

Looking after Ireland's
water resources



2025

Annual
Report

We are a strong
independent voice
on national policy
pertaining to water
management, water
conservation and
future proofing



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Chairpersons Foreword

Ireland is now at a pivotal point in its water policy journey. As the implementation of the 3rd River Basin Management Plan progresses, the focus is shifting from planning to assessing the delivery of its Programme of Measures. This period of reflection is essential to understand what is working, where implementation challenges remain, and whether these actions are leading to improvements in water quality. In this context, the Water Forum's role as the statutory stakeholder body is particularly important. The breadth of expertise represented by our members remains one of the Forum's greatest strengths. By bringing these perspectives together, the Forum works to build consensus and provide balanced advice on water policy issues.

A key focus of the Forum's work in 2025 was supporting the implementation of the 3rd River Basin Management Plan, particularly through engagement on the Sectoral Action Work Plans for agriculture, wastewater, forestry and hydromorphology and the piloting of the new catchment work plans and catchment community fora. These plans and the new community fora help translate national policy into practical measures on the ground, and the Forum engaged with Departments, agencies and stakeholders to provide input on their development.

Another important area of work in 2025 was engagement on the development of Ireland's 6th Nitrates Action Programme (NAP) 2026–2029. Agriculture remains the most significant pressure on water quality in Ireland, and the NAP is designed to help reduce nutrient losses to rivers, lakes and groundwater. The Forum's submission emphasised the need for clearer links between measures and water quality outcomes, stronger catchment-targeted actions and enhanced advisory supports for farmers. I am pleased that several of these recommendations are reflected in the final Programme.

Several of the Forum's recommendations are reflected in the final NAP programme.

The Forum has emphasised that achieving the objectives of the 3rd River Basin Management Plan depends on relentless focus on implementation. Encouragingly, this message has been recognised in the development of Ireland's 4th Water Action Plan, where implementation of measures is being prioritised as a central objective. The Forum looks forward to contributing further advice as this next phase of river basin management planning develops.

Alongside its policy work, the Forum continued to strengthen the evidence base through commissioned research. Studies undertaken during the year examined the value of water conservation measures, public awareness of local waterbodies and the experiences of public water users. These insights help inform policy discussions and support a better understanding of how water policy affects communities and customers.

In 2025, the Forum also strengthened its governance and engagement structures through formal agreements, updated codes of conduct, and regular structured engagement with Department officials to support oversight, reporting, and ongoing coordination of water policy matters.

I would like to thank the Forum members for their commitment and hard work throughout the year, and the Secretariat team for their invaluable support.

Dr Matt Crowe

Chairperson, An Fóram Uisce
– The Water Forum

Who We Are



The Water Forum at a Glance

The Water Forum (An Fóram Uisce) is a statutory stakeholder body for water, established under the Water Services Act 2017 to provide independent advice on national water policy and governance. The Forum fulfils its statutory role through research, structured stakeholder engagement and the provision of formal policy advice.

