



2018

EPA Industrial and Waste Licence Enforcement

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is responsible for protecting and improving the environment as a valuable asset for the people of Ireland. We are committed to protecting people and the environment from the harmful effects of radiation and pollution.

The work of the EPA can be divided into three main areas:

Regulation: *We implement effective regulation and environmental compliance systems to deliver good environmental outcomes and target those who don't comply.*

Knowledge: *We provide high quality, targeted and timely environmental data, information and assessment to inform decision making at all levels.*

Advocacy: *We work with others to advocate for a clean, productive and well protected environment and for sustainable environmental behaviour.*

Our Responsibilities

Licensing

We regulate the following activities so that they do not endanger human health or harm the environment:

- waste facilities (e.g. landfills, incinerators, waste transfer stations);
- large scale industrial activities (e.g. pharmaceutical, cement manufacturing, power plants);
- intensive agriculture (e.g. pigs, poultry);
- the contained use and controlled release of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs);
- sources of ionising radiation (e.g. x-ray and radiotherapy equipment, industrial sources);
- large petrol storage facilities;
- waste water discharges;
- dumping at sea activities.

National Environmental Enforcement

- Conducting an annual programme of audits and visits of EPA licensed facilities.
- Overseeing local authorities' environmental protection responsibilities.
- Supervising the supply of drinking water by public water suppliers.
- Working with local authorities and other agencies to tackle environmental crime by coordinating a national enforcement network, targeting offenders and overseeing remediation.
- Enforcing Regulations such as Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE), Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS) and substances that deplete the ozone layer.
- Prosecuting those who flout environmental law and damage the environment.

Water Management

- Monitoring and reporting on the quality of rivers, lakes, transitional and coastal waters of Ireland and groundwaters; measuring water levels and river flows.
- National coordination and oversight of the Water Framework Directive.
- Monitoring and reporting on Bathing Water Quality.

Monitoring, Analysing and Reporting on the Environment

- Monitoring air quality and implementing the EU Clean Air for Europe (CAFE) Directive.
- Independent reporting to inform decision making by national and local government (e.g. *periodic reporting on the State of Ireland's Environment and Indicator Reports*).

Regulating Ireland's Greenhouse Gas Emissions

- Preparing Ireland's greenhouse gas inventories and projections.
- Implementing the Emissions Trading Directive, for over 100 of the largest producers of carbon dioxide in Ireland.

Environmental Research and Development

- Funding environmental research to identify pressures, inform policy and provide solutions in the areas of climate, water and sustainability.

Strategic Environmental Assessment

- Assessing the impact of proposed plans and programmes on the Irish environment (e.g. *major development plans*).

Radiological Protection

- Monitoring radiation levels, assessing exposure of people in Ireland to ionising radiation.
- Assisting in developing national plans for emergencies arising from nuclear accidents.
- Monitoring developments abroad relating to nuclear installations and radiological safety.
- Providing, or overseeing the provision of, specialist radiation protection services.

Guidance, Accessible Information and Education

- Providing advice and guidance to industry and the public on environmental and radiological protection topics.
- Providing timely and easily accessible environmental information to encourage public participation in environmental decision-making (e.g. *My Local Environment, Radon Maps*).
- Advising Government on matters relating to radiological safety and emergency response.
- Developing a National Hazardous Waste Management Plan to prevent and manage hazardous waste.

Awareness Raising and Behavioural Change

- Generating greater environmental awareness and influencing positive behavioural change by supporting businesses, communities and householders to become more resource efficient.
- Promoting radon testing in homes and workplaces and encouraging remediation where necessary.

Management and Structure of the EPA

The EPA is managed by a full time Board, consisting of a Director General and five Directors. The work is carried out across five Offices:

- Office of Environmental Sustainability
- Office of Environmental Enforcement
- Office of Evidence and Assessment
- Office of Radiological Protection and Environmental Monitoring
- Office of Communications and Corporate Services

The EPA is assisted by an Advisory Committee of twelve members who meet regularly to discuss issues of concern and provide advice to the Board.



Industrial and Waste Licence Enforcement

2018

Environmental Protection Agency
An Ghníomhaireacht um Chaomhnú Comhshaoil
P.O. Box 3000, Johnstown Castle Estate, County Wexford, Ireland, Y35 W821
Telephone: +353 53 916 0600
Email: info@epa.ie
Website: www.epa.ie
LoCall: 1890 33 55 99

© Environmental Protection Agency 2019

Although every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the material contained in this publication, complete accuracy cannot be guaranteed. Neither the Environmental Protection Agency nor the authors accept any responsibility whatsoever for loss or damage occasioned or claimed to have been occasioned, in part or in full, as a consequence of any person acting, or refraining from acting, as a result of a matter contained in this publication.

All or part of this publication may be reproduced without further permission, provided the source is acknowledged.

Published by the Environmental Protection Agency, Ireland

June 2019

ISBN: 978-1-84095-842-3

Table of Contents

1.	INTRODUCTION	4
1.1	The EPA's Enforcement Approach	4
1.2	Industrial and Waste Licence Enforcement	5
1.3	Licensed Industrial and waste facilities in 2018	6
2.	ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS	8
2.1	Non-compliances	8
2.2	Compliance Investigations	10
2.3	Prosecutions	11
3.	SITE VISITS	13
4.	NATIONAL PRIORITY SITES	15
5.	PUBLIC COMPLAINTS AND ASSOCIATED ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	18
6.	FINANCIAL PROVISION	21
7.	SUMMARY ANALYSIS OF KEY ENFORCEMENT DATA FOR PERIOD 2015 - 2018	23
8.	CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	24
8.1	Positive findings:	24
8.2	Improvements required	25
LIST OF TABLES		
Table 1	EPA Licensed activities.	4
Table 2	Prosecutions taken by the EPA in 2018.	12
Table 3	National Priority Sites as published during 2018	17
Table 4	Summary information for 2015 – 2018 period.	23
LIST OF FIGURES		
Figure 1	Compliance assessment tools used by the EPA.	5
Figure 2	Summary details on EPA licensed Industrial and Waste sites in 2018.	6
Figure 3	Location of EPA licensed Industrial and Waste facilities in 2018.	7
Figure 4	Information on Non-compliances in 2018.	8
Figure 5	Non-compliances - Top 5 Sectors 2018.	9
Figure 6	Summary Details on Compliance Investigations in 2018.	10
Figure 7	Compliance Investigations open during 2018 by Issue	11
Figure 8	Summary details of EPA Prosecutions in 2018	11
Figure 9	Details of EPA Site Visits to Industrial & Waste facilities in 2018.	13
Figure 10	Number of EPA site visits by reason in 2018.	14

