Litter Management Plan

2024-2026

Comhairle Contae Chill Chainnigh
Kilkenny County Council

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1. Introduction

The Litter Management Plan 2024-2026 replaces the existing Litter Management Plan 2021-2023. This plan outlines targets and objectives for tackling the problem of litter pollution and sets out to achieve quantifiable improvements in the prevention of litter, with the following objectives:

• Prevent and control litter pollution throughout Kilkenny City and County;

• Eliminate litter black spots;

• Continue to develop education and awareness programmes in association with schools and local communities;

• Support new legislation, initiatives and actions that arise (e.g. contained in the recently published National Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy); and

• Ensure rigorous enforcement mechanisms are in place.

This Litter Management Plan builds on the outcomes of previous plans and other initiatives implemented. In a national and local context, litter continues to be a challenge. Emphasis must be placed on reduction of litter and its effective management. The Council acknowledges that while the primary enforcement response must come from Kilkenny County Council, a collaborative approach with all society sectors is required, with individuals taking personal responsibility for their actions being critical in order to tackle litter successfully.

This Plan outlines objectives and actions for the next three years in relation to litter prevention, litter control and education and awareness. An annual progress report will be submitted to the Council for consideration as set out in the regulations.
The Litter Management Plan will be available on the Council's website, www.kilkennycoco.ie.

The Litter Management Plan is not a stand-alone policy. It has strong links with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), also known as the Global Goals, which were adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity by 2030.

On a national level, it links with the Government's Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy that for example, advocates the prohibition of single use plastics. On a regional level it complements the vision of the Southern Region Waste Management Plan and the Litter Management Plan objectives will inform Kilkenny County Council's Annual Service Delivery Plan and Recommended Minimum Criteria for Environmental Inspections (RMCEI) Plan, which is approved by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) annually. In keeping with Kilkenny County Council's Disability Inclusion Strategy 2023-2026, the Litter Management Plan 2024-2026, where possible, will adhere to the principles of Universal Design supporting accessibility for all.

The Plan strives for a cleaner environment, an environment which is litter free, that eliminates the risk of pollution from carelessly discarded waste, and that does not adversely impact on the County's rich ecosystem.

1.2 Statutory Obligation

Kilkenny County Council is obliged to produce a Litter Management Plan, as set out in Section 10 of the Litter Pollution Act, 1997 as amended. The adoption of the Litter Management Plan is a reserved function of the Council. Kilkenny County Council is responsible for the prevention and control of litter and has the power to take enforcement action against people who break or ignore the law. Kilkenny County Council is responsible for keeping public places, under its control, clear of litter, as far as is practically possible. This includes providing street cleansing programmes and the provision and servicing of litter bins.

1.3 Consultation Process

The following consultation process will take place to help formulate the Council's Litter Management Plan:

• Pre-Draft Litter Management Plan 2021-2023 reviewed and determined. This will include a review of which initiatives were completed and which remain incomplete

• Consultation with each of the 4 Municipal Districts at pre-draft stage;

• A draft format will be presented for discussion to the Council's Strategic Policy Committee 4 Environmental Protection, Climate Action & Energy Meeting (SPC);

• Public engagement will be completed to invite submissions on the draft Plan

• The Draft Litter Management Plan will be amended if required following public submissions received and feedback from SPC4 and elected members;

• The Litter Management Plan 2024-2026 will be brought forward to Council with a report from the Chief Executive for formal adoption; and

• The adopted Litter Management Plan 2024-2026 will be available as a publication in libraries and on the Council website.

Stage 1 Drafting the Plan November/December 2023	Review 2021-2023 LMP with waste management and enforcement staff, based on experience of the front line of litter management	Liaise with Key stakeholder groups (Tidy Towns, Community & Business Groups, PPN, Elected Members)	Preparation and review of draft plan by internal litter/waste management staff
Stage 2 Statutory Consultation Phase December/January 2023	Draft Plan to be approved by SPC for Public Consultation	Public Consultation (4 weeks), including statutory media adverts	Review of submissions received & preparation of submissions report
Stage 3 Review and Publish the Plan Q1 2024	Amend Draft Plan on basis of the submissions received.	Approval/ Recommendation of the Draft Plan by SPC, and adoption by Kilkenny County Council	Publication of the full and final Litter Management Plan 2024-2026

2. Litter and the Law

2.1 The Definition of Litter

Litter is defined in the Litter Pollution Act, 1997 as 'a substance or object, whether or not intended as waste that, when deposited in a place other than a litter receptacle or other place lawfully designated for the deposit, is or is likely to become unsightly, deleterious, nauseous or unsanitary, whether by itself or with any other such substance or object, and regardless of its size or volume or the extent of the deposit'. The Council recognizes that litter is a significant environmental problem and acknowledges that the key operational and enforcement responses to the litter problem must come from the Council. The Council, through its own activities, recognizes the importance of limiting the creation of litter. Litter is a visible form of pollution and creates an overall negative impression of an area if it is not effectively managed. Through enforcement of the Litter Pollution Act, education and promotion of anti-litter initiatives, it is hoped to minimize the problem of litter.

As a business person - what are my responsibilities when it comes to litter?

2.2 Definition of a Litter Conscious Citizen

• Someone who knows what littering is and what constitutes litter – cigarette butts, food waste (e.g. discarded packaging), dog foul, fly-posting, graffiti.

• Someone who actively avoids littering – uses public bins (not overflowing ones) or preferably brings litter home to recycle/dispose correctly, picks up after their dog.

• Someone who encourages/reprimands those in their immediate zone of influence, (e.g. parents, grandparents, childminders, friends.)

• Someone who reports littering directly to Kilkenny County Council (i.e. not on social media) and supports the Council insofar as possible to minimize the problem of littering.

• Someone who actively litter picks themselves, or who contributes in any way to community clean-ups (e.g. National Spring Clean-Ups).

2.3 Responsibilities of the Local Authority include:

• To take all practical measures to prevent, control, and manage the correct disposal of litter.

• To take steps to promote awareness of litter pollution and its effect on the environment.

• To encourage participation from the public and businesses of the county in preventing and overcoming litter pollution.

• To provide access to appropriate facilities/ receptacles and waste bins for its citizens and to arrange for regular emptying and cleaning.

• To enforce the law and apply the necessary penalties and legal sanctions.

2.4 Responsibilities of businesses include:

• To keep any private land visible from a public place free from litter. Persons owning, operating or in charge of mobile outlets and those who organize major events have additional responsibilities.

• To ensure there is no placement of unauthorized advertisements or public notices in public places.

• To ensure no advertising material is placed on cars.

• To ensure that material being transported does not cause litter and that the material is sufficiently secure to not cause litter.

• To ensure that footpaths and pavements within 100m of the business remains litter free.

• No dumping material (fly tipping)

• No dumping of commercial waste in public litter bins.

• The promoters or organizers of major events (e.g. concerts, festivals, circuses, and local sporting events) are required to ensure that they have litter control measures in place at the venue and surrounding area. This can be done by or in conjunction with the Local Authority, but the promoter/organizer must bear the costs involved.

2.5 Responsibilities of the public include:

The Litter Pollution Act puts legal responsibility on individuals to control litter. The following are examples of offenses under the Act:

• If you either own or are responsible for a place to which the public has access (e.g., places like a school campus, public park, train or bus station or the precincts of a shopping centre), you are obliged by law to keep the place litter-free, regardless of how the litter got there.

• The owner/occupiers of property (a building or area of land) that can be seen from a public place are obliged to keep the property free of litter. In essence any outdoor area that is visible from a public place must be kept free of litter.

• Where litter has accumulated on property for any reason and this litter is visible from a public place, the Local Authority can issue a notice to the owner or occupier requiring the prompt removal of the litter. Such a notice can also set down precautionary measures to be put in place to prevent a recurrence. If a property owner or occupier fails or refuses to comply with the notice the Local Authority has the power to implement legal proceedings.

