

Annual Environmental Report

2024

Portrane, Donabate, Rush, Lusk



D0114-02

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1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND INTRODUCTION TO THE 2024 AER

This Annual Environmental Report has been prepared for D0114-02, Portrane, Donabate, Rush, Lusk, in Dublin 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)

- Portrane WWTP with a Plant Capacity PE of 65000, the treatment type is 2 - Secondary treatment.

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
TPEFF0900D0114SW001	Portrane 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 PORTRANE WWTP - TREATED DISCHARGE

2.1.1 INFLUENT MONITORING SUMMARY - PORTRANE 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
Total Phosphorus (as P) mg/l	34	28	11
ortho-Phosphate (as P) - unspecified mg/l	34	8.98	5.9
BOD, 5 days with Inhibition (Carbonaceous) mg/l	34	978	349
Ammonia-Total (as N) mg/l	34	66	49
pH pH units	34	8.00	7.29
COD-Cr mg/l	34	2830	1010
Suspended Solids mg/l	34	10452	861
Total Nitrogen mg/l	34	143	74
Hydraulic Capacity	N/A	24841	8987

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 - TPEFF0900D0114SW001

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	34	N/A	N/A	36	Pass
Suspended Solids mg/l	35	87.5	N/A	34	N/A	N/A	5.47	Pass
Dissolved Inorganic Nitrogen (as N) mg/l	30	36	N/A	34	N/A	N/A	11.59	Pass
BOD, 5 days with Inhibition (Carbonaceous) mg/l	25	50	N/A	32	N/A	N/A	3.29	Pass
pH pH units	6	9	N/A	34	N/A	N/A	7.49	Pass
Conductivity @20°C µS/cm	N/A	N/A	N/A	34	N/A	N/A	1085	
Nitrate (as N) mg/l	N/A	N/A	N/A	34	N/A	N/A	7.58	

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)
Nitrite (as N) mg/l	N/A	N/A	N/A	34	N/A	N/A	0.349	
Ammonia-Total (as N) mg/l	N/A	N/A	N/A	34	N/A	N/A	3.67	
Total Nitrogen mg/l	N/A	N/A	N/A	34	N/A	N/A	12.96	
Total Phosphorus (as P) mg/l	N/A	N/A	N/A	33	N/A	N/A	2.76	
Total Oxidised Nitrogen (as N) mg/l	N/A	N/A	N/A	34	N/A	N/A	7.93	
ortho-Phosphate (as P) - unspecified mg/l	N/A	N/A	N/A	34	N/A	N/A	2.49	

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

TPEFF0900D0114SW001

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	325155, 249127	IEEABWC020-0000-010	Yes	No	No	No	Good
Downstream	326976, 250010	CW09001003DB7002	Yes	No	No	No	Good

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 coastal/transitional ambient monitoring results 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 impact on the designated shellfish water quality.

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

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

2.1.4 OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE SUMMARY - PORTRANE WWTP

2.1.4.1 Treatment Efficiency Report - Portrane 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	1145914	10703	99
COD	3312009	117369	96
SS	2823998	17808	99
TN	243314	42181	83
TP	36802	8992	76

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

2.1.4.2 Treatment Capacity Report Summary - Portrane 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.

Portrane WWTP	
Peak Hydraulic Capacity (m ³ /day) - As Constructed	46800
DWF to the Treatment Plant (m ³ /day)	15600
Current Hydraulic Loading - annual max (m ³ /day)	24841
Average Hydraulic loading to the Treatment Plant (m ³ /day)	8987
Organic Capacity (PE) - As Constructed	65000
Organic Capacity (PE) - Collected Load (peak week) ^{Note1}	39217
Organic Capacity (PE) - Remaining	25783
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 - PORTRANE 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)
Landfill Leachate (delivered by sewer network)	16178	Volume (m3)	197	0.49	Yes	Yes	No

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)
Uncontrolled release	SWO exceptional rainfall and overflow expected	No	Yes
Uncontrolled release	Blocked Sewer	No	Yes
Abatement equipment off-line	Plant or equipment breakdown at WWTP	No	Yes

Incident Type	Cause	Recurring (Y/N)	Closed (Y/N)
Uncontrolled release	Network Infrastructure	Yes	Yes
Uncontrolled release	Plant or equipment maintenance at WWTP	No	Yes
Uncontrolled release	Emergency overflow caused by ragging or blocking	No	Yes