Figure 11	Sites visited by the EPA greater than 10 times in 2018.	14
Figure 12	National Priority Sites summary details.	15
Figure 13	National Priority Sites scoring system.	16
Figure 14	Details of complaints received by the EPA in 2018.	18
Figure 15	Type of complaints received by the EPA in 2018.	19
Figure 16	Most complained about licensed facilities 2018.	19
Figure 17	Trend of odour, noise, air, water and waste complaints received regarding licensed sites from 2015-2018	20
Figure 18	Summary details of Financial Provisions in 2018.	21
Figure 19	Financial Provision in place at end of 2018.	22
Figure 20	Types of financial provision in place at end of 2018.	22

2018 at a glance

>€241,000



Total fines, costs and charitable donations from EPA prosecutions



46%

46% of Compliance Investigations that were open during 2018 referred to water quality issues

1490



1490 EPA site visits were carried out



15 Sites were identified as National Priority Sites in 2018

95%



95% of EPA site visits were unannounced



22%

22% reduction in complaints received

1. Introduction

This report focuses on the enforcement of industrial and waste facilities licensed by the Environmental Protection Agency in 2018.

The EPA is responsible for the environmental regulation of large industrial and waste activities. The types of activities which require a licence from the EPA are shown in Table 1. The EPA's Office of Environmental Enforcement (OEE) works to ensure that operators comply with the conditions of their licence.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▲ Minerals and Other Materials. ▲ Energy. ▲ Metals. ▲ Mineral Fibres and Glass. ▲ Chemicals. ▲ Intensive Agriculture (poultry and pigs). ▲ Food and Drink. ▲ Wood, Paper, Textiles and Leather. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▲ Fossil Fuels. ▲ Cement, Lime and Magnesium Oxide ▲ Waste ▲ Surface Coatings ▲ Other Activities (includes testing of engines, manufacture of printed circuit boards, production of lime, the manufacture of ceramic products, the capture of CO₂ streams and treatment of waste water).
--	---

Table 1 - EPA Licensed activities.

1.1 The EPA's Enforcement Approach

The EPA's objective is to ensure that operators carry on their activities in accordance with their licences. These objectives are advanced through a combination of promoting compliance, guidance and assistance, monitoring compliance, inspections and sampling, and taking enforcement actions where necessary.

The EPA's enforcement approach is underpinned by the principles of

- ▲ Proportionality in the application of environmental law and in securing compliance
- ▲ Consistency of approach
- ▲ Transparency about how the EPA operates
- ▲ Targeting of enforcement action where it is needed, and
- ▲ Implementation of the polluter pays principle.

1.2 Industrial and Waste Licence Enforcement

Industrial and Waste Licences are enforced by the EPA's Office of Environmental Enforcement (OEE). The EPA assesses compliance with licences on an ongoing basis and it carries out its enforcement role using a number of compliance assessment tools as shown in Figure 1.

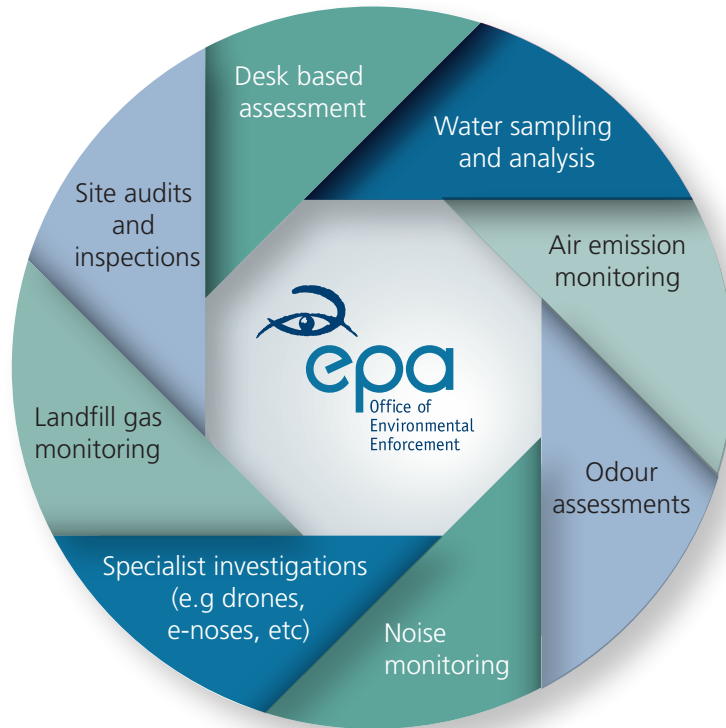


Figure 1 - Compliance assessment tools used by the EPA.

1.3 Licensed Industrial and waste facilities in 2018

The total number of Industrial and Waste licences in force in 2018 together with the number of operational sites and the sectoral breakdown is provided in Figure 2 below. The location of all industrial and waste licensed sites regulated by the EPA in 2018 is shown in Figure 3.

