

# Annual Environmental Report

2020



Cahir

D0167-01

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# 1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND INTRODUCTION TO THE 2020 AER

This Annual Environmental Report has been prepared for D0167-01, Cahir, in Tipperary in accordance with the requirements of the wastewater discharge licence for the agglomeration. Specified reports where relevant are included as an appendix to the AER.

## 1.1 ANNUAL STATEMENT OF MEASURES

A summary of any improvements undertaken is provided where applicable.

There were no major capital or operational changes undertaken in 2020.

## 1.2 TREATMENT SUMMARY

The agglomeration is served by a wastewater treatment plant(s)

- Cahir WWTP - 2020 with a Plant Capacity PE of 5000, the treatment type is 3P - Tertiary P removal

## 1.3 ELV OVERVIEW

The overall compliance of the final effluent with the Emission Limit Values (ELVs) is shown below. More detailed information on the below ELV's can be found in Section 2.

Discharge Point Reference	Treatment Plant	Discharge Type	Compliance Status	Parameters failing if relevant
TPEFF2900D0167SW001	Cahir WWTP - 2020	Treated	Non-Compliant	Ammonia-Total (as N) mg/l

## 1.4 LICENCE SPECIFIC REPORTING INCLUDED IN AER

Assessment / Report	Included in AER
There are no Licence Specific Reports included in the AER.	

## 2 TREATMENT PLANT PERFORMANCE AND IMPACT SUMMARY

### 2.1 CAHIR WWTP - 2020 - TREATED DISCHARGE

#### 2.1.1 INFLUENT MONITORING SUMMARY - CAHIR WWTP - 2020

A summary of influent monitoring for the treatment plant is presented below. This monitoring is primarily undertaken in order to determine the overall efficiency of the plant in removing pollutants from the raw wastewater.

Parameters	Number of Samples	Annual Max	Annual Mean
Total Nitrogen mg/l	13	95.1	39.14
COD-Cr mg/l	13	1244	573.53
BOD, 5 days with Inhibition (Carbonaceous BOD) mg/l	13	605	234.62
Total Phosphorus (as P) mg/l	13	13.8	5.7
Suspended Solids mg/l	13	668	226.83
Hydraulic Capacity	N/A	4640	1056

If other inputs in the form of sludge / leachate are added to the WWTP then these are included in Section 2.1.5 if applicable.

#### Significance of Results:

The annual mean hydraulic loading is less than the peak Treatment Plant Capacity. The annual maximum hydraulic loading is greater than the peak Treatment Plant Capacity. Further details on the plant capacity and efficiency can be found under the sectional 'Operational Performance Summary'. The design of the wastewater treatment plant allows for peak values and therefore the peak loads have not impacted on compliance with Emission Limit Values.

## 2.1.2 EFFLUENT MONITORING SUMMARY - TPEFF2900D0167SW001

Parameter	WWDL ELV (Schedule A)	ELV with Condition 2 Interpretation included Note 1	Interim % reduction from influent concentration	Number of sample results	Number of exceedances	Number of with Condition 2 Interpretation included	Annual Mean	Overall Compliance (Pass/Fail)
<b>COD-Cr mg/l</b>	125	250	N/A	13	N/A	N/A	28.31	Pass
<b>Suspended Solids mg/l</b>	35	87.5	N/A	13	N/A	N/A	6.9	Pass
<b>BOD, 5 days with Inhibition (Carbonaceous BOD) mg/l</b>	25	50	N/A	13	N/A	N/A	2.23	Pass
<b>pH pH units</b>	9	9	N/A	13	N/A	N/A	7.33	Pass
<b>Ammonia-Total (as N) mg/l</b>	5	6	N/A	13	1	1	3.65	Fail
<b>ortho-Phosphate (as P) - unspecified mg/l</b>	2	2.4	N/A	13	N/A	N/A	0.23	Pass
<b>Total Nitrogen mg/l</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	13	N/A	N/A	19.32	
<b>Total Phosphorus (as P) mg/l</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	13	N/A	N/A	0.38	

Notes:

1 – This represents the Emission Limit Values after the Interpretation provided for under Condition 2 of the licence is applied

## Cause of Exceedance(s):

**Ammonia exceedence**

## Significance of Results:

The WWTP was not compliant with the ELV's set out in the WWDL.

