Annual Environmental Report

2024

Ballymahon

D0096-01

CONTENTS

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND INTRODUCTION TO THE 2024 AER

This Annual Environmental Report has been prepared for D0096-01, Ballymahon, in Longford 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 changes undertaken in 2024.

1.2 TREATMENT SUMMARY

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

- Ballymahon WWTP with a Plant Capacity PE of 2300, the treatment type is 3NP - Tertiary N&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
TPEFF2000D0096SW001	Ballymahon WWTP	Treated	Compliant	N/A

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 BALLYMAHON WWTP - TREATED DISCHARGE

2.1.1 INFLUENT MONITORING SUMMARY - BALLYMAHON 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
BOD, 5 days with Inhibition (Carbonaceous BOD) mg/l	12	332	172
pH pH units	12	8.20	7.52
COD-Cr mg/l	12	1186	456
Total Phosphorus (as P) mg/l	12	9.08	4.52
ortho-Phosphate (as P) - unspecified mg/l	12	6.59	3.3
Ammonia-Total (as N) mg/l	12	63	31.6
Suspended Solids mg/l	12	720	175
Total Nitrogen mg/l	12	87	50
Hydraulic Capacity	N/A	1366	807

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'. 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 - TPEFF2000D0096SW001

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 exceedances with Condition 2 Interpretation included	Annual Mean	Overall Compliance (Pass/Fail)
COD-Cr mg/l	125	250	N/A	12	N/A	N/A	18.21	Pass
Suspended Solids mg/l	30	75	N/A	12	N/A	N/A	7.36	Pass
BOD, 5 days with Inhibition (Carbonaceous BOD) mg/l	20	40	N/A	12	N/A	N/A	2.22	Pass
pH pH units	6	9	N/A	12	N/A	N/A	7.26	Pass
Ammonia-Total (as N) mg/l	5	6	N/A	12	N/A	N/A	0.50	Pass
Total Phosphorus (as P) mg/l	2	2.4	N/A	12	N/A	N/A	0.51	Pass
ortho-Phosphate (as P) - unspecified mg/l	1	1.2	N/A	12	N/A	N/A	0.36	Pass

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 exceedances with Condition 2 Interpretation included	Annual Mean	Overall Compliance (Pass/Fail)
Visual Inspection Descriptive	N/A	N/A	N/A	12	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Conductivity @20°C µS/cm	N/A	N/A	N/A	12	N/A	N/A	751.6	
Alkalinity-total (as CaCO3) mg/l	N/A	N/A	N/A	12	N/A	N/A	180.1	
Total Nitrogen mg/l	N/A	N/A	N/A	12	N/A	N/A	12.13	

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):

Not applicable

Significance of Results:

The WWTP is compliant with the ELV's set in the Wastewater Discharge Licence.

2.1.3 AMBIENT MONITORING SUMMARY FOR THE TREATMENT PLANT DISCHARGE TPEFF2000D0096SW001

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	215675, 256729	RS26I011309	No	No	No	No	Moderate
Downstream	215654, 256704	RS26I011310	No	No	No	No	Moderate

The results for ambient results and / or additional monitoring data sets are included in the **Appendix 7.1 - Ambient monitoring summary.**

Significance of Results:

The WWTP discharge was compliant with the ELV's set in the wastewater discharge licence.

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 deterioration in BOD, Ortho-P & 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 Upper Shannon Catchment Report (HA 26F), the significant pressures on the At Risk Inny_100 waterbody are Hydromorphology, Other (Invasive Species) and unknown anthropogenic pressures.

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 - BALLYMAHON WWTP

2.1.4.1 Treatment Efficiency Report - Ballymahon 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	50560	619	99
COD	134462	5066	96
SS	51405	2046	96
TN	14666	3375	77
TP	1330	142	89

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

2.1.4.2 Treatment Capacity Report Summary - Ballymahon 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.

Ballymahon WWTP	
Peak Hydraulic Capacity (m^3/day) - As Constructed	1400
DWF to the Treatment Plant (m^3/day)	467
Current Hydraulic Loading - annual max (m^3/day)	1366
Average Hydraulic loading to the Treatment Plant (m^3/day)	807
Organic Capacity (PE) - As Constructed	2300
Organic Capacity (PE) - Collected Load (peak week)[Note1]	3002
Organic Capacity (PE) - Remaining	0
Will the capacity be exceeded in the next three years? (Yes/No)	Yes

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 - BALLYMAHON 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)
There is no Sludge and Other Input data for the Treatment Plant included in the AER.							

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
There were no relevant environmental complaints in 2024.			

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 Uisce Éireann 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	Recurring (Y/N)	Closed (Y/N)
There were no reportable incidents in 2024.			

3.2.2 SUMMARY OF OVERALL INCIDENTS

Question	Answer
Number of Incidents in 2024	0
Number of Incidents reported to the EPA via EDEN in 2024	0
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	No. of times activated in 2024 (No. of events)	Total volume discharged in 2024 ($m^{3)}$	Monitoring Status
SW002	215651, 256729	Yes	Low Significance	Meeting Criteria	0	0	Monitored
TBC	214877, 257388	Yes	Low Significance	Meeting Criteria	Unknown	Unknown	Not Monitored
TBC	215723, 256768	Yes	Low Significance	Meeting Criteria	Unknown	Unknown	Not Monitored
TBC	216409, 257183	Yes	Low Significance	Meeting Criteria	Unknown	Unknown	Monitored
TBC	214716, 257637	Yes	Low Significance	Meeting Criteria	Unknown	Unknown	Not Monitored

The contents presented in this table include the most up to date information available at the time of writing. Any TBC SWO(s) were identified as part of the on-going National SWO programme and will be updated in subsequent AER(s) once the information is confirmed.

