



Comhairle Cathrach na Gaillimhe
Galway City 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:

Galway City Council's Inspection & Compliance Plan under RMCEI 2022 is a comprehensive and ambitious document that sets out the plan for environmental inspections in Galway City for 2022. The plan allows Galway City Council to identify and prioritise environmental enforcement activities for the year ahead and is an important aid in documenting and supporting the Council's efforts in environmental protection and climate action.

An important element of the plan is collaborative action and this is welcomed. A multi-agency approach will not only strengthen the Council's enforcement efforts but will also allow for the sharing of knowledge, the fostering of productive working relationships and capacity building within the sector.

I offer the continued support of management in Galway City Council to the implementation of the Inspection & Compliance Plan under RMCEI 2022.

Acknowledgments:

I would like to acknowledge all staff that are involved in the formulation and the implementation of this plan. Strong and consistent environmental enforcement is essential in protecting Galway City's environment and I would like to commend all staff working in this area for their commitment and dedication to their roles.

Approved by Director of Services

Patrick Greene

**Director of Services, Transport, Climate Action & Environment, Recreation & Amenity
and Water Services**

Date: 28th 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

ADI – Anti-Dumping Initiative

AER – Annual Environmental Report

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

CUWERLA – Connaught Ulster Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authority

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.

EAO – Environmental Awareness Officer

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

GCC – Galway City Council

LANSTAG – Local Authority Services National Training Group

LAWPRO – Local Authority Waters Programme

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

NEP – National Enforcement Priority

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

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

RMO – Road Management Office

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

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

This document sets out the plan for environmental inspections for Galway City Council within its functional area for the period **1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022**. The overall objective of the plan is to identify and prioritise Galway City Council's enforcement activities for 2022 so that the Council can effectively and efficiently comply with its obligations under all environmental legislation. The National Enforcement Priorities (NEPs) for waste, water, air and noise, as well as local priorities, have been taken into consideration in the formulation of the plan.

The responsibility for environmental inspections rests with a number of sections within Galway City Council under the Transport, Climate Action & Environment, Recreation & Amenity and Water Services Directorate. Internal procedures have been established to track, monitor and support implementation of the plan and progress will be reported to the Director of Services at regular intervals.

This document may be reviewed and updated, as necessary, throughout the year, having regard to work opportunities and challenges that may present themselves during 2022, as well as the financial circumstances and staffing allocation of Galway City Council.

1.1 Plan details

Table 1: Plan Details

Geographic Area	Galway City
Population	79,934 (Census 2016)
Calendar Year	2022
RMCEI Coordinator Name and Position	Sharon Carroll Executive Scientist

1.2 Expected known once-off challenges that may be faced in implementation of this plan

A number of challenges have been identified which may impede progress in the implementation of the RMCEI Plan for Galway City in 2022. For each of these challenges, the Council has considered how they may be addressed to ensure effective and efficient service delivery. Further details are provided in Table 2, below.

Table 2: Expected known once-off challenges that may be faced in implementation of RMCEI Plan 2022 & how these will be addressed

Description of known challenge and outline of how these will be addressed
1. Covid 19: Covid 19 remains a challenge for 2022 and, although it appears that we are nearing the end of the pandemic, there remains a level of uncertainty and anxiety about the future. In addition, legacy issues remain as households and businesses try to recover from the last two years. This challenge will be addressed through regular reviews and risk assessment, as was carried out in 2020 and 2021, to ensure that the maximum number of inspections can be carried out in a safe and appropriate manner.
2. Staff Resources: Staff resources and staff retention are challenges for Galway City Council, with a number of staff leaving to take up new positions in 2021. With staff moves, there can often be a loss of knowledge and new staff require time and training

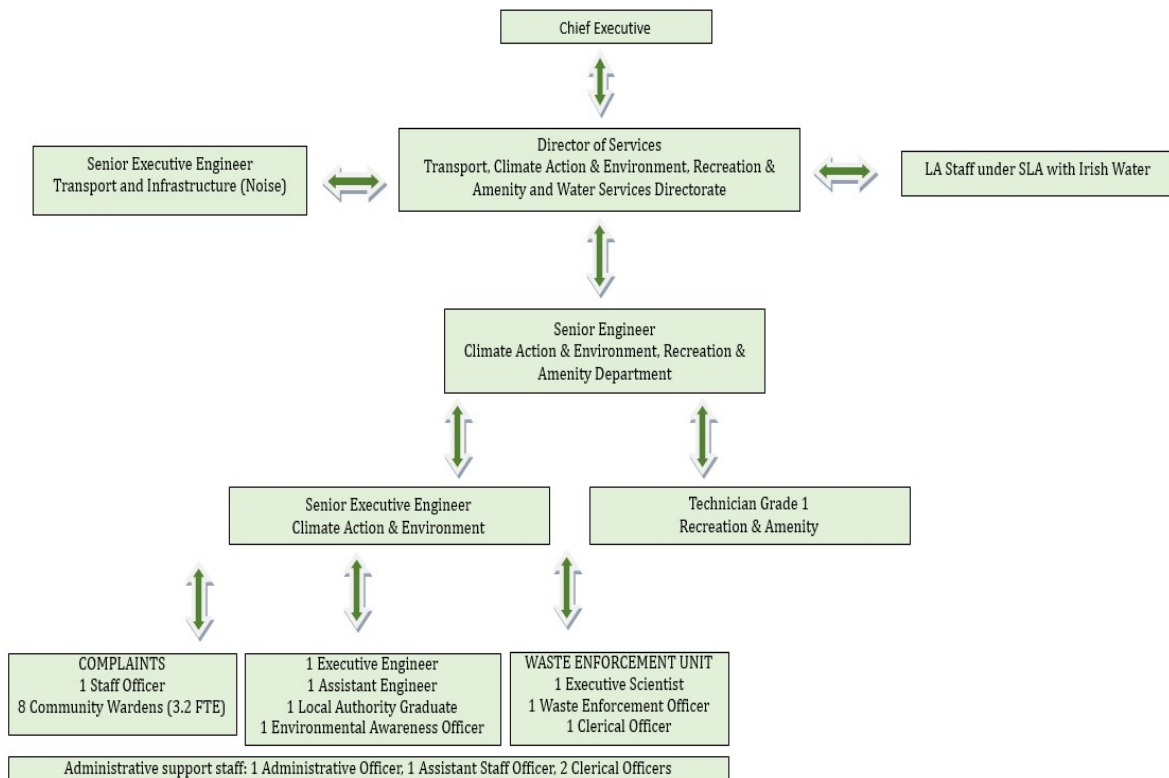
to effectively fulfil their role. This challenge will be addressed through robust procedures relating to record retention, handover of work tasks and staff training.

3. **Increasing work demands:** The environmental sector is a busy one and it is anticipated that there will be additional demands on local authority staff in 2022, relating to new legislation (such as the Circular Economy Bill), new plans (such as the National Waste Management Plan and the River Basin Management Plan), new schemes (such as Single Use Plastics and Deposit Return Schemes) and emerging work programmes relating to climate action. This challenge will be addressed through team planning and regular reviews. The Council will ensure that a level of flexibility and responsiveness exists within its work plans to deal with additional tasks and unexpected events.

1.3 Staff Structure

Figure 1 sets out the staff structure within Galway City Council's Transport, Climate Action & Environment, Recreation & Amenity and Water Services Directorate for staff involved in the implementation of this Plan. The main responsibility for managing and co-ordinating the plan, including continual monitoring throughout the year, rests with the Environment Department.

Figure 1: Council Organogram



2. Priorities for Environmental Enforcement for the Year Ahead

2.1 National Environmental Enforcement Priorities for the Year Ahead

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	Water			
1.1	Pressures from agriculture (slurry/soiled water collection and storage)		No	Galway City Council is an urban local authority and work relating to farms and agriculture is limited. For this reason, a priority template has not been submitted for NEP 1.1 or NEP 1.2. However, Galway City Council will dedicate resources to pressures from agriculture, if required, during the year, for example, if pollution incidents occur or environmental protection issues arise.
1.2	Pressures from agriculture (slurry and fertiliser spreading)		No	There is one farm in the immediate vicinity of Silverstrand Beach, which is a blue flag beach, and Galway City Council engage with this farmer regarding protection of bathing water quality.
1.3	DWWTS/Septic tanks	Yes		
1.4	Discharge licences and misconnections	Yes		
1.5	Local priorities and water quality monitoring	Yes		
2.0	Air			
2.1	Solid fuel	Yes		
2.2	Air quality monitoring and data use	Yes		
2.3	Environmental Noise Directive (END)	Yes		
2.4	Air and noise control (including planning)	Yes		
2.5	Ongoing air and noise enforcement work	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	
3.0	Waste			
3.1	Tackling illegal waste activities and multi-agency sites of concern	Yes		
3.2	Construction and demolition waste	Yes		
3.3	ELV and metals	Yes		
3.4	Household and commercial waste	Yes		
3.5	Producer responsibility initiatives and local priorities	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?		No	For 2022, Galway City Council's local priorities align with the National Priorities.

