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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

Email: Corporate.Services@fingal.ie

County Hall
Swords
Co. Dublin

Tuesday 21st March 2023

To Each Member of the Climate Action, Biodiversity, Environment Strategic Policy Committee

Dear Member

A meeting of the Climate Action, Biodiversity, Environment Strategic Policy Committee will be held on MS Teams at 4.30pm on Tuesday, 28th March, 2023 to consider the following Agenda.

Yours Faithfully

Nikki Halleran
Meetings Administrator
Corporate Services

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A G E N D A

- 1 Confirmation and Re-Affirmation of Minutes of Climate Action, Biodiversity, Environment SPC meeting held on Tuesday 20th December 2022
- 2 Braymore Wind Park Project

3 RMCEI update**MOTIONS****4 Councillor A. Tormey - Implementation of Bye-Laws**

“That the Chief Executive provide a report on how Litter and Dog Fouling bye-laws are implemented including details and locations for fines issued this Summer”.

5 Councillor P. Mulville - Special Amenity Area Orders (SAAO) for Rogerstown, Malahide and Baldoyle Estuaries

“That the Chief Executive, given the recent making of the new County Development Plan, outlines her best estimate as to when the process can commence to put in place Special Amenity Area Orders (SAAO) for Rogerstown, Malahide and Baldoyle Estuaries given the urgent need for Special Amenity Area Orders designations as vital to aid the conservation of these European sites and the habitats, flora and fauna that they have been designated to protect, given the Climate and Biodiversity Emergency declared by Dáil Éireann in May 2019, and the recent pressing recommendations of the Citizens' Assembly on Biodiversity Loss in November 2022.”

**Comhairle Contae Fingal
Fingal County Council**

Minutes of Climate Action, Biodiversity, Environment Strategic Policy Committee

Tuesday, 20th December, 2022

PRESENT

Councillor David Healy, Councillor Joe Newman, Councillor Pamela Conroy, Councillor Mary McCamley, Edward Stevenson, Councillor John Walsh, Dominique Sandy, ICLEI

Apologies for inability to attend were received for Councillor Paul Mulville, Councillor Aoibhinn Tormey

The Chairperson, Councillor David Healy, Presided.

OFFICIALS PRESENT

David Storey, Director of Services; John Daly, Senior Engineer; Catherine O'Donovan; Senior Executive Officer, Aoife Sheridan Kevin Halpenny, Ronan O'Reilly, Senior Executive Engineer, Aileen O'Connor, Senior Executive Parks Superintendent; Hans Visser, Executive Parks Superintendent; Paul Smyth, Senior Executive Officer; Maria Hand, Senior Staff Officer

CABE/23/22 (Agenda Item No 1)

**Confirmation and Re-Affirmation of Minutes of Climate Action, Biodiversity,
Environment SPC meeting held on 25th October 2022**

The minutes were proposed by Councillor D. Healy and seconded by Councillor P. Conroy.

The minutes of the meetings of the 25th October 2022, were **AGREED**.

CABE/24/22 (Agenda Item No 2)

Circular Economy Presentation

Presentation was given by Mr Dominique Sandy, ICLEI. Questions asked by various members were answered by Mr Sandy and was **AGREED** by all to sign declaration. This will now go to the next CPG meeting.

CABE/25/22 (Agenda Item No 3)

Fingal Biodiversity Action Plan

Presentation was given by Mr Visser. It was agreed to bring proposal for Biodiversity Forum to next CPG meeting.

CABE/26/22 (Agenda Item No 4)

Climate Action Plan - Annual Progress Report

Presentation given by Mr Ronan O'Reilly which was followed by discussion and questions from the members. The 3 year plan was **APPROVED** by all members and will be brought to the next CPG meeting.

MOTIONS

CABE/28/22 (Agenda Item No 6)

E. Stevenson - Fingal County Council Glyphosate Usage

"The Public Participation Network Climate Change, Environment and Water Linkage Group proposes that the Chief Executive takes measures to ensure that glyphosate is not used in the Fingal area, especially around playgrounds, public playing fields and graveyards by Fingal staff or any contractors."

Response

In relation to the general overall Pesticide policy currently being operated by Fingal County Council, the Council has used several non-chemical weed control alternatives over the last number of years, including some vinegar-based solutions, hot steam/foam applicators and mechanical brushing techniques. All systems tried have a noticeably short reaction time and will result in increasing the labour input to match the reapplication visits required. Traditional herbicide application would require one to two visits annually, while a vinegar-based solution applied via traditional knapsack applicator will require a minimum of approximately 10 applications during the growing season.

During 2021 the Council engaged in a pilot project using Hot Foam Treatment as a non-chemical weed solution in selected trial locations. The method and results of this trial indicate that use of this system will significantly increase the labour input. The objective of the trial was to find a suitable alternative with an applicator system that can be used within our current maintenance regime. The initial observations on the trials have already highlighted that there is not one single replacement alternative to glyphosate but instead it will require multiple changes in how we design and maintain the public realm.

Work has commenced on the production of a formal Herbicide Policy for the County. The trials carried out during 2021 and a period of public consultation will feed into this process. It is important to remember that the levels of herbicide being used are extremely low and necessary in all circumstances. Finding alternative suitable solutions is a process that requires careful consideration and planning as it has an enormous knock-on effect on how staff carry out the regular expected maintenance

in the public realm. It is planned that Fingal County Council will have a Draft Pesticide Policy prepared in December 2022 which will be discussed by the SPC prior to being put out on display for public consultation, in Quarter 1 2023. The Council is also liaising with the other local authorities as part of a National Scientific Assessment of Alternatives to Herbicide Use in the Maintenance of Amenity Public Open Spaces.

To simply stop all use without an alternative plan in place is not considered feasible and until a working Herbicide Policy is agreed and in place, the Council will continue to use the very minimum necessary levels that complies with all current legislative requirements. During 2022 there has been a phased reduction in the use of Chemical Herbicides with the result that chemical herbicides are not being used in public open spaces, around playgrounds and residential open spaces, as they had been previously. In the most challenging areas, along the kerb lines on the main roads that access routes into towns and villages and, within the rural graveyards where weed growth around headstones can become very problematic, the Council has continued to use chemical herbicide in a controlled manner.

Report **ACCEPTED**.

CABE/29/22 (Agenda Item No 7)

Councillor D. Healy - Segregation of Commercial Waste

“That this Committee recommends that the Chief Executive amends the Segregation, Storage and Presentation of Household and Commercial Waste Bye-Laws 2020 to require the segregation of commercial waste for recycling in a similar manner as is currently required for household waste.”

Response

It has been estimated that 70% of waste in commercial black bins is recyclable (organic and dry recyclables). This is notwithstanding that there are existing legal obligations on commercial waste producers to segregate and arrange for separate collection of food waste and packaging waste.

From observation, it is likely that most commercial organisations have at least a twin collection service for dry recyclables and residual waste however segregation is not happening to a sufficient degree, most likely due to failure of employees and customers to segregate food waste and other recyclable material and is more likely to be a problem in catering and retail businesses selling food.

It is unlikely that amending the waste presentation byelaws would make a significant difference to this problem. What is required is the education of businesses and their employees and enforcement of the existing obligations regarding waste of which a there are many and more to come.