3.2.2 SUMMARY OF OVERALL INCIDENTS

Question	Answer
Number of Incidents in 2024	6
Number of Incidents reported to the EPA via EDEN in 2024	6
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 (m³)	Monitoring Status
SW002	323078, 250697	Yes	Low Significance	Meeting Criteria	0	0	Monitored
SW003	324421, 250901	Yes	Low Significance	Meeting Criteria	Unknown	Unknown	Not Monitored
SW004	325983, 249761	Yes	High Significance	Meeting Criteria	Unknown	Unknown	Not Monitored
SW005	325667, 249787	Yes	High Significance	Meeting Criteria	96	14557	Monitored
SW006	324413, 253046	Yes	Low Significance	Meeting Criteria	0	0	Monitored
SW008	326936, 253560	Yes	Medium Significance	Meeting Criteria	Unknown	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	No. of times activated in 2024 (No. of events)	Total volume discharged in 2024 (m³)	Monitoring Status
SW009	327753, 254138	Yes	High Significance	Meeting Criteria	Unknown	Unknown	Not Monitored
TBC	TBC	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 (m³)?	14557
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
D0114-02 SIP-01	If SW010 not in compliance with DoEHLG criteria following assessment, upgrade of sewer network to ensure stormwater overflow meets DoEHLG criteria	C	18 months of Condition 3.4.4 assessment	No	Not Started		
D0114-02 SIP-02	If SW009 not in compliance with DoEHLG criteria following assessment, upgrade of sewer network to ensure stormwater overflow meets DoEHLG criteria	C	31/12/2025	No	Not Started		
D0114-02 SIP-03	If additional storm water overflows assessed in accordance with Condition 3.4.4 not in compliance with DoEHLG criteria following assessment, upgrade of sewer network to ensure stormwater overflow meets DoEHLG criteria.	C	23/10/2022	Yes	Not Started		
D0114-02 SIP-04	If not in compliance with DoECLG criteria following assessment, upgrade of sewer	C	31/12/2025	No	Not Started		

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
	network to ensure stormwater overflow meets DoECLG criteria: TPEFF3900D0114SW010						

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?	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: 01/05/2025

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

Portrane Ambient Monitoring Data 2024

Ambient Monitoring Report Summary Table

Ambient Monitoring Point from WWDL (or as agreed with EPA)	Irish Grid Reference	Station Code	Bathing Water	Drinking Water	FWPM	Shellfish	WFD Status
Northwestern Irish Sea DB7002 - Portrane	326976, 250010	CW09001003DB7002	No	No	No	No	Good
Donabate-Balcarrick Beach (Shore monitoring)	325155, 249127	IEEABWC020-0000-0100	Yes	No	No	No	Good
Brook Beach Portrane (Shore monitoring)	325556, 251043	IEEABWC020-000-0200	Yes	No	No	No	Good

2024 Ambient Monitoring Summary - Northwestern Irish Sea, Portrane (DB7002)

Sample Date	Biochemical Oxygen Demand	Dissolved Oxygen % Saturation	pH	DIN	E Coli	Dissolved Oxygen	Intestinal enterococci
	mg/l	% Sat.	pH Unit	ug/l N	cfu/100ml	mg/L	cfu/100ml
28/02/2024	2	11.6	101.2	7.4	< 0.50	11	3
06/06/2024	3	10.18	102.3	7.2	0.57	1	0
04/09/2024	4.5	10.9	101.2	7.8	0.54	2	3
11/12/2024	3	10.38	99.5	7.3	< 0.5	0	0

Donabate-Balcarrick Beach (Shore Monitoring) - 2024

Date	Escherichia coli (MPN/100ml)	Intestinal enterococci (CFU/100ml)	Floating materials	Mineral Oil (visual)	pH	Phenols (Olfactory)	Salinity (PSU)	Surfactants	Visual Inspection
22/05/2024 12:10	10	<1	Absent	Absent	8.1	Absent	33.3	Absent	Normal
04/06/2024 10:15	<10	6	Absent	Absent	8.1	Absent	33.4	Absent	Normal
17/06/2024 07:45	<10	<1	Absent	Absent	8.1	Absent	33.7	Absent	Normal
01/07/2024 07:20	<10	<1	Absent	Absent	8.1	Absent	33.5	Absent	Normal
15/07/2024 17:20	<10	<1	Absent	Absent	8.2	Absent	33.5	Absent	Normal
31/07/2024 08:40	10	58	Absent	Absent	8.1	Absent	33.6	Absent	Normal
12/08/2024 08:50	10	6	Absent	Absent	8.1	Absent	33.7	Absent	Normal
26/08/2024 08:40	<10	12	Absent	Absent	8.1	Absent	33.3	Absent	Normal
11/09/2024 08:40	<10	<1	Absent	Absent	8.1	Absent	33.7	Absent	Normal

(Source: Dublin County Council Central Lab)

Brooke Beach (Shore Monitoring) - 2024

Date	Escherichia coli (MPN/100ml)	Intestinal enterococci (CFU/100ml)	Floating materials	Mineral Oil (visual)	pH	Phenols (Olfactory)	Salinity (PSU)	Surfactants	Visual Inspection
22/05/2024 12:35	85	31	Absent	Absent	8.1	Absent	33.2	Absent	Normal
04/06/2024 09:35	10	1	Absent	Absent	8.1	Absent	33.7	Absent	Normal
17/06/2024 08:00	10	<1	Absent	Absent	8.1	Absent	33.8	Absent	Normal
01/07/2024 07:40	52	8	Absent	Absent	8.1	Absent	33.5	Absent	Normal
16/07/2024 08:00	41	30	Absent	Absent	8.1	Absent	33.7	Absent	Normal
30/07/2024 07:50	20	70	Absent	Absent	8.1	Absent	33.5	Absent	Normal
12/08/2024 09:15	31	12	Absent	Absent	8	Absent	33.7	Absent	Normal
26/08/2024 08:59	583	97	Absent	Absent	8	Absent	34.3	Absent	Normal
11/09/2024 09:10	<10	4	Absent	Absent	8.1	Absent	33.8	Absent	Normal

(Source: Dublin County Council Central Lab)