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 ro LAWPRO (including LAWCO)</p>	<p>Galway City Council will work with a range of stakeholders in 2022 and this has been captured in the National Priority Templates in Appendix A.</p>

3. Risk Assessment

All regulated installations located within the functional area of Galway City Council have been classified on the basis of environmental risk and compliance history. The classifications are based on the following criteria:

	Environment Section	Water Services Section
Category A	Large facilities with significant associated environmental risks (e.g. larger waste facility permits) or those with poor compliance history. These facilities will be visited 4 times per year.	Large installations with significant associated environmental risks or those which exceeded Trade Effluent Discharge Licence conditions. Also includes licensees with discharge to waters. These facilities will be visited 1 time per year.
Category B	Medium sized facilities with lesser risk of environmental pollution. These facilities will be visited 2 times per year.	Medium sized installations with lesser risk of environmental pollution.
Category C	Small facilities (e.g. Certs of Registration and some waste facility permits) with good compliance record. These facilities will be visited 1 time per year.	Small installations with good compliance record.

Please note:

- New Waste Facility Permits/Certificates of Registration granted during 2022 will be added to the existing list of Waste Facility Permits/Certificates of Registration and appropriate inspection frequencies will be set for them.
- Two existing Waste Facility Permits will expire in 2022 and it is anticipated that applications for Waste Facility Permit review will be submitted to Galway City Council for consideration.
- A licence is required from Irish Water for any trade effluent or other matter (other than domestic sewage or storm water) discharged to a sewer controlled by Irish Water.

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 Permit	3		1	2		2	2	4	Waste Facility Permit routine inspections
Certificate of Registration	1			1			1	1	Certificate of Registration routine inspection
Total No. Of Inspections Planned								5	

¹ Unless directed otherwise

4. Resource Assessment for the Year Ahead

4.1 Review of the Achievement of the Previous Years Inspection Targets

In 2021, Galway City Council continued to carry out investigations, inspections, monitoring and enforcement actions with the aim of protecting and improving the city's environment in line with national priorities.

In relation to routine inspections, Galway City Council met its targets with respect to waste, water and air and, in some cases, the targets were far exceeded. This was due to a number of factors, including the recruitment of an additional staff member in March (Executive Scientist) which allowed for additional inspections, the carrying out of joint inspections with NTFSO (6.1.2), EPA (6.8.1) and Galway County Council (6.1.5) which were not planned for at the beginning of the year and increasing construction activity in the city.

For litter patrols, staff resources within the Community Wardens team was a challenge due to staff leave and, also, the additional workload brought about by outdoor dining during the summer months. Of course, Covid restrictions also posed a challenge, in particular where indoor or household inspections were required. Desktop, remote and outdoor inspections, along with self-declaration forms, were used to ensure work continued, despite the restrictions. This became less of an issue towards the end of the year, when door-to-door visits and indoor inspections resumed. However, legacy issues may remain for some time as households and businesses try to recover from the last two years and the Council has to be mindful of those who may be struggling with life after Covid.

Overall, community engagement and direct contact with households and businesses was hampered by Covid restrictions in 2021 and this affected how Galway City Council interacted with its citizens. Work tasks, such as community workshops and awareness campaigns, were particularly affected. Galway City Council is looking forward to increasing its activities in this regard in 2022 and taking a proactive approach to promoting best environmental practice and compliance in Galway City.

The number of complaints received in 2021 was less than that in 2022 and this accounts for the reduction in non-routine inspections this year. However, all complaints received were investigated and resolved to a satisfactory level.

Galway City Council has reviewed the complaints and inspection data for 2021 and this has been taken into account when planning for the year ahead. In addition, feedback and comments from those directly involved in each type of environmental inspection has been factored into resource and inspection planning for 2022. In some cases, the length of time assigned to a type of investigation has been changed to reflect the on-the-ground experiences of the inspectors.

A review of last year's routine and non-routine inspections is provided in Table 6.

Table 6: Review of Previous Years Inspections

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 Waste Inspections	641	710		<p>The majority of the routine waste inspections for 2021 related to household waste surveys carried out as part of the Waste Bye Laws Project. This was a resource intensive exercise requiring extensive follow-up and this has been considered for 2022.</p> <p>To support a multi-agency approach to enforcement and build on collaborative work in 2021, routine inspections with other agencies are being planned for 2022.</p>
Non-Routine Waste Inspections	1605	1168	<p>Non-routine waste inspections are, generally, based on complaints received or on issues that come to the attention of waste enforcement staff through the course of their work. These inspections are, by their nature, unplanned and their quantity can only be estimated for the year ahead.</p>	<p>Galway City Council aims to investigate 100% of complaints received and this will be factored into 2022.</p> <p>There is a complaints co-ordinator in place to manage the complaints process.</p>
Routine Litter Patrols/Investigations	1738	1537		<p>The Community Wardens carry out 2-hour litter patrols for the purpose of implementing the Litter Pollution Act. In Galway City Council, there are 8 Community Wardens and they carry out a range of duties, including litter patrols. The time available for this inspection type in 2022 has been considered.</p> <p>In addition, some of the community engagement work carried out by the Environmental Awareness Officer is included here.</p>
Routine Water/Wastewater Inspections	94	109		Galway City Council will continue to monitor water

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
				<p>quality in rivers and bathing waters in the city. The routine sampling schedule for 2022 is the same as that for 2021.</p>
Non-Routine Water/Wastewater Inspections	8	7		<p>Yes, the number of complaints received and inspections carried out in previous years has been considered in planning for inspections in 2022.</p>
Routine Air/Noise Inspections	75	84		<p>Yes, consideration has been given to the work of previous years and inspections planned for 2022 is similar to that of 2021.</p>
Non-Routine Air/Noise Inspections	100	88		<p>Yes, the number of complaints received and inspections carried out in previous years has been considered in planning for inspections in 2022.</p>
Routine Producer Responsibility Inspections	24	68		<p>Given the number of inspections carried out last year in this category, the capacity of GCC to carry out these inspections has been reviewed and additional inspections are planned for 2022.</p>
Planning inspections	25	217	<p>Planning applications are forwarded to the Environment Department for comment and review. Following confirmation from the EPA that these referrals could be included in RMCEI, they were included in the 2021 data returns.</p>	<p>Yes, consideration has been given to the work of previous years, as well as local knowledge which would suggest a rise in planning referrals and inspections in 2022, including Part 8 developments where the Council's Housing Department are developing their own social housing estates.</p>

4.2 Number of Staff Days Available

Table 7 below shows the resources available to Galway City Council to undertake environmental inspections. This includes time for both routine and non-routine inspections and includes time allocated for the preparation of plans and monitoring programmes, follow up action, correspondence and reporting.

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

Department	Available Resources	Name	Focus Area for this Resource	Available days for RMCEI (both routine and non-routine)	Basis of calculating Resource Available days
Climate Action and Environment	Senior Engineer	Carmel Kilcoyne	1.5	2	Governance and management of tasks and staff not included
Climate Action and Environment	Senior Executive Engineer	Damien Redington	1.3, 2.1, 2.2	4	Governance and management of tasks and staff not included
Climate Action and Environment	Executive Engineer	Liam Goggins	3.1, 3.5	4	
Climate Action and Environment	Executive Scientist	Sharon Carroll	1.5, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5	220	Full time resource for RMCEI
Climate Action and Environment	Waste Enforcement Officer	Mary O Leary	3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5	220	Full time resource for RMCEI
Climate Action and Environment	Clerical Officer	Janet Murphy	3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5	110	
Climate Action and Environment	Environmental Awareness Officer	Tiarnan McCusker	1.5, 2.1, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5	110	
Climate Action and Environment	Assistant Engineer	Sarah Duffy	1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 2.1, 2.2, 2.4, 2.5	110	
Climate Action and Environment	Local Authority Graduate	Alan Fahy	1.5, 2.1, 2.2, 2.5	44	
Climate Action and Environment	Staff Officer	Derek Healy	1.5, 2.5, 3.1	44	Complaints co-ordinator
Environment/ Transport	Community Wardens	8 wardens, each working 0.4 FTE hours on environmental issues.	2.1, 2.5, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5	700	
Recreation & Amenity	Technician Grade 1	Susan McSharry	1.5	44	
Transport	Senior Executive Engineer	Francis McEvoy	2.3	10	
Water Services	Number of staff under SLA to Irish Water	-	1.4, 1.5	Not included as under SLA to Irish Water	
TOTAL DAYS AVAILABLE				1622*	

*1622 represents resource days available for RMCEI work. This includes work not captured in Table 8 or Appendix B. For further clarification or information, please see Section 5.3 or contact the RMCEI Co-Ordinator.

4.3 Training Requirements

The implementation of the inspection plan will require the development of certain competencies within the inspection team. The necessary competencies that have been identified as part of the preparation of this inspection plan are:

- Environmental Inspection Skills Training Course
- Safe Pass Training
- Health & Safety Training
- Courtroom Skills and/or Legal Training
- Environmental Legislation
- Waste Regulation Training
- Data Protection and GDPR Training
- Environmental Auditing Skills
- Noise Monitoring Skills
- Air/Odour Monitoring Skills
- Water Pollution Investigations Skills
- DWWTF Inspection Training

The training requirements will be captured within the relevant team plans and will be linked to individual Personal Development Plans (PDPs). In-house training and mentoring will also be used, especially when new staff join the team.

4.4 Health and Safety

All inspections shall be carried out in accordance with the requirements as set out in Galway City Council's Safety Statement. When on site, local authority staff or its representatives shall comply with the site's safety procedures. Local authority staff may, where necessary, request the assistance of the Gardai.