The Council has planned a project to enforce the requirement under the waste presentation byelaws for households to require a waste collection service (with exemptions) and it is likely that the experience of this project will discover

deficiencies in the bye-laws which would initiate a review towards the end of 2023. In addition, the adoption of the new waste management plan may also require a review of the bye-laws

It is recommended that the bye-laws are not amended now but a review of the bye-laws be carried out towards the end of 2023 following the experience of enforcing the household obligation and the publication of the national waste plan.

Report **ACCEPTED**

CABE/30/22 (Agenda Item No 8)

Councillor J. Newman - Biodiversity Action Plan

"That this Strategic Policy Committee recognises that a decisive Biodiversity Action Plan for Fingal relates to multiple Regional, National and EU targets and as part of the funding support for Biodiversity Action in Fingal we should have access to a process like LAWPRO (<https://lawwaters.ie/>), this will help to establish a multifaceted strategy for actions on targets which are beyond the sole control of Fingal. We call on the Chief Executive, as a matter of urgency, to secure external human and financial resources to improve Fingal's biodiversity status."

This motion was taken with Item 03 on agenda and **AGREED**.

The Meeting concluded at 18.32.

CHAIRPERSON

DATED

Agenda Item 2

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE CLIMATE ACTION, BIODIVERSITY, ENVIRONMENT
STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 28TH MARCH 2023

ITEM NO. 02

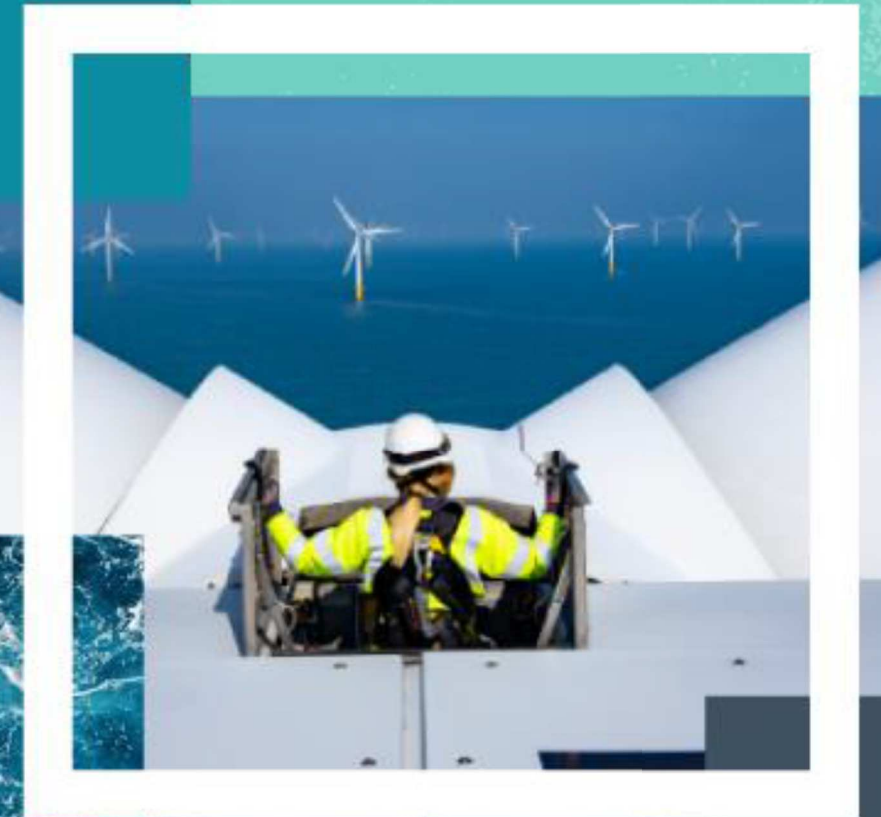
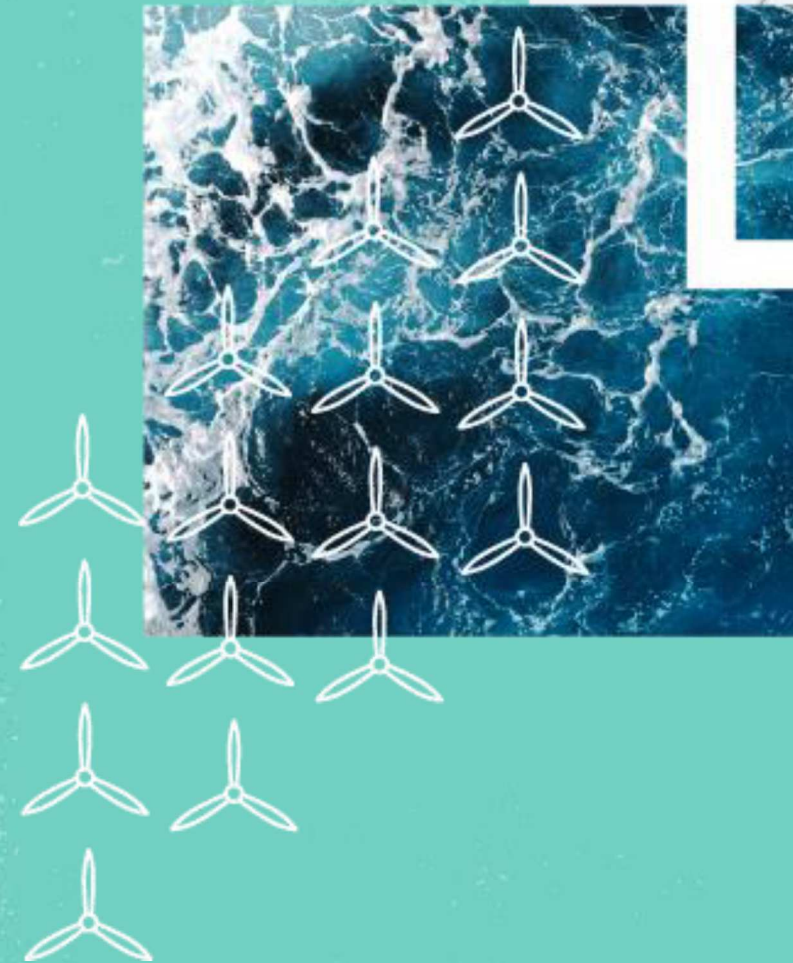
BRAYMORE WIND PARK PROJECT

Presentation given at the meeting.

Setanta Wind Park

Fingal County Council – Climate Action,
Biodiversity, Environment SPC

28 March, 2023





We are the leading developer and operator of wind power in Ireland, we have 27 wind farms across the island of Ireland. We are the largest operator of community funds having invested €14 million since 2002.