SWO Summary	
How much wastewater discharge by metered SWOs during the year (m^3)?	0
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 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
There are no Specified Improvement Programmes for this Agglomeration.							

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
No additional improvements planned at this time.				

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	Included in this AER
There is no Licence Specific Report Required in this AER Annual Review.		

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?	Yes
List reason e.g. additional SWO identified	Capital upgrade
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	Yes
List reason e.g. changes to monitoring requirements	Ambient Monitoring Location Changes
Have these processes commenced?	No
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: 14/04/2025

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

Eleanor Roche

Head of Environmental Regulation.

7 APPENDIX

Appendix
Appendix 7.1 - Ambient Monitoring Summary

Ballymahon 2024 Ambient Monitoring Summary

Ambient Monitoring Point from WWDL (or as agreed with EPA)	Irish National Grid Reference (Easting, Northing)	EPA Feature Coding Tool code	Receiving Waters Designation (Yes/No)			
			Bathing Water	Drinking Water	FWPM	Shellfish
Upstream Monitoring Point	215675, 256729	RS26I011309	No	No	No	No
Downstream Monitoring Point	215654, 256704	RS26I011310	No	No	No	No

Ambient Monitoring Point from WWDL (or as agreed with EPA)	Current WFD Status	cBOD (mg/l)	o-Phosphate (as P) (mg/l)	Ammonia (as N) (mg/l)
Upstream Monitoring Point	Moderate	0.93	0.017	0.028
Downstream Monitoring Point	Moderate	1.06	0.025	0.057
Difference		*0.127*	*0.0077*	*0.029*
EQS		1.500	0.035	0.065
% of EQS		8.484%	21.952%	44.725%

2024 Ambient Monitoring Data

StationName	Sample Date	BOD	Total N	Ortho P	Ammonia	pH	DO %	DO	Temp
		mg/l	mg/l	mg/l	mg/l	pH Units	%Sat	mg/l	Deg C
Upstream	10/01/2024	< 1	2.4	0.019	0.026	8	106.2	11.43	12.7
Upstream	14/02/2024	1.20	0.6	0.015	< 0.02	7.98	99.6	10.98	10.3
Upstream	13/03/2024	<1	1.8	0.015	<0.02	7.62	96.9	10.2	12
Upstream	10/04/2024	1.00	2.2	<0.006	<0.02	8.14	100.9	10.77	11.9
Upstream	08/05/2024	1.30	1.4	0.012	<0.02	8.19	87.8	10.07	11.1
Upstream	12/06/2024	<1	0.8	<0.006	0.026	8.46	99.7	11.1	9.7
Upstream	10/07/2024	<1	1.62	0.019	0.055	7.72	90.4	8.84	16.3
Upstream	14/08/2024	< 1	1.44	0.020	< 0.02	7.93		9.42	11.8
Upstream	11/09/2024	1.00	1.18	0.020	0.05	7.66	102.6	11.11	
Upstream	09/10/2024	1.40	0.896		0.02	8.05	101.9	9.98	
Upstream	13/11/2024	1.00	1.47	0.028	0.052	7.9	86.2	9.83	9.9
Upstream	04/12/2024	<1	1.56	0.034	0.041	7.99	103	11.06	11.4
	Mean	**0.93**	**1.45**	**0.017**	**0.028**	**7.97**	**97.75**	**10.40**	**11.71**
	95%ile	**1.35**	**2.29**	**0.031**	**0.053**	**8.31**	**104.60**	**11.25**	**14.68**
Downstream	10/01/2024	3.10	1.4	0.018	0.027	8.03	110.3	11.74	12.9
Downstream	14/02/2024	< 1	0.6	0.045	< 0.02	7.97	100.7	10.89	11
Downstream	13/03/2024	<1	2.7	0.014	<0.02	7.62	96.5	10.2	11.9
Downstream	10/04/2024	<1	1.3	0.009	0.251	8.12	101.6	10.78	12
Downstream	08/05/2024	<1	1.3	0.011	0.03	8.19	88.9	10.19	10.5
Downstream	12/06/2024	<1	1	0.016	<0.02	8.47	97.8	10.99	9.4
Downstream	10/07/2024	<1	1.63	0.057	0.051	7.73	89.2	8.72	16.1
Downstream	14/08/2024	1.02	1.46	0.020	< 0.02	7.9		9.51	11.8
Downstream	11/09/2024	1.00	1.15	0.021	0.049	7.65	102.7	11.28	
Downstream	09/10/2024	1.60	0.904		0.02	8.06	101.5	9.87	
Downstream	13/11/2024	1.00	0.212	0.030	0.164	7.89	86.1	9.9	9.7
Downstream	04/12/2024	<1	1.61	0.034	0.041	8.02	103.8	11.08	11.6
	Mean	**1.06**	**1.272**	**0.025**	**0.057**	**7.97**	**98.10**	**10.43**	**11.69**
	95%ile	**2.28**	**2.112**	**0.051**	**0.203**	**8.32**	**107.05**	**11.49**	**14.66**

Note: Where the concentration in the result is less than the limit of detection (LOD), a value of LOD/sqrt(2) was used in calculating the mean and 95%ile concentrations.