5. PLANNED INSPECTIONS/OTHER ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR AHEAD

5.1 Planned Routine & Non-Routine Inspections

Table 8: Summary of 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					
	Total Routine Inspections end of year	670		130.25	
	Total Non-Routine Inspections end of year	1280		312	
	Total Inspections end of year	1950		442.25	
Litter					
	Total Routine Inspections end of year	1386		307	
	Total Inspections end of year	1386		307	
Water/Wastewater					
	Total Routine Inspections end of year	154		26.25	
	Total Non-Routine Inspections end of year	9		11	
	Total Inspections end of year	163		37.25	

	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
Air/Noise Inspections					
	Total Routine Inspections end of year	65		57.5	
	Total Non-Routine Inspections end of year	100		75	
	Total Inspections end of year	165		132.5	
Producer Responsibility Inspections					
	Total Routine Inspections end of year	46		23.5	
	Total Non-Routine Inspections end of year	-		-	
	Total Inspections end of year	46		23.5	
Planning (Environmental) Inspections					
	Total Routine Inspections end of year	170		42.5	
	Total Non-Routine Inspections end of year	-		-	
	Total Inspections end of year	170		42.5	

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

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)	10	0.125	1.25
4.1.2 Waste, non C&D. Includes fly tipping and illegal dumping	36	0.25	9
4.1.3 Waste, C&D.	0	-	-
4.2 Water/Wastewater	1	0.5	0.5
4.3 Air/Odour	2	0.25	0.5
4.4 Noise	2	0.25	0.5
Outstanding Enforcement Actions			
Warning Letters	1	0.25	0.25
Section Notices	2	0.5	1
Complaints	0	0	0
Court Cases	0	0	0
Successful Section 55 prosecution not complied with	1	2	2
Total	55		15

5.3 Summary of Resource Requirements

Resources are a challenge for all local authorities and Galway City Council has, in recent years, added to the enforcement complement of staff. The Council is of the opinion that we are in a position to competently address all of the priority areas.

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)	2491	587
Total Non-Routine Inspections end of year – (obtained from completed rows A-F of Section 6 of the RMCEI Return)	1389	398
Outstanding Enforcement Action & Complaints to be Closed out – (outlined in Table 9)	55	15
Totals	3935	1000
Total Available Resources (Days) – (outlined in section 5 Table 8 of the Plan)		1622

The total time assigned to the inspection plan is 62% of total time available. This provides capacity within the team to respond to unexpected events or to deal with challenging cases that may take longer to resolve than planned. In addition, the

inspection time accounted for within this plan does not include many work tasks which have to be undertaken by environmental enforcement staff, related to enforcement. These include meetings, awareness work, financial administration, general office duties, preparation of data returns, administration and review of permit applications, preparation of the RMCEI plan and other work tasks which can take a considerable amount of time. Governance and line management duties are also not included.

Galway City Council is satisfied that the figures presented in this plan are realistic and ambitious and provide a good framework on which the Council can base its environmental enforcement activities for 2022.

6. PLAN REVIEW MECHANISMS


The plan will be reviewed throughout the year at bi-monthly departmental meetings. A review will be carried out mid-year to assess progress, to update relevant personnel and to assess whether or not priorities should be changed in line with staff changes, new legislation and policies. The review will be communicated to the Senior Management Team by the Director of Services for Transport, Climate Action & Environment, Recreation & Amenity and Water Services. Updates will also be provided to the elected members of Galway City Council through the Quarterly Report provided to Council and at SPC meetings.

Table 12: 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?	Yes	
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 PRIORITY TEMPLATES

A.1 NATIONAL PRIORITY 1.3

WATER	
National Priority 1.3: 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 250-400 words per priority area]</i>
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"> • Collaborative work with WERLA, LAWPRO, EPA, Catchment Care Projects etc. • Site selection methodology and plan for early interventions and compliance inspections • Compliance promotion & awareness raising activities • Cross organisations activities on data validation, data analysis, guidance development or multiagency investigations • Case studies • Significant enforcement actions/prosecutions and the outcomes such as remediation, sharing of lessons learnt to aid national consistency of enforcement 	<p>Galway City Council is currently awaiting publication of the National Inspection Plan 2022-2026 to determine the actions that will be taken by the Council in relation to DWWTS/septic tank inspections in 2022. A draft National Inspection Plan 2022-2026 was circulated in 2021 for public consultation. Galway City Council reviewed the document and provided feedback to the EPA. Based on the draft Plan, Galway City Council must complete a minimum of 5 inspections over the next 4 years, at least one per year. In RMCEI 2022, Galway City Council has planned for 2 inspections.</p> <p>Throughout the year, DWWTS inspections in response to complaints will be carried out, as necessary.</p> <p>Training on DWWTS inspections will be arranged as, in 2022, there will be new staff working on this priority area. As per the draft National Inspection Plan, DWWTS inspectors must complete a course hosted by the Local Authority Services National Training Group and be formally authorised to carry out the inspection.</p> <p>Galway City Council inspectors will engage with the Septic Tank Inspectors Network, as part of the Network for Ireland's Environmental Compliance and Enforcement. This platform for DWWTS Inspectors will allow Galway City Council staff working on this priority area to build capacity through meeting with colleagues in other local authorities and sharing knowledge and experiences.</p> <p>The Council will also engage with the public in relation to the operation and maintenance of DWWTS and will highlight the potential health implications of systems that are not correctly operation and maintained. Homeowners will be provided with information through the Council's website and awareness materials can be circulated through the Council's social media channels.</p> <p>In 2022, Galway City Council will continue to review planning applications submitted to the Council to ensure compliance with the EPA Code of Practice of Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems. The majority of properties in Galway City Council's functional area are connected to the mains sewerage system.</p>
Have appropriate resources being assigned to carry out the work associated with this activity <u>FOR THE YEAR AHEAD</u>?	Yes
The Final Environmental Outcome to be achieved?	Improved water status in all water bodies

A.2 NATIONAL PRIORITY 1.4

WATER	
National Priority 1.4: Discharge licences and 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 250-400 words per priority area]</i>
<p>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"> • Collaborative work with WERLA, LAWPRO, EPA, Catchment Care Projects etc. • Site selection methodology and plan for early interventions and compliance inspections • Compliance promotion & awareness raising activities • Cross organisations activities on data validation, data analysis, guidance development or multiagency investigations • Case studies • Significant enforcement actions/prosecutions and the outcomes such as remediation, sharing of lessons learnt to aid national consistency of enforcement 	<p>There are no Section 4 licences in Galway City.</p> <p>Work on this priority area will focus on unauthorised discharges and any issues identified relating to misconnections and discharges into water bodies will be monitored and non-compliances resolved. This will link in with the investigative monitoring work outlined in NEP 1.5. In addition, non-compliances or complaints relating to EPA licenced outfalls in the City will be investigated.</p> <p>Irish Water carry out misconnection studies across Galway City. Galway City Council will liaise with Irish Water and assist as required, in particular, if the misconnections studies are expanded in 2022.</p> <p>Over the next 3 years, and in line with the more long-term national enforcement priorities 2022-2024, Galway City Council plans to build upon works carried out previously to identify and correct misconnections to surface water drainage systems in the Ballyloughane outfall catchment area. Where necessary, remedial works will be carried out and misconnections of foul water will be redirected to the foul sewer. Following similar works previously, the bathing water quality at Ballyloughane Beach improved from poor to sufficient. However, the beach remains vulnerable to storm water pollution, especially after heavy rainfall, and the Council wishes to extend the misconnection survey further in order to protect bathing water quality in the area. The Council also intends to work with the Marine Institute on modelling exercises to follow the path of pollutants in Galway Bay following pollution events.</p>
Have appropriate resources being assigned to carry out the work associated with this activity <u>FOR THE YEAR AHEAD</u>?	Yes
The Final Environmental Outcome to be achieved?	Improved water status in all water bodies