• Dropping cigarette butts, chewing gum, paper, food, etc. on the ground.

• Failure to clean up dog litter when walking one's dog in a public place.

• Placing household waste in a public litter bin.

2.6 How to make a Complaint

Complaints can be reported via the Councils Litter Hotline 1800-200-156 or via the EPA's National Environmental Complaints Line (NECL) 1850 365 121. Calls made to the EPA are then forwarded to Kilkenny County Council to investigate. Alternatively, complaints can be received via postal correspondence, by email; environment@kilkennycoco.ie or by presenting in person to speak with an environment staff member in County Hall. Complaints cannot be accepted via the Council's social media platforms. Members of the public are invited to contact the Council's Environment Section should they observe any illegal or suspicious waste activities; this collaborative approach greatly assists the local authority in minimizing the impact of littering and illegal waste activities. You can contact the Environment section on 056 779 4470 or via the website: Environment - Kilkenny County Council (kilkennycoco.ie)
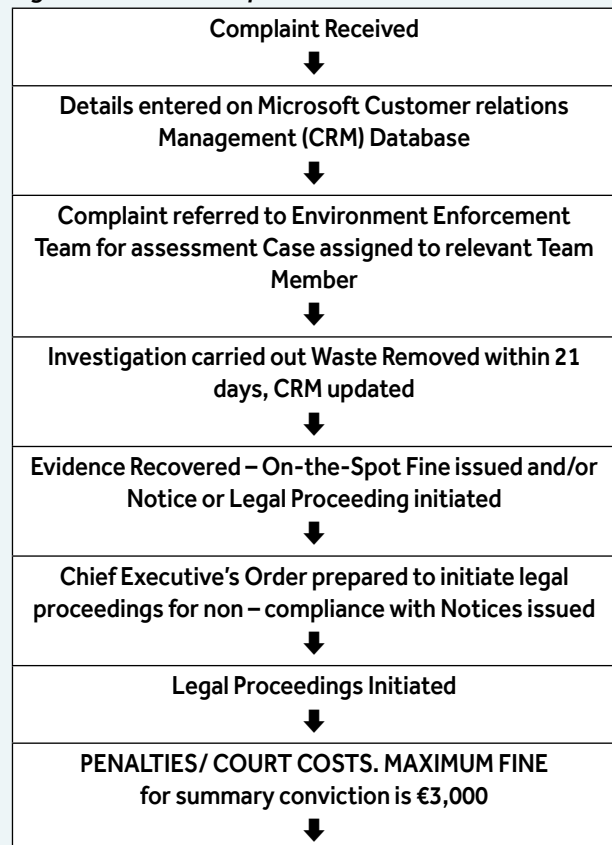
2.7 Litter and Waste Complaint Handling

The introduction of Microsoft's Customer Relations Management (CRM) system provides accurate recording of information, regarding the various types of interaction between the public and the Council's Environment Section.

This has improved responsiveness and provided a valuable reporting tool for environmental management. The CRM system records complaints and details of all actions undertaken in the resolution of that complaint.

Once a litter complaint has been logged it is assigned to an appropriate Environmental Enforcement Team Member based on the complaint location. They investigate the activity/incident to obtain evidence, which might secure a fine or prosecution, should any offence be committed. The Environmental Enforcement Team Member then reports on the investigation with the necessary cleanup or removal of rubbish within 21 days.

Figure 2.7 Litter Complaint Procedure

Complaint Received
⬇
Details entered on Microsoft Customer relations Management (CRM) Database
⬇
Complaint referred to Environment Enforcement Team for assessment Case assigned to relevant Team Member
⬇
Investigation carried out Waste Removed within 21 days, CRM updated
⬇
Evidence Recovered – On-the-Spot Fine issued and/or Notice or Legal Proceeding initiated
⬇
Chief Executive's Order prepared to initiate legal proceedings for non – compliance with Notices issued
⬇
Legal Proceedings Initiated
⬇
PENALTIES/ COURT COSTS. MAXIMUM FINE for summary conviction is €3,000
⬇

2.8 Litter and Waste Complaints Received

From 2021-2023, the CRM system logged a combined 3125 environmental complaints. Of these 977 broadly related to litter and waste management in 2021, 849 e in 2022 and 804 in 2023. So there has been a positive downward trend in the number of complaints received over the 3-year period 2023-2021 at circa 18 per cent. The following table provides a broad break down of the complaint categories relating to litter and waste.

Figure 2.8.1- Complaint Categories

Categories	2021	2022	2023
Illegal Dumping/Litter	794	667	656
Graffiti	2	0	0
Dog Fouling	44	23	11
Bring Banks	10	4	1
WEEE	9	6	0
Green Waste	3	3	2
Hazardous Waste	4	2	2
Waste Collection	3	9	19
Waste Management	6	5	3
Burning of Waste	28	39	37
Abandoned Cars/ELV	41	57	45
Tyres	15	2	1
Election posters		1	0
Unauthorised Signage	18	31	27
Total	977	849	804

2.9 Waste Bye Laws

The Council's Waste Management Bye-Laws 2019 require the holder of household and/or commercial waste to prove that they dispose of their waste correctly by giving it either to an authorised waste collector or by bringing it to an authorised waste facility. These bye laws also help ensure that recyclable and residual waste is correctly segregated and presented separately. See- County Kilkenny Waste Management Bye-laws 2018 - Kilkenny County Council (kilkennycoco.ie)

2.10 Enforcement/Fines

Leaving or throwing litter in a public place is an offence, which can be subject to an 'on the spot' fine of €150 and a maximum fine of €3,000 through the Courts (conviction on indictment for litter offences carries a maximum fine of €130,000). Large-scale dumping can be prosecuted under the Waste Management Acts, with penalties on conviction or indictment of up to €15 million and/or a 10-year prison term.

2.11 National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy

There is a recognized link between litter and waste management services and enforcement. The three Regional Waste Management Planning Lead Authorities are in the process of preparing a combined National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy. A core policy of the National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy is protection of the environment by ensuring waste activities and litter control measures do not pose a risk to the environment and human health, and make a positive contribution to circularity. Kilkenny County Council will support initiatives and actions outlined in the National Waste Management Plan, such as reducing single use items and promoting deposit and return scheme once introduced.

2.12 GDPR Compliance

Kilkenny County Council creates, collects and processes a vast amount of personal data in various multiple formats on a daily basis.
Kilkenny County Council's commits that personal data managed by the organization is;
• Obtained lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner • Obtained for only specified, explicit and legitimate purposes;
• Adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary for purpose for which it was obtained;
• Recorded, stored accurately and securely and where necessary kept up to date;
• Kept only for as long as is necessary for the purposes for which it was obtained;
• Kept in a form which permits identification of the data subject; and
• Processed only in a manner that ensures the appropriate security of the personal data including protection against unauthorized or unlawful processing.