We supply over 720,000 customers with green renewable energy and natural gas, as well as energy efficient and rooftop solar installations

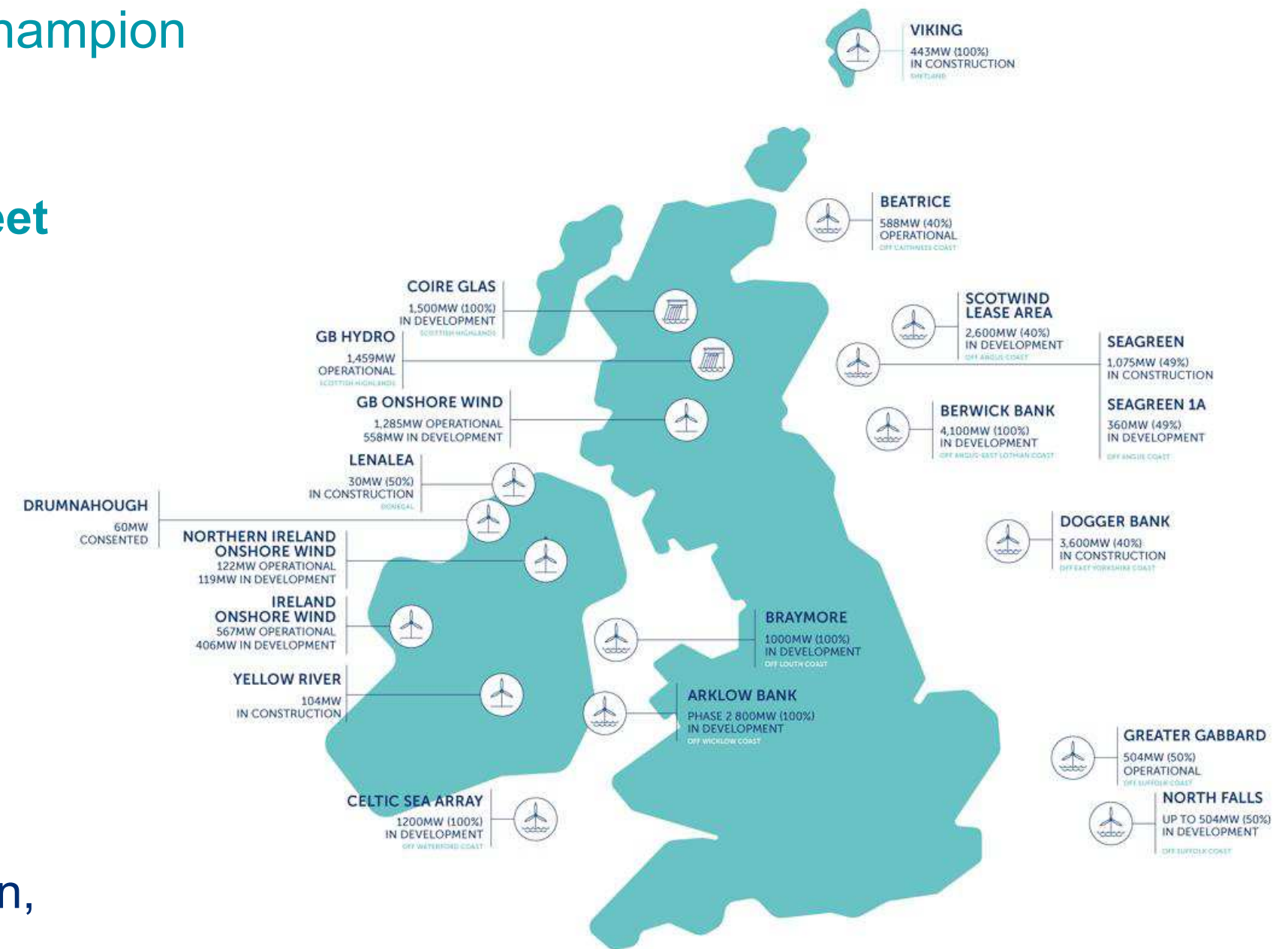


We own and operate four thermal power plants, totaling 1,292 MWs, including Ireland's most efficient, Great Island Power Station.

A RENEWABLE ENERGY PIONEER

The UK and Ireland's clean energy champion

- Our **4GW operational renewables fleet** is the largest in the UK and Ireland:
 - Onshore wind (2GW);
 - Offshore wind (0.5GW);
 - Hydro power (1.5GW).
- **12.5bn** capital investment over next 5 years
- Industry-leading **11GW secured pipeline** in the UK and Ireland.
- International interests in Europe, Japan, USA.



Ireland's Targets

Climate Action Act, 2023

- Climate Neutrality by 2050
- 51% Reduction in emissions by 2030

2025

- 51% electricity from renewables
 - 6GW onshore wind

2030

- 80% electricity from renewables
 - 5GW offshore wind
 - 9GW onshore wind / 8GW Solar



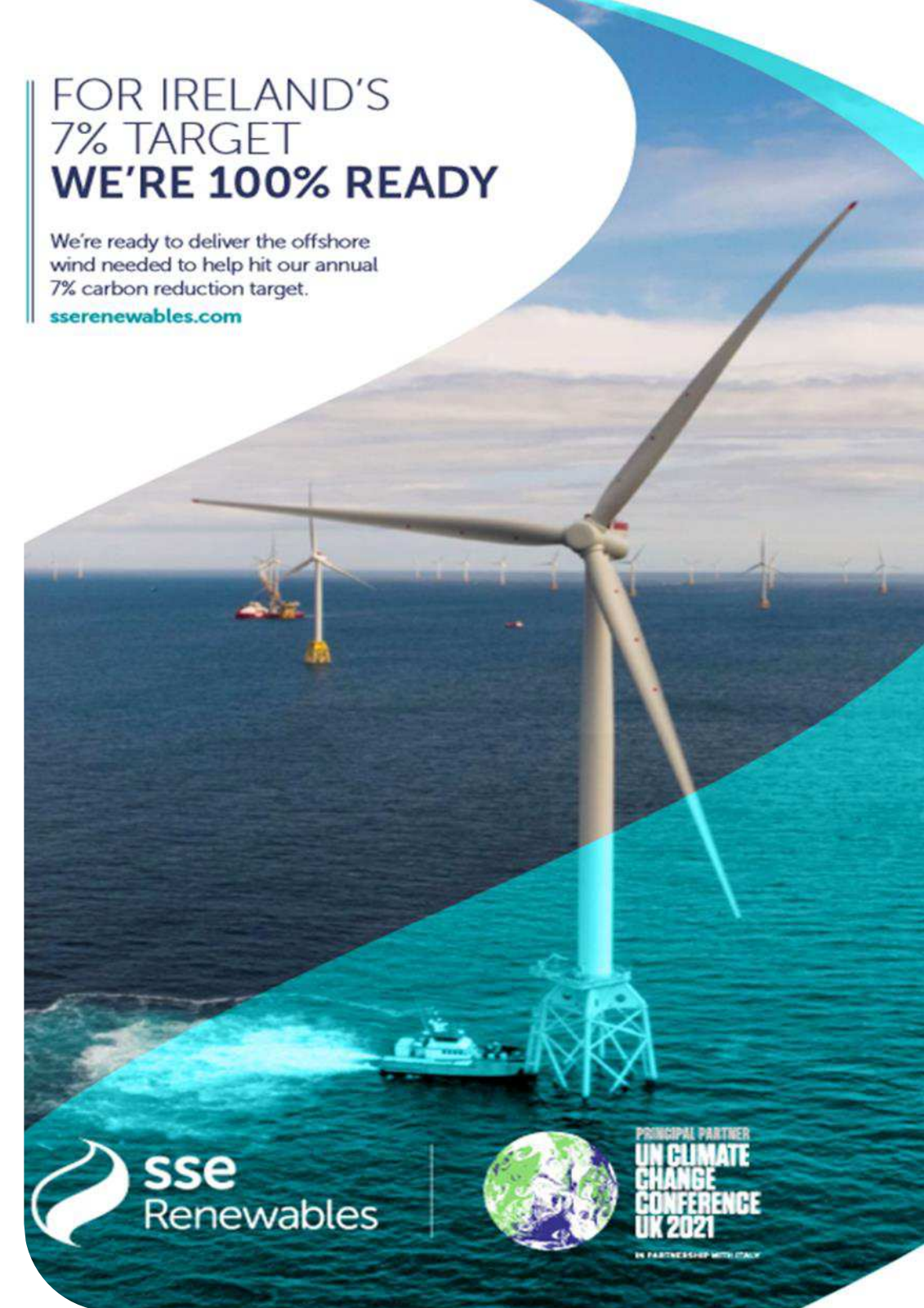
SSE Targets

- **2025**
- 150MW onshore wind
- **2030**
- 550MW onshore wind
- €6bn investment in offshore wind in Ireland
 - Arklow Bank: 800MW
 - Setanta: ~1GW
 - Celtic Sea Array: ~1.2GW
- **Beyond 2030**
- Substantial offshore investment / floating technology
- Net Zero before 2050