A.3 NATIONAL PRIORITY 1.5

WATER	
National Priority 1.5: 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 250-400 words per priority area]</i>
<p>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"> • Collaborative work with WERLA, LAWPRO, EPA, Catchment Care Projects etc. • Site selection methodology and plan for early interventions and compliance inspections • Compliance promotion & awareness raising activities • Cross organisations activities on data validation, data analysis, guidance development or multiagency investigations • Case studies • Significant enforcement actions/prosecutions and the outcomes such as remediation, sharing of lessons learnt to aid national consistency of enforcement 	<p>Galway City has an extensive network of water bodies, including canals, coastal waters and rivers, with the Corrib itself being a defining feature of the City. Protection of water quality within these water bodies is a priority for Galway City Council. The forthcoming River Basin Management Plan 2022-2027 confers upon the Council an active role in catchment planning and in protecting the water quality in defined priority areas for action. Furthermore, Galway City Council's Climate Action Strategy and the emerging City Development Plan 2023-2029 both highlight actions relating to water and water quality. Nationally, a business case has been made for the provision of additional resources for natural waters in local authorities and Galway City Council is fully supportive of this. Within the Council, it is an opportune time to reflect on the work carried out by Galway City Council in relation to natural water and how resources can best be dedicated to this area of work going forward. Galway City Council's role in the management of water bodies in Galway City will be considered by the executive and by the Environment & Climate Action Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) in 2022.</p> <p>Also in 2022, Galway City Council plans to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue its routine sampling programme on the Corrib and Terryland rivers, as part of the WFD monitoring programme. A total of 35 samples will be taken from 6 locations (Corrib River x 2, Terryland River x 4) and the results will be submitted to the EPA. - Engage fully with the 3rd cycle of the River Basin Management Plan, which will see Priority Areas for Action in Galway City for the first time and an additional water body (Barna/Knocknacarra River) added to the routine sampling regime. - Support and promote implementation of the River Basin Management Plan 2022-2027, including engagement with stakeholders, participation in the public consultation phase and raising awareness of the plan. Galway City Council will participate in the preparation of the Corrib Catchment Plan. - Carry out investigative sampling, where necessary, in response to water pollution and unauthorised discharge complaints. - Fully investigate and take all necessary enforcement action to resolve water pollution incidents. - Engage with LAWPRO through attendance at Regional Operational Meetings, meetings with the Community Officer and participation in local initiatives. - Launch 'Think Before You Flush' and 'Think Before You Pour' educational campaigns, in conjunction with Irish Water, An Taisce and LAWPRO, through the Environmental Awareness Officer. Initially, the campaigns will be rolled out with businesses in Galway City's West End as part of a Waste Prevention Project funded through the Local Authority Prevention Network (LAPN). - Continue monitoring of bathing water quality on the city's four designated bathing waters – Salthill, Grattan, Silverstrand and Ballyloughane. - Develop and manage education campaigns and events relating to the city's beaches, including community clean-ups. This work will build on the success of last year's Love Your Beach Week which was nominated for an All Ireland Community & Council Awards in 2021. - Promote the integration of nature based solutions in all new developments through engagement with the Housing and Planning Departments. For example, regular meetings will be held with Galway City Council's Architect's Office to plan for Part VIII social housing developments and to ensure early input by the Environment Team into the planning process. - Address any climate-related water inspection issues, such as issues arising due to extreme weather events.
Have appropriate resources being assigned to carry out the work associated with this activity <u>FOR THE YEAR AHEAD</u>?	Yes
The Final Environmental Outcome to be achieved?	Improved water status in all water bodies


A.4 NATIONAL PRIORITY 2.1

AIR	
National Priority 2.1: 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 250-400 words per priority area]</i>
<p>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"> • Collaborative work with WERLA, LAWPRO, EPA, Catchment Care Projects etc. • Site selection methodology and plan for early interventions and compliance inspections • Compliance promotion & awareness raising activities • Cross organisations activities on data validation, data analysis, guidance development or multiagency investigations • Case studies • Significant enforcement actions/prosecutions and the outcomes such as remediation, sharing of lessons learnt to aid national consistency of enforcement 	<p>Galway City is a specified ‘Low Smoke Zone’ and the Council actively works to promote compliance with the Solid Fuel Regulations.</p> <p>In 2022, Galway City Council plans to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Raise awareness of the low smoke zones and smokeless fuel by undertaking an awareness campaign in the local media and through Galway City Council’s social media channels targeting households. As well as highlighting the legal obligations, Galway City Council will actively promote compliance by increasing the awareness of how the choices people make in heating their homes impacts on their air quality and their health. - Carry out inspections of specified fuel merchants and retailers. Galway City Council maintains a list of known fuel retailers in the city and 30 retailers will be chosen in 2022 for inspection. 15 inspections will be carried out in Q1 and 15 inspections will be carried out in Q4. The retailers will be chosen to ensure a geographical spread across the city and all retailers will be inspected at least once every two years. These inspections give the community wardens, who carry out the inspections, an opportunity to engage with shop owners and retailers and help raise awareness of low smoke zones. - Review the Solid Fuel Retailer List with a view to including solid-fuel merchants not currently known to the Council and who are using social media platforms to market solid fuels. Local knowledge will also be used to gather information on solid fuel merchants. - Investigate the potential for multi-agency inspections relating to solid fuel and roadside checkpoints. This will allow for the targeting of unauthorised retailers and mobile deliveries. Galway City Council will participate in multi-agency checkpoints with other agencies, when requested to do so. - Investigate fully all complaints relating to the burning of smoky coal. These investigations provide an opportunity for the community wardens to engage with households in an area and raise awareness of low smoke zones. If a complaint is received relating to the burning of smoky coal in a housing estate, all households in the estate can be contacted and provided with information. - Carry out sampling and testing 5 samples of coal for sulphur content. - Over the next 3 years, and in line with the more long-term national enforcement priorities 2022-2024, the Environment Department intends to work with the Housing Department of Galway City Council in relation to the Council’s own housing stock and how they are heated. The Environment Department will input into emerging housing strategies and, also, ensure that the Housing Department are meeting the targets set in Galway City Council’s Climate Action Plan. - Build capacity amongst local authority staff by participating in the Solid Fuels Regulations Network and in all other new networking groups related to air quality and enforcement.
Have appropriate resources being assigned to carry out the work associated with this activity <u>FOR THE YEAR AHEAD</u>?	Yes
The Final Environmental Outcome to be achieved?	Protecting public health and improving air quality


A.5 NATIONAL PRIORITY 2.2

AIR	
National Priority 2.2: Air Quality Monitoring and Data Use	
	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 250-400 words per priority area]</i>
<p>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"> • Collaborative work with WERLA, LAWPRO, EPA, Catchment Care Projects etc. • Site selection methodology and plan for early interventions and compliance inspections • Compliance promotion & awareness raising activities • Cross organisations activities on data validation, data analysis, guidance development or multiagency investigations • Case studies • Significant enforcement actions/prosecutions and the outcomes such as remediation, sharing of lessons learnt to aid national consistency of enforcement 	<p>Galway City Council will work with the EPA in 2022 to measure monthly levels of NO₂ air pollutant at 10 locations in Galway City using NO₂ Diffusion Tubes.</p> <p>In addition, Galway City Council will continue to work with the EPA on the extension of the National Ambient Air Monitoring Network in Galway City and the determination of viable locations for air quality monitoring stations in the City. One automated air monitor was installed at Eyre Square, an Urban Traffic Site, in November 2021 and it is planned to install a second monitor at Briarhill in 2022. The Briarhill site, which is a Suburban Traffic Site, was identified last year but a number of issues (including parking for service personnel, crash barrier, working width of crash barrier and having enough space to place unit behind it, supplying power and the civil works that would be required) hampered final site selection. Galway City Council will work with the EPA in 2022 to troubleshoot these issues, including meetings on site where necessary.</p> <p>These two traffic sites will measure PM10 and NO₂ in real time and the data will be made available to the public. The air quality station on Eyre Square was commissioned in January 2022. Automatic, provisional results are available for nitrogen dioxide on airquality.ie. There is a link to this data on Galway City Council's website www.galwaycity.ie.</p> <p>Galway City Council will support the maintenance of the Ragoon Road Air Monitoring Station and facilitate the Public Analyst Laboratory Galway in taking the collection of daily PM10 gravimetric samples at the station. This monitoring station is based in the spatial area selected by Galway City Council as its Decarbonisation Zone and, in the future, can be used to determine improvements (or otherwise) in air quality as a result of climate mitigation and adaptation measures in the area.</p> <p>In relation to air pollution, Galway City Council will review the City's ambient air monitoring results against the compliance levels and will use the data obtained to promote awareness of air pollution. This enforcement priority is closely linked to Galway City Council's sustainable transport objectives and, also, the Council's climate action objectives and a multi-agency approach will be considered in highlighting the importance of good, clean air.</p> <p>In 2022, the Council will investigate the possibility of collaborating with schools and colleges in Galway City on air quality monitoring and data use.</p>
Have appropriate resources being assigned to carry out the work associated with this activity <u>FOR THE YEAR AHEAD</u> ?	Yes
The Final Environmental Outcome to be achieved?	Protecting human health and improve air quality


A.6 NATIONAL PRIORITY 2.3

AIR	
National Priority 2.3: Environmental Noise Directive (END)	
	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 250-400 words per priority area]</i>
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"> • Collaborative work with WERLA, LAWPRO, EPA, Catchment Care Projects etc. • Site selection methodology and plan for early interventions and compliance inspections • Compliance promotion & awareness raising activities • Cross organisations activities on data validation, data analysis, guidance development or multiagency investigations • Case studies • Significant enforcement actions/prosecutions and the outcomes such as remediation, sharing of lessons learnt to aid national consistency of enforcement 	In 2022, Galway City Council plans to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Submit an annual report to the EPA detailing all actions taken in the previous 12 months under the Galway City Noise Action Plan 2019-2023. - Participate in the annual EPA Local Authority Noise Workshop. - Participate in the centralised approach for the Round 4 Strategic Noise Mapping of non-national roads and provide data, as requested, on traffic flow or road infrastructure to RMO. - Carry out assessments and noise monitoring at 7 locations in Galway City following their identification through modelling (a decision support matrix) as major non-national roads where noise levels may be exceeded. - Continue to implement the actions outlined in the Galway City Noise Plan 2019-2023 including the identification of appropriate mitigation measures for specific locations for which corrective measures are required. - Progress the implementation of the proposals set out in the Galway Transport Strategy and the Galway City Centre Transport Management Plan.
Have appropriate resources being assigned to carry out the work associated with this activity <u>FOR THE YEAR AHEAD</u>?	Yes
The Final Environmental Outcome to be achieved?	To avoid, prevent or reduce on a prioritised basis the harmful effects, including annoyance, due to exposure to environmental noise in the interests of residential amenity and public health