2.10.1 GDPR- CCTV & Drone Mobilization

As of December 2023, the Local Government Management Agency (LGMA) issued codes of practice regarding the use of CCTV.
Kilkenny County Council will have overt cameras and drones operational to fight against illegal dumping. Procedures will be put in place for CCTV and drone use. A DPIA (Data Protection Impact Assessment) is being prepared in accordance with GDPR and will be in place prior to use.
CCTV evidence captured will be submitted to the Courts to obtain prosecutions, as appropriate, under both the Litter Pollution and Waste Management Acts, as amended.
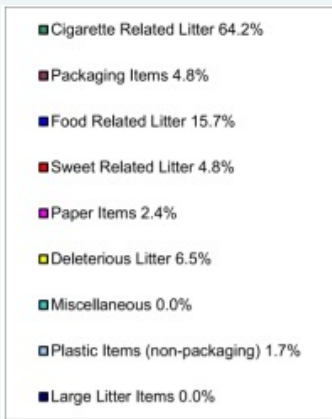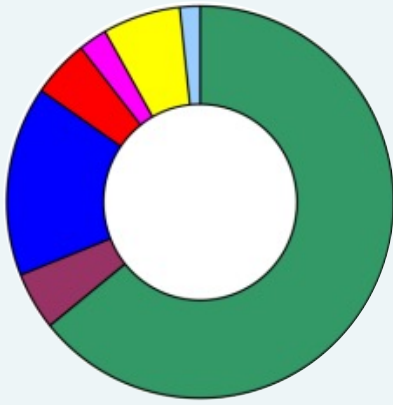
2.13 The National Litter Monitoring System

The National Litter Monitoring System developed by the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment enables each Local Authority to analyse the extent and severity of litter pollution in their functional areas, the types, the sources and causes of litter. These results are issued annually and highlight areas which require attention. The graphs below highlight the litter types and composition surveyed in Kilkenny in 2021 and 2022. The 2023 results remain outstanding.
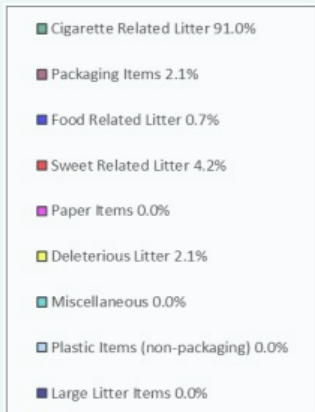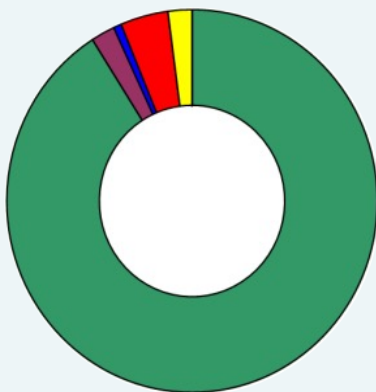
Litter Compostion in Kilkenny City Council, 2021

- Cigarette Related Litter 64.2%
- Packaging Items 4.8%
- Food Related Litter 15.7%
- Sweet Related Litter 4.8%
- Paper Items 2.4%
- Deleterious Litter 6.5%
- Miscellaneous 0.0%
- Plastic Items (non-packaging) 1.7%
- Large Litter Items 0.0%

Litter Compostion in Kilkenny City Council, 2022

- Cigarette Related Litter 91.0%
- Packaging Items 2.1%
- Food Related Litter 0.7%
- Sweet Related Litter 4.2%
- Paper Items 0.0%
- Deleterious Litter 2.1%
- Miscellaneous 0.0%
- Plastic Items (non-packaging) 0.0%
- Large Litter Items 0.0%

3. Progress Litter Management Plan 2021-2023

3.1 Tidy Towns Forum

Kilkenny Tidy Town Committees have a long tradition of participating in the annual Supervalu Tidy Towns Competition. There were 27 entrants in 2023 from County Kilkenny, showing an increase in participation compared to 2022 and 2021. In 2023, Kilkenny City won Gold and were awarded the South East Regional Winner, and were only 2 points off the national winner. Our Tidy Towns committees around the County work tirelessly in enhancing the appearance of our towns and villages and make an invaluable contribution to the sense of place in making Kilkenny an attractive place to live and work.

Table 3.1.1 Tidy Towns Achievements 2022 and 2023

Year	Tidy Town Group	Marks Achieved	Achievements
2022			
	Kilkenny	362	Gold Medal/Best in County/
	Inistioge	361	Gold Medal/ Highly Commended
	Tullahought	356	Commended/ South East Pollinator Plan Award
	Castlecomer	334	Brite Litter Awareness Award
	Kilmoganny	217	Endeavour Award
2023			
	Kilkenny	374	Gold Medal/South East Regional Winner/ 1st County
	Listerlin	236	Endeavour Award/National Leave No Trace
	Tullahought	367	Silver Medal/ 3rd County
	Inistioge	373	Gold Medal/ 2nd County

3.2 Green Schools Programme

Kilkenny County Council participates in the Green Schools Programme. The programme is operated and coordinated by the Environmental Education Unit of An Taisce (FEE member for Ireland). The programme promotes long term, whole-school action for the environment. The theme for the first flag award is litter and waste, with subsequent environmental themes on a rolling two-year programme. This seven-step environmental programme is an excellent way for Kilkenny County Council to encourage environmental education in our schools among young people led by the Council's Environmental Awareness Officer.

77 Kilkenny schools have received the award since the programme began. In 2022, the National Oversight and Audit Commission (NOAC) - Local Authority Performance Indicator Report, included an indicator for active green flag participation. Kilkenny scored 28.26% for attainment/ retention of green flag status. This was lower than previous years, mainly due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, where many schools had to delay or defer their application/renewal. The Council intends to reinvigorate participation in the Green Schools Programme.

3.3 Litter Campaigns

Kilkenny County Council continues to roll out anti-litter campaigns, often in collaboration with neighboring counties.

Kilkenny was one of the first counties to support the Picker Pals programme, which is an integrated content and activity environmental programme designed for primary school children and their families. Litter-picking activity is motivated through immersion in a Picker Pals story world and a Picker Pack containing adult and child litter-picking tools, taken home by a different student every week. Since 2020, over 35 schools each year have benefited from the programme.
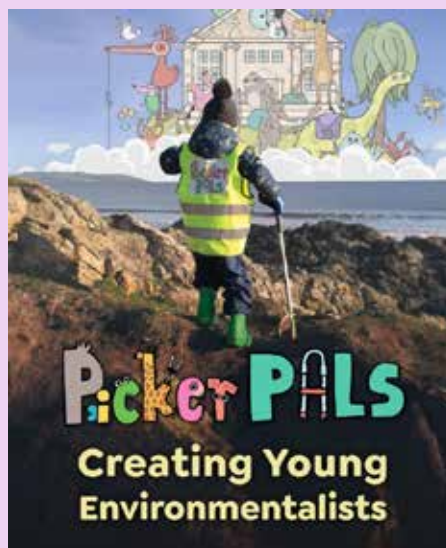

Image 3.3.1- Picker Pals

Other Litter focused campaigns included the "Bag it, Bin it" anti dog fouling campaign, which encourages responsible dog ownership in line with the global citizenship concept.

Kilkenny County Council also took part in the Conscious Cup Campaign aimed at to reducing and eliminating single use cups in Ireland. The campaign's objective was to increase awareness about why "Reuse" is so important, how reducing our waste protects our finite resources and in turn our planet.

Image 3.3.2- Musical Bins Kilkenny

As part of the Litter Infrastructure Grant Scheme, Kilkenny County Council purchased 40 additional bins for the County.

The Council also introduced Musical Bins on The Parade in Kilkenny City in 2021, which was a fun initiative to promote anti-litter and keep the city beautiful. Each time litter is disposed of into the receptacle, a musical award is received.

3.4 The National Spring Clean

The National Spring Clean is organized by An Taisce every April. The campaign encourages communities to complete local clean-ups. Kilkenny County Council assists in the promotion and advertising of the event, provides materials (gloves, refuse sacks and litter pickers) and co-ordinates the removal and disposal of waste gathered by litter picking volunteers.

Image 3.4.1- Bags of Rubbish collected in Piltown MD-National Spring Clean

3.5 "Team Up to Clean Up" Together for Kilkenny

Kilkenny has a wow factor that is the envy of many other Irish counties. Kilkenny City is recognized nationally as a litter free location, regularly winning awards in the IBAL and Tidy Towns competitions, and even being awarded the much-coveted title of overall Tidy Towns national winner on two occasions.

The County-Wide Clean Up initiative which took place during March 2023 brought together residents, businesses, and local organizations to collaborate in a mass effort to enhance the cleanliness and sustainability of our county. The weekend event created a sense of community ownership and pride by engaging participants in a variety of cleanup activities, awareness campaigns, and environmental education programmes.