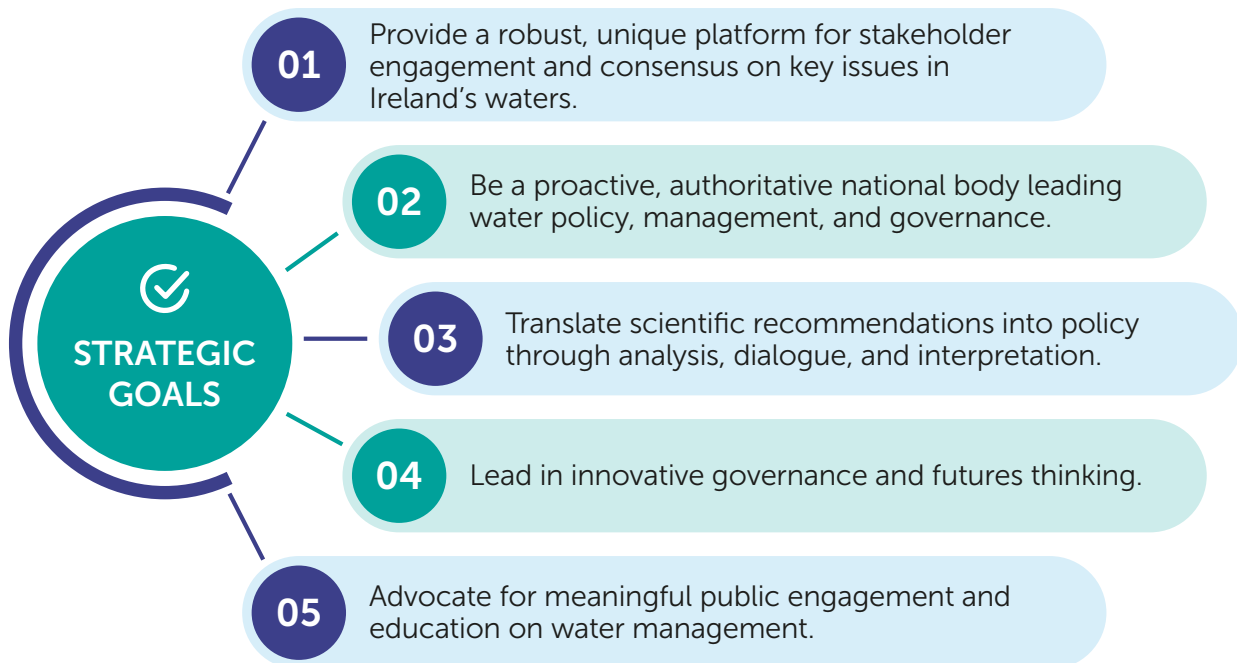
Established: 2018

Membership: 27 members reflecting 16 sectors

Function: Independent advice and recommendations on water policy and governance

Who we advise: The Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage; the Water Policy Advisory Committee; Uisce Éireann; and the Commission for Regulation of Utilities

Focus areas: Water quality, water services, rural water, water conservation, and river basin management planning and implementation



The Water Forum's work is guided by its Strategic Plan for 2022–2027. Building on the foundations of its first Strategic Plan, the Forum continues to strengthen stakeholder input into decision-making on water as a fundamental national asset.

Further detail on the Forum's priorities is set out in the Strategic Plan 2022–2027, available [here](#).

Water Forum Membership

The members of the Forum reflect the societal demands between economic, social and environmental objectives in water management. One of the key contributions the Water Forum makes is finding and building consensus between such primary interests to achieve common ground on policy recommendations and ministerial advice.

27 Members
appointed to the forum

16 Sectors
representing social,
environmental and economic
interests in water

Bringing diverse
perspectives to
**common
ground**

A full list of Forum members and representative organisations is provided in Table A in the Appendix.



Water Forum members and staff (back to front, left to right):

Top row: Eamonn Carroll, Neil Walker, Mark Farrelly, Steve Conlon

Second row: Brendan O'Brien, Matt Crowe, Dominic Cronin, Donal Purcell

Third row: Eimear Manning, Micheal Kenny, Maria Snell

Second row: Charles Stanley Smith, Maria O'Gorman, Jean Rosney, Suzanne Linnane, Divya Flynn

Front row: Ciarán Maguire, Marie Doyle, Connie Rochford, Triona McGrath

Missing from the photo are Constanze O'Toole, Martin McEnroe, Sinéad O'Brien, Tadhg Buckley, Elaine Mc Goff, Fintan Kelly, Karin Dubsy, Keith Hyland, David Wright

Water Forum Stakeholder Sectors

Stakeholder sectors represented on the Water Forum



Water Forum Plenary

The Plenary plays a key role in supporting the Forum in fulfilling its statutory obligations. Through structured deliberation, the Plenary provides strategic input, guidance, and key decisions to support the Forum’s policy work and research, and support in identifying emerging water and wastewater issues, knowledge gaps, and future policy needs to guide research and advice.

Plenary activity in 2025

In 2025, the Plenary met eight times to oversee delivery of the Water Forum’s work in delivering statutory obligations. During the year, the Plenary:

Approved 13 policy advice papers and submissions

Guided 3 commissioned research outputs

Details of the Forum’s public consultation submissions, policy advice, and research outputs are outlined in the following sections.

Presentations made to the plenary in 2025

Date	Topic	Presentation delivered by:
January 2025	Presentation of commissioned research <i>The Value of Water Conservation: A Cost Benefit Analysis of setting water use targets at building scale</i>	Trinity College Dublin (Dr John Gallagher & Prof Laurence Gill)
March 2025	Presentation on the Sectoral Action Plan for Forestry	Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) (Kevin Collins, DAFM- Forest Service)
April 2025	Briefing on the Public Consultation on Heavily Modified Water Bodies	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (Wayne Trodd, Water Policy Advisor)

Date	Topic	Presentation delivered by:
July 2025	Presentation of the Water Forum National Survey on Knowledge & Understanding of Water Quality in Ireland	CORE Research
December 2025	Presentation on proposed regulations for the registration of small-scale wastewater discharges	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (Donal Grant, Principal Officer, Water Policy)

Details of Plenary meetings held during 2025, together with member attendance, is provided in Table B and Table C in the Appendix.

Fees

The Annual Fee payable to the Forum Chairperson in 2025 was €11,609.19. Fees were not paid to any other Members, as their work with Forum is on a voluntary basis.