A.7 NATIONAL PRIORITY 2.4

National Priority 2.4: 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 250-400 words per priority area]</i>
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"> • Collaborative work with WERLA, LAWPRO, EPA, Catchment Care Projects etc. • Site selection methodology and plan for early interventions and compliance inspections • Compliance promotion & awareness raising activities • Cross organisations activities on data validation, data analysis, guidance development or multiagency investigations • Case studies • Significant enforcement actions/prosecutions and the outcomes such as remediation, sharing of lessons learnt to aid national consistency of enforcement 	<p>Galway City Council will address air and noise control, as requested by the Planning Department.</p> <p>Procedures are in place to ensure that all relevant planning applications are referred to the Environment Department. In cases where there are air and noise considerations, environment staff assess the environmental impacts and liaise with planning staff on appropriate air and noise controls.</p>
Have appropriate resources being assigned to carry out the work associated with this activity <u>FOR THE YEAR AHEAD</u>?	Yes
The Final Environmental Outcome to be achieved?	Protecting human health, improving air quality and avoiding & preventing exposure to the harmful effects of noise

A.8 NATIONAL PRIORITY 2.5

AIR	
National Priority 2.5: On-going air and noise enforcement work	
	Activities
Looking forward to the year ahead 	<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.</p> <p><i>[Guideline of 250-400 words per priority area]</i></p>
<p>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"> • Collaborative work with WERLA, LAWPRO, EPA, Catchment Care Projects etc. • Site selection methodology and plan for early interventions and compliance inspections • Compliance promotion & awareness raising activities • Cross organisations activities on data validation, data analysis, guidance development or multiagency investigations • Case studies • Significant enforcement actions/prosecutions and the outcomes such as remediation, sharing of lessons learnt to aid national consistency of enforcement 	<p>Promoting compliance with the relevant legislation is a key aspect of Galway City Council's RMCEI plan.</p> <p>In relation to air enforcement work:</p> <p><u>Petroleum Vapour Regulations</u> Galway City Council maintains a register of service stations selling petrol for the purposes of the Petroleum Vapour Regulations. There are currently 13 compliant service stations with Certificates of Testing issued under the Petroleum Vapour Regulations 1997. However, there are more than 13 service stations operating in the City and Galway City Council is aware of 5 service stations not currently on the register.</p> <p><u>Solvents Regulations</u> Galway City Council maintains a register of dry cleaners and, at year end 2021, there were 2 registered dry cleaners. 2 inspections were carried out in 2021 and the operators were found to be non-compliant. Warning letters have issued and the follow-up action will take place in 2022. Additionally, there may be other dry cleaners operating in the City that Galway City Council's Environment Department is unaware of.</p> <p><u>Deco-paints – Vehicle Refinishers</u> There is currently 1 vehicle refinisher registered with Galway City Council. However, it is suspected that there are non-compliant operators offering the service of vehicle refinishing in the City.</p> <p>In 2022,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The focus will initially be on gathering information and compiling accurate lists of businesses and retailers involved in activities which may impact on air quality. - Awareness campaigns will be undertaken in the local media and through Galway City Council's social media channels to highlight the legal requirements for businesses in relation to petroleum vapours, solvents and deco-paints. Information will be made available online including, for example, the EPA Vehicle Refinishers video. - Suspected premises will be inspected and any non-compliance followed up with warning letters and the appropriate enforcement action, if required. - The target under this NEP 2022-2024 is 100% compliance. - Galway City Council staff will require training to assist them in carrying out these inspections. - Galway City Council will build capacity through engaging, collaborating and sharing with colleagues in other Local Authorities via networks, working groups, conferences, workshops and training events. <p>Throughout the year, all noise and air complaints will be investigated fully and non-compliances or incidences of pollution will be followed up, as appropriate, through education & awareness, informal warnings, formal warnings, notices and enforcement action.</p>
Have appropriate resources being assigned to carry out the work associated with this activity <u>FOR THE YEAR AHEAD</u> ?	Yes
The Final Environmental Outcome to be achieved?	Protecting human health, improving air quality and avoiding & preventing exposure to the harmful effects of noise

A.9 NATIONAL PRIORITY 3.1

WASTE	
National Priority 3.1: Tackling illegal waste activities and multi-agency 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 250-400 words per priority area]</i>
<p>Describe the work to be carried out to address this National/Additional Local priority FOR THE YEAR AHEAD – including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborative work with WERLA, LAWPRO, EPA, Catchment Care Projects etc. • Site selection methodology and plan for early interventions and compliance inspections • Compliance promotion & awareness raising activities • Cross organisations activities on data validation, data analysis, guidance development or multiagency investigations • Case studies • Significant enforcement actions/prosecutions and the outcomes such as remediation, sharing of lessons learnt to aid national consistency of enforcement 	<p>In 2022, the Environment Department of Galway City Council will continue its efforts to tackle illegal waste activity in the City. Work planned for the year ahead includes:</p> <p>Waste Enforcement Policy: Galway City Council will review its Enforcement Policy on Illegal Waste Activity in 2022. The policy will provide a framework that Galway City Council will use in acting against unauthorised waste activity and will allow for a systematic and consistent approach to enforcement. Key areas of focus will be communication with stakeholders and the adoption of a multi-agency approach. The policy will also look at data protection, GDPR and the sharing of information between agencies and Council departments.</p> <p>Anti-Dumping Initiative (ADI). Galway City Council will fully participate in the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications Anti-Dumping Initiative, if and when it is announced. This includes submission of project ideas with costings, management and implementation of the projects during the year and submission of claim documents following completion of the projects. ADI provides an excellent opportunity for Galway City Council to raise awareness of illegal waste activity in the City and the ADI projects will include elements of community engagement, education and awareness. The Anti-Dumping Toolkit material hosted on mywaste.ie will be used. Galway City Council will consider the expansion of successful ADI projects from last year, including Greening the Laneways, a community-based project where enhancement works (including planting & painting) took place in a laneway that had been a litter and graffiti hotspot.</p> <p>Multi-agency approach: To strengthen Galway City Council's efforts in tackling illegal waste activity, the Environment Department will work with a number of agencies, including CUWERLA, Revenue, An Garda Síochána, Galway County Council, Galway City Council's Housing Department and Galway Traveller Movement. Points of contact have been established in each of these organisations and, throughout the year, targeted inspections, checkpoints and joint enforcement work will be planned. For example, bi-monthly meetings have been scheduled with Galway County Council and with Galway City Council's Housing Department. Joint inspections are proposed for 2022. A site visit to Traveller-specific accommodation has been arranged with Galway Traveller Movement and the Council is working closely with the Community Garda team in relation to on-the-ground issues in certain parts of the city. The Council will fully participate in WERLA operations, as requested. The Council will also participate in WERLA network meetings and relevant seminars and training to build capacity and to share knowledge and experience.</p> <p>Waste Bye Laws: All households in Galway City must have a waste collection service or bring their waste directly to an authorised waste facility. It is planned to survey 600 households this year to request information on what they do with their household waste. The households will be selected based on geography, litter/waste complaints received and links to other environmental projects in the area. A similar number of surveys were completed last year and it is acknowledged that this is a resource intensive exercise. Although the majority of households are compliant, those that aren't require follow-up. Initially, letters will issue to all households and door-to-door visits are also planned. The on-the-ground surveys are useful for community engagement and intelligence gathering purposes. Following on from last year's work, there will be a focus this year on households who bring waste directly to a waste facility. The Council maintains a Section 34C register of households availing of a waste collection service. In 2022, the Council will also create a register of households who have declared that they bring waste directly to a waste facility. This will allow for follow-up and oversight of this cohort.</p> <p>Waste Data Flows: Central to tackling illegal waste activity is the movement of waste in and out of the City. Galway City Council will continue to monitor and enforce the conditions of waste collection permits to ensure compliance and will continue to validate annual returns and follow up on any anomalies. Although most of the waste generated in the functional area of Galway City Council leaves the City, Galway City Council will support CUWERLA and Galway County Council in their operations outside of the Council's functional area, as required.</p> <p>Unauthorised collectors: Through all of the above work programmes, the aim is to detect and close down unauthorised waste activity and unauthorised collectors. Any information obtained or intelligence gathered through waste enforcement activities, or through a planned review of online and print advertisements, will be used to compile a list of suspected unauthorised collectors and targeted inspections will be arranged. The Council will seek the</p>

	<p>assistance of the Gardaí and other agencies, as appropriate. An awareness campaign on 'Man in the Van' will be rolled out by the Environmental Awareness Officer to highlight to households the issues surrounding unauthorised waste collection.</p> <p>Multi-agency sites of interest: GCC will work to identify such sites within the city and will also work with other bodies in relation to sites outside of the city.</p> <p>Co-ordination and review of waste enforcement efforts: The above work programmes are linked to each other and, together, form Galway City Council's plan to tackle illegal waste activity in 2022. Regular review and monitoring of RMCEI will ensure that work in each of the above areas is co-ordinated, rather than being carried out in isolation, and this will allow for the greatest impact and best use of resources. For example, ADI projects will focus on sites of interest and households in the area will be targeted for household surveys. Awareness work and multi-agency checkpoints will also be aligned. Galway City Council will monitor and review litter and waste complaints/investigations to ensure that a holistic approach to waste enforcement is taken, i.e. that all available data and information is used, that patterns are identified and that duplication is avoided.</p>
<p>Have appropriate resources being assigned to carry out the work associated with this activity <u>FOR THE YEAR AHEAD?</u></p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>The Final Environmental Outcome to be achieved?</p>	<p>Protection of the environment, reduced pollution & illegal waste activity and improved waste management</p>


