

# Annual Environmental Report

2021



Portarlinton

D0158-01

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# 1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND INTRODUCTION TO THE 2021 AER

This Annual Environmental Report has been prepared for D0158-01, Portarlington, in Laois 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 capital works, significant changes or operational improvements undertaken in 2021.

## 1.2 TREATMENT SUMMARY

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

- PORTARLINGTON WWTP with a Plant Capacity PE of 13000, 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
TPEFF1600D0158SW001	PORTARLINGTON WWTP	Treated	Non-Compliant	ortho-Phosphate (as P) - unspecified mg/l

## 1.4 LICENCE SPECIFIC REPORTING

Assessment / Report

**There are no Licence Specific Reports included in this AER.**

## 2 TREATMENT PLANT PERFORMANCE AND IMPACT SUMMARY

### 2.1 PORTARLINGTON WWTP - TREATED DISCHARGE

#### 2.1.1 INFLUENT MONITORING SUMMARY - PORTARLINGTON WWTP

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
<b>BOD, 5 days with Inhibition (Carbonaceous) mg/l</b>	13	230	142
<b>ortho-Phosphate (as P) - unspecified mg/l</b>	13	4.51	3.37
<b>Ammonia-Total (as N) mg/l</b>	13	74	47
<b>COD-Cr mg/l</b>	13	1012	529
<b>Suspended Solids mg/l</b>	13	620	249.82
<b>pH pH units</b>	13	8.09	7.82
<b>Total Phosphorus (as P) mg/l</b>	13	9.40	6.28
<b>Total Nitrogen mg/l</b>	13	76	53
<b>Hydraulic Capacity</b>	N/A	6044	2043

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 less than the peak Treatment Plant Capacity. Further details on the plant capacity and efficiency can be found under the sectional 'Operational Performance Summary'.

### 2.1.2 EFFLUENT MONITORING SUMMARY - TPEFF1600D0158SW001

Parameter	WWDL ELV (Schedule A)	ELV with Condition 2 Interpretation included <sup>Note 1</sup>	Interim % reduction from influent concentration	Number of sample results	Number of exceedances	Number of exceedances with Condition 2 Interpretation included	Annual Mean	Overall Compliance (Pass/Fail)
Suspended Solids mg/l	35	88	N/A	13	N/A	N/A	2.19	Pass
BOD, 5 days with Inhibition (Carbonaceous) mg/l	15	30	N/A	13	N/A	N/A	0.903	Pass
pH pH units	6.00	9.00	N/A	13	N/A	N/A	7.90	Pass
Total Phosphorus (as P) mg/l	2.00	2.40	N/A	13	N/A	N/A	0.363	Pass
Ammonia-Total (as N) mg/l	1.00	2.00	N/A	13	N/A	N/A	0.105	Pass
ortho-Phosphate (as P) - unspecified mg/l	0.500	0.600	N/A	13	3	2	0.276	Fail
COD-Cr mg/l	N/A	N/A	N/A	13	N/A	N/A	20	

Parameter	WWDL ELV (Schedule A)	ELV with Condition 2 Interpretation included <sup>Note 1</sup>	Interim % reduction from influent concentration	Number of sample results	Number of exceedances	Number of exceedances with Condition 2 Interpretation included	Annual Mean	Overall Compliance (Pass/Fail)
<b>Total Nitrogen mg/l</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	13	N/A	N/A	20	

Notes:

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

2 – For pH the WWDA specifies a range of pH 6 - 9

### Cause of Exceedance(s):

**Dosing pump failure or maintenance at WWTP**

### Significance of Results:

The WWTP is non compliant with the ELV's set in the Wastewater Discharge Licence. The impact on receiving waters is assessed further in Section 2.

## 2.1.3 AMBIENT MONITORING SUMMARY FOR THE TREATMENT PLANT DISCHARGE

### TPEFF1600D0158SW001

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 Ecological Status
Upstream	254273, 212857	RS14B010780	No	No	No	No	Moderate
Downstream	258218, 212313	RS14B010900	No	No	No	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
BOD - 5 days (Total) mg/l	RS14B010780	1.40	RS14B010900	1.12	1.50	-18.7
Ammonia-Total (as N) mg/l	RS14B010780	0.047	RS14B010900	0.049	0.065	2.5
ortho-Phosphate (as P) - unspecified mg/l	RS14B010780	0.027	RS14B010900	0.028	0.035	4
Nitrate (as N) mg/l	RS14B010780	2.46	RS14B010900	3.02	N/A	
True Colour mg/litre Pt Co	RS14B010780	67	RS14B010900	62	N/A	
Total Oxidised Nitrogen (as N) mg/l	RS14B010780	2.48	RS14B010900	3.06	N/A	
Nitrite (as N) µg/l	RS14B010780	13	RS14B010900	14	N/A	
Temperature °C	RS14B010780	11	RS14B010900	11	N/A	

Parameter Name	Upstream Monitoring Point Location	Upstream Monitoring Point Annual Mean	Downstream Monitoring Point Location	Downstream Monitoring Point Annual Mean	EQS	% of EQS
Alkalinity-total (as CaCO3) mg/l	RS14B010780	242	RS14B010900	256	N/A	
Chloride mg/l	RS14B010780	31	RS14B010900	31	N/A	
Dissolved Oxygen % Saturation	RS14B010780	109	RS14B010900	114	N/A	
pH pH units	RS14B010780	8.22	RS14B010900	8.18	N/A	
Total Hardness (as CaCO3) mg/l	RS14B010780	287	RS14B010900	303	N/A	
Conductivity @25°C µS/cm	RS14B010780	590	RS14B010900	617	N/A	
Dissolved Oxygen mg/l	RS14B010780	12	RS14B010900	12	N/A	

### Significance of Results:

The WWTP discharge was not compliant with the ELV's set in the wastewater discharge licence for the following: ortho-Phosphate (as P) - unspecified mg/l.