The Event created a sense of ownership and focus for many communities, with significant additional interest by many groups and individuals outside of national campaigns, such as the annual National Spring Clean which takes place during the month of April. All cohorts of society engaged resulting in the "Team Up to Clean Up" exemplifying best practice in the areas of social inclusion and environment.

Over 200 groups registered and took part in the initiative, which was co-sponsored by CRL, Tir Lan, Panda, Dawn Meats and the John O'Shea Trust.

Images 3.5.2- Kilkenny People Article and Registration Poster

Image 3.5.1- Volunteers for "Team Up To Clean Up"

3.6- Irish Business Against Litter (I.B.A.L)

Established in 1996, Irish Business against Litter (IBAL) is an alliance of companies sharing a belief that continued economic prosperity is contingent on a clean, litter free environment. The main objective of the League is to encourage improvement in local authority performance in tackling litter through publication of a league table for the participating towns/cities. Kilkenny City is the only location in the county monitored by IBAL and the city performs consistently high in comparison to other urban centers. In 2021, Kilkenny City came 8th out of 40 cities surveyed and was classed "Cleaner than European Norms". Kilkenny came 2nd overall in 2022, with nine out of the ten sites surveyed getting the top litter grade. In 2023, Kilkenny ranked 4th out of 40 cities surveyed, dropping slightly from 2022. 8 out of 10 sites surveyed attained the top grade.

3.7 LAPN

In 2021, Kilkenny received €17,250 directly in funding as part of the Local Authority Prevention Network Fund (LAPN). Projects completed under this scheme included the Re-cycle the Bicycle Project, whereby kids bikes were repaired/ serviced to primary schools to facilitate the sprocket rocket programme, which is aimed at teaching junior and senior infants how to cycle.

It also funded the re-use hub located at Dunmore Recycling Centre, which weather proofed the stone building for storage of recycled and reusable materials.
The final project was a collaborative undertaking with the Arts Office called "Waste Not, Want Not," which enabled collaboration with partners to identify and utilize waste streams, exploring repurposing and upcycling of waste materials with members of the public. This will continue into 2024.

3.9 Anti Dumping Initiatives

"Your Country, Your Waste" Initiative Kilkenny County Council undertook several initiatives throughout 2021-2024 as part of the Anti-Dumping Initiative (ADI).

Kilkenny County Council undertook the "Your Country, Your Waste" campaign in 2021 to tackle the problem of illegal dumping in the county with particular focus on known black spot areas. Three areas of focus in County Kilkenny were cleaned costing €32,000 with urban black spots costing €11,800.

Mattress Amnesty

In 2022, Kilkenny County Council undertook a Mattress Amnesty. The event took place at the Dunmore Recycling and Waste Disposal Centre, and was part of the Anti-Dumping Initiative - 'Empowering People to Engage and Help the Environment'. Kilkenny County Council, in association with WERLA Southern Region, aimed to prevent people dumping their old mattresses illegally. On the day, members of the public will be able to dispose of their old mattress for free.

Bulky Furniture

Throughout June 2023, Kilkenny County Council undertook a Bulky Furniture initiative at Dunmore Civic Amenity site which encouraged the public to dispose of household items such items including lockers, couches, wardrobes, wooden tables and chairs, bed bases, head boards and wooden TV stand at a cost of €5 per household.

4. Challenges and Future Solutions

Litter is a persistent problem in Ireland and one of the biggest challenges facing Kilkenny County Council is how to motivate the public to act against litter. This challenge is considered best addressed by a partnership approach involving all key stakeholders (e.g. residential, commercial and community) to raise awareness of litter and its effects. In tandem, the Council must review and enhance, where necessary, its own role in litter prevention and control.

Kilkenny County Council has identified the following challenging ongoing issues, that given their persistent nature were not fully resolved in the last Plan, and more resources or a different approach may be required to tackle:

• Illegal dumping;
• Scattered litter caused by passing motorists and pedestrians;
• Keeping Bring Banks Litter Free;
• Dog Fouling;
• Demand and Supply of Litter Bins; and
• Unauthorized Temporary Signage

4.1 Illegal Dumping

The Council's enforcement team has been pursuing illegal dumpers and is working efficiently with strengthened capability, including advanced technology funded from the National Anti-Dumping Initiative Fund.

Waste management facilities like Dunmore Recycling Centre will be promoted as they offer a cost-effective method to managing waste. The Southern WERLA office with responsibility for coordinating waste enforcement actions within the region produced an anti-dumping campaign which was rolled out by Kilkenny County Council in 2021.

Visible enforcement must be promoted to deter fly tipping. The Council will use CCTV and drones to tackle litter black spots. The Council will also continue to raise awareness of enforcement activity, including in collaboration with media news outlets. The Council cannot "Name and Shame" litter louts, as it is in breach of the principles of data protection as set down in the Data Protection Act, 1988.
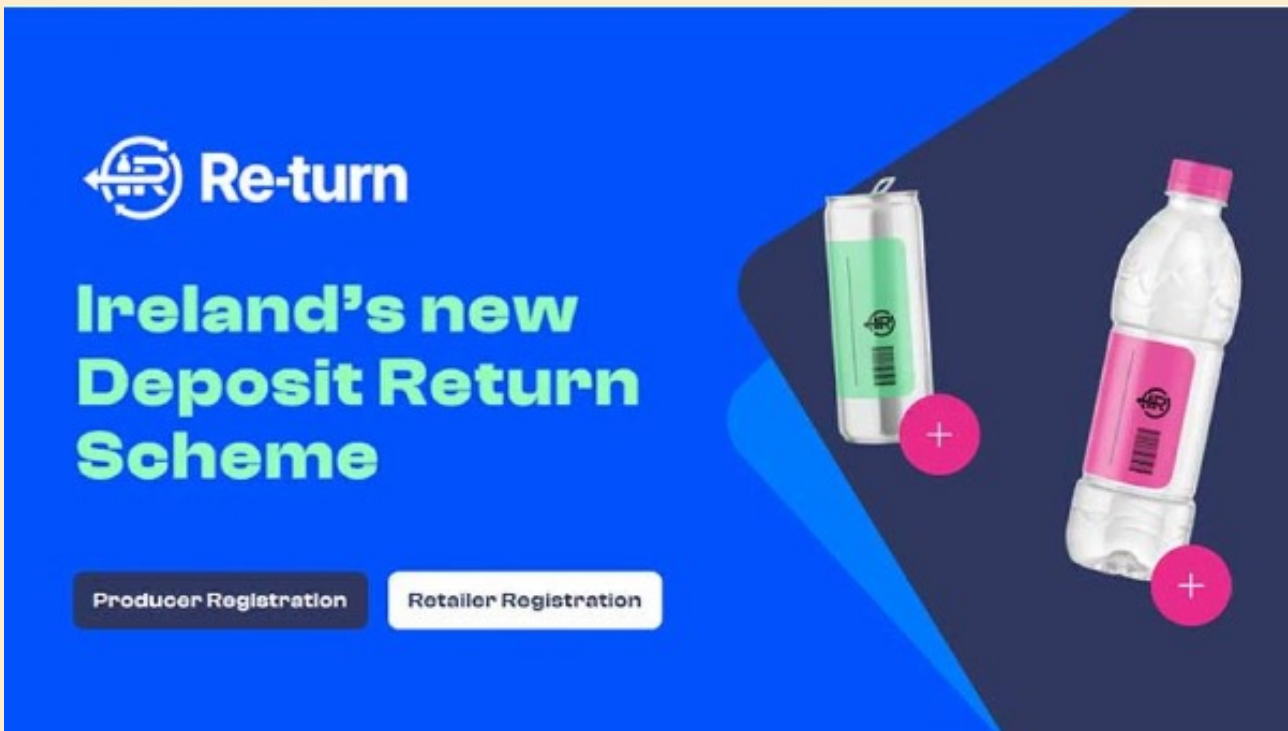
These actions together should target those who dump rubbish irresponsibly. The key performance indicators (Appendix A) will be monitored closely throughout the implementation of the Plan to ensure actions are effective against illegal dumping.