A.10 NATIONAL PRIORITY 3.2

WASTE	
National Priority 3.2: 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. <i>[Guideline of 250-400 words per priority area]</i>
<p>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"> • Collaborative work with WERLA, LAWPRO, EPA, Catchment Care Projects etc. • Site selection methodology and plan for early interventions and compliance inspections • Compliance promotion & awareness raising activities • Cross organisations activities on data validation, data analysis, guidance development or multiagency investigations • Case studies • Significant enforcement actions/prosecutions and the outcomes such as remediation, sharing of lessons learnt to aid national consistency of enforcement 	<p>The construction sector is very active in Galway City and considerable volumes of waste are generated and managed in the course of construction and demolition projects. In 2022, Galway City Council will:</p> <p>Inspect multiple C&D sites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Commencement notices will be monitored. However, as demolition and site clearance works generally take place prior to the commencement notice, local knowledge, on-the-ground surveys and the monitoring of weekly planning lists will also be used to identify sites. This includes the identification of large-scale public construction projects and Strategic Housing Developments. - A matrix will be developed to assist in selecting sites for inspection. Factors that will be considered include size, type of site, type of works and previous experience with those involved. - It is proposed to inspect at least 15 sites in 2022. Site inspections will follow WERLA guidance and items for inspection include permits, records, skips and waste management controls in place at source. Waste movement in and off the sites will also be inspected, including vehicle inspections. - The Council will monitor demolition projects of derelict sites, including demolition of the Corrib Great Southern Hotel which commenced in 2021. <p>Promote best practice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Galway City Council will promote best practice in the management of construction and demolition waste with all stakeholders and during inspections. The Best Practice Guidelines for the Preparation of Resource Management Plans for Construction & Demolition Projects will be made available on Galway City Council's website, as will the Circular Economy in Construction Fact Sheets produced by Southern WERLA. - The Waste Enforcement Unit of Galway City Council will work with the Planning Department and the Housing Department of Galway City Council to ensure that proper management of C&D waste is considered at all stages of construction projects in the city. - Galway City Council staff will attend the Management of Construction Waste for Local Authority Operational Staff including project based staff through LASNTG. <p>By-product Notification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Galway City Council will carry out inspections at sites of origin and destination, as required, and forward the inspection reports to the EPA. <p>Monitor activity of C&D waste industry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There are no large C&D waste collectors, by national standards, based in Galway City. The Council will carry out inspections of the authorised collectors operating in the City and will assist other local authorities, if required, in their work with the authorised C&D industry. - There is one authorised C&D facility in Galway City and the Waste Facility Permit is due to expire this year. It is anticipated that an application for a permit review will be submitted and Galway City Council will consider this. One inspection is planned of this facility. <p>Complaints</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Galway City Council will fully investigate complaints received regarding unauthorised C&D waste activity, including the unauthorised collection and disposal of waste. This links in with NEP 3.1 and the work outlined under that priority applies here
<p>Have appropriate resources being assigned to carry out the work associated with this activity <u>FOR THE YEAR AHEAD</u>?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>The Final Environmental Outcome to be achieved?</p>	<p>Protection of the environment, reduced pollution & illegal waste activity and improved waste management</p>

A.11 NATIONAL PRIORITY 3.3

WASTE	
National Priority 3.3: ELV 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. <i>[Guideline of 250-400 words per priority area]</i>
<p>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"> • Collaborative work with WERLA, LAWPRO, EPA, Catchment Care Projects etc. • Site selection methodology and plan for early interventions and compliance inspections • Compliance promotion & awareness raising activities • Cross organisations activities on data validation, data analysis, guidance development or multiagency investigations • Case studies • Significant enforcement actions/prosecutions and the outcomes such as remediation, sharing of lessons learnt to aid national consistency of enforcement 	<p>In line with NEP 3.1 and NEP 3.3, Galway City Council wishes to tackle unauthorised waste activity in the ELV and Waste Metal Sector in Galway City in 2022. The focus will be on unauthorised collectors and, also, on those that support unauthorised collectors, including the authorised sector.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is one ATF in Galway City and Galway City Council will continue to engage with the facility and carry out audits and inspections, as required. There is one routine inspection scheduled for 2022. A new Waste Facility Permit was granted to the ATF in December 2021 and compliance with this permit will be monitored. - Galway City Council will, through a variety of means including internet investigations, routine patrolling and local knowledge, gather information on suspected unauthorised waste metal and ELV collectors operating in Galway City. Targeted inspections will be arranged, with the assistance of CUWERLA and An Garda Síochána where required. - Galway City Council will compile a comprehensive list of garages, car mechanics and car dismantlers operating in Galway City. It is felt that some operators working in the car repair sector may be providing waste material to unauthorised collectors. - The Council will contact all operators on the list to remind them of their obligations in relation to compliance with waste legislation. This will be followed up by routine inspections on a selection of operators. The operators will be chosen based on previous or current non-compliances with PRI schemes, local knowledge and complaints received. - Galway City Council is aware that a guidance booklet for garages will be published by the EPA later this year. Publication of this booklet will be taken as an opportunity to visit garages and car mechanics in person. These visits will be carried out by the Community Wardens and it is envisaged that there will be c. 40 individual visits required. The purpose of this exercise is to disseminate information and raise awareness, more so than to inspect and enforce. However, if concerns are raised by the Community Wardens regarding practices in any garage, follow-up inspections by the Waste Enforcement Officer will be arranged. - Any non-compliances detected or information gathered relating to illegal ELV collection and/or waste metal activity in Galway City will be followed up with the appropriate enforcement actions, up to and including the instigation of legal proceedings. - An important aspect of unauthorised WEEE and waste metal activity is the end destination of the materials. There is no authorised facility for metal in Galway City and Galway City Council will work with the EPA, Galway County Council and CUWERLA, as appropriate, on any operation planned for 2022 in relation to authorised waste metal facilities. - The Council will incorporate work relating to the collection of WEEE and white goods in their programmes to target illegal waste activity, as outlined in NEP 3.1. The Council will continue to promote its bulky goods collection service and Civic Amenity Site as options for the disposal of household WEEE. Through its awareness programmes, the Council will highlight the obligations of householders in relation to the disposal of WEEE. - The Council will support the work of CUWERLA in relation to WEEE leakage and make resources available for any joint operations planned. There are no known scrap yards in the city and the Council intend to inspect large EEE retailers and the GCC Civic Amenity Site in relation to WEEE leakage. - Galway City Council will continue its work in relation to car importers. Significant progress was made on this work programme in 2021 with all but one of the car importers identified by the Council now registered with ELVES. Enforcement action has been initiated in respect of the one non-compliant car importer and this will be progressed in 2022.
Have appropriate resources being assigned to carry out the work associated with this activity <u>FOR THE YEAR AHEAD</u>?	Yes
The Final Environmental Outcome to be achieved?	Protection of the environment, reduced pollution & illegal waste activity and improved waste management

A.12 NATIONAL PRIORITY 3.4

WASTE	
National Priority 3.4: Household and commercial waste	
	Activities
Looking forward to the year ahead 	<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.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>[Guideline of 250-400 words per priority area]</i></p>
<p>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"> • Collaborative work with WERLA, LAWPRO, EPA, Catchment Care Projects etc. • Site selection methodology and plan for early interventions and compliance inspections • Compliance promotion & awareness raising activities • Cross organisations activities on data validation, data analysis, guidance development or multiagency investigations • Case studies • Significant enforcement actions/prosecutions and the outcomes such as remediation, sharing of lessons learnt to aid national consistency of enforcement 	<p>Galway City Council introduced source segregation of household waste in 2001. For the last 21 years, there has been high levels of compliance in the provision of the 3 bin system by the private waste collectors operating in the city. According to the most recent NOAC service indicators, 28,603 households in Galway City were situated in an area covered by a licensed operator providing a 3-bin service, which equates to > 99% of all households in the city. The Council will review the updated figures for 2021 and will continue to liaise with the waste collectors regarding the provision of a kerbside waste collection service in Galway City.</p> <p>Galway City Council maintains a Section 34C Register which is a list of all households in the city availing of a waste collection service. This information is provided to the Council on a quarterly basis by the 4 licences waste collectors operating in the city. At the end of 2021, there were 23,936 households on the Section 34C Register.</p> <p>There is one Pay-to-Use Facility in Galway City. This provides a further option for households in relation to the disposal of household waste. The Council is continuously monitoring the facility to ensure that options for the disposal of residual, recyclable and organic waste are available and operational, as per the Certificate of Registration permit conditions.</p> <p>Galway City Council liaise with property management companies and households in the city to ensure that all households are availing of a brown bin service and/or are disposing of their organic waste responsibly. The Council intends to work with at least one apartment block in 2022 in relation to waste management and segregation of waste. The Waste Bye Law surveys provide a useful tool to engage with households on the management of their household waste and this will be incorporated into the 600 planned surveys in 2022. Further details on this are provided in NEP 3.1. In addition, work will be undertaken in 2022 relating to households who declare that they bring their waste directly to an authorised waste facility.</p> <p>Galway City Council will actively investigate all complaints relating to household and commercial waste, including illegal burning of waste, illegal dumping of waste, unauthorised collection of waste and issues relating to waste presentation and segregation.</p> <p>Extensive education and awareness work is on-going in Galway City in relation to waste management. In line with the Connaught Ulster Regional Waste Management Strategy, the focus is on waste prevention and the Environmental Awareness Officer works with schools, businesses, community groups and the general public on a range of waste initiatives. Information material is made available on the Council's website and the assets available on mywaste.ie are widely promoted. The Council actively participates in national programmes and campaigns, including the Local Authority Prevention Network (LAPN), and attends workshops, network meetings and events relating to household and commercial waste. In 2022, Galway City Council will work with businesses in Galway City's West End on best practice relating to waste management, water and energy usage. The Council is working with the Clean Technology Centre on this project and all aspects of commercial waste management will be addressed.</p> <p>Also, in relation to commercial waste, Galway City Council plan to carry out food waste inspections in at least 15 restaurants and/or cafés in 2022. Work in this area commenced in 2021 and a self-declaration form was issued to 20 restaurants. Of these, 9 require follow up and this is included in the 2022 work programme. Although the focus of the inspection will be food waste, during the inspections, all waste types will be addressed.</p> <p>The Waste Enforcement Unit reviews planning applications for the Planning Department and requests information from businesses on their waste management plans. The Council will make guidance documents available to businesses to assist them in the preparation of these plans.</p>
<p>Have appropriate resources being assigned to carry out the work associated with this activity <u>FOR THE YEAR AHEAD</u>?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>The Final Environmental Outcome to be achieved?</p>	<p>Protection of the environment, reduced pollution & illegal waste activity and improved waste management</p>

