.1.5	Multi-agency inspections, including vehicle inspections and multi agency site inspections	10	1	10	
6.1.6	Hazardous waste sectoral inspections (e.g. Mercury Regulations, WTF, garages, mini-labs, industrial, healthcare & others)	20	0.35	7	
6.1.7	Inspections in relation to segregation, recovery and disposal of C&D waste at construction/development sites to include major public projects (e.g. Waste Mgt. Plans, Gypsum handling, etc.)	4	0.5	2	
6.1.8	Inspections of notifications under Prohibition of Waste Disposal by Burning Inspections	50	0.2	10	
6.1.9	Registration of Sewage Sludge Facility inspections	4	1	4	
6.1.10	Household Waste Surveys	100	0.2	20	
6.1.11	Inspections in relation to the household and commercial kerbside waste collection regime (including brown bin)	5	0.35	2	
6.1.12	Other inspections of waste collection permit holders to include, for example, data validation audits (onsite) but not included above in 6.1.12	35	0.5	17.5	
6.1.13	Commercial Food Waste Inspections (original waste producers, e.g. hotels, nursing homes, restaurants, etc.)	10	0.5	5	

	Inspection Types	Planned Inspections for Year	Estimate time per inspection & write up (days)	No. of Inspections Days for this Inspection Type	Local Authority Comments for Planned Inspections for the Year Ahead
6.1.14	Inspections in relation to authorised ELV facilities (ATFs) with an emphasis on traceability requirements (SI 320 of 2014)	11	1	11	
6.1.15	Other routine inspections (not included in above numbers) - please specify	24	0.35	8.4	
	Subtotal Routine Waste Inspections	787		185.85	
6.2	Non-Routine Waste Inspections				
6.2.1	Investigative inspections of fly tipping or illegal dumping, excluding unauthorised C&D, ELVs & Tyres	25	0.35	8.75	
6.2.2	Investigative Inspections in relation to unauthorised C&D sites (sites with no permit)	10	0.5	5	
6.2.3	Investigative Inspections in relation to unauthorised ELV sites and suspected sites of origin as notified by the NTFSO (sites with no permit)	5	0.5	2.5	
6.2.4	Investigative Inspections in relation to unauthorised Tyre dumps (no permit in place)	2	0.35	0.7	
6.2.5	Inspections in relation to unauthorised waste collectors (collectors with no permit), e.g. MAN IN VAN, scrap collection, unauthorised C&D collection, etc.	3	2	6	
6.2.6	Inspections in relation to other Unauthorised Waste sites excluding those mentioned above - incl. crashed vehicle inspections, PTUs, etc.	2	0.5	1	
6.2.7	Inspections in relation to Waste Facility Permits continuing to operate after their permit has expired	2	0.35	0.7	
6.2.8	Inspections in relation to extractive industries	2	1	2	
6.2.9	Household Waste/waste presentation Inspections arising from complaints, including backyard burning	30	0.35	10.5	
6.2.10	Inspections of sites notified under Article 27	4	0.5	2	
6.2.11	Other non-routine inspections (not included in above numbers)	5	0.3	1.5	

	Inspection Types	Planned Inspections for Year	Estimate time per inspection & write up (days)	No. of Inspections Days for this Inspection Type	Local Authority Comments for Planned Inspections for the Year Ahead
	Subtotal Non-routine Waste Inspections	90		40.65	
6.3	Litter Patrols/Investigations				
6.3.1	Litter Patrols/Investigations	750	0.35	262.5	
6.3.2	Litter pollution Monitoring surveys	104	0.35	36.4	
6.3.3	Litter pollution quantification surveys	40	0.5	20	
6.3.4	Visits in relation to Green Schools programme	10	0.5	5	
6.3.5	Providing support to community groups during litter clean ups	80	0.3	24	
6.3.6	Judging Tidy Towns/Villages competitions	40	0.35	14	
6.3.7	Other routine litter patrols/investigations (not included in above numbers)	0	0	0	
	Subtotal Routine Litter Patrols/Investigations	1024		361.9	
Water/Wastewater					
6.4	Routine Water/Wastewater Inspections				
6.4.1	Discharges licenses to waters (Section 4)	16	0.3	4.8	
6.4.2	Audits of private water supplies	15	0.5	7.5	
6.4.3	Monitoring samples from private water supplies	114	0.3	34.2	
6.4.4	Farm Inspections under GAP Regulations conducted by Local Authority (not including farm inspections by DAFM)	7	1	7	
6.4.5	Farm Inspections conducted by DAFM	0	0	0	
6.4.6	Farm Inspections Other e.g. routine farm inspection but not GAP inspection	40	0.5	20	
6.4.7	Monitoring programmes, Operational and Surveillance samples taken	0	0	0	
6.4.8	No. of days of locally lead investigative assessments (including SSRS, sampling, river walks, etc.)	6	1	6	
6.4.9	WFD investigative monitoring samples and analysis by Local Authorities.	250	0.1	25	
6.4.10	No of days of engagement with LAWPRO and Communities Programme	4	1	4	
6.4.11	Bathing Waters	10	0.3	3	