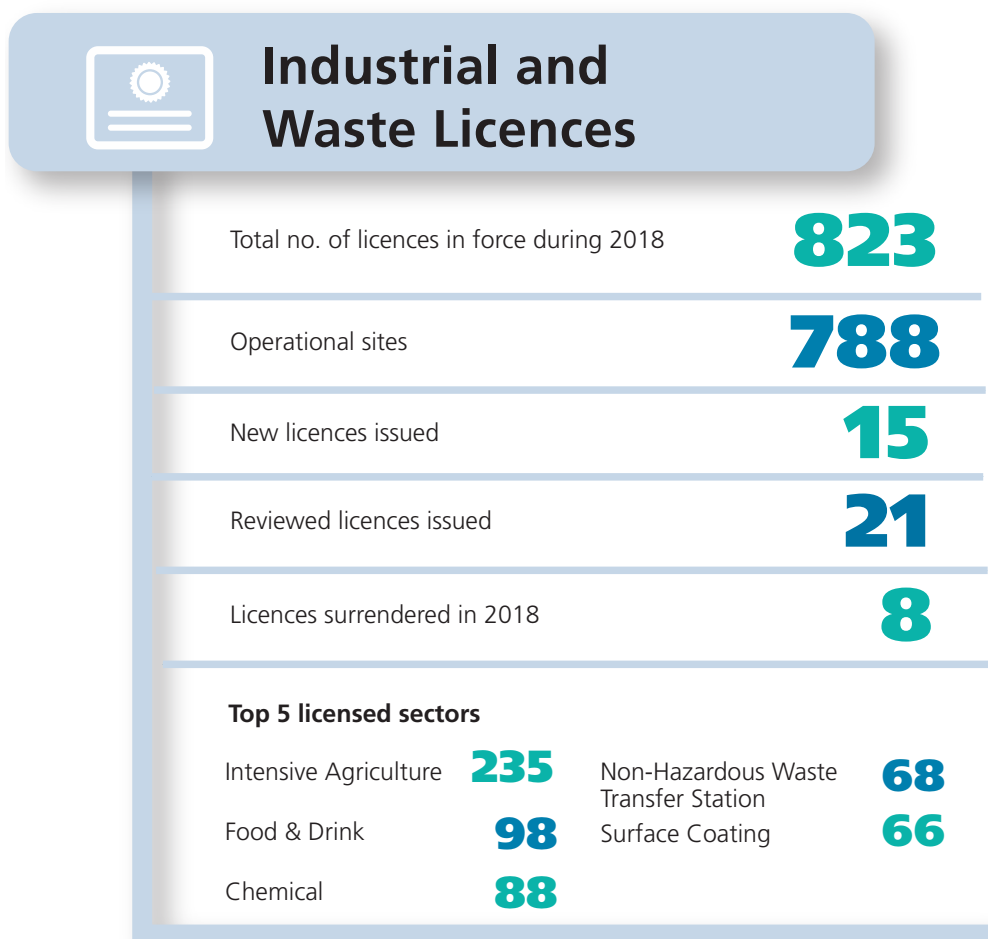


Figure 2 - Summary details on EPA licensed Industrial and Waste sites in 2018.

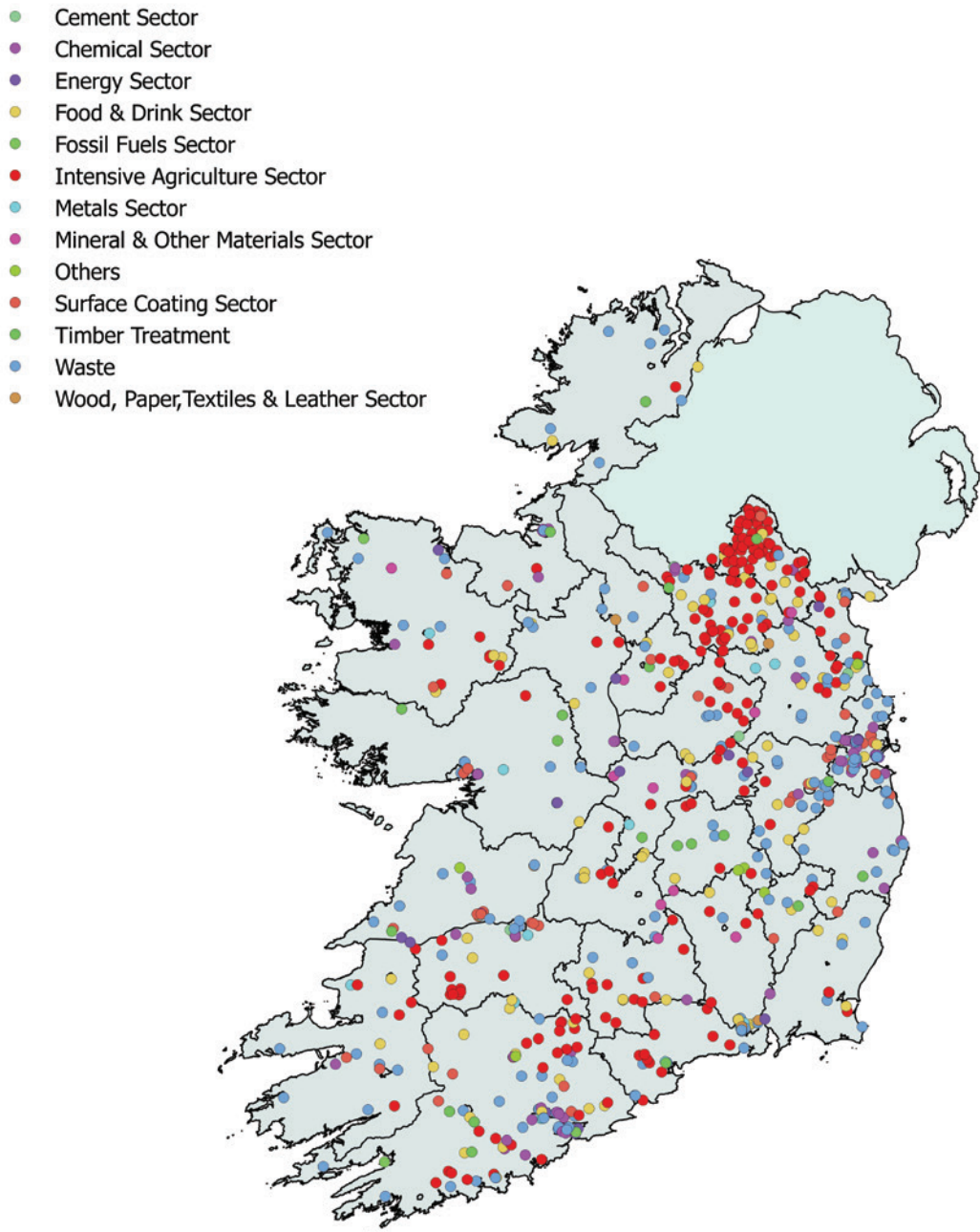


Figure 3 - Location of EPA licensed Industrial and Waste facilities in 2018.

2. ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

Licensees are obliged to comply with a range of conditions which are set out in their licence and, when compliance issues are detected, the EPA has a range of enforcement tools available to it. The EPA can take a number of enforcement actions ranging from recording non-compliances with licence conditions, through to opening compliance Investigations, issuing statutory notices, taking prosecutions, injunctions and finally suspending or revoking a licence if the environmental issue has not been satisfactorily resolved.