Travel and subsistence expenses incurred by members are paid at the standard civil service rates. The rates applicable in 2025 are available at www.revenue.ie/en/employing-people/employee-expenses/travel-and-subsistence/civil-service-rates.aspx

Diversity & Inclusion

The Forum developed an Equality, Diversity & Inclusion statement in 2021, to guide its work. The principles of gender equity and diversity are considered when seeking nominations for membership of the Forum. In 2025, women represented 44% of the Plenary Committee membership; 30% of the Water Services Standing Committee; and 56% of the Catchment Management Standing Committee.



Water Forum Standing Committees

Catchment Management Standing Committee

The Catchment Management Standing Committee (CMSC) facilitates stakeholder engagement on catchment management issues at a national policy level. Its work supports the implementation of the River Basin Management Plan in line with the objectives of the Water Framework Directive. Through engagement with public bodies, sectors and stakeholders, the Committee helps ensure the Water Forum contributes informed, evidence-based advice on catchment management and water policy.

The full membership of the Standing Committee for 2025 is presented in Table D in the Appendix.

Key Outcomes Influenced in 2025

The CMSC met five times in 2025, progressing national policy engagement on Sectoral Action Work Plans (SAWPs), Catchment Community Fora (CCFs), Hydromorphology, and the 6th Nitrates Action Programme (NAP).



Area of Influence	CMSC Contribution and Outcomes (2025)
Strengthening Sectoral Accountability	Engaged on draft Agriculture, Forestry and Hydromorphology Sectoral Action Work Plans (SAWPs). Submitted detailed feedback to DAFM on the Agriculture SAWP addressing implementation gaps and recommended clearer objectives and measurable actions within the Hydromorphology SAWP.
Advancing Catchment-Level Governance	Engaged with LAWPRO on implementation of Pilot Catchment Community Fora (CCFs). Reviewed progress and participation across five pilot CCFs and submitted a formal response to LAWPRO on the Draft Implementation Plan, highlighting governance and evaluation improvements.
Influencing Agriculture and Water Quality Policy	Engaged with DAFM and DHLGH on development of the 6th Nitrates Action Programme (2026–2029). Participated in a joint DAFM/DHLGH briefing and submitted the Forum’s formal response to the Public Consultation.
Shaping the 4th Water Action Plan	Developed the Forum’s vision for stakeholder engagement in the 4th Cycle and agreed strategic messages to inform the Chair’s Significant Water Management Issues (SWMI) pre-consultation presentation.

Water Services Standing Committee

The Water Services Standing Committee (WSSC) facilitates stakeholder engagement on all water services issues (including drinking water and wastewater) at a national level. Its work supports improvements in water services, including water conservation, rural water policy and the protection of customer interests. Through engagement with public bodies, regulators and stakeholders – including Uisce Éireann and the Commission for Regulation of Utilities – and drawing on research, expert input and member dialogue, the Committee helps ensure the Water Forum contributes informed, evidence-based advice on water services policy and the sustainable use of water resources.

The full membership of the Standing Committee for 2025 is presented in Table E in the Appendix.

Key Outcomes Influenced in 2025

The Water Services Standing Committee (WSSC) met five times in 2025, progressing national policy engagement on strategic water supply planning, urban wastewater investment, economic regulation (tariffs and Revenue Control 4), and the development of a Forum position on the interests of Uisce Éireann customers.

Area of Influence	WSSC Contribution and Outcomes (2025)
Eastern & Midlands Water Supply Project	Engaged with Uisce Éireann during the non-statutory public consultation. Attended briefings and developed and agreed the Forum’s submission on this stage of the Project.
Urban Wastewater Sectoral Action Work Plan (SAWP)	Engaged with Uisce Éireann, DHLGH, LAWPRO and the EPA on the Urban Wastewater SAWP. Participated in briefing and subsequently submitted formal recommendations to Uisce Éireann and DHLGH.
Revenue Control 4 (2025–2029)	Received a briefing from the CRU on the Draft Determination for Revenue Control 4 (2025–2029). Developed a submission, supported by independent technical advice, addressing institutional capacity, outputs-to-outcomes linkage and prior underperformance.
Non-Domestic Water and Wastewater Tariffs	Received a detailed briefing from the CRU on the Proposed Decision on Uisce Éireann’s Non-Domestic Tariff Framework.
Public Water Consumer Interests	Reviewed findings from the 2025 National Survey on Public Water Users and identified priority themes – communications, accessibility, customer service, transparency and public trust – to inform a future Forum policy position on the interests of public water consumers.