### 2.1.3 AMBIENT MONITORING SUMMARY FOR THE TREATMENT PLANT DISCHARGE TPEFF2900D0167SW001

A summary of monitoring from ambient monitoring points associated with the wastewater discharge is provided in the sections below. For discharges to rivers upstream (U/S) and downstream (D/S) location data is provided. For other ambient points in lakes, coastal or transitional waters, monitoring data from the most appropriate monitoring station is selected.

The table below provides details of ambient monitoring locations and details of any designations as sensitive areas.

Ambient Monitoring Point from WWDL (or as agreed with EPA)	Irish Grid Reference	River Station Code	Bathing Water	Drinking Water	FWPM	Shellfish	WFD Status
<b>Upstream</b>	204982, 123923	RS16S021790	No	No	Yes	No	Moderate
<b>Downstream</b>	205054, 123744	RS16S021910	No	No	Yes	No	Moderate

The table below provides a summary of monitoring results for designated ambient monitoring points. The upstream and downstream annual mean values are shown (mg/l), and the difference between both monitoring stations is given as a percentage of the Environmental Quality Standard (EQS) where relevant.

Parameter Name	Upstream Monitoring Point Location	Upstream Monitoring Point Annual Mean	Downstream Monitoring Point Location	Downstream Monitoring Point Annual Mean	EQS	% of EQS
<b>BOD - 5 days (Total) mg/l</b>	RS16S021790	2	RS16S021910	2.23	1.5	15

Parameter Name	Upstream Monitoring Point Location	Upstream Monitoring Point Annual Mean	Downstream Monitoring Point Location	Downstream Monitoring Point Annual Mean	EQS	% of EQS
<b>Ammonia-Total (as N) mg/l</b>	RS16S021790	0.04	RS16S021910	0.05	0.07	17.3
<b>ortho-Phosphate (as P) - unspecified mg/l</b>	RS16S021790	0.05	RS16S021910	0.11	0.04	164.6
<b>Temperature °C</b>	RS16S021790	11.31	RS16S021910	11.35		
<b>Dissolved Oxygen mg/l</b>	RS16S021790	9.99	RS16S021910	10.29		
<b>pH pH units</b>	RS16S021790	8.27	RS16S021910	8.27		
<b>Dissolved Oxygen % O2</b>	RS16S021790	90.83	RS16S021910	94.8		

### Significance of Results:

The WWTP discharge was not compliant with the ELV's set in the wastewater discharge licence.

The ambient monitoring results does not meet the required EQS. The EQS relates to the Oxygenation and Nutrient Conditions set out in the Surface Water Regulations 2009.

The discharge from the wastewater treatment plant does not have an observable impact on the water quality.

The discharge from the wastewater treatment plant does not have an observable negative impact on the Water Framework Directive status.

## 2.1.4 OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE SUMMARY - CAHIR WWTP - 2020

### 2.1.4.1 Treatment Efficiency Report - Cahir WWTP - 2020

Treatment efficiency is based on the removal of key pollutants from the influent wastewater by the treatment plant. In essence the calculation is based on the balance of load coming into the plant versus the load leaving the plant. The efficiency is presented as a percentage removal rate.

A summary presentation of the efficiency of the treatment process including information for all the parameters specified in the licence is included below:

Parameter	Influent mass loading (kg/year)	Effluent mass emission (kg/year)	Efficiency (% reduction of influent load)
<b>COD</b>	291010	14364	95
<b>TP</b>	2892	190	93
<b>SS</b>	115093	3499	97
<b>TN</b>	19861	9801	51
<b>cBOD</b>	119049	1130	99

Note: The above data is based on sample results for the number of dates reported

#### 2.1.4.2 Treatment Capacity Report Summary - Cahir WWTP - 2020

Treatment capacity is an assessment of the hydraulic (flow) and organic (the amount of pollutants) load a treatment plant is designed to treat versus the current loading of that plant.