2.1 Non-compliances

The detection and recording of a non-compliance is often the first step in the escalation of enforcement action by the EPA. This may result in the opening of a Compliance Investigation or prosecution. Summary information on non-compliances issued by the EPA in 2018 is provided in Figures 4 and 5 below.

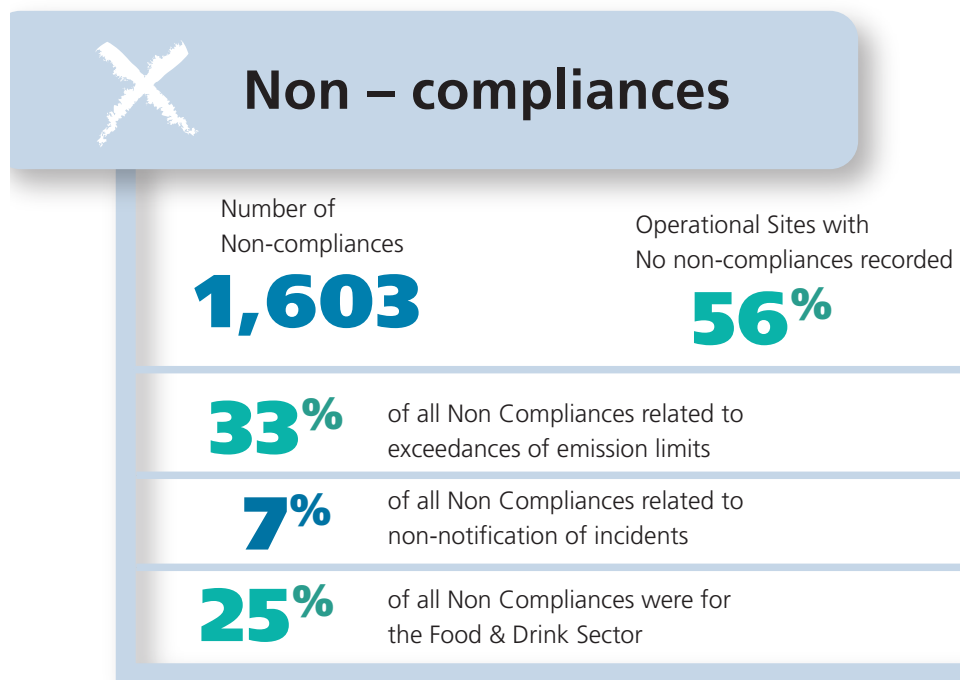


Figure 4 - Information on Non-compliances in 2018.

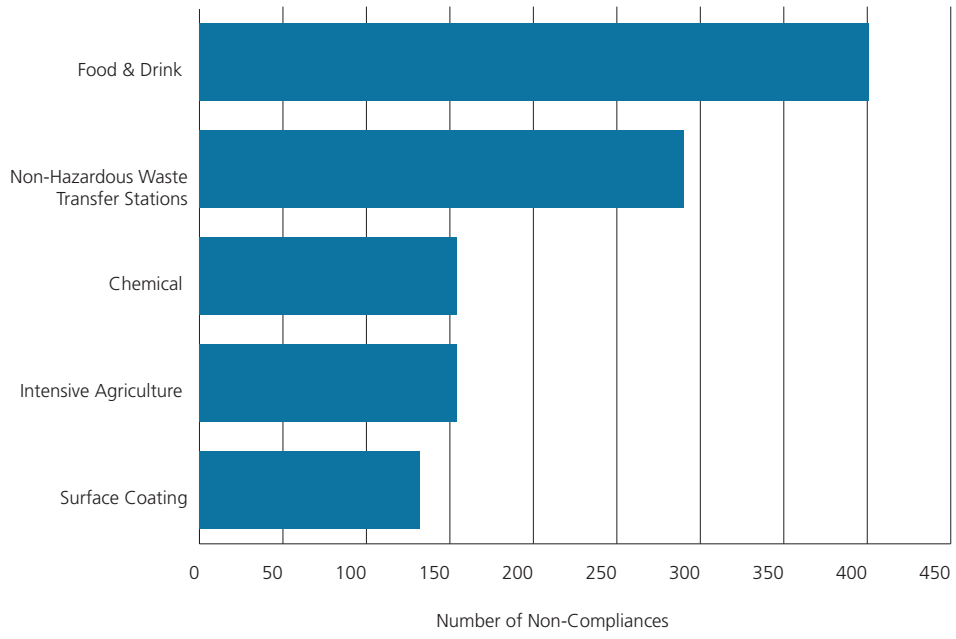


Figure 5 - Non-compliances - Top 5 Sectors 2018.

2.2 Compliance Investigations

A Compliance Investigation (CI) is opened by the EPA when further information and/or action is required in relation to a compliance issue at a licensed site. The CI remains open until the issue has been fully addressed by the licensee. Summary data on CIs for 2018 is provided in Figure 6 below. Figure 8 shows the issues to which the open CIs relate. As can be seen risk to water quality remains the most significant issue for CIs opened by the EPA.