	Inspection Types	Planned Inspections for Year	Estimate time per inspection & write up (days)	No. of Inspections Days for this Inspection Type	Local Authority Comments for Planned Inspections for the Year Ahead
6.4.12	DWWTS inspections under National Inspection Plan	15	1.5	22.5	
6.4.13	DWWTS Engagement Activities	15	0.5	7.5	
6.4.14	DWWTS inspections of referrals from LAWPRO	0	0	0	
6.4.15	Other Surface & Groundwater Protection Inspections [e.g. drinking water source protection, zone of contribution monitoring, etc]	20	0.5	10	
6.4.16	Misconnection Surveys	4	2	8	
	Subtotal Routine Water/Wastewater Inspections	516		159.5	
6.5	Non-Routine Water/Wastewater Inspections				
6.5.1	Inspections relating to water pollution incidents/complaints, excluding non-routine farm inspections.	5	0.5	2.5	
6.5.2	Non-routine farm inspections, e.g. on foot of pollution incident or complaint.	5	0.5	2.5	
6.5.3	Unauthorised Discharges Investigated	5	0.5	2.5	
6.5.4	Inspections in relation to Water Pollution Licence applications	1	0.5	0.5	
	Subtotal non-routine Water/Wastewater Inspections	16		8	
Air/Noise Inspections					
6.6	Routine Air/Noise Inspections				
6.6.1	Inspections of Air Pollution Licenced sites	4	1	4	
6.6.2	Total number of inspections carried out under the solid fuel regulations (S.I. 326 of 2012 and as amended).	25	0.5	12.5	
6.6.3	Number of multi-agency inspections carried out under the solid fuel regulations (S.I. 326 of 2012 and as amended), e.g. in conjunction with other local authorities, EPA, DCCAE, etc.	0	0.5	0	
6.6.4	Number of days involved in the carrying out of inspections under the solid fuel regulations (SI 326 of 2012 and as amended) i.e. 6.6.2, 6.6.3 and 6.6.5	8.75 *not included in total	1	8.75	
6.6.5	Total number of fuel samples collected and analysed	0	0	0	

	Inspection Types	Planned Inspections for Year	Estimate time per inspection & write up (days)	No. of Inspections Days for this Inspection Type	Local Authority Comments for Planned Inspections for the Year Ahead
6.6.6	Inspections of sites under 2012 Deco Paints Regulations (S.I. 564 of 2012) – Vehicle Refinishers	13	0.5	6.5	
6.6.7	Inspections of sites under 2012 Solvents Regulations (S.I. 565 of 2012) –e.g. Dry cleaners, surface cleaning etc.	5	0.4	2	
6.6.8	Inspections of sites under Petroleum Vapours Regulations	25	0.35	8.75	
6.6.9	Ambient Air Monitoring Programme inspections	4	0.5	2	
6.6.10	Other routine air/noise inspections	0	0	0	
	Subtotal Routine Air/Noise Inspections	76		32	
6.7	Non-Routine Air/Noise Inspections				
6.7.1	Incident/complaint related inspections	5	0.5	2.5	
	Subtotal Non-Routine Air/Noise Inspections	5		2.5	
6.8	Producer Responsibility Inspections (Routine)				
6.8.1	WEEE Inspections	8	0.3	2.4	
6.8.2	Battery Inspections	8	0.3	2.4	
6.8.3	Inspections on suspected vehicle importers (ELV Regulations 2016)	4	0.5	2	
6.8.4	Farm Plastics	4	0.5	2	
6.8.5	Plastic Bag Levy	5	0.2	1	
6.8.6	Inspections under the Packaging regulations – Suspected Major Producers	5	1	5	
6.8.7	Inspections under the Packaging regulations – Registered Self-compliers	0	0	0	
6.8.8	Inspections under the Tyre Regulations – Tyre Retailers	41	0.35	14.35	
	Subtotal (Routine) Producer Responsibility Inspections	75		29.15	
6.9	Planning (Environmental) Inspections (Routine)				
6.9.1	Inspections (environmental) of existing planning permissions	5	1	5	
6.9.2	Inspections (environmental) in advance of grant/refusal of planning permission	500	0.5	250	

	Inspection Types	Planned Inspections for Year	Estimate time per inspection & write up (days)	No. of Inspections Days for this Inspection Type	Local Authority Comments for Planned Inspections for the Year Ahead
6.9.3	Quarry Inspections (e.g. relating to noise, dust, surface/groundwater emissions, vibration etc.)	3	1	3	
6.9.4	Other planning inspections relating to environmental issues	10	0.5	5	
Subtotal Planning Inspections (Routine)		518		263	
Total Routine Inspections end of year		2996		1031.4	
Total Non-Routine Inspections end of year		111		51.15	
Total Inspections end of year		3107		1082.55	

Appendix C Suggested plan implementation review template

RMCEI/Enforcement Plan Implementation Review Report

Meeting Date:

Meeting Time:

Attendees:

Name	Title

Reason for the Meeting:

Monthly Implementation Review:	
Quarterly Implementation Review:	
Other Reasons:	

Important Notes/Actions from Previous Meeting:

Table A – Progress Against Priorities

National Priority:			
Areas Requiring Review for this Priority - for example:	Progress to Date	Further Work Required	Responsibility Assigned
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For authorised sites- compliance rates; • Site selection methodology, and/or early interventions; • Detection of non-compliances/follow up; • Progress in the NEP shown; • Positive environmental outcomes – not just inspections targets; • Collaborative work with WERLA, LAWPRO, EPA, Catchment Care Projects; • Data analysis/sharing for enforcement targeting – and other activities as described in Table 1 of the Guidance. 			

Table B – Progress Against Inspection Targets

Inspection Plan Review				
	Areas	Progress to Date	Further Work Required	Responsibility Assigned
1				
2				
3				