Policy Advice & Submissions

13 policy
advice papers
and submissions

5 national
authorities
engaged

13 water
policy issues
addressed

During 2025, the Chair and secretariat attended and provided advice at 4 Water Policy Advisory Committee meetings.

Consultation Submissions

In exercising its statutory advisory function under the Water Services Act 2017, the Forum provides formal responses to public consultations and targeted policy advice to national authorities on matters relating to water management, water services and water quality.

In 2025, the Forum developed the following positions through public consultations.

Date	Lead Authority	Policy Position
Mar 2025	DHLGH	Statement of Strategy 2025–2027
Apr 2025	CRU	Non-Domestic Tariff Framework
May 2025	DHLGH	Heavily Modified Water Bodies
Jul 2025	DHLGH	Climate Adaptation Plan (Water)
Nov 2025	DHLGH / DAFM	6th Nitrates Action Programme

Policy Advice & Position Papers

In 2025, the Forum delivered policy advice, position papers, and strategic input to national authorities across the following key areas:

Date	Lead Authority	Policy Area
Jan 2025	DHLGH	Private Well Supports
Feb 2025	Uisce Éireann	Water Supply Project – Eastern & Midlands
Mar 2025	DAFM	Agriculture Sectoral Action Work Plan
Mar 2025	DHLGH	Hydromorphology Sectoral Action Work Plan
Mar 2025	Uisce Éireann	Urban Wastewater Sectoral Action Work Plan
Mar 2025	DAFM	Forestry Sectoral Action Work Plan
Jul 2025	LAWPRO	Implementation Plan for the Community Catchment Fora Pilot
Sept 2025	James Browne T.D. & Christopher O’Sullivan T.D.	The management of Invasive Alien Species (IAS) in Ireland
Nov 2025	DHLGH	Significant Water Management Issues (pre-consultation)



Influencing Policy Outcomes

Nitrates Action Programme (2026–2029)

Agriculture plays a vital role in Ireland’s economy and rural communities, but it is also the main pressure on water quality. In November 2025, the Forum contributed to the public consultation on Ireland’s 6th Nitrates Action Programme (NAP), the national programme that sets the rules and measures for reducing nutrient losses from agriculture to protect rivers, lakes and groundwater.

In its submission, the Forum called for a stronger focus on outcomes, ensuring that farmers and advisors can clearly see how specific actions set out in the NAP lead to measurable improvements in water quality. It also emphasised the importance of targeting measures where they

are most needed, through a more catchment-based approach that addresses nitrate pressures in particular areas. The Forum also highlighted the need for greater transparency around the modelling used to assess the effectiveness of NAP measures, and for stronger support for farmers through advisory services, training and knowledge transfer to help improve nutrient management on farms.

These themes are reflected in the final Programme, which places greater emphasis on catchment-targeted actions, improved advisory supports and strengthened knowledge transfer initiatives to help farmers reduce nutrient losses while maintaining productive farms.

Water Forum Recommendations	Outcome in final 6th NAP
Present NAP measures alongside the expected water quality outcomes of each measure.	Table 7 in the 6th NAP includes information on the NAP and specific outcomes for water quality.
DAFM should lead a communications campaign providing farmers with local information about water quality in their catchment.	DAFM will roll out a “Know Your Local Water Quality” initiative, providing farmers with clear information on water quality in their local area and practical steps they can take to minimise risks to water.
Develop a training initiative for all farm advisers, including private advisers, focused on water quality and catchment management.	DAFM will work with the agri-food industry to provide water quality training for professional advisers who are not FAS-accredited and will engage with third-level agricultural institutions to strengthen knowledge of best practice among future farmers and advisers.

The Forum will continue to engage with Government and sectoral stakeholders as the NAP is implemented, and to advance its work on the relationship between agriculture and water

quality to support the achievement of Ireland’s Water Framework Directive objectives.

Research Highlights

The Value of Water Conservation: A Cost Benefit Analysis

Commissioned by An Fóram Uisce and carried out by Trinity College Dublin, this research evaluates the costs and benefits of domestic water-saving measures in Ireland. It shows that reducing household use from 110 to 90 litres per person per day can be achieved through measures such as efficient taps, showers and toilets, costing less than €180 per home, with a two-year payback and savings of up to €280 annually when energy is included.

Applying these measures to 303,000 new homes by 2030 – the Government’s Housing for All target – could save 2.2 million m³ of water each year and reduce water and wastewater costs by approximately €9.7 million annually.

The findings support the inclusion of water conservation targets in housing policy and long-term water planning.

