

Report

Carlow (Mortarstown) Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade

Consultation Report



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1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose of the Consultation Report

Uisce Éireann held a non-statutory public consultation on the planned Carlow (Mortarstown) Wastewater Treatment Plant (WwTP) Upgrade between Monday 22nd September and Sunday 19th October 2025. The non-statutory public consultation sought feedback from the local community and stakeholders on the planned project before the Strategic Infrastructure Development application is submitted to An Coimisiún Pleanála (previously known as An Bord Pleanála) in Spring 2026.

All feedback received in response to the consultation has been recorded and considered by the project team. This feedback will help to shape the project moving forward.

This Consultation Report outlines how the consultation was undertaken and how feedback was captured and analysed. The report includes details of the feedback received as well as Uisce Éireann's consideration of responses. It also sets out the next steps for the project.

1.2 Consultation Report structure

The Consultation Report is structured as follows:

- Section 2: Project overview.
- Section 3: Consultation approach.
- Section 4: Feedback.
- Section 5: Summary and next steps.

2 Project overview

2.1 Project background

The planned Mortarstown WwTP Upgrade in Carlow Town is part of Uisce Éireann's national investment in water and wastewater infrastructure. The WwTP has a current capacity to serve approximately 36,000 population equivalent (PE)¹ in Carlow Town and surrounding areas. In order to support projected growth in the region and meet future demands of the town, the treatment capacity of the plant needs to be significantly increased to serve a future projected PE of 58,500. This essential project will also ensure compliance with environmental regulations and protect the River Barrow, a designated Special Area of Conservation (SAC).

The planned project is designated as Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID), in accordance with provisions outlined in the Planning and Development Act (2000). An Coimisiún Pleanála define SID as development which is of strategic economic or social importance to Ireland, the region or local areas.² A planning application for the planned project will be prepared and submitted to An Coimisiún Pleanála following the completion of an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR).

The planned project involves major upgrades to the existing WwTP site at Mortarstown. Planned upgrades to the WwTP include the following:

- A new inlet works with screenings, grit removal system and odour treatment unit.
- Stormwater facilities including storage tanks and pumps.
- Biological treatment system with primary settlement tanks, final settlement tanks including all auxiliaries and upgraded air blower system.
- Sludge dewatering system with new picket fence thickeners and sludge dewatering equipment.
- A new outfall line with a diameter of 900mm for treated effluent flow as well as the emergency overflow.
- Upgrading monitoring and control units to meet the reporting needs.

¹ Population Equivalent (PE) is the amount of biodegradable organic matter (measured as Biochemical Oxygen Demand, or BOD) in wastewater that is equivalent to what one person would produce in a day. This allows engineers and regulators to compare the pollution from industrial, commercial, or institutional sources to that of a residential population.

² <https://www.pleanala.ie/en-ie/strategic-infrastructure-development-guide>

In addition, the existing Kilkenny Road Wastewater Pumping Station will be decommissioned, and a new pumping station will be constructed next to the existing Mortarstown WwTP. Flows at the decommissioned Kilkenny Road Wastewater Pumping Station will be transferred to the new wastewater pumping station by gravity via a new tunnelled sewer.

Upon completion the project will:

- Enable future growth and development in the community and cater for an expected increase in population in the area.
- Enhance Carlow's amenity value by providing a cleaner environment and act as a platform for social and economic development.
- Improve water quality in the River Barrow, benefitting the environment, ecology, sporting and tourism activities.
- Ensure that wastewater will be treated in accordance with European Union Urban Wastewater Treatment Directives and Environmental Protection Agency wastewater discharge licensing.

3D visualisations were commissioned to depict firstly, the existing layout, and secondly the planned WwTP and its integration within the surrounding environment. This method serves as an effective mechanism for stakeholder engagement by providing an accurate representation of the development in its real-world context. The before and after visualisations are depicted in Figure 2-1 and Figure 2-2, respectively.

Figure 2-1 3D visualisation of the existing layout (Before)



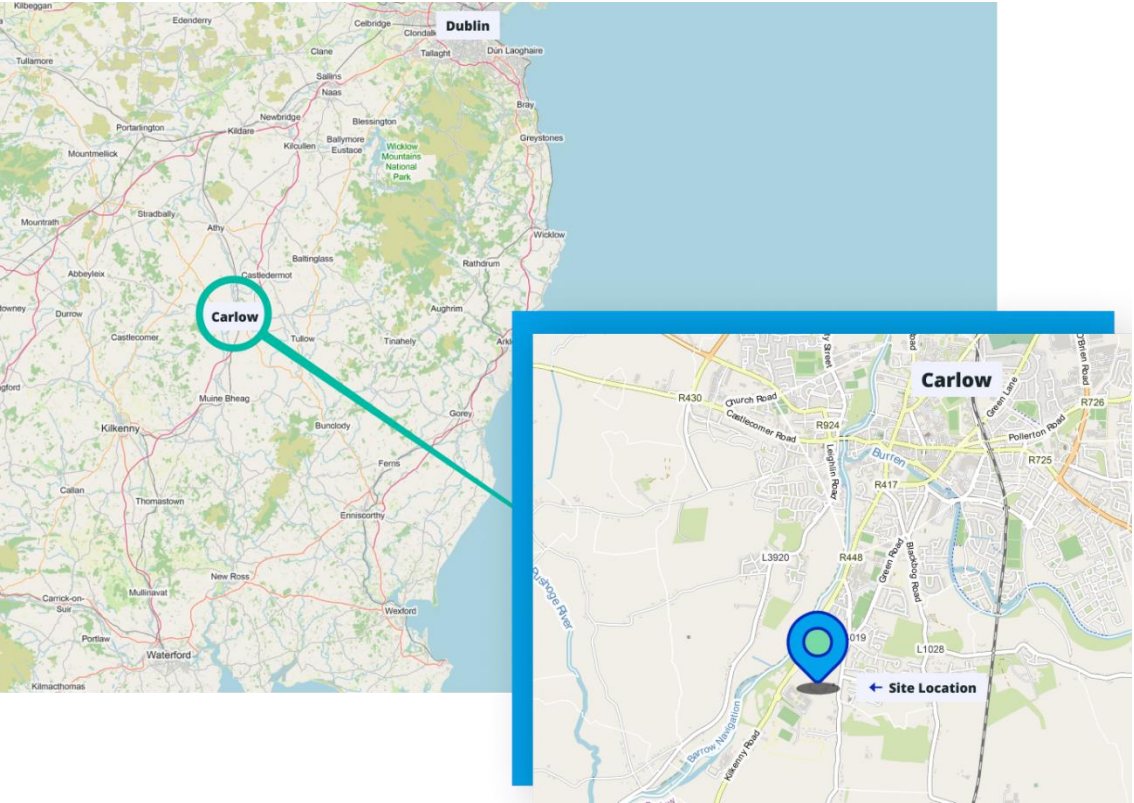
Figure 2-2 3D visualisation of the planned upgrade subject to further detailed design (After)



2.2 Study area

The Mortarstown WwTP is located 2.2km south of Carlow Town and serves the town of Carlow and its environs (see Figure 2-3). The WwTP also treats some wastewater from County Laois.

Figure 2-3 Site location



3 Public consultation

3.1 Overview of the public consultation process

Public consultation is a proactive and effective method of engaging a wide range of stakeholders to obtain feedback to inform and shape project proposals. These stakeholders include landowners, local residents, community groups, business owners, and statutory and non-statutory bodies.

Consultation feedback helps to inform the refinement of the preliminary design for the project. The feedback collected from stakeholders and residents will help Uisce Éireann to ensure the successful delivery of a project that best meets the needs of its users, the environment, and the local community.

3.1.1 Purpose of the consultation

Uisce Éireann asked for people's views on the planned project including, project benefits, impacts, and any concerns comments or suggestions they may have, through a combination of open and closed questions.

3.1.2 Communication materials

The following communication materials were prepared:

- Resident letters.
- Landowner letters.
- Stakeholder letters.
- Project information leaflet.
- Project website.
- Social media posts.
- Local print and broadcast advertisements.
- An elected representatives briefing presentation.
- Public information event display boards.

The letters sent to landowners, residents and stakeholders, project information leaflet, project website and newspaper advertisement were provided in both English and Irish in compliance with the Official Languages Act 2003. The communications materials are outlined in detail in Table 3-2.

One non-statutory in-person public consultation event (hereafter referred to as the public information event), was held on Thursday 9th October 2025. The

public information event allowed the project team to engage with landowners, residents, and stakeholders, in order to present the emerging proposals and obtain detailed feedback from the community. This event also provided an opportunity for stakeholders to learn more about the project, ask questions, and share their views directly with the project team.

The following sections describe the various channels of communication and materials that were used to notify and inform the local community and stakeholders about the project, and opportunities for feedback.

3.2 Stakeholder mapping

A virtual stakeholder mapping exercise was undertaken between the project team and Uisce Éireann on 23rd June 2025 as a first step to identify the relevant project stakeholders. This important exercise ensured that all possible stakeholders were identified and afforded the opportunity to participate in the non-statutory public consultation and provide their feedback. The stakeholder mapping workshop was convened to establish a structured approach for stakeholder engagement and the non-statutory public consultation period. The session focused on clarifying communication strategies, identifying principal stakeholders, and outlining the next steps for effective engagement. The workshop:

- Defined the project's objectives, regulatory context, and anticipated regional benefits.
- Systematically identified and categorised all relevant stakeholder groups.
- Outlined principal communication channels and responsibilities.
- Established immediate actions for developing consultation materials and engagement activities.

Stakeholder groups identified included:

- Councillors and TDs (known hereafter as Elected Representatives).
- Landowners.
- Local Authorities (Carlow County Council and Laois County Council).
- Members of the public and/or community groups (including local residents, businesses and schools).
- Non-Statutory Bodies³.

³ Non-Statutory Bodies are stakeholders that may have an interest in the project proposals e.g. environmental organisations etc.

- Prescribed Bodies⁴.

Table 3-1 outlines the list of stakeholders, categorised by stakeholder group. Following the June 2025 workshop, further stakeholders within the Prescribed Bodies category were identified by the team undertaking the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). Within Table 3-1, the 'Key Communication' column identifies the approach to engagement most relevant to each respective stakeholder group.

Where there had been prior correspondence with a stakeholder as part of the EIA scoping process in April 2025, detail of the correspondence is noted in the 'previous correspondence' column. In the 'stakeholders' column, stakeholders who were identified for correspondence via personalised letters (see section 3.4.3), are highlighted in **bold**. These stakeholders were identified for direct engagement for the non-statutory public consultation through previous experience, professional judgement and in collaboration between the project team and Uisce Éireann.

⁴ Prescribed bodies are stakeholders prescribed under the Planning and Development Act 2000. These stakeholders are likely to be interested parties regarding consultation at the SID application stage. It is important to keep these stakeholders informed of the project proposals to identify and address any issues at the earliest possible stage.

Table 3-1 Stakeholder identification

Stakeholder category	Stakeholders	Key communication	Previous correspondence
Councillors and TDs (Elected Representatives)	Carlow Councillors⁵ • Councillor Andrea Dalton (Municipal District of Carlow) • Councillor Fintan Phelan (Municipal District of Carlow) • Councillor Fergal Browne (Municipal District of Carlow) • Councillor John Cassin (Municipal District of Carlow) • Councillor Ken Murnane (Municipal District of Carlow) • Councillor Paul Doogue (Municipal District of Carlow) • Councillor Adrienne Wallace (Municipal District of Carlow) Laois Councillors⁶	• Online briefings for Elected Representatives • Project Information Sheet • Project website • Project Information Leaflet • Local print and broadcast adverts, press release/social media	

⁵ <https://carlow.ie/councillors>

⁶ <https://laois.ie/councillors>

Stakeholder category	Stakeholders	Key communication	Previous correspondence
	• Councillor Ben Brennan (Graiguecullen Portarlinton) • Councillor Padraig Fleming (Graiguecullen Portarlinton) • Councillor Paschal McEvoy (Graiguecullen Portarlinton) • Councillor Aisling Moran (Graiguecullen Portarlinton) • Councillor Aidan Mullins (Graiguecullen Portarlinton) • Councillor Vivienne Phelan (Graiguecullen Portarlinton) Carlow-Kilkenny TDs • Catherine Callaghan TD • Peter 'Chap' Cleere TD • John McGuinness TD • Jennifer Murnane O'Connor TD		

Stakeholder category	Stakeholders	Key communication	Previous correspondence
	- Natasha Newsome Drennan TD Laois TDs - William Aird TD - Seán Fleming TD - Brian Stanley TD		
Landowners	Nine landowners have been identified who may be affected by the planned works. The majority of these are located adjacent to the new tunnelled sewer between the Kilkenny Road Wastewater Pumping Station and WwTP, as well as the new outfall.	- Landowner letters - Public Information Event - Project Information Sheet - Project website - Project Information Leaflet - Local print and broadcast adverts, press release/social media	

Stakeholder category	Stakeholders	Key communication	Previous correspondence
Local Authorities	Carlow County Council • Roads & Transportation Unit • Environment/Waste Department • Planning Department • Water Department • Heritage Department	• Stakeholder emails • Project Information Sheet • Project website • Project Information Leaflet • Local print and broadcast adverts, press release/social media	Pre-planning meeting July 2025 - Carlow County Council indicated that Mortarstown WwTP is supported by strategic policies – namely the development plan and Joint Urban LAP. The council highlighted the need to consider the impact of the WwTP on other proposals, such as the Southern Link Road, which is currently at the route options selection phase. Council Officers also noted the need to ensure alignment with environmental and visual objectives and compliances. Further input from this stakeholder group included considerations regarding planning permissions and traffic management.