FOR IRELAND'S
7% TARGET
WE'RE 100% READY

We're ready to deliver the offshore
wind needed to help hit our annual
7% carbon reduction target.

sserenewables.com



 **sse**
Renewables

PRINCIPAL PARTNER
**UN CLIMATE
CHANGE
CONFERENCE
UK 2021**
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY

BENEFITS



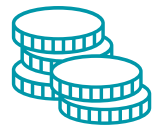
1GW of green renewable energy



Over 1 million homes powered annually



Over 1 billion kg of carbon offset annually



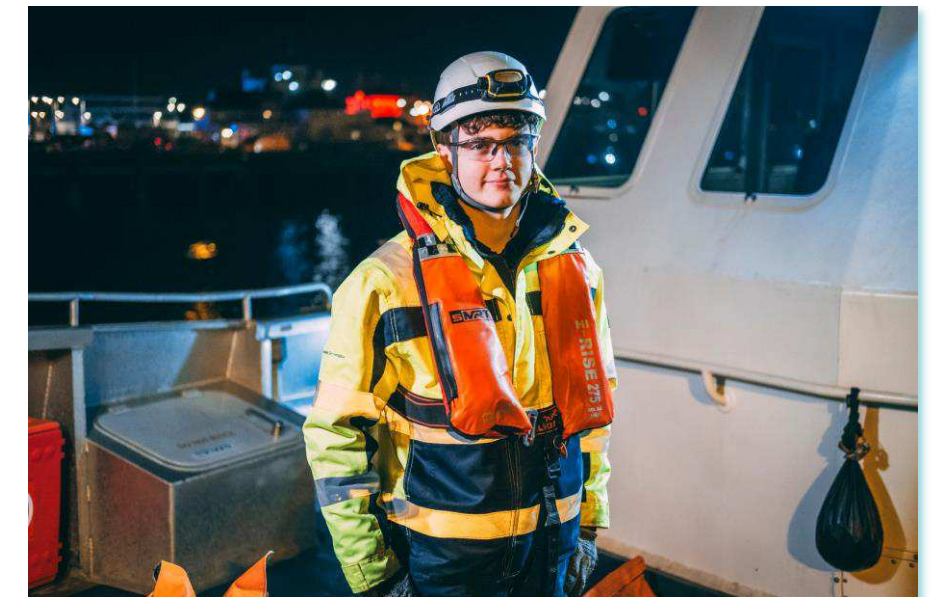
Multimillion euro annual community fund



Job creation and local investment



Positive contribution to Ireland's Climate Action Targets



Offshore Ambition

Arklow Bank – Phase 1

- c800MW, located off Arklow, Co. Wicklow
- Foreshore Licence / OGI /OMF consent achieved
- Offshore consent via ABP
- Targeting operation 2029

Setanta Wind Park

- Up to 1GW, located off Drogheda, Co. Louth
- Foreshore Licence secured

Celtic Sea Array

- C1.2GW, located off Dungarvan, Co. Waterford
- Foreshore Licence applied for March 2019



Offshore Policy Framework

Accelerating Ireland's Offshore Energy Programme

Policy Statement on the
Framework for Phase Two
Offshore Wind

March 2023

Change of direction on offshore wind farms raises investors' fears

Energy industry experts warn that the government's sudden policy shift will make it much harder for Ireland to meet its 2030 targets

Ireland likely to miss 2030 renewable energy targets due to offshore wind policy U-turn

Mid-process move to centralised plan-led system leading to uncertainty among international wind energy investors

Phasing of Projects

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Phase 1

- Near term
- Developer-led
- 7 relevant projects
- MACS issued
- ORESS opens April '23

Phase 2

- Pre-2030
- Plan-led ie: DMAP zones
- Balance to meet 5GW
- Follows grid capacity
- Initial 700MW

Phase 3

- In development by 2030
- 2GW Floating
- Potential for H2

Phase 4

- Post 2030 -Enduring regime
- OREDPII will guide DMAPS
- Consultation ongoing
- Policy statement 2023

Consenting process

Overview of Consents



Maritime Area Consent (MAC)

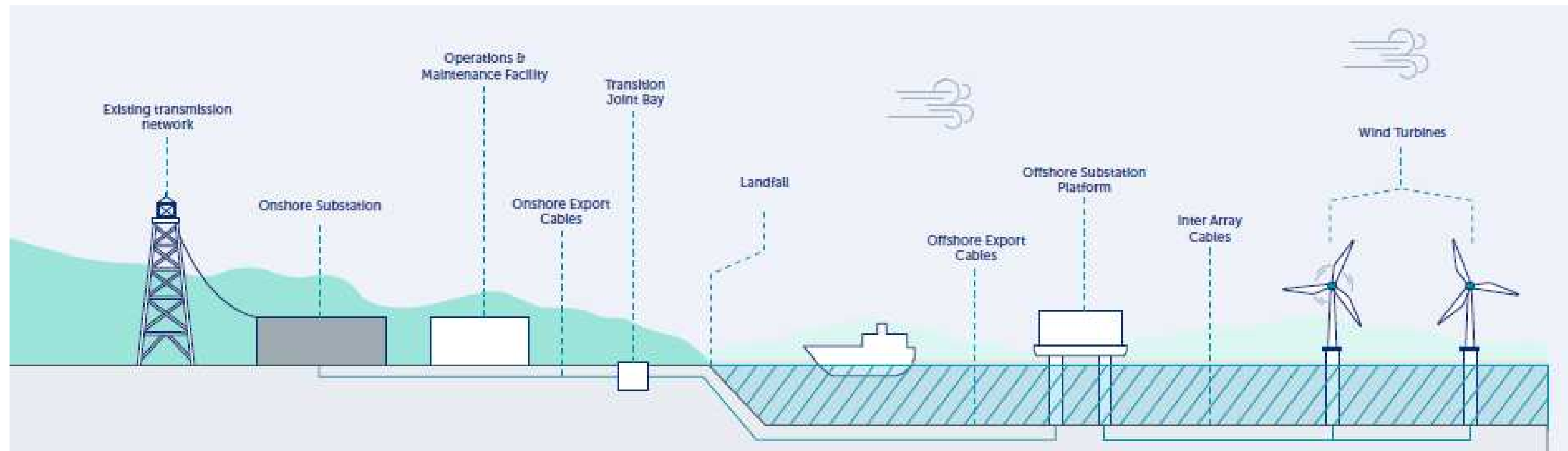
- New process
- Apply to the Maritime Area Regulatory Authority
- Enables occupation of the seabed
- Any developer seeking to construct and operate a development on a publicly owned part of the maritime area will need to apply for a MAC

Planning permission

- Similar to historic process for development permission(s)
- Apply to An Bord Pleanála
- Enables construction and operation of the offshore wind farm (and associated infrastructure)
- Subject to EIA and AA procedures – i.e. Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Appropriate Assessment documentation will be prepared with EIA Scoping in advance.