A.13 NATIONAL PRIORITY 3.5

WASTE	
National Priority 3.5: Producer responsibility initiatives and local priorities	
	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 250-400 words per priority area]</i>
<p>Describe the work to be carried out to address this National/Additional Local priority FOR THE YEAR AHEAD – including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborative work with WERLA, LAWPRO, EPA, Catchment Care Projects etc. • Site selection methodology and plan for early interventions and compliance inspections • Compliance promotion & awareness raising activities • Cross organisations activities on data validation, data analysis, guidance development or multiagency investigations • Case studies • Significant enforcement actions/prosecutions and the outcomes such as remediation, sharing of lessons learnt to aid national consistency of enforcement 	<p>Galway City Council has prepared a comprehensive inspection plan to cover work relating to Producer Responsibility Initiatives.</p> <p>The plan covers a range of inspection types including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WEEE - Batteries - Packaging - Tyres - Plastic Bags <p>Galway City Council will continue to liaise with PRI schemes on all aspects of compliance obligations and will review lists of registered operators against our own local records. Revoked lists and anomaly data issued from WERLA will also be considered. This will assist in choosing which retailers and operators to prioritise for inspection.</p> <p>This National Enforcement Priority is closely aligned with NEP 3.1 and NEP 3.3 and PRI inspections and investigations will be combined with work on-going in relation to illegal waste activity and, in particular, unauthorised waste activity relating to tyres, WEEE, batteries and illegal dumping.</p> <p>The Council will engage with the EPA and other agencies on joint inspections, if inspections are taking place in Galway City. For example, last year, Galway City Council staff accompanied an EPA inspector on WEEE retailer inspections.</p> <p>Galway City Council acknowledges the fact that additional schemes may be established this year, such as schemes relating to Single Use Plastics and the Deposit Return Scheme. This has been factored into RMCEI planning for 2022.</p> <p>In relation to packaging, there are 3 retailers in Galway City that are self-compliant and Galway City Council will ensure that they are meeting their recovery and recycling targets using the WERLA packaging toolkit.</p> <p>In addition, Galway City Council will carry out inspections and follow up enforcement actions, as necessary, on the Suspected Major Producers (SMP) forwarded to the Council by WERLA. Information will be uploaded onto the packaging portal and it is anticipated that there will be 3 on Galway City Council's list for 2022. There are no outstanding SMPs from the 2018-2021 project. Galway City Council has itself identified a SMP in the city and, following inspections and warning letters, a Notice under Section 25 of the Packaging Regulations has issued. This will be followed up, as appropriate.</p> <p>As stated in NEP 3.1, one case relating to a car importer has been referred to Galway City Council's legal team.</p> <p>Galway City Council will fully engage with WERLA on all PRI-related work and use their templates and guidance to ensure a consistent approach nationally. The Council will ensure resources are made available to assist WERLA in their work programmes and operations. The Council will also actively participate in any network meetings, workshops and seminars taking place in 2022 to allow for the sharing of knowledge and experiences and to build capacity within the sector.</p> <p>Galway City Council will work on a number of awareness campaigns in 2022 relating to PRI schemes and associated obligations, including WEEE, batteries and tyres. This information will be disseminated in the local media and through the Council's social media channels.</p>
Have appropriate resources being assigned to carry out the work associated with this activity FOR THE YEAR AHEAD?	Yes
The Final Environmental Outcome to be achieved?	Protection of the environment, reduced pollution & illegal waste activity and improved waste management

Overall concluding remarks for the reporting year:

The National Enforcement Priority Templates in Appendix A give a flavour of the extensive compliance and enforcement activities planned by Galway City Council in 2022. They are not exhaustive, however, and work programmes may expand or change as the year goes on.

Some points to note:

- Many of the priority areas are inter-connected. For example, Tackling Illegal Waste Activity can be linked with several other priority areas including ELV & Scrap Metal, Air Quality (illegal burning) and Water Investigative Monitoring (illegal dumping and pollution incidents). For this reason, the templates should not be viewed in isolation but, more so, as an overall framework on which the Council will build its environmental enforcement work.
- Although the inspection plan relates to operational work, the plan itself covers over-arching strategic and policy issues, such as Climate Action Strategies and the City Development Plan.
- Much of the work of the environmental enforcement team within Galway City Council is in response to complaints received and it can be difficult to predict the nature and extent of complaints that will require investigation. The value of on-the-ground work and time spent on non-routine investigations must be recognised, although it is often difficult to document.
- Throughout the plan, emphasis is placed on multi-agency work and co-operation. Galway City Council recognises that, through working with other agencies, its enforcement efforts will be stronger and more consistent. A multi-agency approach will also allow for the sharing of knowledge, the fostering of productive working relationships and capacity building within the sector.
- Through regular monitoring and review of the plan, Galway City Council will ensure that its enforcement activities across all areas are co-ordinated. This will allow for the greatest impact and the best use of resources.

Galway City Council is looking forward to 2022 and to continuing our efforts to protect, enhance and conserve the natural environment of our city.

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	4	0.75	3	Site category has been assessed under the EPA risk ranking guidance.
6.1.2	Joint inspections with NTFSO	0	0	0	As notified by the NTFSO, GCC will assist the NTFSO with joint inspections when notified.
6.1.3	Inspections of Cert of Registration sites (private)	1	0.5	0.5	Inspection of PTU in relation to compliance with permit conditions.
6.1.4	Inspections of LA Cert of Registration sites	0	0	0	
6.1.5	Multi-agency inspections, including vehicle inspections and multi-agency site inspections	2	2	2	GCC plans to co-ordinate 2 multi-agency inspections. GCC will also participate in joint inspections co-ordinated by other bodies, as required, including those led by CUWERLA
6.1.6	Hazardous waste sectoral inspections (e.g. Mercury Regulations, WTF, garages, mini-labs, industrial, healthcare & others)	15	0.5	7.5	GCC intend to target enforcement activities on garages in 2021, in line with waste enforcement priorities 3.1, 3.3 and 3.5.
6.1.7	Inspections in relation to segregation, recovery and disposal of C&D waste at construction and development sites to include major public projects (e.g. Waste Mgt. Plans, Gypsum handling, etc.)	19	0.75	15	Based on the levels of construction activity ongoing in Galway City, it is planned to inspect 15 C&D sites this year. It is anticipated that follow-up action will be required on 4 sites. Site selection criteria will be developed to assist in choosing the sites for inspection. Planning lists and commencement notices will be monitored.
6.1.8	Inspections of notifications under Prohibition of Waste Disposal by Burning Inspections	0	0	0	Inspections will be carried out if notifications are received. Galway City Council has not received any such notifications to date.
6.1.9	Registration of Sewage Sludge Facility inspections	0	0	0	
6.1.10	Household Waste Surveys	600	0.15	90	These inspections relate to the Waste Bye Laws Project that was piloted in 2021. It is a resource intensive exercise requiring extensive follow-up and, although some household surveys can be completed very quickly, others will require considerable time and effort and may involve several staff members. The estimated time given here is an average.
6.1.11	Inspections in relation to the household and commercial kerbside waste collection regime (including brown bin)	4	0.25	1	There are 4 waste collectors operating in Galway City (although not based in the City) and GCC will investigate each one for compliance with the city's waste collection regime.