Stakeholder category	Stakeholders	Key communication	Previous correspondence
	Laois County Council - Roads & Transportation Unit - Environment/Waste Department - Planning Department - Water Department - Heritage Department	As above	
	Southern Regional Assembly Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly	As above	
Members of the public and / or community groups	Local residents Local businesses/Chamber of Commerce Local educational institutions - Tyndall College, Carlow Institute, South East Technological University Local community networks – Carlow Public Participation Network Boating and canoe groups in the area (Graigenamanagh	- Local resident letters - Project Information Sheet - Project website - Project Information Leaflet - Local print and broadcast adverts, press release/social media	

Stakeholder category	Stakeholders	Key communication	Previous correspondence
	Canoe Club and Carlow Dragon Boat Club)		
Non-Statutory Bodies	Bird Watch Ireland Irish Wildlife Trust	• Stakeholder emails • Project Information Sheet • Project website • Project Information Leaflet • Local print and broadcast adverts, press release/social media	
Prescribed bodies	Geological Survey Ireland Health and Safety Authority (HSA) Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII)	• Stakeholder emails • Project Information Sheet • Project website • Project Information Leaflet • Local print and broadcast adverts, press release/social media	EIA Scoping Report - Geological Survey Ireland Acknowledgment and recommendation to utilise the various GSI datasets available when undertaking the planning/environmental processes for the project. EIA Scoping Report - Health and Safety Authority (HSA) Response received, which included a query regarding the storage of fuel, and resulting implications

Stakeholder category	Stakeholders	Key communication	Previous correspondence
			regarding COMAH Regulations, 2015. A discussion was held via email correspondence noting the type and quantities of potentially hazardous chemicals stored at the site. EIA Scoping Report - Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) Correspondence with TII involved discussion regarding the implication of the project on national transport policies and guidelines. In addition, discussion included an outlining of the role of EIARs to address potential project impacts on roads.
	Ambulance Service An Chomhairle Ealaíon (The Arts Council) An Garda Síochána An Taisce (The National Trust for Ireland) Bus Eireann		

Stakeholder category	Stakeholders	Key communication	Previous correspondence
	Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage Department of the Environment, Climate, and Communications Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport & Media Department of Transport Development Applications Unit (DAU) EirGrid Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) ESB Networks Fáilte Ireland (The National Tourism Development Authority) Fire Service Gas Networks Ireland Heritage Council Inland Fisheries Ireland National Monuments Service		

Stakeholder category	Stakeholders	Key communication	Previous correspondence
	National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) National Transport Authority Office of Public Works (OPW) Waterways Ireland		

3.3 Communication materials

Communication materials prepared for distribution through the key communication channels outlined above are detailed in Table 3-2.

Table 3-2 Summary of consultation materials

Material	Description	Audience
Resident Letters	Letters for local residents provided notification of the planned project and detailed how residents could have their say on the proposals. Letters were provided in both English and Irish in compliance with the Official Languages Act 2003. A copy of both the English and Irish resident's letters can be found in in Appendix A - Consultation materials.	Residents identified in the resident letter drop (further detail provided in section 3.4.1).
Landowner Letters	Letters for landowners identified as potentially impacted by the planned works provided notification of the project and detailed how landowners can have their say in the proposals. Letters were provided in both English and Irish in compliance with the Official Languages Act 2003.	Landowners identified as potentially being affected by the works (see section 3.4.2).

Material	Description	Audience
	Therefore, a copy of the landowner letter has not been included in the Appendix.	
Stakeholder letters	Letters for stakeholders identified in section 3.2 provided details of the planned project and non-statutory consultation process. Letters were provided in both English and Irish in compliance with the Official Languages Act 2003. Content included a greater degree of technical detail on the proposals than the resident and landowner letters. A total of 29 stakeholders were contacted by letter. Copies of both the English and Irish stakeholder letters can be found in Appendix A - Consultation materials.	Stakeholders, as identified in section 3.2.
Project Information Leaflet	To support the public consultation process, a project leaflet was developed to provide stakeholders with a clear and accessible overview of the planned Mortarstown WwTP. The leaflet was designed to explain the planned project in plain language and included visualisations to illustrate key aspects of the development. The leaflet features:	Members of the public, landowners, stakeholders, elected representatives.

Material	Description	Audience
	• The rationale for the project and its role in supporting local and national social, economic and environmental ambitions. • A summary of the planned plant layout and infrastructure. • Visualisations of the plant, both at present and as planned. • Information on the consultation timeline and how to provide feedback. The leaflet was made available in both digital and hardcopy formats. A downloadable version was published on the dedicated project website, and digital copies were issued to Elected Representatives in advance of the briefing presentation. Printed copies were distributed to attendees at the public information event held in Carlow on 9th October 2025. A copy of the project information leaflet in English and Irish can be found in Appendix A - Consultation materials.	
Project Website	A dedicated project website was launched to serve as a central hub for all information related to the Mortarstown WwTP non-statutory consultation. The website (https://www.mortarstownwwtp.ie/) was designed to be accessible, informative, and user-friendly, enabling	Members of the public, landowners,

Material	Description	Audience
	stakeholders to engage with the project at their convenience. The website was available in both English and Irish. The website included: • A downloadable version of the project information leaflet. • Project background and key design information. • Visual materials, including maps and visualisations. • Details of the public information event. • Details of the community benefits. • A secure online feedback form. The feedback form allowed users to submit comments, encouraging structured and detailed responses. It also included an option for respondents to request further updates or contact from the project team. The website homepage and online survey are shown in Appendix A - Consultation materials.	stakeholders, elected representatives.

Material	Description	Audience
Social Media Post	Social media post with Uisce Éireann branded visuals advertising the public consultation period and public information event. A copy of the social media post is shown in Appendix A - Consultation materials.	Members of the public
Local print and broadcast advertisements	Advertisements on local radio (Kilkenny & Carlow Radio), and a local newspaper (Carlow Nationalist) outlined the project, public consultation period, and public information event. The newspaper advertisement is shown in Appendix A - Consultation materials.	Members of the public
Elected Representatives Briefing – Slide Deck	A virtual presentation was prepared for the Elected Representatives briefing, which was held in advance of the launching of the public consultation on 18th September 2025. The slide deck presented provided information on: • The project background. • Project benefits. • Technical proposals. • Engagement and planning process. • Public consultation and public information event.	Elected Representatives

Material	Description	Audience
	Communications channels. A copy of the Elected Representatives briefing presentation slide deck can be found in Appendix A - Consultation materials.	
Public Information Event Display Boards	A1 public information event boards were designed and printed for the public information event held on 9th October 2025. There were seven unique boards developed for the public information event. These boards presented: - Background information on Uisce Éireann. - The need for and benefits of the Mortarstown WwTP. - The planned site layout and location. - Visualisations of the plant. - Information on the consultation, and how people can provide feedback and have their say on the project. - The project timeline and next steps.	Attendees at public information event

Material	Description	Audience
	The public information event boards are shown in Appendix A - Consultation materials.	

3.4 Consultation notification

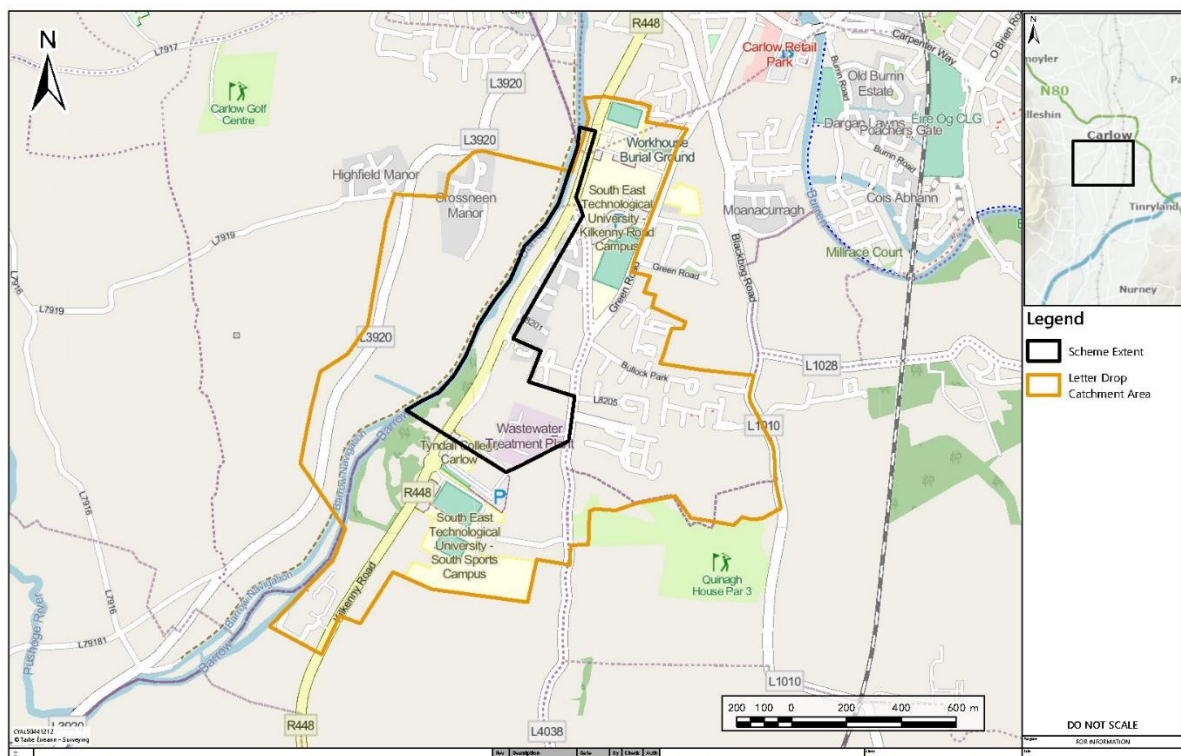
The consultation period began on Monday 22nd September 2025. The following section outlines the key communications channels used to inform residents, landowners, stakeholders and Elected Representatives, using the materials outlined in Table 3-2.

3.4.1 Resident letter drop

In order to identify and contact residents who would potentially be impacted by the planned upgrade, a resident letter drop was coordinated to take place at the start of the public consultation period.

The project team identified the letter drop catchment area by defining a suitable buffer around both the Mortarstown WwTP, and the planned new tunnelled sewer between the WwTP and the Kilkenny Road Pumping Station. This conservative buffer was suitably wide to incorporate all relevant stakeholders in close proximity to the WwTP. The final catchment area is shown in Figure 3-1, which includes properties in County Carlow and County Laois.

Figure 3-1 Mortarstown WwTP Resident Letter Drop Zone



Invite letters were issued to all stakeholders within a 500m radius of the treatment plant and planned tunnelled sewer, including local residents,

businesses, and educational institutions. The 500m radius was reviewed and refined in some areas based on professional judgement, to account for natural breaks in communities e.g. public roads, edge of residential developments etc.

Once the letter drop zone had been determined, the project team used Eircode address data to identify all of the properties within the catchment area. This analysis identified a total of 806 Eircodes, which were subsequently passed on to a specialised letter delivery service. Resident letters were prepared, translated, and distributed to the supplier alongside the list of Eircodes for delivery.

The resident letters were posted by the supplier on 19th September 2025 and delivered the following week. A number of letters could not be delivered for various reasons, and these were hand delivered by the project team on 3rd October 2025.

3.4.2 Landowner letter drop

The planned site expansion will impact a limited number of landowners directly, with affected parties associated with the construction of the new tunnelled sewer. To undertake works on land outside Uisce Éireann's ownership, a Wayleave agreement will be required. This agreement constitutes formal consent between the landowner and Uisce Éireann, enabling access and facilitating the necessary construction activities on private land. A number of private landowners are affected by the planned works related to the new tunnelled sewer from the Kilkenny Road Wastewater Pumping Station to the Mortarstown WwTP. A total of nine landowner letters were issued on Friday 19th September 2025. For consistency, the content of these letters matched the content of the resident letters, with the exception of a personalised address at the start of the letter.