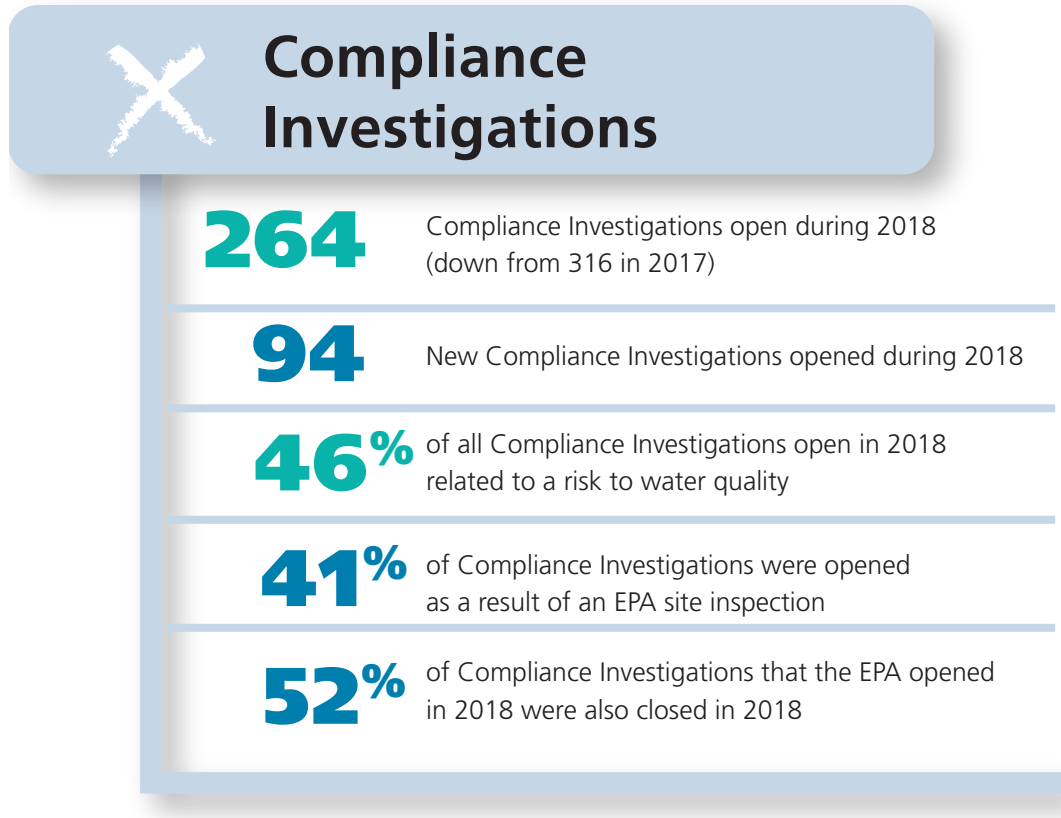


Figure 6 - Summary Details on Compliance Investigations in 2018.

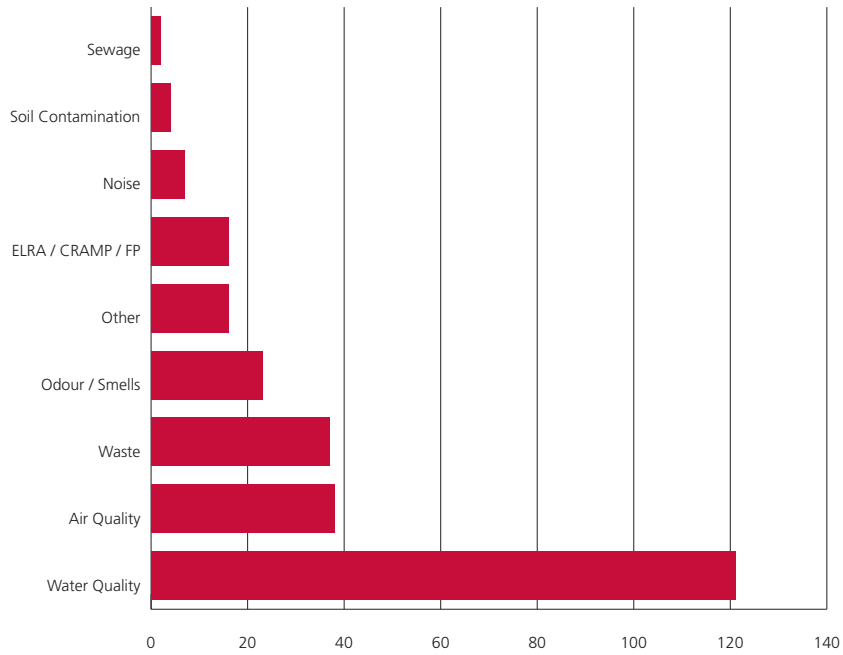



Figure 7 - Compliance Investigations open during 2018 by Issue

2.3 Prosecutions

The EPA can initiate a prosecution in the district court, or for more serious cases submit a file to the Director of Public Prosecutions. Prosecutions are a means of bringing to justice those who commit offences by not complying with environmental legislation, or the conditions of a licence, and are taken in accordance with our Enforcement Policy.

The main issues for which prosecutions were taken in 2018 include breach of emission limit values, causing nuisance/impairment of the environment, failure to notify incidents, infrastructural issues, documentation and records, bunding, and waste management. Prosecutions taken by the EPA typically bring about the desired outcome of compliance with the licence conditions.



Prosecutions

15

15 prosecutions concluded in 2018 resulting in 13 convictions, one case dismissed and one licensee awarded the Probation Act

53%

of prosecutions in 2018 were for Food & Drink sites

€241,852

in fines / costs and donations

Figure 8 - Summary details of EPA Prosecutions in 2018

Table 2 below summarises the companies convicted by EPA in 2018 together the fines/costs imposed.

Licensee	County	Case result	Total costs, fines or donations
Tipperary Co-Operative Creamery Limited	Tipperary	Convicted	€12,369.51
Organic Gold (Marketing) Limited	Meath	Convicted	€5,254.00
Arrabawn Co-Operative Society Limited	Tipperary	Convicted	€20,403.81
Dublin Waste to Energy Limited	Dublin	Convicted	€15,133.12
Carbery Food Ingredients Limited	Cork	Convicted	€23,373.54
Nutricia Infant Nutrition Limited	Cork	Convicted	€22,304.46
Staunton Foods Limited	Cork	Convicted	€23,662.26
Irish Cement Ltd	Limerick	Convicted	€12,094.14
Arrow Group Limited	Kildare	Convicted	€24,000.00
Glen of Aherlow Holdings	Tipperary	Convicted	€7,129.00
Rosderra Irish Meats Group	Offaly	Convicted	€26,168.29
Irish Cement Ltd	Limerick	Convicted	€17,318.41
Kepak Cork	Cork	Convicted	€15,000.00

Table 2 - Companies convicted by the EPA in 2018.

3. SITE VISITS

The EPA visits industrial and waste licensed facilities to assess compliance and overall environmental performance. The visits can involve monitoring of emissions to air, water, or noise, odour assessments, and/or an assessment of compliance with licence conditions. The EPA issues a report for each visit and these site visit reports are made available on the EPA's website (www.epa.ie).

The Industrial Emissions Directive (IED) sets out a minimum standard for visiting facilities. The period between two site visits must be based on an assessment of environmental risks, and must not exceed one year for high risk sites and three years for low risk sites.

The EPA prepares an Annual Inspection Plan each year based on these minimum requirements. In the last 3-year cycle (2016-2018 inclusive) all site visits required under the IED were completed by the EPA. In reality, the EPA carries out a lot more visits than the minimum, often in response to pollution-related incidents, investigation of complaints and to verify if progress is being made on actions required in a Compliance Investigation.