4.2 Scattered Litter

Scattered litter is visually obtrusive, potentially harmful to wildlife and is often dangerous to remove due to its occurrence on the sides of busy roads. Annual awareness campaigns are run by the Council to remind the public the issue that litter poses for example, illegally dumped bulky goods can block drains leading to surface flooding on rural roads; and plastic litter can pose a threat to wildlife.

The long-term goal of the Green School's Programme, which the Council co-ordinates locally with An Taisce, is to ensure that every pupil in participating schools has an appreciation of the environment and will be its custodian for life. In the short term, enforcement must play a role to act as a deterrent to the small and irresponsible element of society that disregards the litter laws. It is the Council's ambition to increase enforcement on the ground by the provision of additional staff, it is anticipated that these roles will become operational within the Plan period.
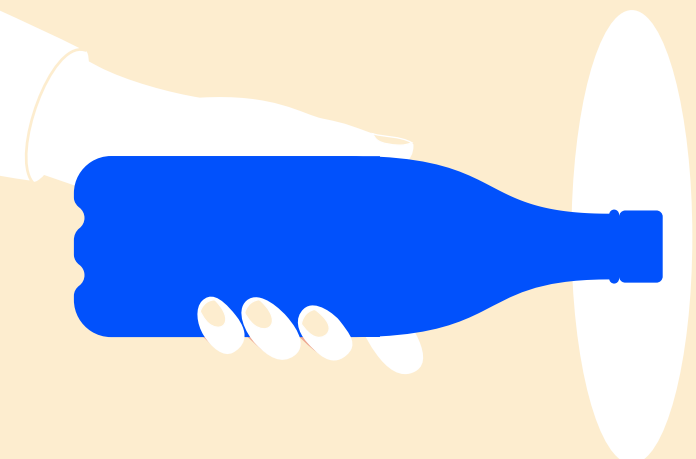
4.3 The Deposit Return Scheme (DRS)

The Deposit Return Scheme means you will be charged a small refundable deposit on certain drinks containers in shops, which you can then claim back by returning the empty container. The cost of the deposit will be automatically added to the cost of the drink from the start of the scheme. You can reclaim the deposit by returning your containers once they are empty and undamaged. The scheme is due to start on 1st February 2024 and will undoubtedly assist in deterring the discarding of used drinks containers.

Most drinks containers made from plastic, aluminum or steel can be returned once they are between 150ml and 3 litres in size and have the Re-turn logo placed on them. The containers should be empty, undamaged and in their original shape. The barcode must also be readable.
If your container doesn't have the Re-turn logo on it, you cannot return it and it should be recycled as normal.

Containers which are not included in the scheme and cannot be returned include:
• Glass bottles or containers;

• All dairy products (for example, milk containers, yogurt containers, etc.); and

• Containers over 3 litres.

You will not be able to return drinks containers which were bought before 1st February 2024.

The deposit will be between 15-25 cent depending on the size of the container.

• Containers between 150ml to 500ml will have a 15 cent deposit

• Containers over 500ml to 3 litres will have a 25 cent deposit

You can return containers to any shop that sells drink containers with the Re-turn logo, regardless of where you bought them. At these shops you can either return the containers:

• Using a Reverse Vending Machine (RVM), or

• Manually in the shop

Not all shops will have a Reverse Vending Machine. If a store does not have a RVM but they sell containers with the Re-turn logo, the shop must allow you to manually return containers in store.

4.4 Dog Fouling

Dog fouling in towns and villages has become an increasing litter issue over recent years. Not only is dog fouling unsightly, it poses a health and safety risk to many, particularly those who use wheelchairs, pushchairs and prams. Dog fouling poses many challenges. It can be difficult to establish when an offence has occurred, as the dog owner must be identified.

Dog walkers are obliged to clean up after their dog and the Council previously promoted the motto "Any Bag, Any Bin" and in recent times bag dispensers have been installed in Kilkenny City and in urban areas around the county. These bag dispensers work well when there are public bins in the vicinity, however when litter bins are absent, bags are often abandoned after the dog owner has placed waste in the bag. This is an ongoing problem which needs to be addressed.

The lack of bag dispensers in neighborhoods often generate requests for their installation, however installed dispensers must be kept stocked with bags and this too incurs a significant annual cost and a time resource. In town and villages across the county, an agreement is in place that when feasible, the Council will purchase and install the bag dispenser unit provided that the local Tidy Towns group keeps it stocked with bags and incurs the cost which can then be recouped via the Councils anti-litter grant scheme. Under the Litter Pollution Act, dog owners face a litter fine of €150 if they fail to pick up after their dog, therefore before leaving their house, they should be prepared by carrying a bag with them on all dog walks and they should not be depending solely on a public bag dispenser, these are only intended for dog walkers who forget to bring a bag with them on their walk.

A pilot project was undertaken in 2021 to set up dog friendly walking routes, which promoted suggested walking routes for dog walkers that have a litter bin. There was a clear message that if there was no bin available, you must dispose of it at home, dumping bags of dog feces is not acceptable.

The Council rolled out a new dog fouling campaign called "Bag It and Bin It". Dog walkers must be prepared going for a walk and have bags with them and only use Council bag dispensers if they forget theirs. The Council cannot be the sole supplier of bags for dog walkers when they are readily available in shops at very low prices. In Kilkenny City, the 23 bag dispensers cost approximately €10,000 annually to keep them stocked with bags.

4.4 Keeping Bring Banks Litter Free

There are 44 bring bank centers in the county. While there is a service contract in place to ensure they do not reach capacity, there are occasions when this is difficult. Christmas and Easter are problematic periods annually when there can be a surge in usage. At these peak times, Kilkenny County Council works with the service provider to resolve issues as soon as practicable. A cleaning contract is in place to ensure the bottle banks are inspected regularly, with materials cleared away and receptacles power washed regularly to ensure they remain clean and presentable. The CCTV capability at bring centers has improved with the assistance of Anti-Dumping Funding. This enforcement measure does and continues to persuade people keep the bring banks litter free otherwise, a strict policy of no leniency is in place for litter offenders. It is an objective of the Council to continue to keep the bring center capacity at an acceptable level and to keep them maintained by a cleaning contractor. The Council continues to seek new sites to increase capacity across the county.

4.5 Demand and Supply of Litter Bins

The Council must take all practicable measures to prevent the creation of litter in its functional area, including the provision and maintenance of litter bins, as is considered necessary. In this regard, the Council receives numerous requests each year to install litter bins in public places around the County. Litter bins pose a challenge for local communities and the Council. The installation of a litter bin is not the issue but rather the regular cleaning and emptying of bins to ensure they do not become a nuisance themselves to the local environment. The regular servicing of litter bins therefore requires a financial resource over the lifetime of the litter bin.

The other issue based on the Council's experience, is that litter bins often become a target for illegal dumping, that is, householders start using the bin to dispose of household waste, which is illegal under the Litter Pollution Act. This impacts the bins function and capacity, as the bin fills quicker, requiring a more frequent service, disposal costs associated with the bin increases and the household waste, unlike street litter, often can attract rodents as it becomes a source for food, which then becomes a public health issue.

Appendix B outlines the guidance of the placement of litter bins and dog bag dispensers when the Council receives a request. Not all street litter bins are serviced by the Council, many in the small villages are under the stewardship of the local community. They service and dispose of the waste independently of the Council and are supported financially by means of the anti-litter grant. As town and village renewal schemes are implemented, litter bins should be included in the design providing that the relative Council Area Office has capacity to service it. Requests for a placement of a litter bin will be directed to the relevant area office who will then make the decision if the litter bin servicing can be facilitated by Council personnel.

4.6 Unauthorized Temporary Signage

Advertising is a vital component of business activity and a means of providing information to the general public. However, advertising signs, separately, or more particularly, in groups, can cause injury to amenities and can detract from the appearance of an area. They can also be a distraction to road users, as well as being a hindrance to pedestrians, particularly the less abled and those with buggies.

