

Project Information Event 12 April 2022





Comhairle Contae Chorcaí Cork County Council





Eliminating Raw Sewage Across the Country

- Since 2013, EPA have identified 50 areas where raw sewage is entering the environment for decades.
- Raw sewage has been eliminated in 17 of these areas to date.
- **60% of raw sewage eliminated** through the building of new wastewater infrastructure.
- We are on track to eliminate the majority of raw sewage discharges by the end of 2025
- In Cork:
 - works in Castletownbere and Inchigeelagh are underway;
 - works are planned for Whitegate-Aghada, Castletownshend & Ballycotton.





Introduction

Working in partnership with Cork County Council, mobilisation on the Whitegate - Aghada Sewerage Scheme will commence in Mid May 2022.

This project involves the construction of a new wastewater treatment plant and sewerage infrastructure, which will eliminate the discharge of untreated wastewater into Cork Harbour, equating to 1670 wheelie bins of waste per day.

This project is being delivered by Glan Agua on behalf of Irish Water





What is the problem we are trying to solve?

- Currently raw sewage is being discharged into Cork Harbour.
- Practice is unacceptable and not in compliance with EU Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive.
- Whitegate Aghada identified as UTAS project (Untreated Agglomeration).
- New Sewerage Scheme project will eliminate this problem.



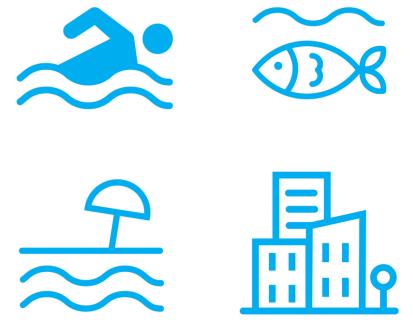




What are the benefits of this project?

The new wastewater treatment plant will bring benefits to Whitegate and Aghada including:

- Better health and integrity of the environment.
- Improved water quality in Cork Harbour.
- Protection of recreational waters for swimming, surfers, fishing, boating and sightseeing.
- Cleaner water will enhance local amenities and a platform for social and economic development, by protecting the local bathing waters and shellfish waters in the area.
- New wastewater treatment plant, sewer pipes and pumping stations sized to accommodate future population growth.
- Ensure compliance with national and EU regulations relating to the treatment of wastewater.



What does the project involve?

- A new wastewater treatment plant at Ballytigeen, which will serve a population equivalent of approx 2,500.
- A 310m marine outfall pipeline to safely discharge. treated wastewater to the sea near White Bay to the south west of Whitegate.
- Construction of 1400m of new sewer pipelines and 3,500m of rising mains to transport untreated wastewater to the proposed new wastewater treatment plant.
- Construction of 3 below ground wastewater pumping stations near Rostellan Memorial Park, the pier in Lower Aghada and Main Street in Whitegate.

When will the works commence?

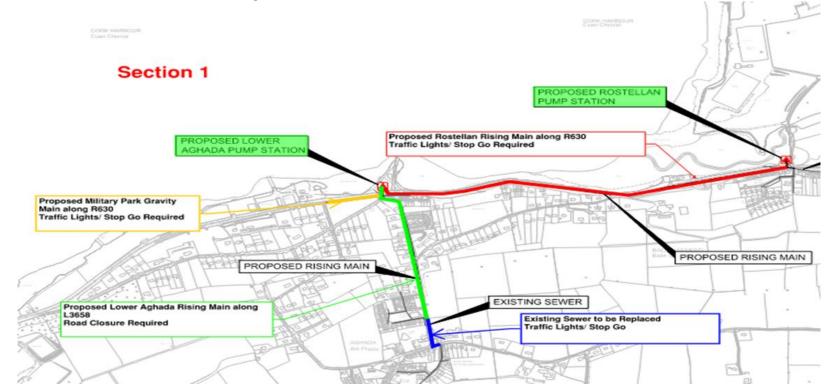
• Works are due to commence in mid May 2022. The project is due for completion in early 2024 with the majority of works completed by early 2023.