3.4.3 Stakeholder letters

Following the stakeholder identification process outlined in section 3.2, prescribed and non-prescribed bodies were categorised accordingly. The identified stakeholders were then issued letters via email from the project inbox. A total of 29 stakeholders were issued letters. In addition to the information included in the residents and landowner letters, the stakeholder letters included specific details of the SID application process. These letters were issued to stakeholders on the 23rd and 24th September 2025 via the dedicated project inbox.

3.4.4 Project inbox

A dedicated project inbox was set up to handle outgoing and incoming emails related to the planned WwTP upgrade, including the outgoing stakeholder letters outlined in section 3.4.3, and any feedback or queries from both members of the public and stakeholders, as further detailed in sections 4.6 and 4.7. Alongside the public information event, the project inbox was a key response channel during the consultation period.

3.4.5 Press release

To coincide with the launch of the public consultation, Uisce Éireann issued a press release to local and regional media outlets. The press release outlined the purpose of the planned Mortarstown WwTP project, and the opportunity for the local community and stakeholders to provide feedback.

3.4.6 Social media update

Uisce Éireann also utilised their social media channels to promote the consultation and highlight/promote the project website. This included a targeted social media post, which outlined the planned upgrade, the timeframes of the public consultation window, and the timing and location details of the public information event.

3.4.7 Local print and broadcast advertisements

To further promote the public consultation and reach a wider audience, a newspaper advertisement was published in the Carlow Nationalist on Tuesday, 30th September 2025. The advertisement provided a summary of the planned WwTP and included key details to encourage public participation. Radio advertisements were also provided through local radio stations.

This print media and broadcast approach complemented the digital media and in-person engagement efforts, ensuring that stakeholders who may not use online platforms were still informed and invited to participate.

3.4.8 Elected Representatives Briefing Presentation

In advance of the public information event, Uisce Éireann issued invitations to local Elected Representatives from Carlow County Council, Laois County Council and relevant TDs in Dáil Éireann to introduce the planned Mortarstown WwTP Upgrade Project and offer opportunities for direct engagement with the project team.

A total of 6 individuals attended the virtual briefing, including:

- Eugene Doyle (Parliamentary Assistant & Constituency Office Coordinator to Minister Jennifer Murnane O'Connor TD).
- Suzanne Pender (Editor at the Carlow Nationalist).
- Cllr Andrea Dalton (Municipal District of Carlow).
- Cllr Paul Doogue (Municipal District of Carlow).
- Cllr M. Doran (Municipal District of Muinebheag).
- Cllr Fergal Browne (Municipal District of Carlow).

This briefing allowed for a detailed discussion of the project, clarification of technical aspects, and the opportunity to raise any specific concerns ahead of the public events.

3.4.9 Public information event

A public information event was held to provide stakeholders and residents with an opportunity to engage directly with the project team and learn more about the planned Mortarstown WwTP Upgrade Project. This event took place on 9th October 2025, between 16:00 – 20:00 and was held at the Seven Oaks Hotel & Leisure Club in Carlow town. The event was advertised on the project website, through letters, and local print and broadcast advertisements. A total of 23 people attended the event.

The main objectives of the public information event were:

- To receive feedback from the community.
- To clearly identify the project team as a trusted source of all project information.
- To build and maintain relationships with key stakeholders, the local community, and landowners, and ensure they are aware of how the planned project may affect them.
- To promote the benefits of and the need for the planned project.
- To present the emerging project design proposals, including the planned micro tunnel sewer to Kilkenny Road Pumping Station.
- To communicate the planned project timeline.
- To facilitate meaningful, transparent, and accessible consultation with all stakeholders through a range of methods.
- To provide assurance to all stakeholders that any feedback provided will be given due consideration by the project team.

At the public information event, attendees were welcomed by members of the project team and invited to view a series of large-format A1 display boards.

Printed copies of the project information leaflet were available in both English and Irish, and attendees were encouraged to provide feedback using the digital survey on the project website. A copy of both the English and Irish leaflets and the public information event display boards are included in Appendix A - Consultation materials.

3.5 Response channels

Members of the public and stakeholders who wanted to formally respond to the consultation or find out more information were able to contact the project team using the following channels:

- By completing the feedback survey via the project website.
- By emailing mortarstownwwtp@water.ie.
- By attending the public information event, held Thursday 9th October 2025.

The main response channel for collecting feedback was via the feedback survey on the project website. The project team also considered discussions and feedback received at the public information event, and queries and responses received via email to the project inbox. Analysis of responses received via the project inbox formed part of the assessment methodology (see section 4.2).

The deadline for consultation responses was Sunday 19th October 2025. No responses were received after this deadline.

4 Consultation feedback

4.1 Stakeholder management system

Managing stakeholder information effectively is a complex process requiring the right systems and tools. In addition, capturing stakeholder information is very important, as the submissions received are central to the decision-making process and may form part of the public record during the public consultation stage. Therefore, this information must be managed carefully and sensitively, and in line with the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

Uisce Éireann is subject to statutory regulations including Access to Environmental Information (AIE), Freedom of Information (FOI) and GDPR. These regulations govern the recording and storing of personal information and the type of data that must be made available to the public on request within specified time periods. Please see the Uisce Éireann Privacy Notice (<https://www.water.ie/privacy-notice>) for more information.

4.2 Assessment methodology

All feedback received during the non-statutory public consultation was systematically recorded and analysed to ensure that stakeholder views were accurately captured and considered. Submissions were received through multiple channels, including:

- An online feedback survey via the project website.
- Responses from members of the public via the project inbox/email.
- Responses from statutory and non-statutory stakeholders via the project inbox/email.
- Feedback provided during in-person discussions at the public information event.

For consistency, discussions at the public information event were summarised and considered alongside written submissions and survey responses. Each submission was reviewed to identify key issues, concerns, and suggestions. Given the manageable volume of responses, a formal coding framework was

not required. Instead, recurring themes were manually identified in Microsoft Excel and grouped into categories. Simple counts were used to track the frequency of specific topics, and representative quotes were extracted to illustrate stakeholder sentiment. This approach ensured that all feedback was given due consideration and will help inform the refinement of the project design.

4.3 Overview of submissions received

The following feedback was received over the course of the non-statutory public consultation period:

- Feedback survey – six responses⁷.
- Emails received from members of the public – five responses⁸.
- Emails received from stakeholders - three responses.
- Verbal feedback provided during in-person discussions at the public information event – 23 attendees.

Responses were received from a broad range of stakeholders, including local residents, landowners, prescribed consultees, elected representatives, developers, and representatives of Carlow Chamber of Commerce.

The feedback received across the above channels covered a wide spectrum of topics, including noise, traffic management, capacity of the WwTP, construction environmental impacts, and aspects of project design. All responses were reviewed and analysed to identify recurring themes and inform the ongoing development of the project.

Analysis of submissions received by type and key themes identified is provided in sections 4.4 to 4.8.

⁷ A total of 8 responses were submitted. Two submissions were identical to other responses, so it has been assumed that these were inadvertently submitted twice. The repeated submissions have been considered only once.

⁸ Two submissions were provided from a member of the public in short succession, containing identical letters. These were considered as one response.

4.4 Feedback survey

4.4.1 Feedback survey respondents

A total of six responses were received via the feedback survey on the project website.

All respondents lived locally in Carlow or the surrounding area, responding 'yes' to the question '*do you live in, or own a home in Carlow or the surrounding area?*'. All respondents provided further information on their location, and most lived in close proximity to the existing Mortarstown WwTP. One respondent also worked in or ran a business in Carlow or the surrounding area.

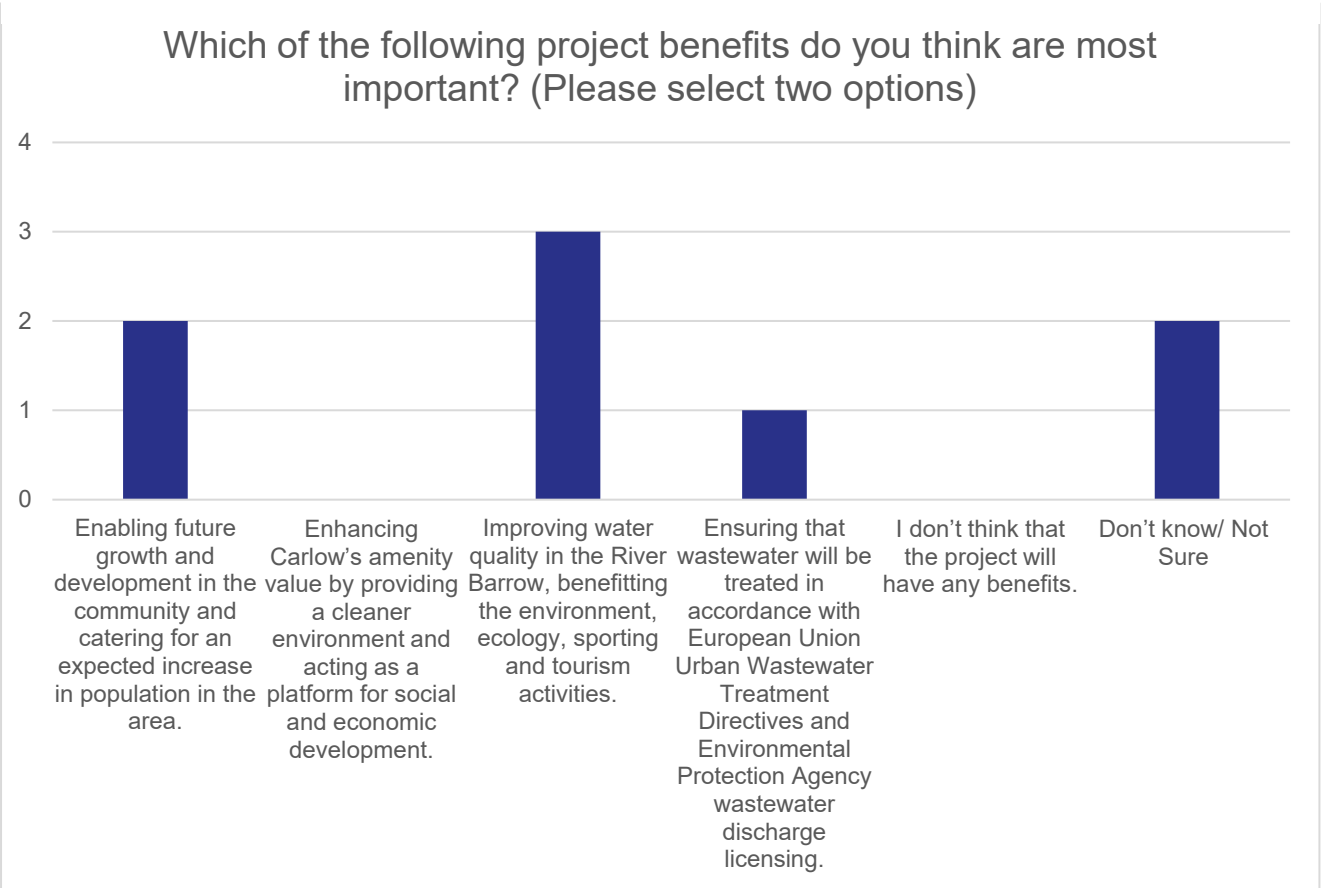
4.4.2 Project benefits

When asked '*which of the following project benefits do you think are most important?*' (please select two options)', the project benefits most important were:

- Improving water quality in the River Barrow, benefitting the environment, ecology, sporting and tourism activities (3 votes).
- Enabling future growth and development in the community and catering for an expected increase in population in the area (2 votes).
- Ensuring that wastewater will be treated in accordance with European Union Urban Wastewater Treatment Directives and Environmental Protection Agency wastewater discharge licensing (1 vote).
- Don't know / not sure (2 votes).

Figure 4-1 shows all responses to this multiple-choice question, and the options respondents were able to select.

Figure 4-1 Response to: Which of the following project benefits do you think are most important?



4.4.3 Feedback on the project

The survey asked ‘*what impact do you believe that the Mortarstown Wastewater Treatment Plant project will have on Carlow and the surrounding area?*’. A summary of each response to the feedback survey is provided in Table 4-1.