The policy is to support good, creative and necessary temporary signage in appropriate places for appropriate events. It will ensure that the overall presentation of the City and County and the image which it portrays to residents, visitors and potential investors is not negatively affected by inappropriate and unauthorized signage. The aim is not to be anti-business or anti-community but rather to support economic activity, quality of standards and consistency in decision-making.

5. Services and Facilities Provided by Kilkenny County Council

5.1 Street Cleaning Kilkenny City and Environs

An intensive street cleaning schedule exists for Kilkenny City including a 7-day street cleaning service. Street cleaning is undertaken by trained staff using walk-behind sweepers, small road sweepers and a large road sweeper.

Most of the main public spaces and slips / laneways, which characterise the central core area are also subject to intensive street cleaning as and when required, including The Parade, Canal Square, St. Canice's Steps, St. Mary's Steps, Butter Slip. A chewing gum removal programme is also in place on areas of high footfall. In the residential areas a large road sweeper is deployed on a rotational basis to assist the individual residents' associations and groups in keeping their neighborhoods litter free.

5.2 Street Cleaning Municipal District Areas

A street cleaning schedule exists for the municipal district towns covering Castlecomer, Callan, Ferrybank, Graiguenamanagh & Thomastown. Each Municipal District Area Office decides on their local street cleaning schedule and works within the constraints of the annual budget.

5.3 Litter Bins in Municipal District Towns and Villages

Litter bins are serviced in municipal towns and villages by different arrangements depending on their locality. Some communities manage their own local street bins and recoup the cost via the Councils Anti-Litter Grant Scheme.

5.4 Financial Resources for Communities

Kilkenny County Council supports communities who wish to tackle litter in their community and a number of local communities take on the responsibilities of looking after litter bins in their area where the Council is unable to provide such a service. Local communities are supported by their local area office and they have opportunities to draw down funds through Council grants such as the Amenity, Anti-Litter Grant and the Community Environment Action Fund. While the Anti-Litter Grant covers practical expenditure such as litter disposal and recouping costs for dog litter bags, the other grants allow communities to foster an appreciation for their local environment by planting and completing environmental projects that will instill a pride of place.

5.5 Dunmore Waste Disposal and Recycling Centre

Dunmore Waste Disposal and Recycling Centre is located on the outskirts of Kilkenny City, offering a wide range of disposal options for residual, recycling and green waste. They accommodate initiatives such as mattress amnesty days and bulk good collections, on behalf of Kilkenny County Council. It is open 8.00am -4.30pm Monday-Friday and 8.00am-12.00noon on Saturday. With over 60,000 customers annually, it is a popular service utilized by residents and small businesses.

5.6 Grannagh Recycling Centre

Grannagh Recycling Centre is supported by Kilkenny County Council to ensure there is a provision of a waste service in south Kilkenny, similar to the Dunmore Waste Disposal and Recycling Centre. It is open Monday 9am – 5pm, Tuesday; Closed, Wednesday 9am – 5pm, Thursday 9am – 6pm Friday 9am – 5pm, Saturday 8am – 3pm. Closed Sundays. They accept both waste and recycling with a similar pricing structure of Dunmore Waste Disposal and Recycling Centre.

5.7 Participation in National Schemes

Kilkenny County Council works in collaboration with different stakeholders to optimize opportunities for the public to dispose of their waste responsibly. The Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications developed an Anti-Dumping Initiative, which is coordinated through the Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authorities (WERLAs) and has enabled Kilkenny County Council to hold a series of amnesty days to ensure the public can dispose of bulky items like furniture and mattresses for free or at a discounted rate. These events will continue provided national funding is made available.

WEEE Ireland continues to provide Saturday collections to collect household electrical items and batteries. Kilkenny Council will continue to liaise with WEEE Ireland to ensure the maximum number of collections occur annually.

6. Objectives & Actions of the Litter Management Plan 2024-2026

1. Promotion and Recycling

1.	Ensure adequate servicing and cleaning of existing bring facilities to encourage use. Identify any shortfall in existing bring centers and provide further receptacles where required to improve service and ensure availability of accessible recycling and waste disposal facilities, and upgrade to best practice models as resources allow.
2.	Identify communities which would benefit from new bring center facilities
3.	Continue with the upgrade of bring center signage.
4.	Promote awareness of our recycling facilities through information campaigns.
5.	Continue with enforcement actions arising from littering at bring centers to deter further littering
6.	Monitor level of service provided by service providers.
7.	Review of the bin allocation/installation to communities by the Area Office's.
8	Promote positive environmental action and awareness throughout the County by working in conjunction with community groups, voluntary groups and organizations, businesses, and members of the public to encourage them to participate in anti-litter initiatives.

2. Enforcement

1.	Monitor authorised & unauthorized End of Life Vehicles sites.
2.	Communicate clearly the steps involved in making a complaint, and subsequent expectations of complainants.
3.	Monitor authorised and unauthorized Construction & Demolition waste site
4.	Investigate Illegal Dumping, including waste management bye laws enforcement.
5.	Pursue Unauthorized Waste Collectors.
6.	Pursue Unauthorized Sites of Concern.
7.	Complete checks on commercial food operators to ensure compliance of the Food Waste regulations.
8.	Complete checks on commercial operators regarding their management of Commercial Dry Recyclables and Back Door packaging, in line with the Packaging regulations.
9.	Encourage and promote the reporting of illegal dumping and littering via the litter line 1800-200- 156.
10.	Utilize CCTV when legal basis is in place
11.	Address the results and recommendations of IBAL, National Tidy Towns Competition and the Annual National Litter and Quantification Performance Indicators.
12.	Complete annual returns for the National Litter Pollution Monitoring System and RMCEI.
13.	Tackle the issue of dog fouling with enforcement, signage and where appropriate, bags and bins for disposal.
14.	Increase the usage of other technology including smart phones, tablets, applications, and data collection systems to improve the success of enforcement, monitoring, and action against offenders.

3. Educate and Raise Public Awareness

1.	Communicate anti-litter messages via public campaigns.
2.	Continue to Support the Green School Programme, work with youth programmes to communicate the anti-litter message.
3.	To reinforce the core "anti-litter" message and actions of the Green Schools Litter and Waste flag among all Kilkenny primary and secondary schools, colleges and other educational facilities, irrespective of current Green School status.
4.	Support Tidy Town entrants & proactive community groups and continue to support the Tidy Towns Forum.
5.	Support and promote community clean ups.
6.	Implement waste prevention campaigns to eliminate/decrease use of single use plastic.
7.	Liaise with stakeholders with common interests to combat litter collectively and to increase access of litter awareness information to all sections of society i.e. easy to read format, other languages and formats.
8.	To use the National Litter Monitoring System to inform priorities for an annual education and awareness campaign(s); in addition to the "litter conscious citizen" concept.
9.	Complete promotions on enforcement advancement and successful outcomes within the limits of the Data Protection Act.
10.	Continue to update the Environmental Page of the Kilkenny County Council website on all matters relating to Environment.
11.	To work with voluntary and business groups in their efforts to promote and deliver a litter-free Kilkenny.
12.	Actively encourage and support participation of residents' associations, estate management groups and other voluntary groups in litter awareness programs.
13.	To encourage multi agency cooperation, shared learning and partnerships to positively impact on litter amongst both the business and vol and community sectors to deliver a litter-free Kilkenny
14.	To assist community and business groups in their clean-up campaigns, i.e. through provision of equipment, coordination of disposal, promotion of campaigns, and acknowledgement of efforts
15.	Ensure all businesses are aware of their legal responsibilities in relation to litter within the curtilage of their premises, and litter created by their customers