Public Survey on Local Waterbodies: Knowledge, Access to Information and Community Action

Commissioned by An Fóram Uisce and carried out by Core Research, this nationally representative survey of 1,000 adults examines public awareness and engagement with local waterbodies in Ireland. While 91% say it is important for waterbodies to be clean and healthy, only 7% know the ecological status of their local waterbody and just 20% know where to find information on water health. Over half (57%) are not involved in any local water or environmental group, and only one third know how to report a pollution incident.

However, the potential for engagement is strong: 60% would like to know more about local action groups, 46% would consider getting involved, and 58% would change their behaviour to protect water quality if they knew how.

The research highlights gaps in awareness and information, alongside strong public interest in getting involved.



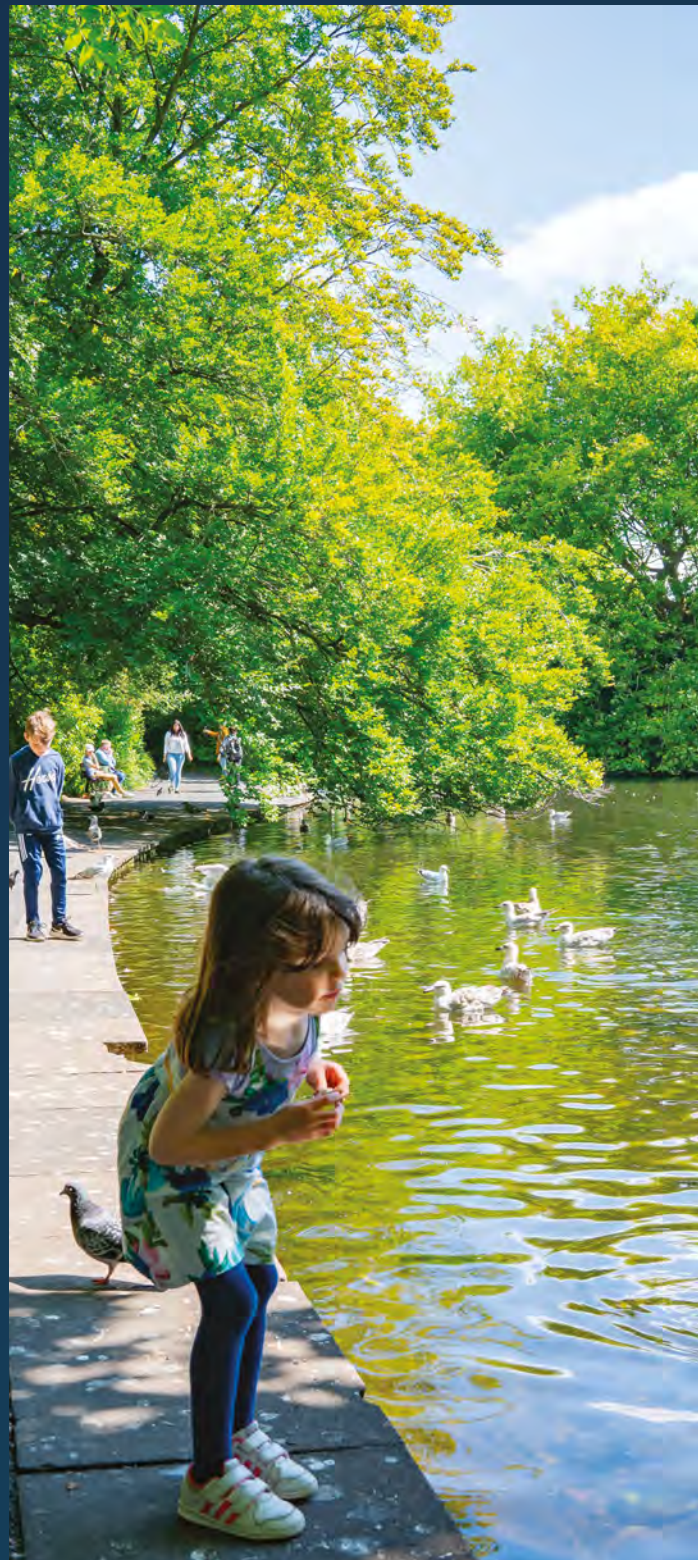
National Survey on Public Water Users: Communications and Customer Service

Commissioned by An Fóram Uisce and carried out by Interactions Research, this survey of 1,321 customers examines attitudes to drinking water quality, customer service and communications from Uisce Éireann.

Overall satisfaction with drinking water quality is high (70%). However, 36% reported supply or quality issues in the past year, rising to 62% in hotspot areas, with taste and colour the most common concerns. Awareness of Uisce Éireann as the contact point has increased to 70%, though customer service satisfaction has declined since 2021.

Advance notice of disruptions has improved (39% recall notice, up from 21% in 2021). While over half of respondents want more information about their water supply, only 16% have actively sought it online.