Table 4-1 Consultation survey feedback

Respondent	Summary	Key themes
1	Presented a number of queries on the planned project, regarding existing sewage delivery pipes, plant traffic once operational and maintaining the existing plant as an emergency backup. The respondent also flagged the impact on traffic if a pipe is constructed adjacent to Kilkenny Road.	Project design and technical queries Traffic
2	Shared support for the project, highlighting its role in future proofing for growth and development.	Facilitating growth
3	Highlighted a cleaner environment and room for additional expansion as arising from the project. <i>(It is assumed expansion of development, rather than expansion of the site).</i>	Environment Facilitating growth
4	Flagged concerns regarding the length of construction, and noise and water outages. Also raised concerns	Construction Noise

Respondent	Summary	Key themes
	regarding chemical exposure from sewage.	Safety
5	Shared concerns over the capacity of the upgraded plant. The response suggests the existing plant is already overloaded due to there being no surface water system for Carlow. Response also flagged a maintenance issue with a sewer close to their property.	Capacity of the WwTP Maintenance issue
6	Raised several concerns, including noise impacts of the operational plant, increased traffic during construction and in operation, and disruption during construction (e.g. noise, dust). The respondent requested: • Detailed noise assessments and mitigation measures. • Detailed traffic impact assessments and traffic management plans. • Information on how construction impacts	Noise Traffic Construction Interaction with other schemes

Respondent	Summary	Key themes
	will be minimised and how communication with residents will be managed. Response also raised a query regarding the interaction between the planned WwTP upgrade and the planned new road.⁹	

The survey also asked ‘do you have any additional comments or suggestions about the project?’ A summary of the two responses to this question is provided in Table 4-2.

Table 4-2 Additional feedback from consultation survey

Respondent	Summary	Key themes
2	Suggests expansion of the catchment of the WwTP through pipes for sewerage and storm water to reduce individual septic tanks.	Catchment of WwTP
5	Response states the need to address existing sewer capacity in Carlow and suggests an option to construct an orbital sewer if development is permitted as the existing main sewer is at capacity.	Capacity of the WwTP

⁹ The planned new road referred to in the survey response is assumed to be the proposed South Carlow Relief Road scheme.

Across responses outlined in Table 4-1 and Table 4-2, key themes included facilitating growth and development, and concerns regarding potential disruption during construction, noise and traffic, and the capacity and catchment of the WwTP. There were also queries relating to project design and technical aspects, including regarding existing sewage delivery pipes.

This feedback will be considered by the project team when updating and progressing project design.

4.5 Project website analytics

The project website played a key role in broadening the reach of the consultation, particularly for those unable to attend the in-person public information event. A copy of the feedback form and a screenshot of the website layout are shown in 0Appendix A - Consultation materials.

There was a total of 52 visitors to the project website, with the website arrival methods outlined below:

- **Direct Search** – 24 visitors
(Users who accessed the site by typing the URL directly or using a bookmark.)
- **Referral** – 11 visitors
(Users who came from links on other websites)
- **Organic Search** – 8 visitors
(Users who found the site through unpaid search engine results)
- **Organic Social** – 7 visitors
(Users who arrived via unpaid social media posts)

4.6 Responses via email (members of the public)

Responses from five members of the public during the consultation period were received via the project inbox. A summary of each response is provided in Table 4-3.

Table 4-3 Public responses via email

Respondent	Summary	Key themes
1	Query regarding catchment area that the planned WwTP upgrade is intended to serve, and the population projections used to calculate PE requirement of 58,500. Response provided by Uisce Éireann project team via email regarding the queries.	Capacity of the WwTP Development
2	Correction with regard to address change of landowner	Response to landowner letter
3	Approval of project expressed. Eight queries were asked with regard to construction and environmental impacts, capacity and efficiency of the WwTP, as well as engineering, process and dimensional queries regarding the planned plant. Response provided by Uisce Éireann project team regarding queries.	Project approval Project design and technical queries Capacity of the WwTP Construction Environmental impacts
4	Query regarding further development of the town and query regarding localised surcharging. Response provided to how the proposals are likely to reduce the risk of surcharging and ongoing schemes such as the Carlow Drainage Area Plan (DAP).	Capacity of the WwTP Environmental impacts (flooding) Development

Respondent	Summary	Key themes
5	Shared concerns regarding the planned project, in particular issues regarding current treatment of surface water. Respondent recommended that surface water treatment be prioritised. Concerns raised with regard to quantities and sourcing of funding for water infrastructure projects.	Environmental impacts Surface water treatment Funding

Across responses outlined in Table 4-3, key themes were the capacity of the WwTP and environmental impacts. Further themes identified were regarding development, as well as surface water treatment and funding. There were also a number of queries relating to project design and technical aspects.

4.7 Responses via email (stakeholders)

A total of 29 prescribed bodies were contacted by letter to provide notification of the non-statutory consultation and provide an opportunity for engagement. A total of three responses were received from stakeholders via email in response to the consultation.

Table 4-4 Stakeholder responses via email

Respondent	Summary	Key themes
Health and Safety Authority	Noted previous engagement with the project's Environmental Team and requested clarification on dangerous substances that may be stored or used on the WwTP.	Security Storage

Respondent	Summary	Key themes
Transport Infrastructure Ireland	Respondent advised that they are unable to make any observations based on the current information. Respondent looks forward to future consultations when more detailed plans are available.	Further engagement
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage	Respondent recommended environmental and heritage based assessments. Respondent looks forward to future consultations when more detailed plans are available.	Heritage conservation Environmental protection Further engagement

Across responses outlined in Table 4-4, key themes related to further engagement on the project as it develops, alongside discussion of security, storage, heritage conservation and environmental protection.

4.8 Public information event

As detailed in Section 3, a public information event was held on 9th October 2025. A wide range of stakeholders attended the event, including local residents, landowners, developers, representatives of Carlow Chamber of Commerce, and elected representatives. The event had a total of 23 attendees.

Attendees were able to talk to the project team and ask any questions they had on the project. Discussions were largely positive and supportive of the project. Table 4-5 outlines the overall topics raised across discussions at the public information event.

Table 4-5 Key topics raised at the Public Information Event

Topic	Detail
Odour	Concerns regarding odour currently and in operation of the upgraded WwTP. This was particularly concerning the existing sludge dewatering unit. There were suggestions to relocate the sludge dewatering unit further from residences.
Traffic	Concerns regarding traffic, both existing traffic and during construction.
Project design (solar panels)	Concerns regarding solar panels and potential health impacts.
Project design (signage)	Suggestion to change existing signage on the local road network from Sewerage Treatment Plant to Wastewater Treatment Plant.
Project design (entrance)	Suggestion to improve the entrance to the facility.
Capacity of the WwTP	Queries regarding the interim capacity of the WwTP.
Maintenance queries	Specific maintenance issues were raised. Where required, these have been shared with the relevant Uisce Éireann teams.

Topic	Detail
Septic tanks	Queries regarding septic tank waste, and that some local houses are on individual septic tanks. Septic tank waste is no longer accepted at the WwTP.
Other	Suggestion to add rumble strips on Green Road. Query regarding wastewater treatment at Ballinabrannagh.

Across responses outlined in Table 4-5, key themes raised were odour, a potential increase in construction traffic flows and suggestions for project design including signage and improving the facility entrance. There were also discussions regarding the capacity of the WwTP, and queries regarding maintenance and septic tanks.

4.9 Consultation feedback summary

A total of six responses to the feedback survey were received and analysed, with key themes identified including facilitating growth and development, and concerns regarding potential disruption during construction, noise and traffic, the capacity and catchment of the WwTP, and queries relating to project design and technical aspects.

The project team observed a low level of website traffic (detailed in section 4.5), despite the promotion of the project website through media advertisements, and the provision of links to the project website in letters, advertisements and leaflets, and on the information boards in the public information event. This may be reflective of the less contentious nature of the planned project, which seeks to upgrade an existing site, compared to proposals which include the construction of new sites on greenfield or brownfield land.

A total of five responses were received from members of the public via email. Key themes identified were the capacity of the WwTP and environmental impacts. Further themes included development, as well as surface water treatment and funding, and queries relating to project design and technical aspects.

A total of three stakeholder responses were received by email, with key themes including a desire to engage further at future stages of the project (particularly when more information is available), alongside discussion of security, storage, heritage conservation and environmental protection.

A total of 23 attendees attended the public information event, with key themes of discussions including odour, traffic, aspects of project design, and capacity of the WwTP.

Considering the above feedback, queries received and discussions with stakeholders, the following key issues were raised across these sources (in no particular order):

- Noise – during construction and operation.
- Traffic – construction and future increase in traffic once the WwTP is operational.
- Odour - currently and in operation of the upgraded WwTP. Feedback particularly concerned the existing sludge dewatering unit.
- Construction – the length and impact of construction, including consideration of noise and traffic
- Project design – including changes to existing signage, improvements to the facility entrance, and wider queries relating to project design and technical aspects.

- Capacity of the WwTP - capacity in the interim and of the planned upgrade to support future development in Carlow. The catchment of the WwTP was also raised.
- Environmental – including surface water treatment and flooding.

Stakeholders also expressed interest in:

- Continued engagement.
- The protection of the human and natural environment.
- Potential storage of dangerous substances.

5 Summary and next steps

5.1 Summary

Uisce Éireann held a non-statutory public consultation on the planned Mortarstown WwTP Upgrade between Monday 22nd September to Sunday 19th October 2025. The non-statutory public consultation sought feedback from the local community and stakeholders on the planned project before the Strategic Infrastructure Development application is submitted to An Coimisiún Pleanála in Spring 2026.

This Consultation Report has outlined how the consultation was carried out and how feedback has been captured and analysed. It also provides details of the feedback received and Uisce Éireann's considered responses.

The non-statutory public consultation for the planned Mortarstown WwTP project provided valuable insights into the views and concerns of local residents, landowners, and community stakeholders. Consultation feedback has helped to inform the refinement of the preliminary design for the project. The feedback collected from stakeholders and residents will help Uisce Éireann to ensure the successful delivery of a project that best meets the needs of its users, the environment, and the local community.

Uisce Éireann have considered and responded to concerns raised in the feedback received by reviewing technical aspects of design, and ongoing engagement. The project team remains committed to transparency, safety, and environmental responsibility throughout the planning development process.

As part of this analysis, the following issue has been identified as requiring further assessment / engagement with relevant stakeholders:

- The alignment of the tunnelled sewer between the WwTP and Kilkenny Pumping Station was reviewed. The pathway of the tunnelled sewer has since been realigned.

5.2 Next steps

All feedback received in response to this non-statutory public consultation has been recorded and considered by the project team, in advance of submitting the Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) application to An Coimisiún Pleanála. A summary of feedback received during this consultation process will

be included in the EIAR which will be submitted with the planning application. This Consultation Report will be included in the planning submission documentation and will be uploaded to the SID planning documentation website in due course.

Approximate key timelines for project progression are as follows:

- Planning application – submission Spring 2026.
- Start of construction – estimated 2028 (subject to planning approval).

Appendix A - Consultation materials

i. Resident letters



Letter Reference: Mortarstown WWTP 2025

Monday 22 September 2025

Dear Resident,

Re: Carlow (Mortarstown) Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade non-statutory consultation

We are writing to you with regards to the proposed Carlow (Mortarstown) Wastewater Treatment Plant (WwTP) upgrade, and to invite you to respond to our non-statutory consultation on the proposals.

This consultation will run for four weeks from Monday 22 September until Sunday 19 October 2025. We invite feedback from all residents, members of the local community, and stakeholders via the channels outlined below.

Background to the project

Uisce Éireann is progressing plans to upgrade the wastewater infrastructure for Carlow Town and surrounding areas. The proposed project will enable future growth and development in the community and cater for an expected increase in population. In addition, the project will improve water quality in the River Barrow and enhance Carlow's amenity value by providing a cleaner environment.

We are inviting the local community to provide feedback on the proposed upgrades to Carlow (Mortarstown) WwTP through a non-statutory consultation process, in advance of submitting the formal planning application to An Coimisiún Pleanála (previously known as An Bord Pleanála).

The project proposals

The planned project involves major upgrades to the existing wastewater treatment plant site at Mortarstown. In order to support projected growth in the region and meet future demands of the town, the treatment capacity of the plant needs to be significantly increased to serve a future projected population equivalent (PE) of 58,500. This essential project will also ensure compliance with environmental regulations and protect the River Barrow, a designated Special Area of Conservation.

The existing Kilkenny Road Wastewater Pumping Station will be decommissioned and a new pumping station will be constructed next to the existing Mortarstown Wastewater Treatment Plant site. Flows at the decommissioned Kilkenny Road Wastewater Pumping Station will be transferred to the new wastewater pumping station by gravity via a new tunnelled sewer.

Stúirtheoir / Directors: Jerry Grant (Cathaoirleach / Chairperson), Niall Gleeson (POF / CEO), Gerard Britchfield, Douglas Millican, Michael Nolan, Patricia King, Eileen Maher, Cathy Mannion, Michael Walsh.
Óifig Chláraithe / Registered Office: Teach Colvill, 24-26 Sráid Thalbóid, Baile Átha Cliath 1, D01 NP86 / Colvill House, 24-26 Talbot Street, Dublin, Ireland D01NP86
Is cuideachta ghníomhaíochta ainmnithe atá faoi theorainn scaireanna é Uisce Éireann / Uisce Éireann is a designated activity company, limited by shares. Cláraithe in Éirinn Uimh.: 530363 / Registered in Ireland No.: 530363..

