

EIA Screening Determination

The Agency has, as part of its consideration of the Waste Water Discharge Authorisation (WWDA) review application referenced below, determined whether the application should be made subject to an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). The determination, and the main reasons for the determination, are detailed below.

Application Details:

Reg. No.:	D0134-02
Applicant Name:	Uisce Éireann
Location of agglomeration:	Castlemartyr, Co. Cork
Authorisation Type:	Licence
Authorisation Application Date:	07 February 2023
Date of EIA Screening Determination:	29 January 2024

EIA Screening Determination:

There is no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment arising from the proposed development comprising or for the purposes of a waste water discharge and EIA is not required for the authorisation to which the above application relates.


This determination has been made following an examination of the nature, size and location of the development, having considered the information provided by the applicant and having regard to the requirements of Regulation 18(10)(a) of the European Union (Waste Water Discharge) Regulations 2007 to 2020.

The main reasons and considerations, with reference to the relevant criteria listed in Schedule 7 to the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, on which this determination is based are as follows:

1. The limited scale of the waste water discharges from the wastewater treatment plant. The wastewater treatment plant serves an agglomeration with a population equivalent (p.e) of 3,400 which is significantly below the 10,000 p.e mandatory threshold for EIA.
2. Domestic wastewater is the main contributor to the waste water treatment plant and is readily biodegradable.
3. It is proposed to upgrade the existing treatment plant to treat urban waste water by secondary treatment and phosphorus removal prior to discharge to the Womanagh River.
4. The potential effects of the waste water discharges, including cumulative effects, on WFD status and environmental objectives will be considered and should a review waste water discharge licence be granted for the agglomeration, controls and emission limit values will be set in the licence to contribute to meeting the objectives for the receiving waterbody.
5. There are no designated bathing waters, no designated drinking water rivers or designated shellfish waters in the vicinity likely to be affected by the discharge.

6. The proposed primary discharge is 10km upstream of Ballymacoda Bay SPA. With regard to this European site, the potential effects the waste water discharges may have on European Sites and their qualifying interests will be assessed under the Habitats Directive (Appropriate Assessment).

Submissions on a WWDA review application can be made before an authorisation is granted. Information on the public participation process is available on the Agency's website at www.epa.ie.



Date: 29/01/2024

Christine Murphy

Office of Environmental Sustainability