Kilkenny County Council Street Cleaning and Litter Prevention

1.	Replace litter bins that are deemed no longer fit for purpose when funding becomes available
2.	Litter bin installation to be considered under village and town renewal schemes
3.	Road sweeper schedule to be maintained throughout the city and county and reviewed annually in accordance to available budgets
4.	City's Litter Prevention Measures to be continued and reviewed annually
5.	Municipal District Offices to continue Litter Prevention Measures and co-ordinate with communities as appropriate
6.	Support local communities via funding to ensure they can continue local litter prevention measures
7.	Co-ordinate waste prevention measures to limit the amount of litter being generated by promoting schemes such as reusable drink bottles, the placement of public water fonts as infrastructure is being developed
8.	Complete a feasibility study on the installation of litter bins with segregation units for dry recyclables and food/compostable waste in areas of street food vendors
9.	Kilkenny County Council and its contractors where feasible are to litter pick after dredging roadside ditches, before grass cutting and after construction works to ensure the area is left litter free post works
10.	Kilkenny County Council will actively promote its range of waste services available throughout the county and work with the waste management industry operating within the county to ensure the public are aware what waste and recycling services are available in their local area.
11.	Ensure that work practices within Kilkenny County Council do not contribute to litter
12.	Liaise with Climate Action Team, Town Regeneration Team and other relevant departments to integrate litter and waste management into sustainable community plans

Performance Indicators

There are a number of indicators and measures that will help determine if Kilkenny County Council activities as outlined in this Plan are effective in combating litter. Some indicators are completed by external bodies, others are tracked internally.

Recommended Minimum Criteria Environment Inspections (RMCEI) Plan.

Kilkenny County Council sets out waste enforcement priorities annually in consultation with the Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authorities (WERLA). These are aligned with the National Priorities as set-out by the EPA. Waste enforcement activities are tracked under the Recommended Minimum Criteria for Environmental Inspections (RMCEI) Plan. The plan covers a large portfolio of enforcement duties and includes enforcement relating to litter and illegal dumping.

2022-NEP-Progress-Report-2.pdf (irishriverproject.com)

National Litter Monitoring System

The National Litter Monitoring System developed by the Department of Communication, Climate Action and Environment enables each Local Authority to analyse the extent and severity of litter pollution in their functional areas, the types the sources and causes of litter. These results are issued annually and highlight areas which require attention.

Local Authority Performance Indicators

The National Oversight and Audit Commission (NOAC) - Local Authority Performance Indicator Report includes indicators concerning the percentage area of graded litter pollution, the participation levels of the Green Schools Programme and the number of households availing of a 3-bin service.

The median percentage of local authority area within the five levels of litter pollution data, was consistent for the period 2015 to 2021 and showed slight and moderately polluted areas ranging between 66% to 64% and 15% to 13%, respectively. However, there was little incidence of significant pollution with a maximum of 2% in 2017. The level of areas with no pollution increased from 14% to 22% during the period.

Left to right - NOAC Chair Michael McCarthy, AILG President and Cathaoirleach of Kilkenny County Council Pat Fitzpatrick and Minister for Heritage and Electoral Reform Malcom Noonan T.D.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the 3-year litter management plan for County Kilkenny aligns with both the national litter management plan for a circular economy and the EU Waste Framework Directive, aiming to effectively address littering issues while promoting a sustainable and environmentally friendly approach.

The plan incorporates various strategies to tackle litter problems, including public awareness campaigns, educational programs, continued maintenance and enhanced waste collection and recycling infrastructure, and strict enforcement measures. These measures are designed to not only alleviate the immediate littering problem but also to foster a culture of responsible waste management and resource conservation among the county's residents and visitors.

By adhering to the principles of a circular economy, the plan encourages a shift towards reducing waste generation, reusing materials, and recycling as much as possible. It recognizes the value of resources and strives to minimize their loss by promoting waste prevention, proper segregation, and the development and roll out of targeted local campaigns. This approach will contribute to a more sustainable and resilient community for County Kilkenny, aligning with the broader national and EU objectives.

Furthermore, the plan acknowledges the importance of collaboration and partnership with local stakeholders, businesses, community groups, and relevant governmental agencies. By fostering cooperation and engaging all members of society, the plan aims to foster a sense of ownership and collective responsibility towards keeping Kilkenny clean and litter-free.

Appendices

1.Promotion and Recycling

	Action	Target/Stakeholder	Measure	Indicator
	Ensure adequate servicing and cleaning of existing bring facilities to encourage use. Identify any shortfall in existing bring centres and provide further receptacles where required to improve service and ensure availability of accessible recycling and waste disposal facilities, and upgrade to best practice models as resources allow.	46 Bring Centres	Frequency determined by site activity	No of Collections P/A
			Once per annum site	No. of Cleaning Services P/A
	Identify communities which would benefit from new bring centre facilities	Community Leaders	On going interaction with Groups	No of New Bring Centres P/A
	Continue with the upgrade of bring centre signage.	46 Bring Centres	As per required from site audits	• No. upgraded to date • No. upgraded P/A
	Promote awareness of our recycling facilities through information campaigns.	Communities	On Going	No. of campaigns P/A
	Continue with enforcement actions arising from littering at bring centres to deter further littering	Enforcement Team	CCTV approved by oversight committee	No. of fines issued
	Monitor level of service provided by service providers.	Env Department	WERLA to send on no. of service providers requiring audits	No. of reviews p/a
	Review of the bin allocation/ installation to communities by the Area Office's.	MD offices and Area Engineers	Map bins on GIS	• No. of Reviews p/a • No. of Bin Installations
	Promote positive environmental action and awareness throughout the County by working in conjunction with community groups, voluntary groups and organizations, businesses, and members of the public to encourage them to participate in anti-litter initiatives.	Environment Dept and EAO	On Going	• No. of Campaigns p/a • No. of Litter Clean Up's p/a

2. Enforcement

	Action	Target/Stakeholder	Measure	Indicator
1.	Monitor authorised & unauthorized End of Life Vehicles sites.	• Authorised ELV sites • Unauthorised ELV sites • Social Media	• One site audit per annum on authorised sites • As Agencies require	• No. of Planned Inspections • No. of Multi Agency Actions
2.	Communicate clearly the steps involved in making a complaint, and subsequent expectations of complainants.	• Householders • Communities • Businesses • Social Media • LA Website • Traditional Media	On Going	No. of Complaints
3.	Monitor authorised and unauthorized Construction & Demolition waste site	• Construction sites • Authorised Sites • Unauthorised sites • Waste Collection Permit Holders	Each authorised Site to be visited at least once per annum	• Number of planned inspections • Annual Return Data on NWCPO • No. of complaints
4.	Investigate Illegal Dumping, including waste management bye laws enforcement.	• Rogue operators • Social Media • Businesses • Householders	No of site investigations on RMCEI at end of calendar yr	• No of Complaints • No of Enforcement Actions • No. of clean ups per annum
5.	Pursue Unauthorized Waste Collectors.	• Householders • Communities • Businesses • Social Media	No of Unauthorised collectors identified through WERLA/ NWCPO	• No of Complaints • No of Enforcement Actions • No. of multi-agency actions
6.	Pursue Unauthorized Sites of Concern.	• Large sites of illegal dumping • Possible criminal activity	No of site investigations on RMCEI at end of calendar yr	No of Sites identified per annum
7.	Complete checks on commercial food operators to ensure compliance of the Food Waste regulations	• Hotels • Nursing Homes • Restaurants	WERLA to send on no. of service providers requiring audits	25 Planned Inspections for the year
8.	Complete checks on commercial operators regarding their management of Commercial Dry Recyclables and Back Door packaging, in line with the Packaging regulations	Businesses identified through PRI schemes from our WERLA offices	Data on unregistered commercial operators to come from WERLA	• No. of planned inspections • No. of Enforcement actions
9.	Encourage and promote the reporting of illegal dumping and littering via the litter line 1800-200- 156.	• Businesses • Householders • Communities	On Going	• No. of Complaints • No. of Litter Fines • No. of Enforcement Actions
10.	Utilize CCTV when legal basis is in place	46 Bring Centres	No of approved sites from CCTV oversight committee	No. with CCTV to date 3.No. upgraded p/a
11.	Address the results and recommendations of IBAL, National Tidy Towns Competition and the Annual National Litter and Quantification Performance Indicators.	• Bring Centres • Businesses • Communities • Public Realm • Social Media • Traditional Media	On Going	• IBAL Summer Report • IBAL Annual Report • National Tidy Towns Competition • National Litter Monitoring System Report
12.	Complete annual returns for the National Litter Pollution Monitoring System and RMCEI.	Environmental Department	Qtrly RMCEI meetings and data uploaded to NEMIS	• Complete interim and Annual Reports for RMCEI • Complete feedback where requested for Litter Monitoring System
13.	Tackle the issue of dog fouling with enforcement, signage and where appropriate, bags and bins for disposal.	• Communities • Public realm • Social Media • Traditional Media	On Going	No. of Community Wardens per MD No. of fines p/a
14.	Increase the usage of other technology including smart phones, tablets, applications, and data collection systems to improve the success of enforcement, monitoring, and action against offenders.	Environmental Enforcement Dept	On Going	• Use of drones • Mapping of Sites