How to have your say

We invite you to provide your feedback on the project proposals. **This non-statutory consultation will run for four weeks from Monday 22 September until Sunday 19 October 2025.**

Key information on the proposed project, consultation materials, and responses to frequently asked questions (FAQs) are available on our project website: www.mortarstownwwtp.ie.

There are various options to provide feedback and have your say:

- Complete the online consultation feedback survey via the project website: www.mortarstownwwtp.ie.
- Provide written feedback via email to mortarstownwwtp@water.ie.
- Attend the public information event where you can meet the project team and ask any questions you may have on the proposed project.

For further information on the survey, the project, and/or consultation, please see the project website or email mortarstownwwtp@water.ie.

All responses must be submitted by midnight on Sunday 19 October. Responses received after this time will not be considered.

Public information event

Uisce Éireann is holding a face-to-face public information event in the local area where you can meet the project team and ask any questions you may have on the proposed project. Details of the event are as follows:

- Thursday 9th October 2025, 4:00-8:00pm
- Seven Oaks Hotel and Leisure Club, Athy Road, Carlow, Ireland, R93V4K5

Next steps

All feedback received in response to this consultation will be recorded and considered by the project team, in advance of submitting the planning application to An Coimisiún Pleanála. A summary of feedback received during this consultation process will be included in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report which will be submitted with the planning application. In addition, we will share the findings from this consultation via the project website in due course.

Further information

Please visit our project website for further information regarding the project: www.mortarstownwwtp.ie. If you have any further questions about this letter, please do not hesitate to contact us by email: mortarstownwwtp@water.ie.

Yours faithfully,

Conor Delaney

Uisce Éireann Programme Manager

Tagairt na Litreach: Mortarstown WWTP 2025

Luan an 22 Meán Fómhair 2025

A Chónaitheoir, a chara

Maidir le: Comhairliúchán neamhreachtúil maidir le huasghrádú ar Ionad Cóireála Fuíolluisce Cheatharlach (Baile Mhoirteil)

Táimid ag scríobh chugat maidir leis an uasghrádú atá beartaithe ar Ionad Cóireála Fuíolluisce (ICFU) Cheatharlach (Baile Mhoirteil), agus chun cuireadh a thabhairt duit freagairt a thabhairt ar ár gcomhairliúchán neamhreachtúil maidir leis na tograí.

Beidh an comhairliúchán sin ar siúl ar feadh ceithre seachtaine ón Luan an 22 Meán Fómhair go dtí an Domhnach an 19 Deireadh Fómhair 2025. Cuirimid fáilte roimh aiseolas ó gach cónaitheoir, ó bhaill den phobal áitiúil, agus ó pháirtithe leasmhara trí na bealaí atá leagtha amach thíos.

Cúlra an tionscadail

Tá pleananna á gcur chun cinn ag Uisce Éireann chun an bonneagar fuíolluisce a uasghrádú do Bhaile Cheatharlach agus na ceantair máguaird. Leis an tionscadal atá beartaithe, éascófar fás agus forbairt sa phobal amach anseo agus freastalófar ar an méadú daonra atá measta. Chomh maith leis sin, feabhsófar leis an tionscadal cáilíocht an uisce sa Bhearú agus treiseofar luach taitneamhachta Cheatharlach trí thimpeallacht níos glaine a sholáthar.

Tugaimid cuireadh don phobal áitiúil aiseolas a thabhairt maidir leis na huasghráduithe atá beartaithe ar IFCU Cheatharlach (Baile Mhoirteil) trí phróiseas comhairliúcháin neamhreachtúil, sula gcuirfear an t-iaratas foirmiúil pleanála faoi bhráid an Choimisiúin Pleanála (ar a dtugtaí An Bord Pleanála roimhe seo).

Tograí an tionscadail

Tá uasghráduithe móra ar láithreán an ionaid cóireála fuíolluisce atá ann cheana féin i mBaile Mhoirteil i gceist leis an tionscadal atá beartaithe. Chun tacú leis an bhfás réamh-mheasta sa réigiún agus chun freastal ar éilimh an bhaile amach anseo, ní mór méadú suntasach a dhéanamh ar acmhainn chóireála an ionaid chun freastal ar choibhéis daonra (CD) réamh-mheasta amach anseo de 58,500. Cinnteofar leis an tionscadal riachtanach sin freisin go gcomhlíonfar rialacháin chomhshaoil agus go gcosnófar an Bhearú, ar Limistéar Caomhnaithe Speisialta ainmnithe í.

Déanfar Stáisiún Caidéalúcháin Fuíolluisce Bhóthar Chill Chainnigh atá ann cheana a dhíchoimisiúnú agus tógfar stáisiún caidéalúcháin nua in aice le láithreán Ionad Cóireála Fuíolluisce Bhaile Mhoirteil atá ann cheana féin. Aistrefar sreafaí ag Stáisiún Caidéalúcháin Fuíolluisce díchoimisiúnaithe Bhóthar Chill Chainnigh chuig an stáisiún caidéalúcháin fuíolluisce nua trí dhomhantarraingt trí shéarachas nua trí thollán.

Cuir do thuairimí in iúl

Tugaimid cuireadh duit d'aiseolas a thabhairt maidir le tograí an tionscadail. **Beidh an comhairliúchán neamhreachtúil sin ar siúl ar feadh ceithre seachtaine ón Luan an 22 Meán Fómhair go dtí an Domhnach an 19 Deireadh Fómhair 2025.**

Tá faisnéis thábhachtach faoin tionscadal atá beartaithe, ábhair chomhairliúcháin, agus freagraí ar cheisteanna coitianta (CCanna) ar fáil ar shuíomh gréasáin ár dtionscadail: www.mortarstownwwtp.ie.

Tá roghanna éagsúla ann chun aiseolas a thabhairt agus do thuairim a chur in iúl:

- Comhlánaigh an suirbhé ar aiseolas an chomhairliúcháin ar líne trí shuíomh gréasáin an tionscadail: www.mortarstownwwtp.ie.
- Cuir aiseolas i scríbhinn ar fáil trí ríomhphost chuig mortarstownwwtp@water.ie.
- Freastail ar an imeacht faisnéise poiblí inar féidir leat bualadh leis an bhfoireann tionscadail agus aon cheisteanna atá agat faoin tionscadal atá beartaithe a chur.

Chun tuilleadh eolais a fháil faoin suirbhé, faoin tionscadal, agus/nó faoin gcomhairliúchán, féach ar shuíomh gréasáin an tionscadail nó seol ríomhphost chuig mortarstownwwtp@water.ie.

Ní mór gach freagairt a chur isteach faoi mheán oíche Dé Domhnaigh an 19 Deireadh Fómhair. Ní bhreithneofar freagairtí a gheofar i ndiaidh an ama seo.

Imeachtaí faisnéise poiblí

Tá Uisce Éireann ag réachtáil imeacht faisnéise poiblí aghaidh ar aghaidh sa cheantar áitiúil inar féidir leat bualadh leis an bhfoireann tionscadail agus aon cheisteanna atá agat faoin tionscadal atá beartaithe a chur. Seo a leanas sonraí an imeachta:

- Déardaoin an 9 Deireadh Fómhair 2025, 4:00-8:00in
- Seven Oaks Hotel and Leisure Club, Bóthar Bhaile Átha Í, Ceatharlach, Éire, R93V4K5

Na Chéad Chéimeanna eile

Déanfaidh an fhoireann tionscadail an t-aiseolas uile a gheofar mar fhreagairt ar an gcomhairliúchán sin a thaifeadadh agus a bhreithniú, sula gcuirfear an t-iarratas pleanála faoi bhráid an Choimisiúin Phleanála. Beidh achoimre ar an aiseolas a gheofar le linn an phróisis comhairliúcháin sin sa Tuarascáil um Measúnacht Tionchair Timpeallachta a chuirfear isteach leis an iarratas pleanála. Ina theannta sin, roinnfimid torthaí an chomhairliúcháin sin trí shuíomh gréasáin an tionscadail go luath.

Tuilleadh Faisnéise

Tabhair cuairt ar ár suíomh gréasáin tionscadail chun tuilleadh eolais a fháil faoin tionscadal: www.mortarstownwwtp.ie. Má tá aon cheist eile agat faoin litir seo, ná bíodh leisce ort teagmháil a dhéanamh linn trí ríomhphost: mortarstownwwtp@water.ie.

Is mise le meas,

Conor Delaney

Clárghainisteoir Uisce Éireann

ii. Stakeholder letters



Letter Reference: Mortarstown WWTP 2025

Monday 22 September 2025

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Carlow (Mortarstown) Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade non-statutory consultation

We are writing to you with regards to the proposed Carlow (Mortarstown) Wastewater Treatment Plant (WwTP) upgrade, and to invite you to respond to our non-statutory consultation on the proposals.

This non-statutory consultation will run for four weeks from Monday 22 September until Sunday 19 October 2025. The consultation will be relevant to stakeholders, residents and the local community. We have identified you as a prescribed consultee.

Background to the project

Uisce Éireann is progressing plans to upgrade the wastewater infrastructure for Carlow Town and surrounding areas. The proposed project will enable future growth and development in the community and cater for an expected increase in population. In addition, the project will improve water quality in the River Barrow, and enhance Carlow's amenity value by providing a cleaner environment.

Carlow (Mortarstown) WwTP upgrade is cited as a Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) under the Planning and Development Act (2000). A SID can generally be described as development which is of strategic economic or social importance to the state or a region. SID applications are applications for planning permission directly to An Coimisiún Pleanála (previously known as An Bord Pleanála).

A SID application will be accompanied by an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR). The application will be submitted with the relevant application documents.

Uisce Éireann is inviting stakeholders and the local community to provide feedback on the proposed upgrades to Carlow (Mortarstown) WwTP through a non-statutory consultation process, in advance of submitting the formal planning application to An Coimisiún Pleanála.

The project proposals

The planned project involves major upgrades to the wastewater treatment plant site at Mortarstown. Proposed upgrades to the wastewater treatment plant include the following:

- A new inlet works with screenings, grit removal system and odour treatment unit.
- Stormwater facilities including storage tanks and pumps.
- Biological treatment system with primary settlement tanks, final settlement tanks including all auxiliaries and upgraded air blower system.
- Sludge dewatering system with new picket fence thickeners and sludge dewatering equipment.
- A new outfall line with a diameter of 900mm for treated effluent flow as well as the emergency overflow.

Stiúrthóirí / Directors: Niall Gleeson (POD / CEO), Jerry Grant (Cathaoirleach / Chairperson), Gerard Britchfield, Liz Joyce, Michael Nolan, Patricia King, Eileen Maher, Cathy Mannion, Paul Reid, Michael Walsh.
Óifig Chláraithe / Registered Office: Teach CoVill, 24-26 Sráid Thalbóid, Baile Átha Cliath 1, D01 NP86 / CoVill House, 24-26 Talbot Street, Dublin, Ireland D01NP86
Is cuideachta ghníomhaíochta ainmnithe atá faoi theorainn scalairneanna é Uisce Éireann / Uisce Éireann is a designated activity company, limited by shares.
Cláráithe in Éirinn Uimh.: 530363 / Registered in Ireland No.: 530363.

- Upgrading monitoring and control units to meet the reporting needs.

In addition, the existing Kilkenny Road Wastewater Pumping Station will be decommissioned and a new pumping station will be constructed next to the existing Mortarstown Wastewater Treatment Plant. Flows at the decommissioned Kilkenny Road Wastewater Pumping Station will be transferred to the new wastewater pumping station by gravity via a new tunnelled sewer.

How to have your say

We invite you to provide your feedback on the project proposals. **This non-statutory consultation will run for four weeks from Monday 22 September until Sunday 19 October 2025.**

You can provide feedback on any aspect of the proposed project by emailing mortarstownwwtp@water.ie. Alternatively, you can complete the online consultation feedback survey via the project website: www.mortarstownwwtp.ie.

All responses must be submitted by midnight on Sunday 19 October. Responses received after this time will not be considered.

Public information event

Uisce Éireann is holding a face-to-face public information event in the local area where you can meet the project team and ask any questions you may have on the proposed project. Details of the event are as follows:

- Thursday 9th October 2025, 4:00-8:00pm
- Seven Oaks Hotel and Leisure Club, Athy Road, Carlow, Ireland, R93V4K5

Next steps

All feedback received in response to this consultation will be recorded and taken into consideration by the project team, in advance of submitting the planning application to An Coimisiún Pleanála. The feedback received during this consultation process will be included in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report which will be submitted with the planning application. In addition, we will share the findings from this consultation via the project website in due course.

Further information

Please visit our project website for further information regarding the project: www.mortarstownwwtp.ie. If you have any further questions about this letter, please do not hesitate to contact us by email: mortarstownwwtp@water.ie.