46% of all site visits carried out by the EPA to licensed facilities during 2018 were monitoring visits. The primary aim of these visits was to collect air, water or effluent samples to assess compliance with the licence discharge limits. Almost 500 site visits were completed where water/effluent samples were collected and 168 site visits were carried out to monitor air emissions. A total of 1380 individual samples of water/effluent were collected and analysed by the EPA at licensed sites during 2018.

Figures 9, 10 and 11 below provide general information on EPA site visits in 2018, the reasons for the visits, and details of the sites which were visited greater than 10 times by the EPA during the year.

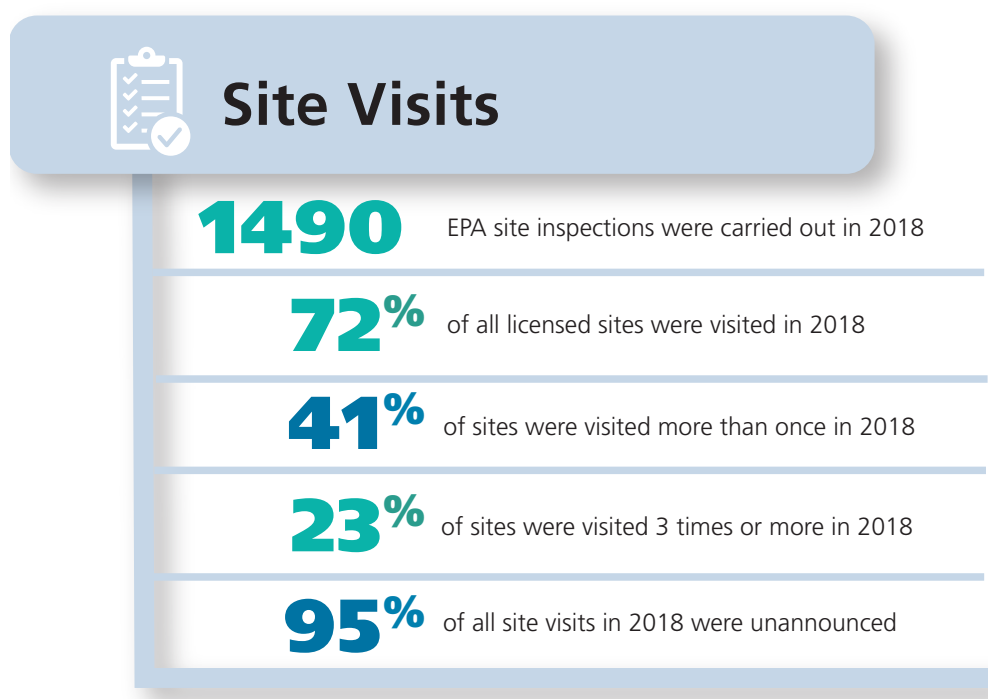


Figure 9 - Details of EPA Site Visits to Industrial & Waste facilities in 2018.

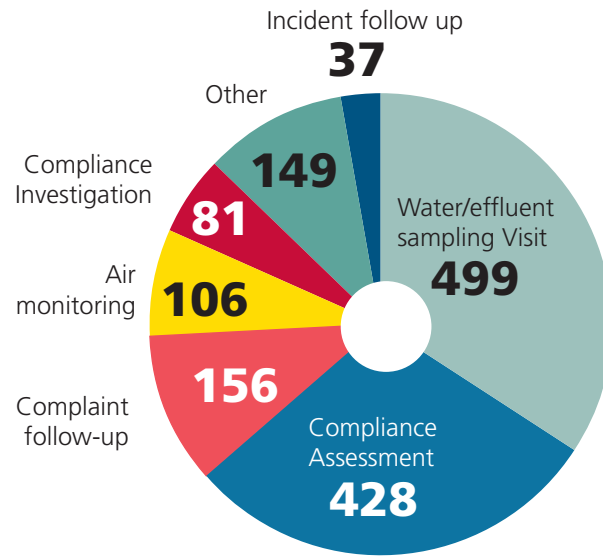


Figure 10 - Number of EPA site visits by reason in 2018.

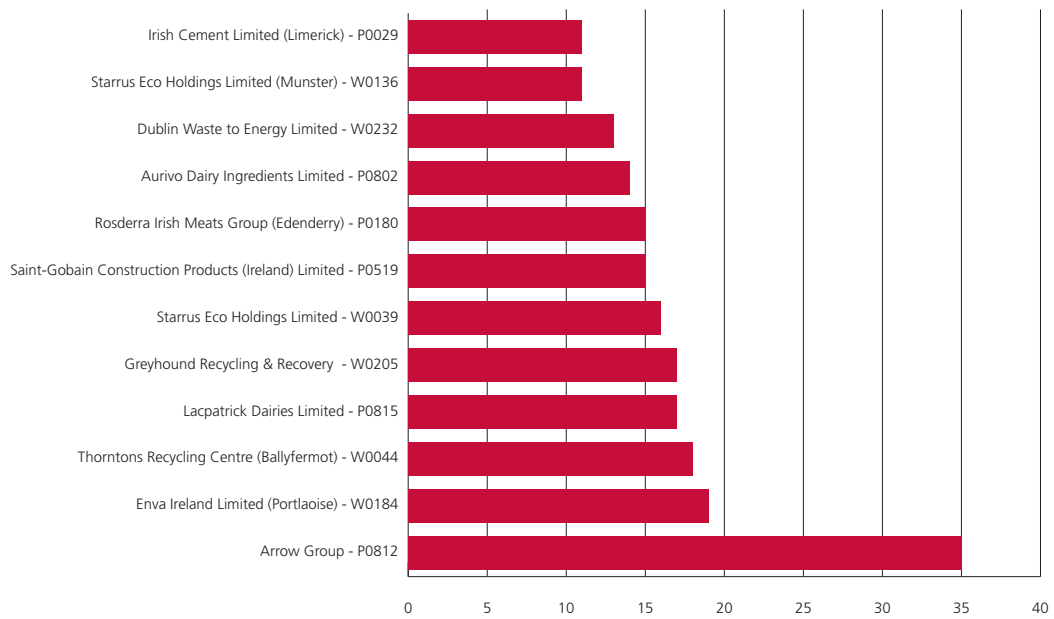


Figure 11 - Sites visited by the EPA greater than 10 times in 2018.