3. Education and Raise Public Awareness

	Action	Target/Stakeholder	Measure	Indicator
1.	Communicate anti-litter messages via public campaigns.	• Schools • Communities • Businesses	On Going	No. of initiatives annually
2.	Continue to Support the Green School Programme, work with youth programmes to communicate the anti-litter message.	Continue the increase in the number of schools taking part in this programme	92 schools as of March 2024. Ongoing.	NOAC-Local Authority Performance Indicator
3.	To reinforce the core "anti-litter" message and actions of the Green Schools Litter and Waste flag among all Kilkenny primary and secondary schools, colleges, and other educational facilities, irrespective of current Green School status.	• Green Schools • SETU	Continuous monitoring of participating schools	• No. of schools who have a Litter and Waste Flag • No. of schools who participate in Clean Up's
4.	Support Tidy Town entrants & proactive community groups and continue to support the Tidy Towns Forum.	• Tidy town groups • Active Community Groups	2 Forums per annum	No. of tidy town entrants annually
5.	Support and promote community clean ups.	• Schools • Communities • Businesses	Ongoing	No. of clean ups per annually
6.	Implement waste prevention campaigns to eliminate/decrease use of single use plastic.	• Schools • Communities • Businesses	Ongoing	No. of initiatives annually
7.	Liaise with stakeholders with common interests to combat litter collectively and to increase access of litter awareness information to all sections of society i.e. easy to read format, other languages, and formats.	• Schools • Communities • Businesses • NGO's • Access Officer within Kilkenny LA	Ongoing	No. of Stakeholders engagement annually
8.	To use the National Litter Monitoring System to inform priorities for an annual education and awareness campaign(s); in addition to the "litter conscious citizen" concept.	• EAO • Relevant Stakeholders • Community • Businesses • LA	Litter composition as set out in Litter Monitoring Report	• Amount of campaigns being undertaken • Data produced annually by LMS re Litter Composition in the County
9.	Complete promotions on enforcement advancement and successful outcomes within the limits of the Data Protection Act.	• Communities	As required	• No. of News Releases Issued • No. of Social Media Posts issued
10.	Continue to update the Environmental Page of the Kilkenny County Council website on all matters relating to Environment.	• Environmental Website	On Going	• No. of pages • Amount of new content • No. of visitors to the page
11.	To work with voluntary and business groups in their efforts to promote and deliver a litter-free Kilkenny.	• Schools • Chamber of Commerce • PPN • Community Dept of Kilkenny LA • KLP • Tidy Towns Groups • Volunteer Centre • Youth Clubs	Ongoing engagement with all groups	• No. of stakeholders engaged with • No. of initiatives completed
12.	Actively encourage and support participation of residents' associations, estate management groups and other voluntary groups in litter awareness programs	• Communities • MD Offices • Residential Estates • PPN	No. of registrations with MD offices	• No. of initiatives completed
13.	To encourage multi agency cooperation, shared learning, and partnerships to positively impact on litter amongst both the business and vol and community sectors to deliver a litter-free Kilkenny	• KLP • Chamber of Commerce • Volunteer Centre • TT Forum • Climate Action Team • Town Rejuvenation Team	Ongoing	• Amount of collaborative projects and programmes per annum • Amount of meetings throughout the year with stakeholders
14.	To assist community and business groups in their clean-up campaigns, i.e. through provision of equipment, coordination of disposal, promotion of campaigns, and acknowledgement of efforts	• Residential groups • Tidy Towns • Communities • Businesses • Schools	On Going	• Amount of Clean Up's P/A • Amount of Requests for Supplies • No. of registrations for National • Spring Clean and Team Up to Clean Up
15.	Ensure all businesses are aware of their legal responsibilities in relation to litter within the curtilage of their premises, and litter created by their customers	• Chamber of Commerce • LEO	Ongoing	• IBAL results • No. of Information campaigns

4. Kilkenny County Council Street Cleaning and Litter Prevention

	Action	Target/Stakeholder	Measure	Indicator
1.	Replace litter bins that are deemed no longer fit for purpose when funding becomes available	Considered when appropriate	As requested	No. of litter bins replaced annually
2.	Litter bin installation to be considered under village and town renewal schemes	Considered for appropriate schemes	To be reviewed with new Town & Village Renewal Team	No. of new installations annually
3.	Road sweeper schedule to be maintained throughout the city and county and reviewed annually in accordance with available budgets	Maintain level of service	Ongoing	No. of hours per month
4.	City's Litter Prevention Measures to be continued and reviewed annually	Retain all current measures	As part of Management Team of Borough	No. of measures per annum
5.	Municipal District Offices to continue Litter Prevention Measures and co-ordinate with communities as appropriate	Retain all current measures	As required	Retain all current measures
6.	Support local communities via funding to ensure they can continue local litter prevention measures	Maximise number of applications for available supports	Dependent on sum of grant available nationally	• No. of grants provided annually. • Grant funded amounts per annum
7.	Co-ordinate waste prevention measures to limit the amount of litter being generated by promoting schemes such as reusable drink bottles, the placement of public water fonts as infrastructure is being developed	• Co-ordinate measures with national initiatives • Seek out potential community projects via the Waste • Prevention Grant	• Ongoing active participation in DRS • Support REPAK measures	• No. of initiatives completed per annum • No. of waste prevention grants approved per annum
8.	Complete a feasibility study on the installation of litter bins with segregation units for dry recyclables and food/compostable waste in areas of street food vendors	• Complete a minimum of one trial period at the • City Market to determine feasibility	Use of 3 bin system for all street food vendors	KG of organic waste diverted per trial.
9.	Kilkenny County Council and its contractors where feasible are to litter pick after dredging roadside ditches, before grass cutting and after construction works to ensure the area is left litter free post works	Considered where appropriate and feasible	Ongoing	No. of contracts per annum
10.	Kilkenny County Council will actively promote its range of waste services available throughout the county and work with the waste management industry operating within the county to ensure the public are aware what waste and recycling services are available in their local area.	• Maintain level of service • Work with existing contractors re same	• No. of contract s in place • Regular meetings with contractors • Include action 10 on meeting agenda	Annual report from contractors
11.	Ensure that work practices within Kilkenny County Council do not contribute to litter	• Raise awareness amongst staff • Provision of education & awareness workshops where relevant	• Use of segregated bins within Council buildings • Toolbox talks	• Proper segregation of waste • Continued monitoring re same
12.	Liaise with Climate Action Team, Town Regeneration Team, and other relevant departments to integrate litter and waste management into sustainable community plans	• Climate Action Team • Town Regeneration Team • Biodiversity Officer • Parks and Wildlife • Roads • Community	Ongoing	• EAO sit on relevant steering groups and working groups • Delivery upon actions identified under specific plans.