Cahir WWTP - 2020	
<b>Peak Hydraulic Capacity (m<sup>3</sup>/day) - As Constructed</b>	3759
<b>DWF to the Treatment Plant (m<sup>3</sup>/day)</b>	1253
<b>Current Hydraulic Loading - annual max (m<sup>3</sup>/day)</b>	4640
<b>Average Hydraulic loading to the Treatment Plant (m<sup>3</sup>/day)</b>	1056
<b>Organic Capacity (PE) - As Constructed</b>	5000
<b>Organic Capacity (PE) - Collected Load (peak week)<sup>Note1</sup></b>	4624
<b>Organic Capacity (PE) - Remaining</b>	376

## Cahir WWTP - 2020

Will the capacity be exceeded in the next three years? (Yes/No)

No

Nominal design capacities can be based on conservative design principles. In some cases assessment of existing plants has shown organic capacities significantly higher than the nominal design capacity. Accordingly plants that appear to be overloaded when comparing a collected peak load with the nominal design capacity can be fully compliant due to the safety factors in the original design.

### 2.1.5 SLUDGE / OTHER INPUTS - CAHIR WWTP - 2020

'Other inputs' to the waste water treatment plant are summarised in table below

Input type	Quantity	Unit	P.E.	% of load to WWTP	Included in Influent Monitoring (Y/N)?	Is there a leachate/sludge acceptance procedure for the WWTP?	Is there a dedicated leachate/sludge acceptance facility for the WWTP? (Y/N)
<b>There is no Sludge and Other Input data for the Treatment Plant included in the AER.</b>							

## 3 COMPLAINTS AND INCIDENTS

### 3.1 COMPLAINTS SUMMARY

A summary of complaints of an environmental nature is included below.

Number of Complaints	Nature of Complaint	Number Open Complaints	Number Closed Complaints
<b>There were no relevant environmental complaints in 2020.</b>			

### 3.2 REPORTED INCIDENTS SUMMARY

Environmental incidents that arise in an agglomeration are reported on an on-going basis in accordance with our waste water discharge licences. Where an incident occurs and it is reportable under the licence, it is reported to the Environmental Protection Agency through their Environmental Data Exchange Network, or in some instances by telephone. Some incidents which arise in the agglomeration are recorded by Irish Water but may not be reportable under our licence for example where the incident does not have an impact on environmental performance.

A summary of reported incidents is included below.

#### 3.2.1 SUMMARY OF INCIDENTS

Incident Type	Cause	No. of incident occurrences	Recurring (Y/N)	Closed (Y/N)
<b>There were no reportable incidents in 2020.</b>				

### 3.2.2 SUMMARY OF OVERALL INCIDENTS

Question	Answer
Number of Incidents in 2020	2
Number of Incidents reported to the EPA via EDEN in 2020	2
Explanation of any discrepancies between the two numbers above	N/A

## 4 INFRASTRUCTURAL ASSESSMENTS AND PROGRAMME OF IMPROVEMENTS

### 4.1 STORM WATER OVERFLOW IDENTIFICATION AND INSPECTION REPORT

A summary of the operation of the storm water overflows and their significance where known is included below:

#### 4.1.1 SWO IDENTIFICATION

WWDL Name / Code for Storm Water Overflow	Irish Grid Ref.	Included in Schedule A4 of the WWDL	Significance of the overflow(High / Medium / Low)	Assessed against DoEHLG Criteria	No. of times activated in 2020 (No. of events)	Total volume discharged in 2020 (m3)	Monitoring Status
SW006	204947, 125305	Yes	Low	Meeting	Unknown	Unknown	Not Monitored
SW007	205083, 124640	Yes	Low	Meeting	Unknown	Unknown	Not Monitored
SW008	204926, 124927	Yes	Low	Meeting	Unknown	Unknown	Not Monitored
SW009	204888, 124926	Yes	Low	Meeting	Unknown	Unknown	Not Monitored
SWO04	204853, 124869	Yes	Low	Meeting	Unknown	Unknown	Not Monitored
SWO05	204944, 125303	Yes	Low	Not yet Assessed	Unknown	Unknown	Not Monitored