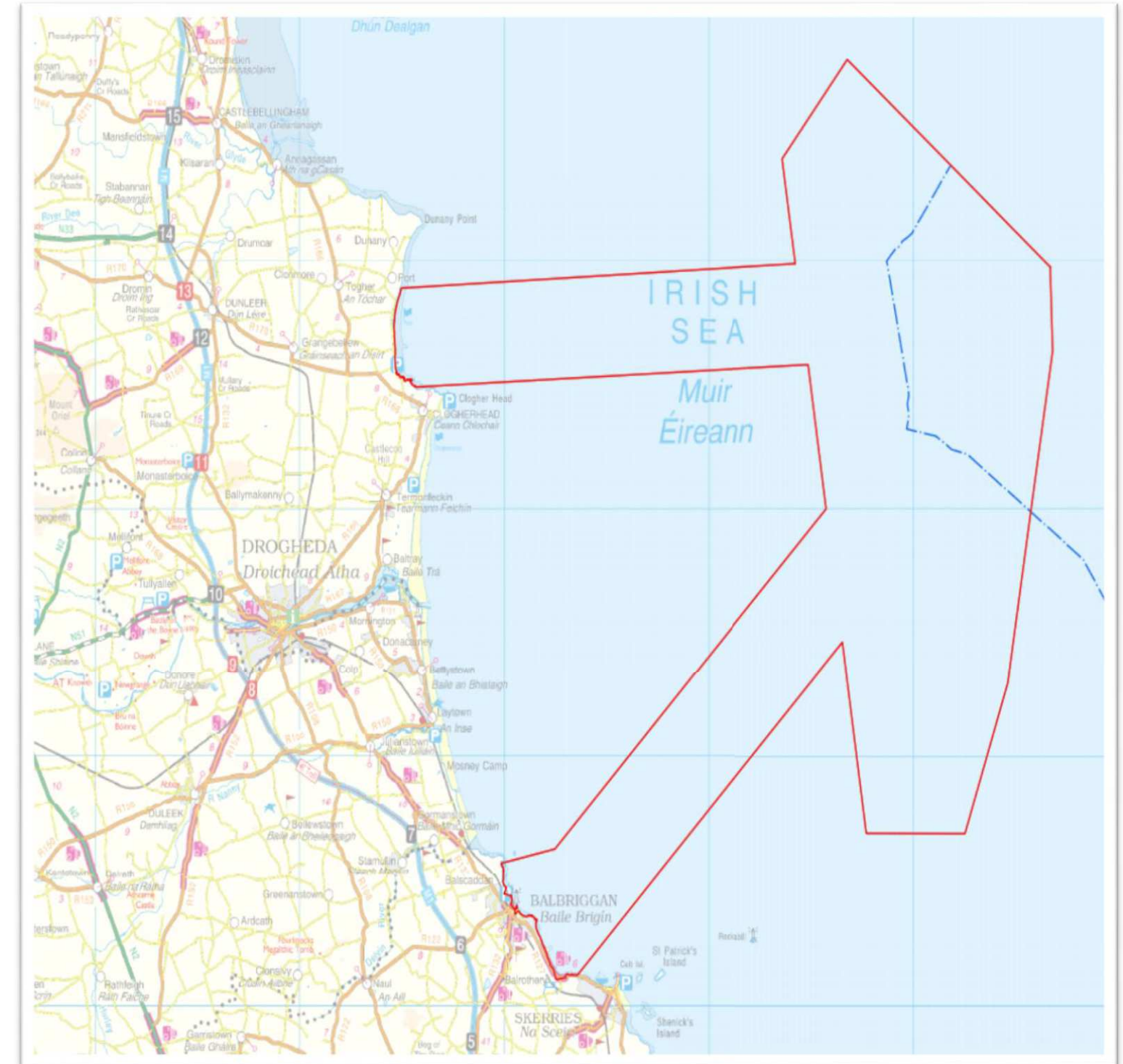


COMPONENTS OF AN OFFSHORE WIND FARM



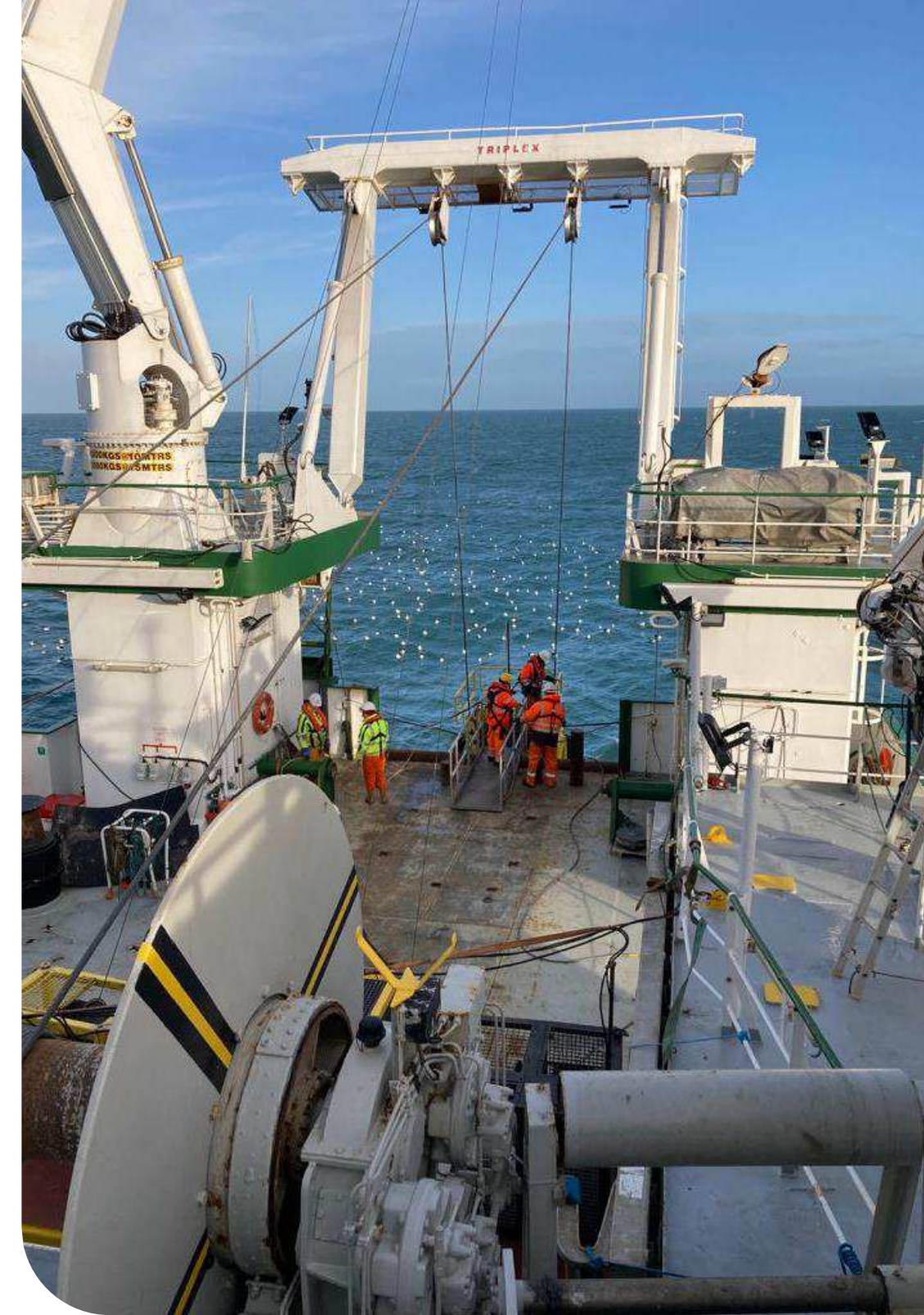
SETANTA WIND PARK

- Located off the coast of Drogheda, Co. Louth, approximately 18km from shore
- Foreshore Licence in place for survey area: Clogherhead to Balbriggan
- Charted water depths 36m - 57m
- Two potential export cable corridors to bring renewable energy to shore under assessment



