



Representative report

PPN Rep - Trish ní Fhoghlú

Date of SPC Wed 11/03/26 @ 2.30

Environmental & Water services

Attended via Zoom

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| <p>Matters Discussed</p> | <p>Colm Flynn presentation about waste management. Waste is anything that is discarded. Summary responsibilities of KCC. Relevant legislations are: Waste Management act 96. Waste Facility permit regs 2007 The Council is not the sole responsible enforcer - also the EPA and EU. There is a National Waste Collection Permit office. By-products of construction must be dealt with privately, and is not always waste - e.g. crushed concrete recycled into aggregate. A key concern is that one of the remaining three landfills is to be closed Feb this year in Wicklow. Drehid is a point of contention in Clane LEA (see Qs posed) 67 per cent of the 1.7m tonne waste discarded in 2025 nationally was incinerated. (thermal capacity needs to increase) , 21% landfill 11 per cent went abroad - this is not sustainable as the UN and the EU are rightly saying that this needs to be phased out. Enforcement procedures explained. (appendix 1) The challenges are - limited resources, constraints in the court system regarding enforcement, cost of CCTV which must be overt not covert. (no update regarding the roll out of one CCTV location per MD) In terms of competing expenditure priorities - is waste collection more politically expedient than say the housing situation?</p> |
| <p>Questions Posed/Remarks.</p> | <p>In relation to the 36 glass bins that are present, I asked if this can be increased by about 10-20pc. The Chair answered that they are interested in suggestions regarding sites, that permission from landowner(s) is the key obstacle to increasing the number of glass bins. There is a minimum requirement of at least 50m from a residence due to noise pollution regulations. I suggested the top corner of the chuch car park in Sallins. Cllr. Kelly said that they refused</p> |

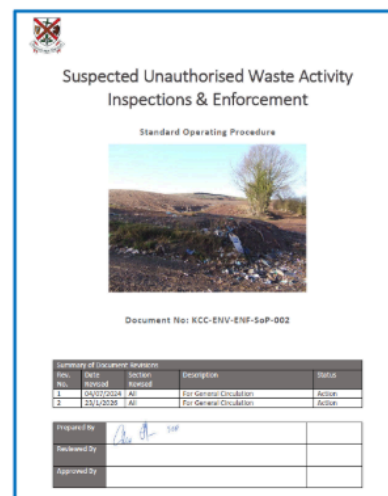
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| | <p>previously.</p> <p>I made the suggestion that for private OMCs responsible for waste management in estates, that glass bins be mandatory. That decision-making would be at national level. (Legislation)</p> <p>In relation to the Drehid centre and the heavy vehicles which do not respect the Bye laws (they do not stick to permitted routes), it was posed by a councillor who is responsible for enforcement? It was suggested that the routes contractors must use to arrive to drehid as related to the planning conditions, therefore the planning department is responsible for this.</p> <p>I remarked that the amount of exported waste should be zero, citing the clothing mountains on beaches poisoning the surrounding nature and the clear responsibility that the residents of this island are responsible for what they discard, not citizens of other countries.</p> <p>Bill brought up the multiple waste collectors, and how the bin trucks tend to all enter the estates at unsociable hours. There was general consensus for there to be less waste collectors.</p> <p>The reporting of bogey waste collectors is extremely important. There are an unknown number of men with vans operating without a license. The prices they charge, the public must know that the rubbish is not actually destined for a civic amenity site. The council cannot entrap such a person by seeking their services.</p> <p>AOB Advisory group question put to committee via email. What level of importance is given by KCC to ensure that Bio-diversity and Natural Habitats are not adversely affected by developing public and private lands? For residential or commercial builds, solar and wind farms. Are planning, compliance and enforcement fit for purpose?</p> <p>Summary of response - these are the remit of the planning section.</p> |
| <p>Key decisions Made</p> | <p>Continued support of tidy towns, the green schools program and more. Previous decision. The civic amenity site in Leixslip is currently not going ahead due to</p> |

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| | <p>lack of funding and lack of demand. Continued promotion of responsible waste disposal and separation, e.g. street marketing campaigns and at pop-up festivals. Invitations to contribute to a long term work plan for this SPC, ideas to be forwarded to the chair Bill Clear.</p> |
| Date of Next Meeting | 6 May 2026. |

Appendix 1.

Waste Enforcement Procedures KCC Env Dept

- SoP 2026
- Initial complaint
- Logged on portal
- Triaged by manager
- Assigned for investigation
- Desktop Inv
- Site inspection
- Remediation / enforcement
- Prosecution
- DC / CC / HC



Addendum for advisory group.

I have emailed since to say that it would be good to have a section of the work plan dedicated to resilience in relation to water services, including evaluating contingency plans for water shortages, should they arise on food of the Herbata centre, or shortages on foot of other reasons. The response is that the mains water infrastructure is under the remit of Uisce Éireann.

However, water services does have a roll in private water connections. **It would be appropriate to increase the number of community water schemes to be taken in charge.**

Private Well Grants: If you need to upgrade a private well or install a treatment system (like UV filtration), the Council administers grants (up to €1,000 for treatment).

Group Water Schemes: The Council oversees the administration and "taking in charge" of local community water schemes. **Septic Tank Inspections:** The Environment Section of the Council manages the National Inspection Plan for domestic wastewater systems