	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
6.1.12	Other inspections of waste collection permit holders to include, for example, data validation audits (onsite) but not included above in 6.1.11.	6	0.25	1.5	During the year, it is planned to carry out inspections of 6 waste collection permit holders for compliance with conditions. Validation of annual return data will also be carried out, that work is not included here.
6.1.13	Commercial Food Waste Inspections (original waste producers, e.g. hotels, nursing homes, restaurants, etc.)	18	0.5	9	To follow on from work commenced in 2021, GCC plans to inspect 15 premises in Galway City this year for compliance with the food waste regulations. It is anticipated that follow-up inspections may be required in 3 cases.
6.1.14	Inspections in relation to authorised ELV facilities (ATFs) with an emphasis on traceability requirements (SI 320 of 2014)	1	0.75	0.75	One inspection of the ATF will be carried out with an emphasis on traceability requirements.
6.1.15	Other routine inspections (not included in above numbers) - please specify	0	-	0	-
	Subtotal Routine Waste Inspections	670		130.25	
6.2	Non-Routine Waste Inspections				
6.2.1	Investigative inspections of fly tipping or illegal dumping, excluding unauthorised C&D, ELVs & Tyres	850	0.25	212.50	Investigative inspections on foot of complaints received by Galway City Council.
6.2.2	Investigative Inspections in relation to unauthorised C&D sites (sites with no permit)	0	-	0	Inspections will be carried out by GCC, if required, but no inspections are planned for 2022.
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)	0	-	0	Inspections will be carried out by GCC, if required, but no inspections are planned for 2022.
6.2.4	Investigative Inspections in relation to unauthorised Tyre dumps (no permit in place)	0	-	0	Inspections will be carried out by GCC, if required, but no inspections are planned for 2022.
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.	4	1	4	It is anticipated that inspections may arise in 2022 relating to unauthorised collectors.
6.2.6	Inspections in relation to other Unauthorised Waste sites excluding those mentioned above - incl. crashed vehicle inspections, PTUs, etc.	0			Inspections will be carried out by GCC, if required, but no inspections are planned for 2022.
6.2.7	Inspections in relation to Waste Facility Permits continuing to operate after their permit has expired	0			Not anticipated as GCC notify WFP holders in advance of permit expiry and work closely with permit holders in the City.
6.2.8	Inspections in relation to extractive industries	0			Inspections will be carried out by GCC, if required, but no inspections are planned for 2022.

	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
6.2.9	Household Waste/waste presentation Inspections arising from complaints, including backyard burning	170	0.25	42.50	Investigative inspections on foot of complaints received by Galway City Council.
6.2.10	Inspections of sites notified under Article 27	6	0.5	3	Galway City Council will inspect all By-Product Notifications received for its functional area.
6.2.11	Other non-routine inspections (not included in above numbers)	250	0.2	50	This is to provide provision for non-routine inspections that may arise during the year and are not captured above, for example, those arising from routine patrols (rather than complaints).
	Subtotal Non-routine Waste Inspections	1280		312	
6.3	Litter Patrols/Investigations				
6.3.1	Litter Patrols/Investigations	1000	0.25	250	Although the number of inspections planned for 2022 is less than that for 2021, the number of days for this inspection type has increased. This is because the estimated time per inspection has increased following discussion with the Community Warden team.
6.3.2	Litter pollution Monitoring surveys	126	0.125	15.75	
6.3.3	Litter pollution Quantification surveys	42	0.125	5.25	
6.3.4	Visits in relation to Green Schools programme	20	0.5	10	Visits will be carried out for Green Flag assessments and workshops throughout the year.
6.3.5	Providing support to community groups during litter clean ups	50	0.2	10	Support will be provided to litter clean-ups throughout the year.
6.3.6	Judging Tidy Towns/Villages competitions	100	0.1	10	Support will be provided to the Galway City Tidy Towns Competition. This involves judging individual gardens, as well as estates, hence the high number of inspections.
6.3.7	Other routine litter patrols/investigations (not included in above numbers)	48	0.125	6	ATM surveys
	Subtotal Routine Litter Patrols/Investigations	1386		307	
Water/Wastewater					
6.4	Routine Water/Wastewater Inspections				
6.4.1	Discharges licenses to waters (Section 4)	0	0	0	
6.4.2	Audits of private water supplies	0	0	0	
6.4.3	Monitoring samples from private water supplies	0	0	0	
6.4.4	Farm Inspections under GAP Regulations conducted by Local Authority (not including farm inspections by DAFM)	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
6.4.5	Farm Inspections conducted by DAFM	0	0	0	
6.4.6	Farm Inspections Other e.g. routine farm inspection but not GAP inspection	0	0	0	
6.4.7	Monitoring programmes, Operational and Surveillance samples taken	35	0.05	1.75	In 2022, Galway City Council will continue its routine sampling programme on the Corrib and Terryland rivers, as part of the WFD monitoring programme. 35 samples will be taken from 6 locations (Corrib river x 2, Terryland River x 4) and the results were submitted to the EPA. Work is carried out by a third party and time spent on inspections by LA staff is minimal.
6.4.8	No. of days of locally lead investigative assessments (including SSRS, sampling, river walks, etc.)	0	0	0	
6.4.9	WFD investigative monitoring samples and analysis by Local Authorities.	50	0.01	0.5	Samples taken at outfall pipes close to two beaches and samples taken at two known recreation/watersport locations. Samples are analysed by HSE lab and time spent on inspections by LA staff is minimal.
6.4.10	No of days of engagement with LAWPRO and Communities Programme	8	0.5	4	Attendance at LAWPRO and Western ROC events and meetings.
6.4.11	Bathing Waters	52	0.25	13	There are 4 designated bathing waters in Galway City and routine sampling is carried out during the bathing season.
6.4.12	DWWTS inspections under National Inspection Plan	2	1.5	3	GCC is awaiting confirmation of the National Inspection Plan to determine how many days are required for this activity. This is an estimate based on the draft plan.
6.4.13	DWWTS Engagement Activities	1	0	1	
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]	0	0	0	
6.4.16	Misconnection Surveys	6	0.5	3	Includes work relating to water quality at Ballyloughane Beach
	Subtotal Routine Water/Wastewater Inspections	154		26.25	
6.5	Non-Routine Water/Wastewater Inspections				
6.5.1	Inspections relating to water pollution incidents/complaints, excluding non-routine farm inspections.	5	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
6.5.2	Non-routine farm inspections, e.g. on foot of pollution incident or complaint.	0	0	0	
6.5.3	Unauthorised Discharges Investigated	4	1.5	6	
6.5.4	Inspections in relation to Water Pollution Licence applications	0	0	0	
	Subtotal non-routine Water/Wastewater Inspections	9		11	
Air/Noise Inspections					
6.6	Routine Air/Noise Inspections				
6.6.1	Inspections of Air Pollution Licenced sites	0	0	0	
6.6.2	Total number of inspections carried out under the solid fuel regulations (S.I. 326 of 2012 and as amended).	30	0.4	12	Community Wardens (8 days), Assistant Engineer (3 days), Senior Executive Engineer (1 day)
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, DCCA, etc.	0	0	0	Inspections will be carried out by GCC, if required, but no inspections are planned for 2022
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	See above		See above	
6.6.5	Total number of fuel samples collected and analysed	5	2	10	Assistant Engineer (10 days)
6.6.6	Inspections of sites under 2012 Deco Paints Regulations (S.I. 564 of 2012) – Vehicle Refinishers	2	2	4	
6.6.7	Inspections of sites under 2012 Solvents Regulations (S.I. 565 of 2012) –e.g. Dry cleaners, surface cleaning etc.	2	2	4	
6.6.8	Inspections of sites under Petroleum Vapours Regulations	6	1.25	7.5	
6.6.9	Ambient Air Monitoring Programme inspections	20	1	20	AAMP works (10 days), Diffusion Tubes (10 days)
6.6.10	Other routine air/noise inspections	0	0	0	
	Subtotal Routine Air/Noise Inspections	65		57.5	
6.7	Non-Routine Air/Noise Inspections				
6.7.1	Incident/complaint related inspections	100	0.75	75	Assistant Engineer – 12 Community Wardens - 53
	Subtotal Non-Routine Air/Noise Inspections	100		75	

	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
6.8 Producer Responsibility Inspections (Routine)					
6.8.1	WEEE Inspections	15	0.5	7.5	
6.8.2	Battery Inspections	15	0.5	7.5	
6.8.3	Inspections on suspected vehicle importers (ELV Regulations 2016)	1	0.5	0.5	
6.8.4	Farm Plastics	0	0	0	
6.8.5	Plastic Bag Levy	4	0.125	0.5	
6.8.6	Inspections under the Packaging regulations – Suspected Major Producers	4	1	4	
6.8.7	Inspections under the Packaging regulations – Registered Self-compliers	3	0.5	1.5	
6.8.8	Inspections under the Tyre Regulations – Tyre Retailers	4	0.5	2	
	Subtotal (Routine) Producer Responsibility Inspections	46		23.5	
6.9 Planning (Environmental) Inspections (Routine)					
6.9.1	Inspections (environmental) of existing planning permissions	20	0.25	5	
6.9.2	Inspections (environmental) in advance of grant/refusal of planning permission	150	0.25	37.5	
6.9.3	Quarry Inspections (e.g. relating to noise, dust, surface/groundwater emissions, vibration etc.)	0	0	0	
6.9.4	Other planning inspections relating to environmental issues	0	0	0	
	Subtotal Planning Inspections (Routine)	170		42.5	
	Total Routine Inspections end of year	2491		587	
	Total Non-Routine Inspections end of year	1389		398	
	Total Inspections end of year	3880		985	