4. NATIONAL PRIORITY SITES

The EPA employs a National Priority Sites system to identify and publish the names of licensed sites which are an enforcement priority. Each licenced site receives a score based on their compliance status against four criteria: Compliance Investigations (CIs), Complaints, Incidents, and Non-compliances.

Licensees with a score of greater than 30 points, and a compliance investigation score of greater than or equal to 10, are deemed a National Priority Site. The first National Priority Sites list was launched by the EPA in July 2017 and the list has been updated at the end of each quarter since then. Sites come off the list when they have made the necessary improvements in compliance.

Only 2 out of the 20 sites that were a National Priority Site during 2017 were still on the list at the end of 2018. This demonstrates the effectiveness of the system in driving compliance and reflects significant environmental improvements in compliance at 18 sites.

Summary information on the National Priority Sites in 2018 is given in Figures 12 and 13 and Table 3 below.

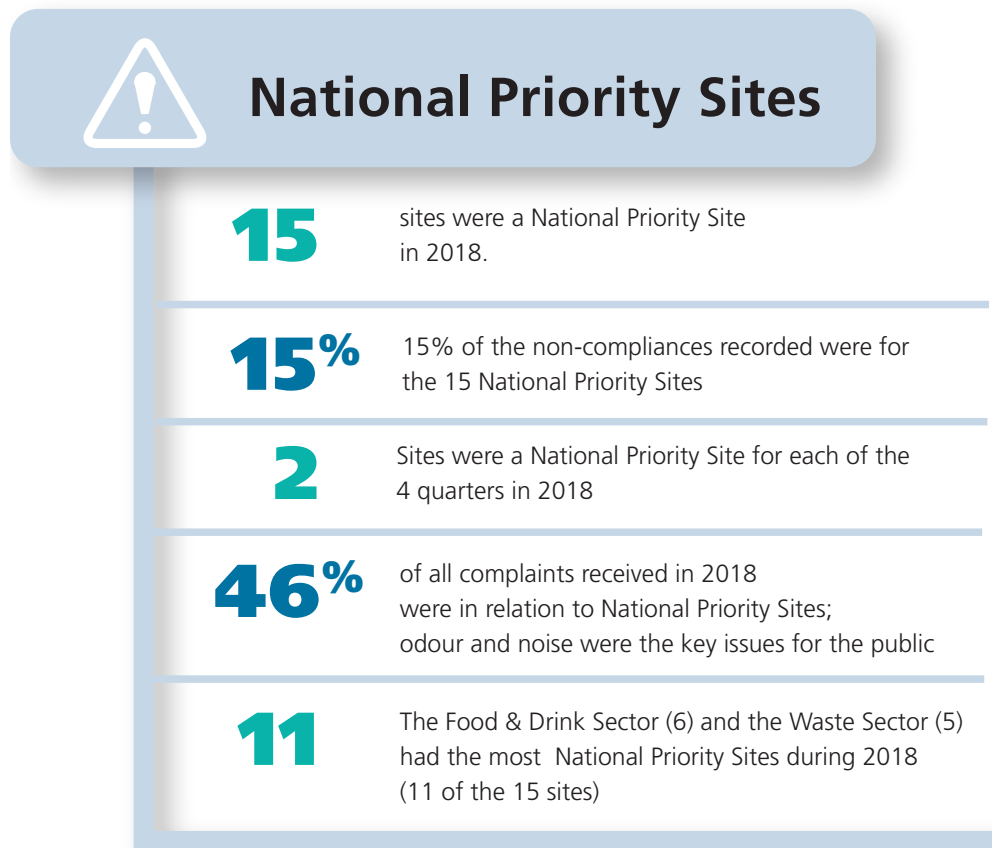


Figure 12 - National Priority Sites summary details.

NPS score is based on previous 6 months enforcement history

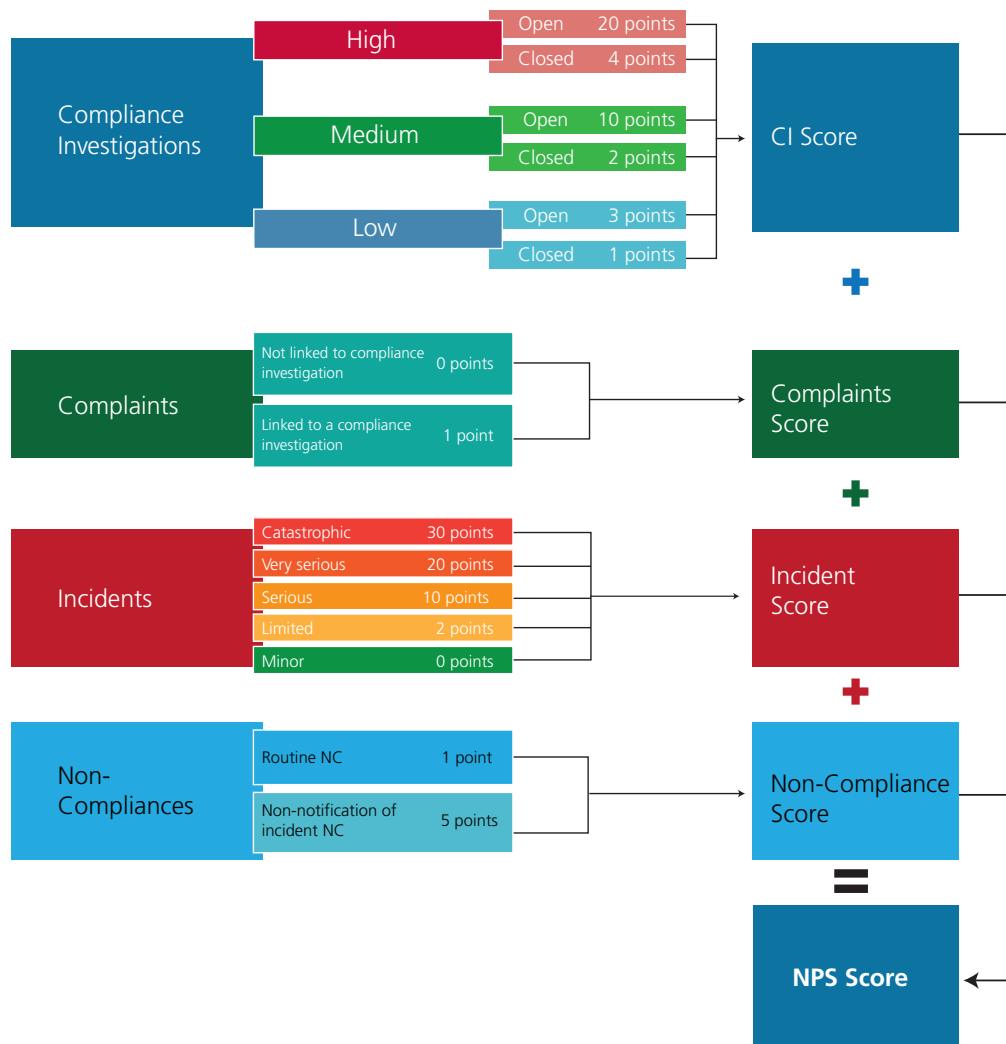


Figure 13 - National Priority Sites scoring system.