PROGRESS TO DATE

- Bird & marine mammal surveys complete, other environmental surveys ongoing
- Fisheries Liaison Officer appointed – consultation ongoing. Stakeholder & Community Engagement.
- Pre-MAC public consultation – May 2022
- Project re-branded on basis of feedback – Nov 2022
- Initial offshore Geotech surveys completed - early 2022. Geophys survey and Metocean devices – deployed Q3 2022. Geophys survey – 2023.

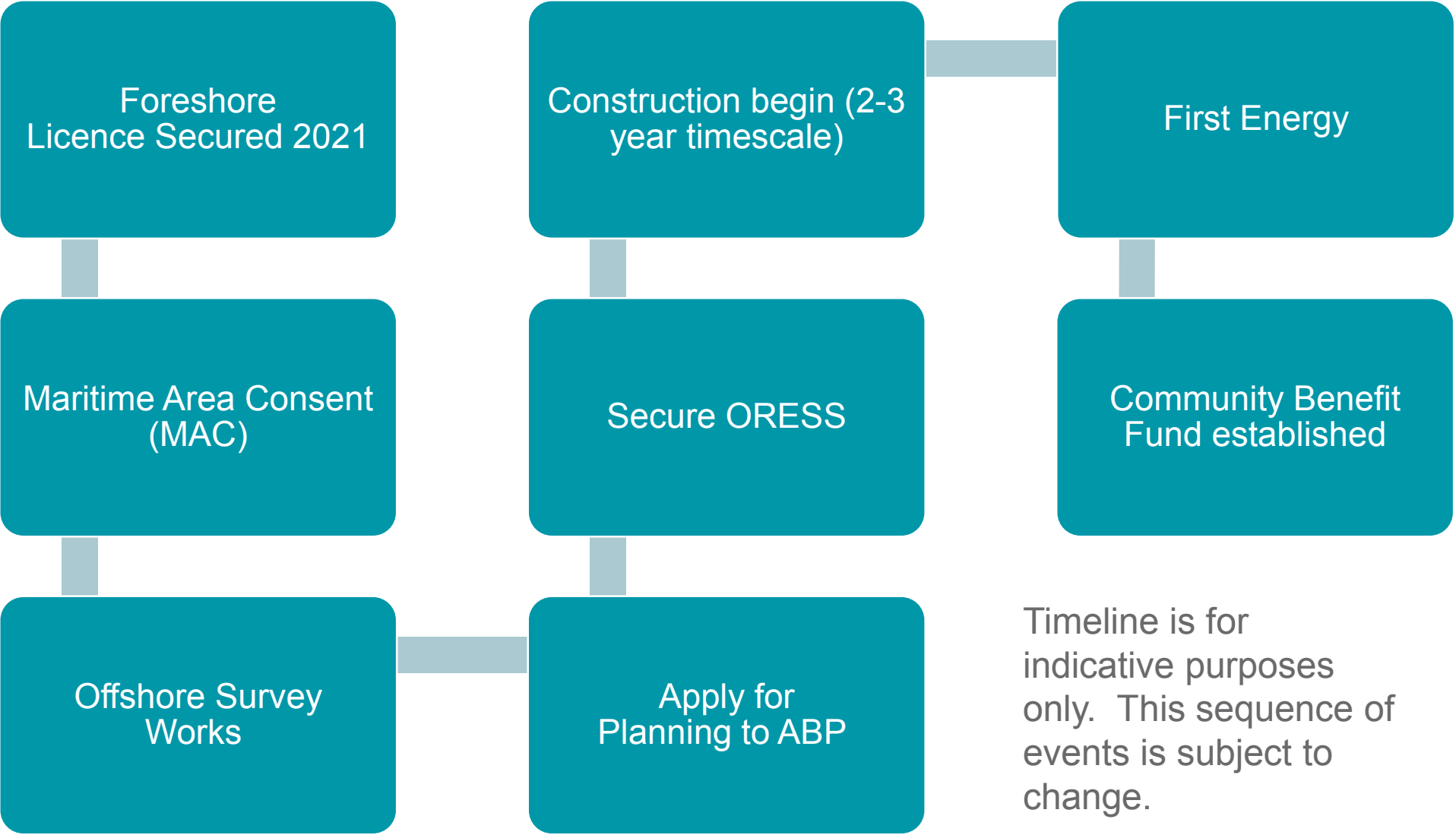


OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE FACILITY (OMF)

- Support base for both the onshore and offshore elements of the wind park
- Significant job opportunities (technicians, control room operators, vessel crew, warehouse staff, administration...)
- Low Impact, 'Nearly Zero Energy Building' and low carbon construction methods
- Opportunities for connection with local community
- Location – assessment of options ongoing – proximity to offshore wind farm is key criteria.



SETANTA WIND PARK TIMELINE



Timeline is for indicative purposes only. This sequence of events is subject to change.





Presentation to SPC

Environmental Inspection Plan (RMCEI Plan) 2023

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Enda Hoey

Senior Executive Scientist

28th March 2023

Legislation & Environmental Protection



- 500 Environmental Protection measures are addressed under Environmental Inspection Plan
- >100 pieces of Environmental Legislation
- Plan incorporates National and Local Environmental Priorities
- 2021 = LA's enforced 16,400 licences/permits, 205,000 inspections, 81,000 complaints, 21,000 enforcement actions initiated and 630 prosecutions
- 500 officers involved across 31 LA's



Key Areas under Environmental Inspection Plan



Litter

Waste

Water
Pollution

(Rivers, Bathing)

Noise

AIR

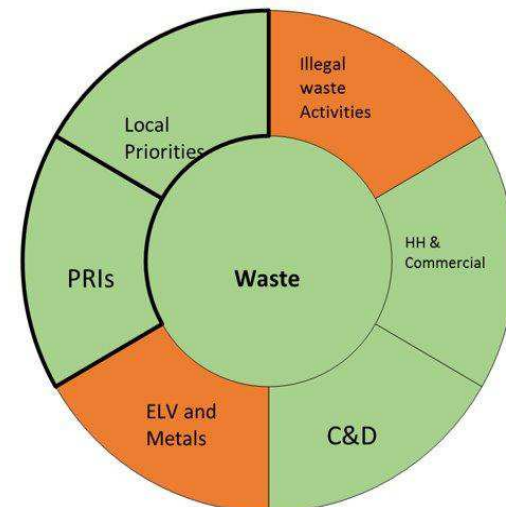
Drinking
Water
(Private)