The findings confirm strong satisfaction with drinking water quality, while highlighting areas to strengthen customer service, communication and access to information.



Communications Highlights

Conversations About Water: First Water Forum Youth Workshop

The Water Forum held its first youth-focused workshop, titled Conversations About Water. The event brought young people together to share how they learn about environmental issues, what water management means to them, and how they want to get involved in protecting local water resources.

Organised with Forum member Eimear Manning of the National Youth Council of Ireland and supported by Forum members including Dr

Suzanne Linnane (DkIT), Connie Rochford and Michael Kenny the workshop drew strong youth participation from across their networks. Chaired by Dr Matt Crowe, the day combined expert insights on Ireland's water challenges with interactive breakout sessions and open discussion.

A standout moment was Eimear Manning's interview with Stephen Reid, whose YouTube video on the Lough Neagh algal bloom has reached over 2.3 million viewers — sparking a lively conversation about digital storytelling and environmental awareness.



Group picture of the attendance at the youth workshop hosted by the Water Forum in partnership with the National Youth Council of Ireland in the Gibson Hotel in Dublin



Youth Workshop Summary Poster [here](#)
Youth Workshop Summary Report [here](#)



Strong themes emerged throughout the day – keep messages short and visual, make water real and local, and use the platforms young people use. Participants also called for more opportunities to get involved, from local events and field trips to creative online campaigns.

Youth and members participate in workshops at the youth event

The insights gathered – now captured in a new poster and report – will shape how the Water Forum engages young audiences and supports organisations working in water protection. The conversation has started, and the current is only building.

Press releases and newsletters

The Forum communications hub is its website www.thewaterforum.ie, where all of the Forum's communications are available. Research reports, policy submissions, meeting minutes, press releases, newsletters and weekly news updates and social media feeds are accessible.

The Forum's quarterly newsletter is circulated to all members, their organisations and the Forum's stakeholder network, news media and it is made publicly available on the website.

Press releases are also available on the Water Forum website: www.thewaterforum.ie

Key communications in 2025 include:

- Annual Report for 2024
- Quarterly Newsletters
- Article in EOLAS Magazine
- Press Releases
- Radio interviews

Education Highlights

The Water Forum sponsored their third Water Award at the BT Young Scientist and Technologist of the Year competition.

This year over 2,000 projects were submitted to the BT Young Scientist Competition but only 550 made it through the selection process to participate in the 3-day event. Since the Water Forum's first Water Award in 2023, there has been a steady increase in water related research being carried out by students in the competition.

The Water Forum would like to congratulate Taylor Armstrong and her teacher Bridget Lehane from Coláiste Muire Realt na Mara, Crosshaven, County Cork on winning the Water Forum sponsored Water Award at the BT Young Scientist Competition.

To support and encourage cross-curricular learning about water we have developed education modules and shared them with secondary schools. They are all available to download for free from [Home - Scoilnet](#).



Matt Crowe (Water Forum Chair) presenting the Water Award to the winner Taylor Armstrong

Field Trips and Events

Field trip to Vartry Reservoir and Water Treatment Plant

April 2025

Members of the Water Forum visited the Vartry Reservoir and treatment plant as guests of Uisce Éireann and Veolia. Originally constructed in the 1860s, the reservoir continues to supply Dublin. During the visit, members observed the historic dam, the Draw-off Tower, the 4 km Callowhill Tunnel, and the 40 km trunk main, all of which were built by manual labour.

They also noted the role of Dr John Gray, the second reservoir completed in 1923 (now supplying 12% of Dublin's water), and Uisce Éireann's €150 million upgrade completed in 2021, which brought the supply to current standards and off the EPA remedial action list.



Water Forum members meet Minister Christopher O’Sullivan at the EPA Water Conference

June 2025

At the EPA Water Conference in Galway on 11 June 2025, members and secretariat of the Water Forum met with Minister Chris O’Sullivan and officials from the DHLGH. The Forum’s Research and Policy Lead, Dr Triona McGrath, presented on “Bringing Science to Policy”, demonstrating how Forum-commissioned research has informed national policy, including the establishment of a Water Conservation Working Group following research recommending a National Framework for Water Conservation.

The Minister expressed responsiveness to the Forum’s recommendations and indicated a willingness to work closely with the Forum in the coming years. The Conference provided an opportunity to share the Forum’s work, including a Water Conservation case study highlighting the Forum’s policy development process and outcomes.



Rural Water Services Conference 2025

September 2025

At the Rural Water Services Conference 2025, held in Galway under the theme “Quality and Quantity: Building Resilience in a Changing Environment,” the Forum contributed to discussions on strengthening rural water services amid environmental and regulatory pressures. Minister of State Christopher O’Sullivan highlighted €166 million in funding under the Rural Water Programme (2024–2026).