Yours faithfully,

Conor Delaney

Uisce Éireann Programme Manager

Tagairt na Litreacha: Mortarstown WWTP 2025

Luan an 22 Meán Fómhair 2025

A dhuine uasail/a bhean uasail, a Chara.

Maidir le: Comhairliúchán neamhreachtúil maidir le huasghrádú ar Ionad Cóireála Fuíolluisce Cheatharlach (Baile Mhoirteíl)

Táimid ag scríobh chugat maidir leis an uasghrádú atá beartaithe ar Ionad Cóireála Fuíolluisce (ICFU) Cheatharlach (Baile Mhoirteíl), agus chun cuireadh a thabhairt duit freagairt a thabhairt ar ár gcomhairliúchán neamhreachtúil maidir leis na tograí.

Mairfidh an comhairliúchán neamhreachtúil seo ar feadh ceithre seachtaine ó Luan an 22 Meán Fómhair go dtí Domhnach an 19 Deireadh Fómhair 2025. Beidh an comhairliúchán ábhartha do gheallsealbhoirí, do chónaitheoirí agus don phobal áitiúil. Tá tú aitheanta againn mar chomhairlitheoir forordaithe.

Cúlra an tionscadail

Tá pleananna á gcur chun cinn ag Uisce Éireann chun an bonneagar fuíolluisce a uasghrádú do Bhaile Cheatharlach agus do na ceantair máguaird. Leis an tionscadal atá beartaithe, éascófar fás agus forbairt sa phobal amach anseo agus freastalófar ar an méadú daonra lena bhfuiltear ag súil. Sa bheis air sin, mar thoradh ar an tionscadal feabhsófar cáilíocht an uisce sa Bhearú agus méadófar luach taitneamhachta Cheatharlach trí thimpeallacht níos glaine a sholáthar.

Luaitear uasghrádú ar ICFU Cheatharlach (Baile Mhoirteíl) mar Fhorbairt Bonneagair Straitéiseach (FBS) faoin Acht um Pleanáil agus Forbairt (2000). Is féidir cur síos a dhéanamh ar FBS go ginearálta mar fhorbairt a bhfuil tábhacht straitéiseach eacnamaíoch nó shóisialta ag baint léi don stát nó do réigiún. Is éard is iarratais FBS ann ná iarratais ar chead pleanála go díreach chuig an gCoimisiún Pleanála (ar a dtugtaí An Bord Pleanála roimhe seo). Beidh Tuarascáil Measúnaithe Tionchair Chomhshaoil (EIAR) ag gabháil le hiarratas FBS. Cuirfear an t-iarratas isteach in éineacht leis na doiciméid iarratais ábhartha.

Tá Uisce Éireann ag tabhairt cuireadh do pháirtithe leasmhara agus don phobal áitiúil aiseolas a thabhairt maidir leis na huasghráduithe atá beartaithe ar ICFU Cheatharlach (Baile Mhoirteíl) trí phróiseas comhairliúcháin neamhreachtúil, sula gcuirfear an t-iarratas pleanála foirmiúil faoi bhráid an Choimisiúin Pleanála.

Tograí an tionscadail

Is é atá i gceist leis an tionscadal atá beartaithe uasghráduithe móra ar láithreán an ionaid cóireála fuíolluisce ag Baile Mhoirteíl. Áirítear an méid seo a leanas leis na huasghráduithe atá beartaithe ar an ionad cóireála fuíolluisce:

- Oibreacha ionraoin nua le scagadh, córas bainte grin agus aonad cóireála bolaidh.
- Saoráidí uisce stoirme lena n-áirítear umair stórála agus caidéil.
- Córas cóireála bitheolaíche le humair shíothlaithe phríomhúil, umair shíothlaithe deiridh lena n-áirítear trealamh tánaisteach uile agus córas séidire aer uasghrádaithe.
- Córas dí-uiscithe sloda le tiúsóirí fáil cuailí nua agus trealamh dí-uiscithe sloda nua.
- Líne píobáin sceite nua le trastomhas 900mm le haghaidh sreabhadh eisiltigh chóireáilte chomh maith leis an bhforsceitheadh éigeandála.

- Aonaid mhonatóireachta agus rialaithe a uasghrádú chun freastal ar riachtanais tuairiscithe.

Déanfar Stáisiún Caidéalúcháin Fuíolluisce Bhóthar Chill Chainnigh atá ann cheana a dhíchoimisiúnú agus tógfar stáisiún caidéalúcháin nua in aice le hIonad Cóireála Fuíolluisce Bhaile Mhoirtéil atá ann cheana féin. Aistrefar sreafaí ag Stáisiún Caidéalúcháin Fuíolluisce díchoimisiúnaithe Bhóthar Chill Chainnigh chuig an stáisiún caidéalúcháin fuíolluisce nua trí dhomhantarraingt trí shéarachas nua trí thollán.

Cuir do thuairimí in iúl

Tugaimid cuireadh duit d'aiseolas a thabhairt maidir le tograí an tionscadail. **Mairfidh an comhairliúchán neamhreachtúil seo ar feadh ceithre seachtaine ó Luan an 22 Meán Fómhair go dtí Domhnach an 19 Deireadh Fómhair 2025.**

Is féidir leat aiseolas a thabhairt ar aon ghné den tionscadal atá beartaithe trí ríomhphost a sheoladh chuig mortarstownwwtp@water.ie. Nó is féidir leat an suirbhé aiseolais comhairliúcháin ar líne a chomhlánú trí shuíomh gréasáin an tionscadail: www.mortarstownwwtp.ie.

Ní mór gach freagairt a chur isteach faoi mheán oíche Dé Domhnaigh an 19 Deireadh Fómhair. Ní bhreithneofar freagairtí a gheofar i ndiaidh an ama seo.

Imeacht faisnéise poiblí

Tá Uisce Éireann ag réachtáil imeacht faisnéise poiblí aghaidh ar aghaidh sa cheantar áitiúil inar féidir leat bualadh leis an bhfoireann tionscadail agus aon cheisteanna atá agat faoin tionscadal atá beartaithe a chur. Seo a leanas sonraí an imeachta:

- Déardaoin an 9 Deireadh Fómhair 2025, 4:00-8:00in
- Seven Oaks Hotel and Leisure Club, Bóthar Bhaile Átha Í, Ceatharlach, Éire, R93V4K5

Na Chéad Chéimeanna eile

Déanfaidh an fhoireann tionscadail an t-aiseolas a gheofar mar fhreagairt ar an gcomhairliúchán sin a thaifeadadh agus a bhreithniú, sula gcuirfear an t-iaratas pleanála faoi bhráid an Choimisiúin Pleanála. Beidh achoimre ar an aiseolas a gheofar le linn an phróisis chomhairliúcháin sin sa Tuarascáil Measúnachta Tionchair Timpeallachta a chuirfear isteach leis an iaratas pleanála. Ina theannta sin, roinnfimid torthaí an chomhairliúcháin sin trí shuíomh gréasáin an tionscadail in am trátha.

Tuilleadh Faisnéise

Tabhair cuairt ar ár suíomh gréasáin tionscadail chun tuilleadh eolais a fháil faoin tionscadal: www.mortarstownwwtp.ie. Má tá aon cheist eile agat faoin litir seo, ná bíodh leisce ort teagmháil a dhéanamh linn trí ríomhphost: mortarstownwwtp@water.ie.

Is mise le meas,

Conor Delaney

Clárghainisteoir Uisce Éireann

iii. Project information leaflet

Carlow (Mortarstown)

Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade



Uisce Éireann is progressing plans to upgrade the wastewater infrastructure for Carlow Town and surrounding areas. We are inviting the local community and stakeholders to provide feedback on the proposed upgrades to Mortarstown Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Why is this project needed?

The Mortarstown Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade in Carlow Town is part of Uisce Éireann's national investment in water and wastewater infrastructure. The wastewater treatment plant has a current capacity to serve approximately 36,000 population equivalent (PE) in Carlow Town and surrounding areas. In order to support projected growth in the town and meet the future demands of Carlow and the surrounding area, the treatment capacity of the plant needs to be significantly increased to serve a future projected PE of 58,500. This essential project will also ensure compliance with environmental regulations and protect the River Barrow, a designated Special Area of Conservation.

3D visualisation of the existing site layout



3D visualisation of the proposed upgrade subject to further detailed design



What's involved in the project?

The planned project involves major upgrades to the existing waste water treatment plant site at Mortarstown.

Proposed upgrades to the wastewater treatment plant include the following:

- A new inlet works with screenings, grit removal system and odour treatment unit.
- Stormwater facilities including storage tanks and pumps.
- Biological treatment system with primary settlement tanks, final settlement tanks including all auxiliaries and upgraded air blower system.
- Sludge dewatering system with new picket fence thickeners and sludge dewatering equipment.
- A new outfall line with a diameter of 900mm for treated effluent flow as well as the emergency overflow.
- Upgrading monitoring and control units to meet the reporting needs.

In addition, the existing Kilkenny Road Wastewater Pumping Station will be decommissioned and a new pumping station will be constructed next to the existing Mortarstown Wastewater Treatment Plant site. Flows at the decommissioned Kilkenny Road Wastewater Pumping Station will be transferred to the new wastewater pumping station by gravity via a new tunnelled sewer.

What are the benefits of this project?

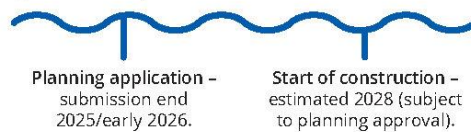
Upon completion the project will:

- Enable future growth and development in the community and cater for an expected increase in population in the area.
- Enhance Carlow's amenity value by providing a cleaner environment and act as a platform for social and economic development.
- Improve water quality in the River Barrow, benefiting the environment, ecology, sporting and tourism activities.
- Ensure that wastewater will be treated in accordance with European Union Urban Wastewater Treatment Directives and Environmental Protection Agency wastewater discharge licensing.

What is happening now?

Uisce Éireann is engaging with the local community and stakeholders regarding the proposed project through a non-statutory consultation process before the formal planning application is submitted to An Coimisiún Pleanála (previously known as An Bord Pleanála) in the coming months.

Approximate key timelines are as follows:



How can I get involved?

We invite you to provide your feedback on the project proposals. This non-statutory consultation will run for four weeks from **Monday 22 September to Sunday 19 October 2025**.

Consultation materials

Key information on the proposed project, consultation materials, and responses to frequently asked questions (FAQs) are available on our project website, available here: <https://www.mortarstownwwtp.ie/>

There are various options to provide feedback and have your say:

- Complete the online consultation feedback survey via the project website.
- Provide written feedback via email to mortarstownwwtp@water.ie
- Attend the public information event where you can meet the project team and ask any questions you may have on the proposed project.

For further information on the survey, the project, and/or consultation, please see the project website or email mortarstownwwtp@water.ie

All responses must be submitted by midnight on Sunday 19 October. Responses received after this time will not be considered.

Public information event

Uisce Éireann is holding a face-to-face public information event in the local area where you can meet the project team and ask any questions you may have on the proposed project. Details of the event are as follows:

Thursday 9th October 2025

4:00-8:00pm

Seven Oaks Hotel and Leisure Club, Athy Road, Carlow, Ireland, R93V4K5

Further information

Please visit our project website for further information regarding the project: <https://www.mortarstownwwtp.ie/>

If you have any further questions about this letter, please do not hesitate to contact us by email: mortarstownwwtp@water.ie

Uasghrádú ar Ionad Cóireála Fuíolluisce Cheatharlach (Baile Mhoirtéil)



Tá pleananna á gcur chun cinn ag Uisce Éireann chun an bonneagar fuíolluisce a uasghrádú do Bhaile Cheatharlach agus do na ceantair máguaird. Táimid ag tabhairt cuireadh don phobal áitiúil agus do pháirtithe leasmhara aiseolas a thabhairt maidir leis na huasghráduithe atá beartaithe ar Ionad Cóireála Fuíolluisce Bhaile Mhoirtéil.

Cén fáth a bhfuil gá leis an tionscadal seo?

Tá uasghrádú ar Ionad Cóireála Fuíolluisce Bhaile Mhoirtéil i mBaile Cheatharlach ina chuid d'infheistíocht náisiúnta Uisce Éireann i mbonneagar uisce agus fuíolluisce. Tá acmhainn reatha ag an ionad cóireála fuíolluisce chun freastal ar choibhéis daonra (CD) de thart 36,000 i mBaile Cheatharlach agus sna ceantair máguaird. Chun tacú leis an bhfás réamh-mheasta sa bhaile agus chun freastal ar éilimh Cheatharlach agus an cheantair máguaird amach anseo, ní mór méadú suntasach a dhéanamh ar acmhainn chóireála an ionaid chun freastal ar choibhéis daonra (CD) réamh-mheasta amach anseo de 58,500. Cinnteofar leis an tionscadal riachtanach sin freisin go gcomhlíonfar rialacháin chomhshaoil agus go gcosnófar an Bhearrú, ar Limistéar Caomhnaithe Speisialta ainmnithe í.