WWDL Name / Code for Storm Water Overflow	Irish Grid Ref.	Included in Schedule A4 of the WWDL	Significance of the overflow(High / Medium / Low)	Assessed against DoEHLG Criteria	No. of times activated in 2020 (No. of events)	Total volume discharged in 2020 (m3)	Monitoring Status
<b>SW002</b>	205063, 124743	Yes	Low	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Not Monitored
<b>SW003</b>	205116, 125139	Yes	Low	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Not Monitored
<b>TBC</b>	205013, 123800	No	Low	Meeting	Unknown	0	Monitored

SWO Summary	
How much sewage was discharged via SWOs in the agglomeration in the year (m3)?	Unknown
Is each SWO identified as not meeting DoEHLG Guidance included in the Programme of Improvements?	N/A
The SWO Assessment included the requirements of relevant of WWDL schedules?	Yes
Have the EPA been advised of any additional SWOs / changes to Schedule C3 and A4 under Condition 1.7?	No

## 4.2 REPORT ON PROGRESS MADE AND PROPOSALS BEING DEVELOPED TO MEET THE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME REQUIREMENTS.

### 4.2.1 SPECIFIED IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME SUMMARY

A wastewater discharge licence may require a number of reports on specific subject areas to be prepared for the agglomeration in question. These reports are submitted to the EPA as part of the Annual Environmental Report. This section provides list of the various reports required for this agglomeration and a brief summary of their recommendations.

Specified Improvement Programmes (under Schedule A and C of WWDL)	Description	Licence Schedule	Licence Completion Date	Date Expired? (N/NA/Y)	Status of Works	Timeframe for Completing the Work	Comments
<b>There are no Specified Improvement Programmes for this Agglomeration.</b>							

A summary of the status of any improvements identified by under Condition 5.2 is included below.

### 4.2.2 IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME SUMMARY

Improvement Identifier	Improvement Description / or any Operational Improvements	Improvement Source	Expected Completion Date	Comments
<b>There are no Improvements Programme for this Agglomeration.</b>				

### 4.2.3 SEWER INTEGRITY RISK ASSESSMENT

The utilisation of multiple capital maintenance programmes and the outputs of the workshops with the Local Authority Operations Staff held under the programme can be used to satisfy the requirements of Condition 5 regarding network integrity. Improvement works identified by way of these programmes and workshops will be included in the Improvements Summary Table.

## 5 LICENCE SPECIFIC REPORTS

A wastewater discharge licence may require a number of reports on specific subject areas to be prepared for the agglomeration in question. These reports are submitted to the EPA as part of the Annual Environmental Report. This section provides list of the various reports required for this agglomeration and a brief summary of their recommendations.

5.a Licence Specific Reports Summary Table

Licence Specific Report	Required by licence	Year included in AER	Included in this AER	Reference to relevant section of AER
Priority Substances Assessment	Yes		No	

### 5.1 PRIORITY SUBSTANCES ASSESSMENT

## 6 CERTIFICATION AND SIGN OFF

### 6.1 SUMMARY OF AER CONTENTS

Parameter	Answer
Does the AER include an Executive Summary?	Yes
Does the AER include an assessment of the performance of the Waste Water Works (i.e. have the results of assessments been interpreted against WWDL requirements and or Environmental Quality Standards)?	Yes
Is there a need to advise the EPA for consideration of a Technical Amendment / Review of the licence?	No
List reason e.g. additional SWO identified	N/A
Is there a need to request/advise the EPA of any modification to the existing WWDL with respect to condition 4 changes to monitoring location, frequency etc	No
List reason e.g. changes to monitoring requirements	N/A
Have these processes commenced?	N/A
Are all outstanding reports and assessments from previous AERs included as an appendix to this AER	Yes

I certify that the information given in this Annual Environmental Report is truthful, accurate and complete:

Signed: Date: 24/06/2021

This AER has been produced by Irish Water's Environmental Information System (EIMS) and has been electronically signed off in that system for and on behalf of ,

Katherine Walshe

Acting Head of Environmental Regulation.