Dr Triona McGrath outlined the importance of early stakeholder engagement during water policy development and demonstrated how Forum-commissioned research informs policy advice on climate impacts, water conservation and rural resilience.

The conference provided valuable engagement with community leaders, policymakers and sector representatives, reinforcing a shared commitment to resilient, community-led rural water services.

Access to Information for Oireachtas Members

The Water Forum have a dedicated email address for information requests from Oireachtas

Members; oireachtas@nationalwaterforum.ie

Forum Secretariat

The Forum's work is supported by a secretariat team including: Dónal Purcell, Senior Executive Officer; Dr Triona McGrath, Research and Policy Lead; Dr Aisling Corkery, Research and Policy Executive; Divya Flynn, Communications and Education Lead* and Martina Ryan, Clerical Officer.

*Dr Gretta McCarron retired as Communications and Education Lead in August 2025.

The role of the secretariat is to support the Chair and members of the Forum to fulfil their role as stakeholders on the Water Forum. This includes gathering information, science and best practice through internal and commissioned research.

The secretariat draft policy submissions, positions and advice based on the Forum members contributions and external expertise and input. The secretariat disseminates information on the work and outputs of the Forum through publications, media, workshops and conferences. The Secretariat is also responsible for providing administrative and technical support for Forum meetings, budget management and liaising with all external agencies.

Further information on the work of the Water Forum is available at www.thewaterforum.ie



Governance and Oversight

In 2025 the Forum Chair & Secretariat engaged with the DHLGH Officials to develop the appropriate oversight and reporting procedures for the Water Forum. A Memorandum of Understanding Agreement (MoUA) was agreed and signed by the DHLGH & the Forum and a Memorandum of Funding Agreement (MoFA) was agreed and signed by the DHLGH, the Forum and Tipperary County Council. A new code of conduct for Forum members and the

Secretariat was also adopted by the Forum in 2025. The Forum Chair and representatives from the Secretariat meet in a structured way on a quarterly basis with Senior management in the Water Division of the DHLGH to consider water related matters and the ongoing management activity associated with the Memorandum of Understanding agreement that is in place.



Finance and administration

Funding for the Water Forum is provided by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. In 2025 the Forum was allocated a budget of €732,748 and had an expenditure of €688,533.07, divided into the following categories.

Item	Expenditure in 2025 €
Meeting Expenses	11,198.90
Members Travel Expenses	16,282.86
Training and Facilitation	14,705.06
Implementation of Strategy	122,523.98
Chairs Allowance	11,609.19
Secretariat Salary Costs	466,810.17
Secretariat Travel	18,000.06
Office & IT Expenses	27,402.85
Total	688,533.07*

Tipperary County Council provides administrative support in the context of human resources, payroll, payments and office space.

*Of which € 72,445.32 relates to consultancy costs, which was broken down as follows:

- Procurement Advice: €757.68
- Scientific Advice: €260.00
- Research & Policy: €70,837.24
- Communications: €590.4

Acknowledgements

The Chair and Senior Executive Officer would like to thank the Forum members for their participation, hard work and commitment during the year.

The Water Forum would like to thank the following organisations and individuals for their support of the work of the Forum and/or attendance at meetings of the Forum during 2025.

Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH)

Tipperary County Council

Uisce Éireann

Commission for Regulation of Utilities (CRU)

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM)

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Local Authority Waters Programme (LAWPRO)

Appendix A

Table A: Water Forum Membership 2025

Representative(s)	Sector	Organisation	Appointment date
Dr Matt Crowe	-	Chairperson	01/02/2025
Dominic Cronin	Agriculture	ICOS	30/01/2024
Eamon Carroll	Agriculture	ICMSA	30/01/2024
Dr Maria Snell	Agriculture	Macra	30/01/2024
Tadhg Buckley	Agriculture	Irish Farmers Association	30/01/2024
Martin McEnroe	Angling	The Angling Council of Ireland	30/01/2024
Juan Pablo Martinez	Business	Irish Business Confederation	18/12/2025
Maria O’Gorman	Comm & Voluntary Sector	Community & Voluntary Pillar	30/01/2024
Michael Kenny	Comm & Voluntary Sector	Irish Rural Link (IRL)	30/01/2024
Dr Suzanne Linnane	Education	Tech Higher Education Association (THEA)	30/01/2024
Charles Stanley-Smith	Environment	Sustainable Water Network (SWAN)	30/01/2024
Dr Elaine McGoff	Environment	The Environment Pillar	30/01/2024
Fintan Kelly	Environment	The Environmental Pillar	30/01/2024
Karin Dubsy	Environment	Sustainable Water Network (SWAN)	30/01/2024
Sinead O’Brien	Environment	Sustainable Water Network (SWAN)	30/01/2024