The ambient monitoring results meet the required EQS. The EQS relates to the Oxygenation and Nutrient Conditions set out in the Surface Water Regulations 2009.

Based on ambient monitoring results a slight deterioration in Ortho-P and Ammonia concentrations downstream of the effluent discharge is noted.

A deterioration in water quality has been identified, however it is not known if it or is not caused by the WWTP.

As per the 3rd Cycle Draft Barrow Catchment Report (HA 14), the significant pressures on the At Risk Barrow\_080 waterbody are Agriculture and Urban Waste Water. The Portarlinton WWTP is listed as a significant pressure on the Barrow\_080 waterbody in the Cycle 3 report. Based on the Ortho-P effluent compliance results, the WWTP may be impacting the downstream water quality and WFD status. It should be noted that the WFD status is Moderate both upstream and downstream of the WWTP.

## 2.1.4 OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE SUMMARY - PORTARLINGTON WWTP

### 2.1.4.1 Treatment Efficiency Report - PORTARLINGTON WWTP

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)
cBOD	108170	689	99
COD	403469	15582	96
TN	40077	15157	62
TP	4786	277	94
SS	190476	1671	99

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

### 2.1.4.2 Treatment Capacity Report Summary - PORTARLINGTON WWTP

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.

PORTARLINGTON WWTP	
Peak Hydraulic Capacity (m <sup>3</sup> /day) - As Constructed	7800
DWF to the Treatment Plant (m <sup>3</sup> /day)	2600
Current Hydraulic Loading - annual max (m <sup>3</sup> /day)	6044

PORTARLINGTON WWTP	
Average Hydraulic loading to the Treatment Plant (m <sup>3</sup> /day)	2043
Organic Capacity (PE) - As Constructed	13000
Organic Capacity (PE) - Collected Load (peak week) <sup>Note1</sup>	10898
Organic Capacity (PE) - Remaining	2102
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 - PORTARLINGTON WWTP

'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 related to the discharge(s) to water from the WWTP and network is included below.

Number of Complaints	Nature of Complaint	Number Open Complaints	Number Closed Complaints
<b>There were no relevant environmental complaints in 2021.</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>Abatement Equipment offline</b>	Plant or equipment breakdown at WWTP	1	No	Yes
<b>Abatement Equipment offline</b>	Plant or equipment breakdown at WWTP	1	No	Yes
<b>Breach of ELV</b>	Dosing pump failure or maintenance at WWTP	1	Yes	Yes

### 3.2.2 SUMMARY OF OVERALL INCIDENTS

Question	Answer
Number of Incidents in 2021	3
Number of Incidents reported to the EPA via EDEN in 2021	3
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 (chamber) where applicable	Irish Grid Ref. (outfall)	Included in Schedule of the WWDL	Significance of the overflow(High / Medium / Low)	Assessed against DoEHLG Criteria	Total volume discharged in 2021 (m <sup>3</sup> )	Monitoring Status
SW10	253714.37, 212306.2	Yes	Medium	Meeting	Unknown	Not Monitored
SW2	254605, 212384.22	Yes	Medium	Meeting	Unknown	Not Monitored
SW3	254522.25, 212541.88	Yes	Medium	Meeting	Unknown	Not Monitored
SW4	254256, 212854	Yes	Medium	Meeting	Unknown	Not Monitored
SW5	253979.02, 212442.81	Yes	Medium	Meeting	Unknown	Not Monitored
SW7	254805.58, 212397.68	Yes	Medium	Meeting	Unknown	Not Monitored

WWDL Name / Code for Storm Water Overflow (chamber) where applicable	Irish Grid Ref. (outfall)	Included in Schedule of the WWDL	Significance of the overflow(High / Medium / Low)	Assessed against DoEHLG Criteria	Total volume discharged in 2021 (m <sup>3</sup> )	Monitoring Status
<b>SW8</b>	254015.84, 212671.6	Yes	Medium	Meeting	Unknown	Not Monitored
<b>SW9</b>	253340, 211970	Yes	Medium	Meeting	Unknown	Not Monitored

<b>SWO Summary</b>	
<b>How much sewage was discharged via monitored SWOs in the agglomeration in the year (m<sup>3</sup>)?</b>	Unknown
<b>Is each SWO identified as not meeting DoEHLG Guidance included in the Programme of Improvements?</b>	N/A
<b>The SWO Assessment included the requirements of relevant of WWDL schedules?</b>	Yes
<b>Have the EPA been advised of any additional SWOs / changes to Schedule C3 and A4 under Condition 1.7?</b>	N/A

## 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 a 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>D0158-SIP:01</b>	Appropriate treatment to ensure compliance with the ELVs as set out in this licence.	C	31/12/2019	Yes	Works Completed		

A summary of the status of any other improvements identified by under Condition 5 assessments- is included below.

### 4.2.2 IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME SUMMARY

Improvement Identifier	Improvement Description / or any Operational Improvements	Improvement Source	Expected Completion Date	Comments
<b>No additional improvements planned at this time.</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 Tables 4.2.1 and 4.2.2.

## 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 a list of the various reports required for this agglomeration and a brief summary of their recommendations.

Licence Specific Report	Required by licence	Year included in AER	Included in this AER
Priority Substances Assessment	Yes	2015	No

### 5.1 PRIORITY SUBSTANCES ASSESSMENT

The Priority Substances Assessment Report has been included in the AER 2015.

## 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
Has a Technical amendment/licence review application been submitted to the Agency by IW?	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	N/A

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

Date: 18/02/2022

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**

There are no Appendices included.