



Representative report

PPN Rep - Trish ní Fhoghlú

Date of SPC Wed 10/12/25 @ 2.30

Environmental & Water services

<p>Key issues Discuss</p>	<p><b>CCTV pilot scheme presentation in Athy.</b>          Scheme legally underpinned by Circular Economy and Miscellaneous Act, 2022 which introduced specific codes of practice for the operation of CCTV for the purposes of prevention, detection and prosecution of litter offences.</p> <p>Environment staff &amp; elected reps met on site and began a multi stage process which included a business case to be brought to the oversight board, IT and senior staff. Public awareness campaign about this litter black spot. Bottle and clothes banks dumping outside when full, also cardboard boxes left behind. Data protection impact assessment was carried out.</p> <p>3 cameras installed and activated from 9 october 2025 for 13 weeks until 8 Jan 2026.</p> <p>Data from 6 weeks at Edmund Rice Sq Athy disclosed.          42 fines issued. 27 already paid. 6 being prepped for legal proceedings.          Pedestrian dumpers not identified.          Costly, however, an essential scheme to improve the environment for residents and nature.</p>
<p>Questions Posed</p>	<p>Durkan from Clane MD posed the question about the potential to recoup financing from paid parking meters. To be looked at.          I posed the question that cameras add to public safety so potentially funding could come from public safety fund. This is not possible as it's specific to the prevention and detection of litter offences. However, gardai can make a request to view footage if there req is within the 28 day period of which they keep the footage.          I also commented that the clothing banks should all be removed as this just encourages overconsumerism of clothes which wind up on</p>

	<p>foreign beaches. (backed by data)  The recycling bin owners have been asked if they can remove them on council property. Those at supermarkets are a matter for the supermarkets and the charity operators of the bins. Suggested that there are more bottle banks as this is zero waste material. Env. do not install bins, however widely recognised the point being made.</p> <p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>Bye-laws regarding animal control need to be uniform, currently they vary between MDs. (Horse and XL bully discussed)</p> <p>Anne Breen brought up contamination of the lake at primary vista centre. This is an issue for parks, not environment.</p> <p>Thomas spoke about the nitrates derogation, and asked that it be investigated that such poor water quality in kildare is due to population density, not agriculture.</p> <p>Denis Logan had questions and comments in relation to district heating and making the towns safer for pedestrians and cyclists, issues to be forwarded to the Climate SPC</p> <p>The Chair asked that the website be reviewed so that people know about how to go about resolving typical public issues, eg. that they are aware of what the car removal program is.</p> <p>Richard, staff from education, spoke about the initiatives that are current. Cllr Kelly spoke of the need to not only visit the primary schools, but the university.</p> <p>Cllr. Durkan spoke of the potential to link in with university lecturers so that students are carrying out data projects as part of their theses. It is cost effective and mutually beneficial.</p>
<p><b>Key decisions Made</b></p>	<p>That the CCTV scheme would be expanded with one site per MD.  That there will be invitations to contribute to a long term work plan for this SPC, ideas to be forwarded to the chair Bill Clear.</p>
<p><b>Date of Next Meeting</b></p>	<p>11 Feb 2026. Next theme Waste Management again.</p>