Representative(s)	Sector	Organisation	Appointment date
Marie Doyle	Forestry	Forestry Sectoral Organisations	30/01/2024
Keith Hyland	Public Water Consumers	Public Water Consumers	30/01/2024
Connie Rochford	Public Water Consumers	Public Water Consumers	30/01/2024
Ciarán Maguire	Recreational Sector	Water Recreational Sectoral Orgs	30/01/2024
Dr Constanze O'Toole	Rivers Trusts	The Rivers Trusts in Ireland	30/01/2024
Mark Farrelly	Rural Water	National Federation of Group Water Schemes	01/10/2024
Jean Rosney	Rural Water	National Federation of Group Water Schemes	30/01/2024
David Wright	Social Housing	Irish Council for Social Housing	30/01/2024
Eimear Manning	Third Level Students/Youth	National Youth Council of Ireland (NYCI)	30/01/2024
Steve Conlon	Tourism	Tourism Sectoral Organisations	30/01/2024
Brendan O'Brien	Trade Unions	Irish Congress of Trade Unions	25/03/2025
Vacant	Fisheries Sector	Regional Inshore Fisheries Forums	
Karan O'Loughlin	Trade Union Representative	Resigned 07/02/25	
David Downes	Fisheries Sector	Resigned 02/11/25	
Neil Walker	Business	Resigned 18/12/25	

Table B: Plenary meetings held in 2025

	Meetings held in 2025
1	21st January - Aisling Hotel, Dublin
2	11th March - Aisling Hotel, Dublin
3	29th April - Aisling Hotel, Dublin
4	10th June - Virtual meeting
5	8th July - Aisling Hotel, Dublin
6	9th September - Aisling Hotel, Dublin
7	4th November - Aisling Hotel, Dublin
8	9th December - Virtual meeting

	Representative	%
9	Keith Hyland	88%
10	Connie Rochford	88%
11	Karin Dubsy	50%
12	Dr Constanze O'Toole	75%
13	Mark Farrelly	75%
14	Jean Rosney	63%
15	David Downes ²	83%
16	Eimear Manning	75%
17	Dr Suzanne Linnane	63%
18	Dr Maria Snell	50%
19	Sinead O'Brien	50%
20	Fintan Kelly	50%
21	Dr Elaine McGoff	50%
22	Charles Stanley-Smith	75%
23	Ciaran Maguire	50%
24	Steve Conlon	50%
25	Marie Doyle	88%
26	Karan O'Loughlin ³	0%
27	David Wright	63%
28	Brendan O'Brien	67%

Table C: Attendance at Plenary Meetings in 2025*

	Representative	%
1	Matt Crowe	100%
2	Tadhg Buckley	50%
3	Eamon Carroll	63%
4	Dominic Cronin	100%
5	Martin McEnroe	75%
6	Neil Walker ¹	75%
7	Michael Kenny	100%
8	Maria O'Gorman	38%

*The above shows members attendance at Plenary meetings only. This does not recognise the contributions members make to other committees and working groups.

¹ Neil Walker resigned in December 2025.

² David Downes resigned in November 2025.

³ Karan O'Loughlin resigned in February 2025 and did not attend January Plenary.

Table D: Catchment Management Standing Committee Members

Nominee	Sector
Dr. Matt Crowe	Forum Chair
Dominic Cronin	Agriculture
Tadhg Buckley	Agriculture
Eamon Carroll	Agriculture
Dr Maria Snell	Agriculture
Martin McEnroe	Angling
Michael Kenny	Community & Voluntary
Dr Suzanne Linnane	Education
Karin Dubsy	Environment
Fintan Kelly	Environment
Dr Elaine McGoff	Environment
Sinead O'Brien	Environment
Marie Doyle	Forestry
Ciarán Maguire	Recreation
Dr Constanze O'Toole	Rivers Trusts
Jean Rosney	Rural Water
Eimear Manning	Youth/Interests 3rd Level
Connie Rochford	Consumers

Table E: Water Services Standing Committee Members

Nominee	Sector
Keith Hyland (CHAIR)	Domestic Customer
Dominic Cronin	Agriculture
Neil Walker	Business
Maria O'Gorman	Community & Voluntary
Connie Rochford	Domestic Customer
Sinead O'Brien	Environment
Charles Stanley-Smith	Environment
Mark Farrelly	Rural Water
David Wright	Social Housing
Steve Conlon	Tourism Sector





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