Amharcléiriú 3T ar leagan amach an tsuimh atá ann cheana féin



Amharcléiriú 3T den uasghrádú atá beartaithe faoi réir dearadh mionsonraithe breise



Cad atá i gceist leis an tionscadal?

Tá uasghráduithe móra ar láithreán an ionaid cóireála fuíolluisce atá ann cheana féin i mBaile Mhoirtéil i gceist leis an tionscadal atá beartaithe.

Áirítear an méid seo a leanas leis na huasghráduithe atá beartaithe ar an ionad cóireála fuíolluisce:

- Oibreacha ionraoin nua le scagadh, córas bainte grín agus aonad cóireála bolaidh.
- Saoráidí uisce stoirme lena n-áirítear umair stórála agus caidél.
- Córas cóireála bitheolaíche le humair shíothlaithe phríomhúil, umair shíothlaithe deiridh lena n-áirítear na cúntóirí go léir agus córas séidire aer uasghrádaithe.
- Córas dí-uiscthe sloda le tiúsóirí fáil cuailí nua agus trealamh dí-uiscthe sloda.
- Líne srutha éalaithe nua le trastomhas 900mm le haghaidh sreabhadh eisileach cóireálte chomh maith leis an bhforshreabhadh éigeandála.
- Aonaid mhonatóireachta agus rialaithe a uasghrádú chun freastal ar riachtanais tuairiscithe.

Chomh maith leis sin, déanfar Stáisiún Caidéalúcháin Fuíolluisce Bhóthar Chill Chainnigh atá ann cheana a dhíchoimisiúnú agus tógfar stáisiún caidéalúcháin nua in aice le láithreán Ionad Cóireála Fuíolluisce Bhaile Mhoirtéil atá ann cheana féin. Aistrefar sreafaí ag Stáisiún Caidéalúcháin Fuíolluisce díchoimisiúnaithe Bhóthar Chill Chainnigh chuig an stáisiún caidéalúcháin fuíolluisce nua trí dhomhantarraingt trí shéarachas nua trí thollán.

Cad iad na buntáistí a bhaineann leis an tionscadal seo?

Nuair a bheidh an tionscadal críochnaithe déanfaidh sé:

- Éascófar fás agus forbairt sa phobal amach anseo agus freastalófar ar an méadú daonra atá réamh-mheasta.
- Treiseofar luach taitneamhachta Cheatharlach trí thimpeallacht níos glaine a sholáthar, agus feidhmeoidh sé mar ardán le haghaidh forbairt shóisialta agus eacnamaíoch.

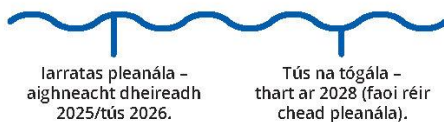
• Cuirfear feabhas ar cháilíocht an uisce sa Bheará, rud a rachaidh chun tairbhe don chomhshaoil, don éiceolaíocht, do ghníomhaíochtaí spóirt agus don turasóireachta.

• Cinnteofar go ndéanfar fuíolluisce a chóireáil i gcomhréir le Treoracha an Aontais Eorpacha maidir le Cóireáil Fuíolluisce Uirbigh agus i gcomhréir le ceadúnú sceite fuíolluisce na Gníomhaireachta um Chaomhnú Comhshaoil.

Cad atá ag tarlú anois?

Tá Uisce Éireann i mbun plé leis an bpobal áitiúil agus le páirtithe leasmhara maidir leis an tionscadal atá beartaithe trí phróiseas comhairliúcháin neamhreachtúil sula gcuirfear an t-larratas foirmiúil pleanála faoi bhráid an Choimisiúin Phleanála (ar a dtugtar An Bord Pleanála roimhe seo) sna míonna amach romhainn.

Seo a leanas na príomh-amlínte measta:



Conas is féidir liom bheith páirteach?

Tugaimid cuireadh duit d'aiseolas a thabhairt maidir le tograí an tionscadail. Beidh an comhairliúchán neamhreachtúil sin ar siúl ar feadh ceithre seachtaine ón Luan an 22 Meán Fómhair go dtí an Domhnach an 19 Deireadh Fómhair 2025.

Ábhair chomhairliúcháin

Tá faisnéis thábhachtach faoin tionscadal atá beartaithe, ábhair chomhairliúcháin, agus freagraí ar cheisteanna coitianta (CCanna) ar fáil ar shuíomh gréasáin ár dtionscadail: ar fáil anseo www.mortarstownwwtp.ie

Tá roghanna éagsúla ann chun aiseolas a thabhairt agus do thuairim a chur in iúl:

- Comhlánaigh an suirbhé ar aiseolas an chomhairliúcháin ar líne trí shuíomh gréasáin an tionscadail.
- Cuir aiseolas i scríbhinn ar fáil trí ríomhphost chuig mortarstownwwtp@water.ie
- Freastail ar an imeacht faisnéise poiblí inar féidir leat bualadh leis an bhfoireann tionscadail agus aon cheisteanna atá agat faoin tionscadal atá beartaithe a chur.

Chun tuilleadh eolais a fháil faoin suirbhé, faoin tionscadal, agus/nó faoin gcomhairliúchán, féach ar shuíomh gréasáin an tionscadail nó seol ríomhphost chuig mortarstownwwtp@water.ie

Ní mór gach freagairt a chur isteach faoi mheán oíche Dé Domhnaigh an 19 Deireadh Fómhair. Ní bhreithneofar freagairtí a gheofar i ndiaidh an ama seo.

Imeachtaí faisnéise poiblí

Tá Uisce Éireann ag réachtáil imeacht faisnéise poiblí aghaidh ar aghaidh sa cheantar áitiúil inar féidir leat bualadh leis an bhfoireann tionscadail agus aon cheisteanna atá agat faoin tionscadal atá beartaithe a chur. Seo a leanas sonraí an imeachta:

Déardaoin an 9 Deireadh Fómhair 2025

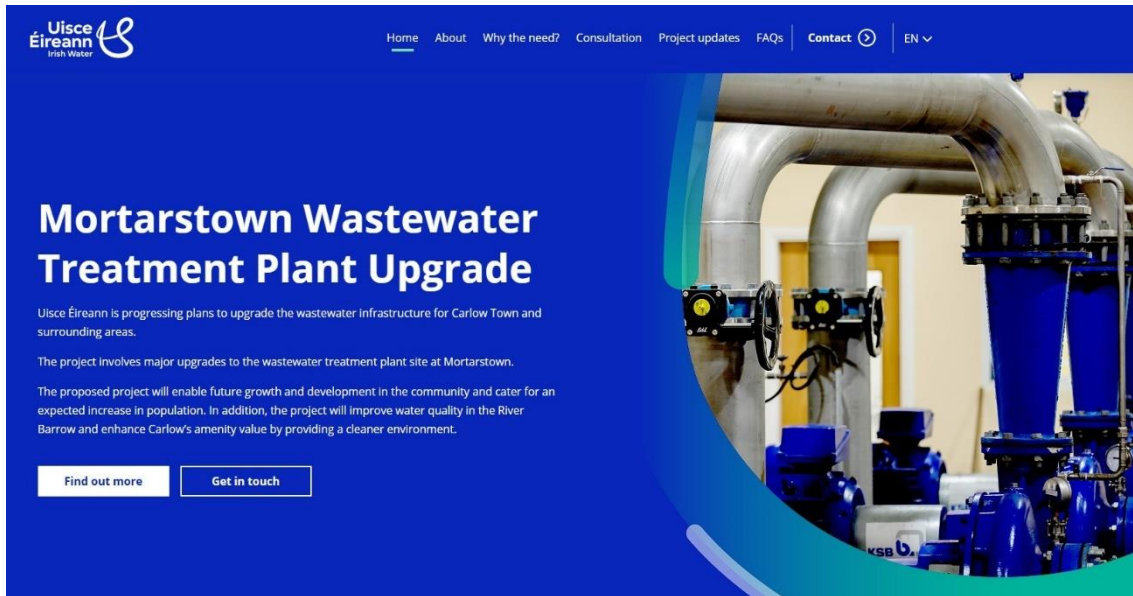
4:00-8:00in

Seven Oaks Hotel and Leisure Club, Bóthar Bhaile Átha Í, Ceatharlach, Éire, R93V4K5

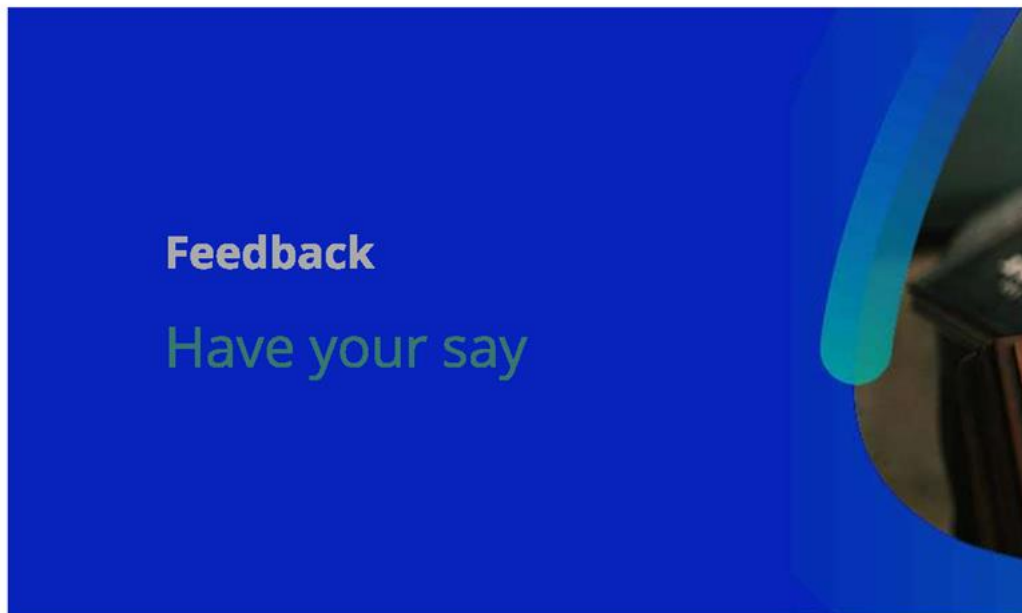
Tuilleadh Faisnéise

Tabhair cuairt ar ár suíomh gréasáin tionscadail chun tuilleadh eolais a fháil faoin tionscadal: www.mortarstownwwtp.ie Má tá aon cheist eile agat faoin litir seo, ná bíodh leisce ort teagmháil a dhéanamh linn trí ríomhphost: mortarstownwwtp@water.ie

iv. Project website



v. Project website feedback form



Carlow (Mortarstown) Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade

Non-Statutory Consultation Public Feedback Form

Uisce Éireann is progressing plans to upgrade the wastewater infrastructure for Carlow Town and surrounding areas. The proposed project will enable future growth and development in

cleaner environment.

We are inviting the local community to provide feedback on the proposed upgrades to Carlow (Mortarstown) Wastewater Treatment Plant through a non-statutory consultation process, in advance of submitting the formal planning application to An Coimisiún Pleanála (previously known as An Bord Pleanála).

This non-statutory consultation will run for four weeks from Monday 22 September to Sunday 19 October 2025.

Please take a few minutes to complete this form.

1. Do you live in, or own a home in Carlow or the surrounding area? (Please tick)

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

If yes, please specify the area (optional):

Your comments...

2. Do you work in, or run a business in Carlow or the surrounding area? (Please tick)

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

Your comments...

3. Which of the following project benefits do you think are most important? (Please select one options)

- ☐ Enabling future growth and development in the community and catering for an expected increase in population in the area.
- ☐ Enhancing Carlow's amenity value by providing a cleaner environment and acting as a platform for social and economic development.
- ☐ Improving water quality in the River Barrow, benefitting the environment, ecology, sporting and tourism activities.
- ☐ Ensuring that wastewater will be treated in accordance with European Union Urban Wastewater Treatment Directives and Environmental Protection Agency wastewater discharge licensing.
- ☐ I don't think that the project will have any benefits.
- ☐ Don't know/ Not Sure

3. Which of the following project benefits do you think are most important?
(Please select one options) is required.

**4. What impact do you believe that the Mortarstown Wastewater Treatment Plant project will have on Carlow and the surrounding area?
Please list any impacts, benefits or concerns that you may have regarding the project.**

5. Do you have any additional comments or suggestions about the project?

Your comments...

[View Privacy Notice](#)

[Submit feedback](#)

Confidentiality Disclaimer:

All information provided in this form will be treated as confidential and used solely for the purpose of informing the development of the Carlow (Mortarstown) Wastewater Treatment Plant project. Personal data will be handled in accordance with data protection regulations and will not be shared with third parties. All information provided in this form will be treated as confidential and used solely for the purpose of informing the development of the Carlow (Mortarstown) Wastewater Treatment Plant project. Personal data will be handled in accordance with data protection regulations and will not be shared with third parties.