## 7 APPENDIX

Appendix

**Appendix 7.1 - Ambient monitoring summary**

**Cahir Ambient Monitoring Data 2020**

								Parameter	Ammonia N	Biological Oxyg	COD Chemical	Dissolved Oxyg	Ortho-Phosph	pH	Temperature
								Max.	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
								Min.	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
								Test Method	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Category	Entity	Station	Station Reference	Easting	Northing	Sample Refere	Sample Date	Analyst Conclu	mg/l	mg/l	mg/l	mg/l	mg/l	pH units	Degrees C
Ambient Monitoring	River Suir	Upstream @ Cahir WWTP	RS16S021790	204982	123920	20550103	21/01/2020	-	0.04	2		11.24	0.038	8.4	7.6
Ambient Monitoring	River Suir	Downstream @ Cahir WWTP	RS16S021910	205054	123744	20550104	21/01/2020	-	0.03	2		11.49	0.038	8.4	6.6
Ambient Monitoring	River Suir	Upstream @ Cahir WWTP	RS16S021790	204982	123920	20550243	12/02/2020	-	0.03	2		11.71	0.05	8.4	2.5
Ambient Monitoring	River Suir	Downstream @ Cahir WWTP	RS16S021910	205054	123744	20550244	12/02/2020	-	0.03	3.8		11.86	0.22	8.3	2.9
Ambient Monitoring	River Suir	Upstream @ Cahir WWTP	RS16S021790	204982	123920	20550342	04/03/2020	-	0.03	2		10.66	0.038	8.6	7.4
Ambient Monitoring	River Suir	Downstream @ Cahir WWTP	RS16S021910	205054	123744	20550341	04/03/2020	-	0.08	2		10.4	0.16	8.5	7.7
Ambient Monitoring	River Suir	Upstream @ Cahir WWTP	RS16S021790	204982	123920	20550561	06/05/2020	-	0.03	2		10.78	0.017	8.47	12.4
Ambient Monitoring	River Suir	Downstream @ Cahir WWTP	RS16S021910	205054	123744	20550562	06/05/2020	-	0.03	2		11.65	0.179	8.33	12.6
Ambient Monitoring	River Suir	Upstream @ Cahir WWTP	RS16S021790	204982	123920	20550763	17/06/2020	-	0.07	2		8.98	0.02	8.07	15
Ambient Monitoring	River Suir	Downstream @ Cahir WWTP	RS16S021910	205054	123744	20550762	17/06/2020	-	0.09	2		9.39	0.03	8.1	15
Ambient Monitoring	River Suir	Upstream @ Cahir WWTP	RS16S021790	204982	123920	20550907	08/07/2020	-	0.05	2		8.87	0.051	8	14.9
Ambient Monitoring	River Suir	Downstream @ Cahir WWTP	RS16S021910	205054	123744	20550908	08/07/2020	-	0.07	2		9.19	0.051	8.3	15
Ambient Monitoring	River Suir	Upstream @ Cahir WWTP	RS16S021790	204982	123920	20551115	26/08/2020	-	0.03	2		8.06	0.142	7.8	15.3
Ambient Monitoring	River Suir	Downstream @ Cahir WWTP	RS16S021910	205054	123744	20551116	26/08/2020	-	0.03	2		8.27	0.118	7.9	15.7
Ambient Monitoring	River Suir	Upstream @ Cahir WWTP	RS16S021790	204982	123920	20551203	16/09/2020	-	0.03	2		9.65	0.026	8.4	15.4
Ambient Monitoring	River Suir	Downstream @ Cahir WWTP	RS16S021910	205054	123744	20551202	16/09/2020	-	0.04	2		10.07	0.047	8.3	15.3
Ambient Monitoring	River Suir	Upstream @ Cahir WWTP	RS16S021790	204982	123920	20551349	08/10/2020	-	0.05	2		10.23	0.086	8.1	11.9
Ambient Monitoring	River Suir	Downstream @ Cahir WWTP	RS16S021910	205054	123744	20551348	08/10/2020	-	0.05	2		10.37	0.087	8.2	11.5
Ambient Monitoring	River Suir	Upstream @ Cahir WWTP	RS16S021790	204982	123920	20551534	11/11/2020/	-	0.03	2		9.72	0.031	8.6	11.8
Ambient Monitoring	River Suir	Downstream @ Cahir WWTP	RS16S021910	205054	123744	20551533	11/11/2020	-	0.03	2		9.67	0.038	8.5	12.2