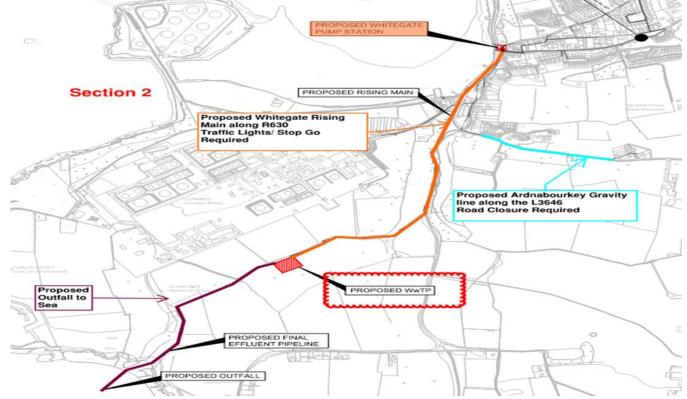


Where will the works take place?











Video detailing programme of works





FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

Will traffic be a problem in the area during the construction?

- Our aim will be to minimise the impact on traffic in Whitegate / Aghada during construction of the scheme. However, pipelaying in the village will cause disruption and this will be managed by careful traffic management planning and by clear communication with residents and businesses affected.
- A traffic management plan (TMP) has been prepared in collaboration with Cork County Council. All works will be programmed in the least disruptive way, particularly during the busy tourist seasons.
- Advanced traffic management warning signage will be in place.
- Local and emergency access will always be maintained.

Will the construction and operation of project generate any odours?

• The management of odours in the sewer, pumping stations and WWTP has been taken into account as part of detailed project design. Odour treatment units and ventilation systems will be installed to ensure that the infrastructure does not generate any malodours or nuisance.





How will noise issues be managed during construction?

- To minimise noise, construction works will be undertaken:
 - Monday to Friday 7.00am to 7.00pm.
 - Saturday 8:00am to 4:30pm.
 - No operation on Sundays or Bank Holidays.
- Any works that take place outside these hours, will require advance permission from Irish Water.
- Fencing will be put in place around the construction of pumping stations and WWTP
- Noise suppression equipment will be utilised for machinery where possible.

How will dust issues be managed during construction?

- Hard surface roads shall be regularly cleaned and maintained as appropriate to remove mud and aggregate materials.
- Dampening down / spraying shall be used as required
- Stockpiling of materials shall be designed and laid out to minimise exposure to wind.



Will this project impact the marine environment, local beaches and fishing?

• This project will end the practice of raw sewage being discharged to the marine environment. It will improve water quality, protect public health and lead to a more enjoyable environment for local communities while enhancing the amenity value of the local area for visitors.

How can I connect into the new sewerage scheme?

 Any person or business wishing to get a new connection to public wastewater collection infrastructure must contact Irish Water. You can make a pre-connection enquiry in order to establish the feasibility of a connection to the Irish Water network. Pre-connection enquiry is a free service which allows you to find out whether a connection to the public network is possible or not. For more information click on <u>https://www.water.ie/connections/</u>



Community and Stakeholder Engagement

Engagement with impacted stakeholders & residents in advance / during works:

- Online information events to community groups and elected representatives.
- Letter drops to all impacted businesses and residents throughout the works.
- **Updates** will be provided to elected representatives and stakeholders as the project progresses.
- Website & Social Media. Regular updates will also be provided on our website project page <u>https://www.water.ie/projects/local-projects/whitegateaghada-</u> <u>sewerage-/</u> and via our social media channels.
- Irish Water Project Team can be contacted directly via email at CorkUWW@water.ie
- Glan Agua On-Site Project Team is available to address any queries or concerns in relation to the works and can be contacted via email at whitegate.project@glanagua.com





 Thank you for your support and patience as we delivery this essential project

 We are happy to answer any questions in relation to the project.