Thank you for your feedback.

For further information please contact:

mortarstownwwtp@water.ie

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vi. Social media post



Uisce Éireann is planning a major upgrade to the Mortarstown Wastewater Treatment Plant in Carlow,

vii. Newspaper advertisement

FÓGRA POIBLÍ



COMHAIRLIÚCHÁN POIBLÍ NEAMHREACTÚIL Uisce Éireann – Uasghrádú atá molta d'Ionad Cóireála Fuíolluisce Cheatharlach (Baile Mhoirtéil)

Tugann Uisce Éireann cuireadh do bhaill den phobal páirt a ghlacadh i gcomhairliúchán poiblí neamhreactúil maidir leis an uasghrádú atá beartaithe ar Ionad Cóireála Fuíolluisce Cheatharlach (Baile Mhoirtéil).

Tá an tréimhse chomhairliúcháin ceithre seachtaine oscailte anois agus dúntar ar an 19 Deireadh Fómhair, 2025.

Leis an tionscadal atá beartaithe, éascófar fás agus forbairt sa phobal amach anseo agus freastalófar ar an méadú daonra atá measta. Chomh maith leis sin, feabhsófar leis an tionscadal cáilíocht an uisce sa Bhearú agus treiseofar luach taitneamhachta Cheatharlach trí thimpeallacht níos glaine a sholáthar.

Imeachtaí faisnéise poiblí (ar an láthair):

Dáta: Déardaoin an 9 Deireadh Fómhair 2025

Am: 4:00-8:00in

Ionad: Seven Oaks Hotel and Leisure Club, Bóthar Bhaile Átha Í, Ceatharlach, Éire, R93V4K5

Beidh baill den fhoireann tionscadail ar fáil chun eolas a roinnt faoin tionscadal.

Nach féidir leat freastal ar an láthair?

Tá faisnéis thábhachtach faoin tionscadal atá beartaithe, ábhair chomhairliúcháin, agus freagraí ar cheistanna coitianta (CCanna) ar fáil ar shuíomh gréasáin ár dtionscadail: **Suíomh gréasáin:** www.mortarstownwwtp.ie

Cuir do thuairim iúl faoin tionscadal tríd an suirbhé aiseolais ar líne a chomhlánú trí **shuíomh gréasáin an tionscadail** nó cuir d'aiseolas ar fáil trí ríomhphost chuig mortarstownwwtp@water.ie.

Tá do chuid tuairimí tábhachtach agus cuideoidh siad le forbairt an tionscadail rithabhachtach seo a mhúnlú.

PUBLIC NOTICE



NON-STATUTORY PUBLIC CONSULTATION Uisce Éireann – Proposed Carlow (Mortarstown) Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade

Uisce Éireann is inviting members of the public to participate in a **non-statutory public consultation** on the proposed **Carlow (Mortarstown) Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade**.

The four week consultation period is now open and will close on the **19th October, 2025**.

The proposed project will enable future growth and development in the community and cater for an expected increase in population. In addition, the project will improve water quality in the River Barrow and enhance Carlow's amenity value by providing a cleaner environment.

Public information event (in person):

Date: Thursday 9th October 2025

Time: 4:00-8:00pm

Venue: Seven Oaks Hotel and Leisure Club, Athy Road, Carlow, Ireland, R93V4K5

Members of the project team will be available to share information on the project.

Can't attend in person?

Key information on the proposed project, consultation materials, and responses to frequently asked questions (FAQs) are available on our project website:

Website: www.mortarstownwwtp.ie

Have your say on the project by completing the online feedback survey via the **project website** or provide your feedback via email to mortarstownwwtp@water.ie.

Your views are important and will help shape the development of this critical project.

viii. Elected representatives briefing slide deck



Mortarstown Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade

Elected Representative Briefing
18th September 2025



Project Team



Project background



Uisce Éireann is progressing plans to upgrade the wastewater infrastructure for Carlow Town and surrounding areas.

The proposed project involves major upgrades to the wastewater treatment plant site at Mortarstown.

The wastewater treatment plant has a current capacity to serve approximately 36,000 population equivalent (PE) in Carlow Town and surrounding areas.

In order to support projected growth in the region and meet future demands of the town, the treatment capacity of the plant needs to be significantly increased to serve a future projected PE of 58,500.



3

Project Benefits



Upon completion the project will:



Enable future growth and development in the community and cater for an expected increase in population in the area.



Enhance Carlow's amenity value by providing a cleaner environment and act as a platform for social and economic development.



Improve water quality in the River Barrow, benefitting the environment, ecology, sporting and tourism activities.



Ensure that wastewater will be treated in accordance with European Union Urban Wastewater Treatment Directives and Environmental Protection Agency wastewater discharge licensing.

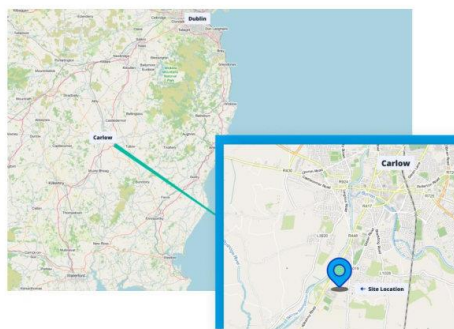


4

What's involved in the project?

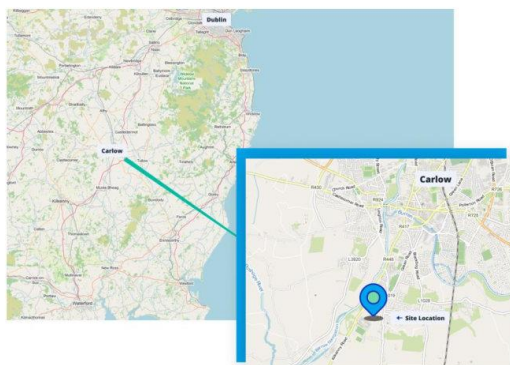
Proposed upgrades to the wastewater treatment plant include the following:

- A new inlet works with screenings, grit removal system and odour treatment unit.
- Stormwater facilities including storage tanks and pumps.
- Biological treatment system with primary settlement tanks, final settlement tanks including all auxiliaries and upgraded air blower system.
- Sludge dewatering system with new picket fence thickeners and sludge dewatering equipment.
- A new outfall line with a diameter of 900mm for treated effluent flow as well as the emergency overflow.
- Upgrading monitoring and control units to meet the reporting needs.
- A new pumping station will be constructed next to the existing Mortarstown Wastewater Treatment Plant. Flows at the decommissioned Kilkenny Road Pumping Station will be transferred to the new pumping station by gravity via a tunnelled sewer.



5

Project Map



6

Project Visualisation



Current



Proposed

7

What's happening now?

- We are engaging with the local community and stakeholders regarding the proposed project.
- This engagement is taking place through a non-statutory consultation process before the formal planning application is submitted.
- The project is considered Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID), and a planning application will be made directly to An Coimisiún Pleanála.
- The SID application will include an Environmental Impact Assessment Report, Natura Impact Statement, as well as other relevant planning documents.
- We are also engaging with Carlow County Council and other statutory bodies as part of the preparation of the SID submission.

Planning application –
submission end 2025/ early
2026



Start of construction –
estimated 2028 (subject to
planning approval)

8

Non-statutory public consultation



We are inviting local residents and stakeholders to provide their feedback on the project proposals.

Non-statutory consultation will run for four weeks from Monday 22 September to Sunday 19 October.

- Letter drop to residents.
- Letter to stakeholders.
- Consultation materials available on our project website www.mortarstownwwtp.ie
- Public information event.
- **For further information on the project, please see the project website or email mortarstownwwtp@water.ie.**

9

Public information event



Uisce Éireann is holding a face-to-face information event in the local area where local residents and stakeholders can meet the project team and ask any questions they may have on the proposed project.

Date: Thursday 9 October 2025

Time: 4:00-8:00pm

Venue: Seven Oaks Hotel and Leisure Club,
Athy Road, Carlow, Ireland, R93V4K5



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Next Steps

- All feedback received in response to this consultation will be recorded and considered by the project team, in advance of submitting the planning application to An Coimisiún Pleanála.
- A summary of feedback received during this consultation process will be included in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report which will be submitted with the planning application.



11

Staying Informed



Proactive updates

Project updates will be issued to stakeholders via email.

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Thank you for your time.

Any Questions?



ix. Public information event consultation boards



Carlow (Mortarstown) Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade

Non-statutory Public Consultation
22 September – 19 October 2025



Who we are

We are Uisce Éireann. As Ireland's national regulated water utility, every day we are responsible for the delivery of secure, safe, and sustainable water services for the people of Ireland.

Our job is to deliver the highest quality drinking water to your taps every day and ensure that wastewater is properly treated and safely returned to the environment.

Uisce Éireann is investing in water and wastewater services which will bring many benefits for our customers and the environment. This significant investment programme involves the delivery of national programmes and plans and new and improved infrastructure.

Investment in the wastewater network will enable future growth and development in the community and cater for an expected increase in population in Carlow.

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Project background

Carlow (Mortarstown) Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade in Carlow town is part of Uisce Éireann's national investment in water and wastewater infrastructure. The wastewater treatment plant has a current capacity to serve approximately 36,000 population equivalent (PE) in Carlow Town and surrounding areas.

In order to enable projected growth in the region and meet future demands of the town, the treatment capacity of the plant needs to be significantly increased to serve a future projected PE of 58,500.

This essential project will also ensure compliance with environmental regulations and protect the River Barrow, a designated Special Area of Conservation.

What is happening now?

Carlow (Mortarstown) Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade is considered as Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) under the Planning and Development Act (2000). SID applications are applications for planning permission made directly to An Coimisiún Pleanála (previously known as An Bord Pleanála).

Uisce Éireann is engaging with the local community and stakeholders regarding the proposed project through a non-statutory consultation process before the formal planning application is submitted.

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Proposed location



Carlow (Mortarstown) Wastewater Treatment Plant is located 2.2km south of Carlow town and serves the town of Carlow and its environs. The wastewater treatment plant also treats some wastewater from County Laois. We are upgrading the existing plant and extending the development to the west of the existing plant.

In addition, the existing Kilkenny Road Wastewater Pumping Station will be decommissioned and a new pumping station will be constructed next to the existing Mortarstown Wastewater Treatment Plant. Flows at the decommissioned Kilkenny Road Wastewater Pumping Station will be transferred to the new wastewater pumping station by gravity via a new tunnelled sewer.

What's involved in the project?

The planned project involves major upgrades to the existing wastewater treatment plant site at Mortarstown.

Proposed upgrades to the wastewater treatment plant include the following:

A new inlet works with screenings, grit removal system and odour treatment unit.

Stormwater facilities including storage tanks and pumps.

Biological treatment system with primary settlement tanks, final settlement tanks including all auxiliaries and upgraded air blower system.

Sludge dewatering system with new picket fence thickeners and sludge dewatering equipment.

A new outfall line with a diameter of 900mm for treated effluent flow as well as the emergency overflow.

Upgrading monitoring and control units to meet the reporting needs.

A new pumping station will be constructed next to the existing Mortarstown Wastewater Treatment Plant. Flows at the decommissioned Kilkenny Road Pumping Station will be transferred to the new pumping station by gravity via a tunnelled sewer.



*Proposed upgrade subject to further detailed design



What are the benefits of this project?

Upon completion the project will:



Enable future growth and development in the community and cater for an expected increase in population in the area.



Enhance Carlow's amenity value by providing a cleaner environment and act as a platform for social and economic development.



Improve water quality in the River Barrow, benefiting the environment, ecology, sporting and tourism activities.



Ensure that wastewater will be treated in accordance with European Union Urban Wastewater Treatment Directives and Environmental Protection Agency wastewater discharge licensing.



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How can I get involved?

This non-statutory public consultation will run for four weeks from Monday 22 September to Sunday 19 October 2025. We invite you to provide your feedback on the project proposals.

There are various options to provide feedback and have your say:

Complete the online consultation feedback survey via the project website.

Provide written feedback via email to mortarstownwwtp@water.ie

At this public information event you can meet the project team and ask any questions you have on the proposed project.

For further information please visit the project website www.mortarstownwwtp.ie or email mortarstownwwtp@water.ie



Approximate key timelines



Planning application submission end 2025/early 2026.



Start of construction – estimated 2028 (subject to planning approval).

Next steps

All feedback received in response to this consultation will be recorded and considered by the project team, in advance of submitting the planning application to An Coimisiún Pleanála. A summary of feedback received during this consultation process will be included in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report which will be submitted with the planning application. In addition, we will share the findings from this consultation via the project website in due course.

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