National Environmental Priorities 2022 - 2024



Waste

- Tackling Significant Illegal Waste Activities
- Construction & Demolition Activities
- End of Life Vehicles and Waste Metal Industry
- Household & Commercial Waste Collection
- Producer Responsibility Initiatives – Packaging, WEEE,



Water Pollution

- Discharge Licences / Misconnections
- Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems / Septic Tanks
- Pressures from Agricultural Farm Yards (slurry/soiled water collection + storage)
- Pressures from Agricultural Farmland (slurry and fertiliser spreading)
- Local Priorities and Water Quality Monitoring

Air & Noise

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



Waste Enforcement – Breakdown of Activities



5 National Priorities = 66 different tasks comprising 1,492 inspections

Waste Facility Permits

Waste Collection Permits

End of Life Vehicles

Waste Complaints

- Household Storage and Burning of waste
- Rats

Illegal Dumping

> 20 bags equivalent, includes bulky waste and assumed from illegal collectors

Producer Responsibility Schemes

- Packaging
- WEEE/Batteries
- Tyres
- ELVES

Construction & Demolition Waste

- C & D WMP's
- Article 27
- Contaminated Land
- Asbestos

Waste Presentation Bye-Laws

- Single Dwellings
- Apartments
- Commercial
- Food Waste

Misc

- Planning Applications
- Quarries
- Burning of Agricultural Waste
- Governance, Grants, RMCEI, WERLA

Environmental Inspections



	<u>Completed 2022</u>	<u>Planned 2023</u>
Waste	1,432	1,492
Litter	3,216	3,564
Water Pollution	999	1,031
Air & Noise	353	370

In total 6,477 environmental inspections planned for 2023

- 3,952 Work days – 25 officers (+ part time staff)

Staff Resources

Waste Enforcement	7 Officers (contract/FCC staff), A/Staff officer
Water Pollution	3 Officers, Technician, Samplers, A/Staff Officer
Litter Management	6 Litter Wardens, Staff Officer, 2 Clerical Officers
Air & Noise	1 Senior Environmental Health Officer, 1 Environmental Health Officer, 1 Clerical Officer

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- Inspections are planned for year based on available resources.
- National Priorities addressed first, then Local Priorities factored into Plan.
- Staff retention is vital to develop and build teams
- Important to retain knowledge & expertise in-house

Inspection Planning and Projects



- Risk based approach used for environmental enforcement
- Priority areas are identified based on risk categorisation
- Available resources managed in an efficient manner through targeted inspections

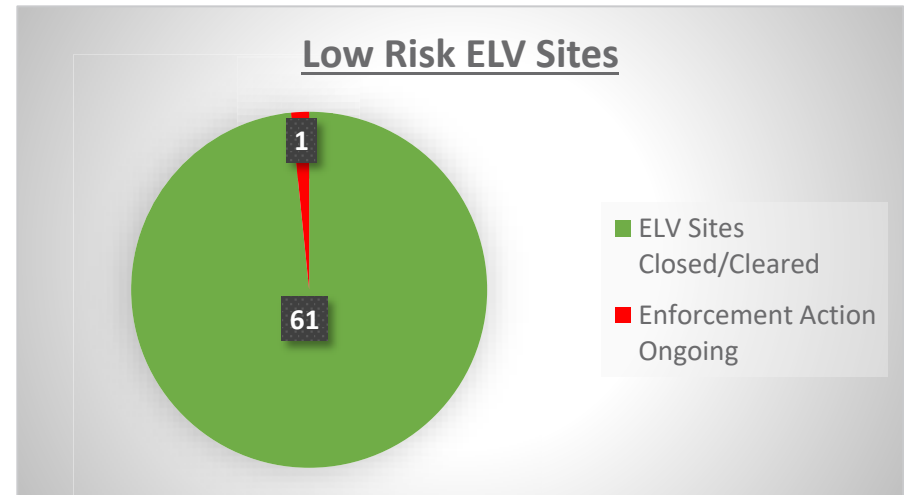
Inspection Planning and Projects		
Waste Facilities	Large, significant environmental risks	3 inspections /year
	Medium, some environmental issues	2 inspections/year
	CoR, Small, low risk	1 inspection/year
Water Pollution	Direct discharge, exceedances in license conditions	3 inspections /year
	Discharge to water, comply with licence conditions	2 inspections/year
	Discharge to waters, low risk	1 inspection/year

- Projects – Specific projects are important to tackle key issues (major impact)
- Significant resources required – can affect other national priorities
- Positive results and outcomes are achieved – ELV Project, CATS Project

ELV Project 2021 - 2023

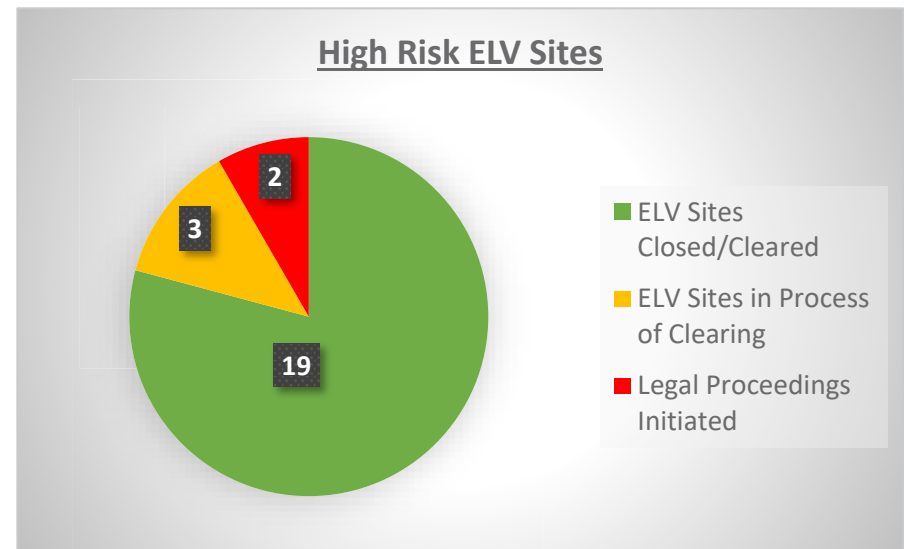
Low Risk ELV Sites

- A total of **62** low risk ELV sites identified in Fingal:
- 61 sites closed down
- 1 site remains - enforcement action ongoing
- Significant time/resources required



High Risk ELV Sites

- A total of **24** high risk ELV sites identified in Fingal.
- Multi-agency approach used
- 19 sites closed down
- 3 sites currently being cleared
- Remaining 2 sites - legal proceedings were taken
- Guilty pleas secured (S55, S32, S39 offences)



Bin Presentation Project 2023 - 2024



- ❖ **Stage 1** – identify Households with no bin service (Eircodes)
- ❖ **Stage 2** – Engage with householders (letters, waste surveys)
- ❖ **Stage 3** – Door to door inspections, ensure bin service in place
- ❖ **Stage 4** – Legal Action (FPN, enforcement notices, court)



Benefits

- Could significantly reduce fly tipping/illegal dumping
- ↓ Waste complaints – free up resources
- Clean up/disposal costs for illegally dumped waste ↓
- Waste enforcement officers could focus efforts on National/Local Waste Priorities
- Possible funding available through ADI 2023

Assessment of Local Authority Performance



Three key Reports Submitted:

1. EPA Data Return 2022 – all inspections undertaken
2. National Enforcement Priorities (NEP) Progress Report 2022 - <https://www.fingal.ie/national-enforcement-priorities-progress-reports>
3. Environmental Inspection Plan (RMCEI Plan) 2023

LA Performance - 4 Thematic Areas Assessed:

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- Governance – complaint handling, RMCEI plan, resources, outcomes
- Waste Priorities
- Water Priorities
- Air & Noise Priorities

11 Assessment Criteria used to provide a Grade:



Excellent



Strong



Moderate



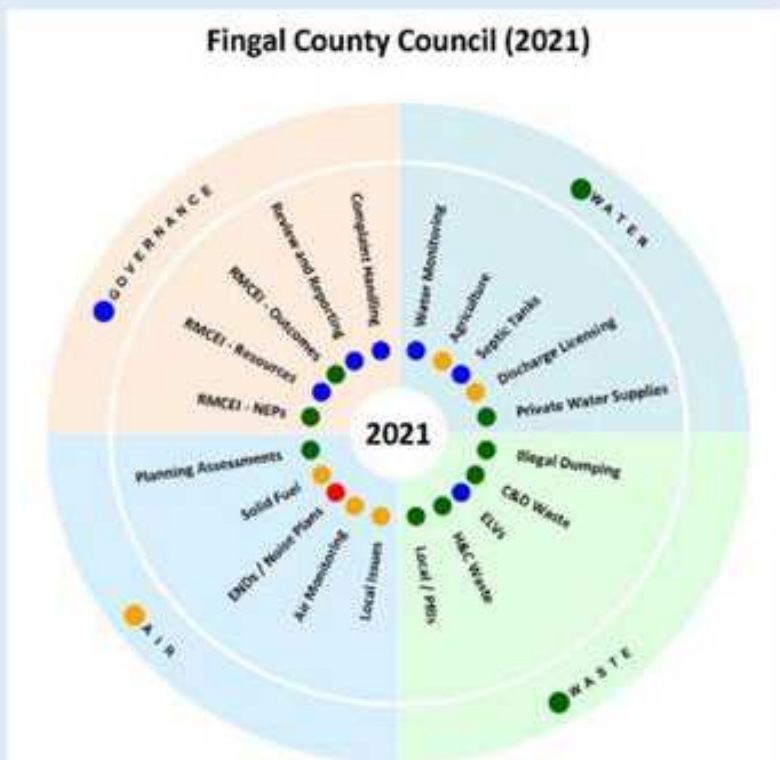
Limited

Fingal Performance Results 2021



Local Authority Performance Framework - Fingal County Council – Results and Assessment 2021

Overall 2021 Assessment Result:



Overall scores for the four themes are as follows:

	Governance	Water	Waste	Air & Noise
2021	Excellent	Strong	Strong	Moderate

The scoring grades are broken down into the following four-point scale:



Please see next page for assessment details.

Supports to Local Authorities



- Extensive training courses to assist local authorities - WERLA
- Regional Waste Planning Office - larger WFP/WCP inspections
- Multi-agency support (large scale operations):
 - An Garda Síochána, Social Protection, Customs, Revenue, EPA



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- DCCAE provide financial assistance for legal costs – difficult sites/cases
- Anti-Dumping Initiative will continue 2023 - significant funding (€250k; 2020 - 2022)
- Grants: Waste Enforcement Grant ↑ €330k



COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE CLIMATE ACTION, BIODIVERSITY, ENVIRONMENT STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 28TH MARCH 2023

ITEM NO. 04

IMPLEMENTATION OF BYE-LAWS

Motion: Councillor A. Tormey

“That the Chief Executive provide a report on how litter, and dog fouling bye-laws are implemented including details and locations for fines issued this Summer.”

Report:

The litter wardens are responsible for enforcement of the Litter Pollution Act.

Over the summer months the Litter Wardens continued their campaign to raise awareness of the issue of dog fouling on beaches and carried out extra patrols over the weekends. They spoke with dog walkers about their responsibilities as dog owners and handed out dog fouling bags. They also erected anti dog fouling signage in areas where complaints were received.

Over the period June – September a total of 1089 planned route inspections on litter black spot areas were carried out. Inspections were also carried out on the bring banks in the Fingal area to ensure that there was no dumping. Any dumping found was investigated under the Litter Pollution Act. Investigations were also carried out on reports of abandoned cars. Local businesses were also inspected to ensure they are keeping their premises free of litter. The Litter Wardens have commenced with Halloween business inspections in an effort to reduce the levels of material that may be collected by individuals for use in bonfires.

Litter Fines/Notices Issued June -September 2022

Area	Fines	Notices	Dog Fouling Fines
Castleknock/Mulhuddart	65	22	2
Malahide/Howth	23	31	0
Swords/Balbriggan	71	70	0

The Dog Wardens are responsible for enforcement of the Controls of Dogs Act and also Fingal's Regional Parks and Open Spaces Bye-Laws.

The Dog wardens issue 10 day notices for dog licences to members of the public through both door-to-door licence checks and patrols in Fingal's parks and beaches.

10 Day Notices/Fines Issued June – September 2022

Month	10 Day Notices Issued	Fines Issued	Fines Paid
June	431	20	2
July	407	27	7
August	466	27	5
September	385	48	15

Currently there are 3 cases with our solicitor for court and a further 7 prepared to be forwarded for court action.

During September a two-week pilot of evening patrols took place in parks following a number of reports made regarding restricted breed dogs. During this pilot, 4 fines were issued for restricted breed dogs not being muzzled in public and one for an unlicensed dog.

Over the period June – September 2022 there were 193 CRM cases set up relating to dog complaints made to the Environment Department. These calls related to dog bite/attacks, reports of dogs off leash/not under effectual control, stray dogs, dog fouling – all of which are investigated and reported back by the Dog Wardens.

Dog CRMs June, July, Aug, Sep 2022	Total
Jun	44
Jul	26
Aug	69
Sep	54
Total	193

The litter wardens and dog wardens also assisted Howth Tidy Towns with their Community Open Day with particular focus on the Green Dog Walker pledge,

attended the Howth Maritime Festival and launched the Bag it, Bin it campaign with Howth Tidy Towns and Rush Tidy Towns. The dog wardens also attended Flavours of Fingal in June, paying particular attention to the regulations regarding restricted breed dogs.

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE CLIMATE ACTION, BIODIVERSITY, ENVIRONMENT STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 28TH MARCH 2023

ITEM NO. 05

SPECIAL AMENITY AREA ORDERS (SAAO) FOR ROGERSTOWN, MALAHIDE AND BALDOYLE ESTUARIES

Motion: Councillor P. Mulville

"That the Chief Executive, given the recent making of the new County Development Plan, outlines her best estimate as to when the process can commence to put in place Special Amenity Area Orders (SAAO) for Rogerstown, Malahide and Baldoyle Estuaries given the urgent need for Special Amenity Area Orders designations as vital to aid the conservation of these European sites and the habitats, flora and fauna that they have been designated to protect, given the Climate and Biodiversity Emergency declared by Dáil Éireann in May 2019, and the recent pressing recommendations of the Citizens' Assembly on Biodiversity Loss in November 2022."

Report:

It is anticipated that significant survey work will be commissioned at these designated sites over the coming two to three years in line with the provisions of the Fingal Biodiversity Action Plan and specifically the ongoing management of these areas. It is further expected that this data will as appropriate be directly relevant and necessary to the proposed SAAO process.