Reg. No.	Site	Sector	Issue
P0812-01	Arrow Group Limited	Food & Drink	Noise/odour
P0802-02	Aurivo Dairy Ingredients Limited	Food & Drink	Wastewater/effluent
P0690-02	C & F Automotive Limited	Surface Coating	Air/water
P0180-02	Rosderra (Edenderry)	Food & Drink	Noise/odour/ effluent/water
W0136-03	Starrus Eco Holdings (Munster)	Waste	Odour/ housekeeping/water
P0320-02	T & J Standish (Roscrea)	Timber Treatment	Groundwater/soil
P0815-02	Lacpatrick Dairies Ltd	Food & Drink	Water
P1004-02	Glenmore Biogas	Waste	Waste/odour/ management
W0211-02	Eras Eco Ltd	Waste	Odour
P1028-01	Glanbia Foods Ireland Ltd	Food & Drink	Noise
P1002-01	The Hammond Lane Metal Company	Waste	Waste management/ water
W0022-01	East Cork Landfill Site	Waste	Landfill gas/leachate
P0831-01	Western Brand Group Ltd	Food & Drink	Water
P0519-03	Saint-Gobain Construction Products (Ireland) Limited	Mining	Water
P0106-02	CG Power Systems Ireland Limited	Metals	Air

Table 3 - National Priority Sites as published during 2018

5. PUBLIC COMPLAINTS AND ASSOCIATED ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

The EPA receives complaints from members of the public in relation to licensed facilities. Each complaint is recorded and investigated; some may require a visit to the site in question. 25% of all site visits carried out by the EPA in 2018 were in relation to complaints. Summary details on complaints received in 2018 in relation to industrial and waste licensed sites are provided in Figure 14 below.

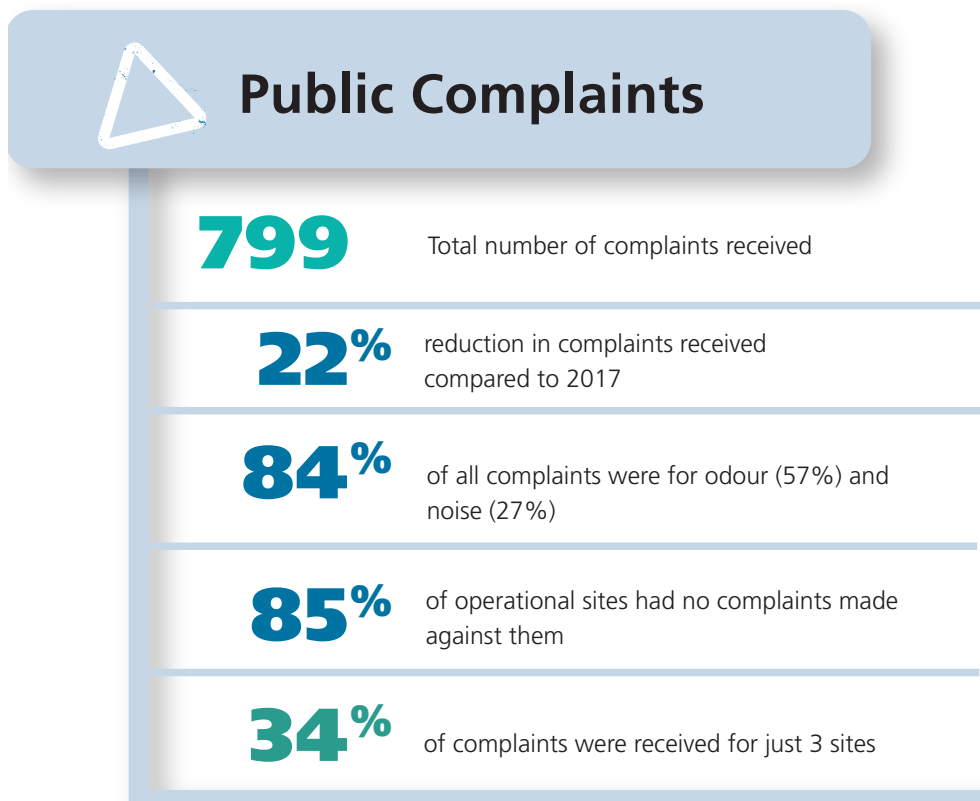


Figure 14 - Details of complaints received by the EPA in 2018.

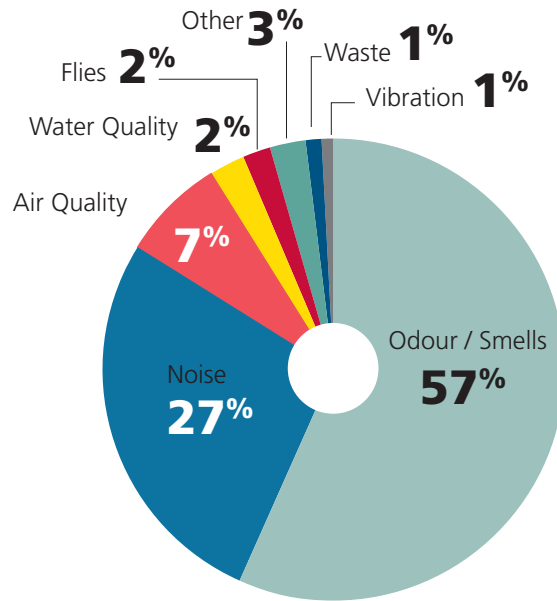


Figure 15 - Type of complaints received by the EPA in 2018.

The top ten most complained about facilities are shown in Figure 16 below. The EPA received the largest number of complaints from the public in relation to Arrow Group.

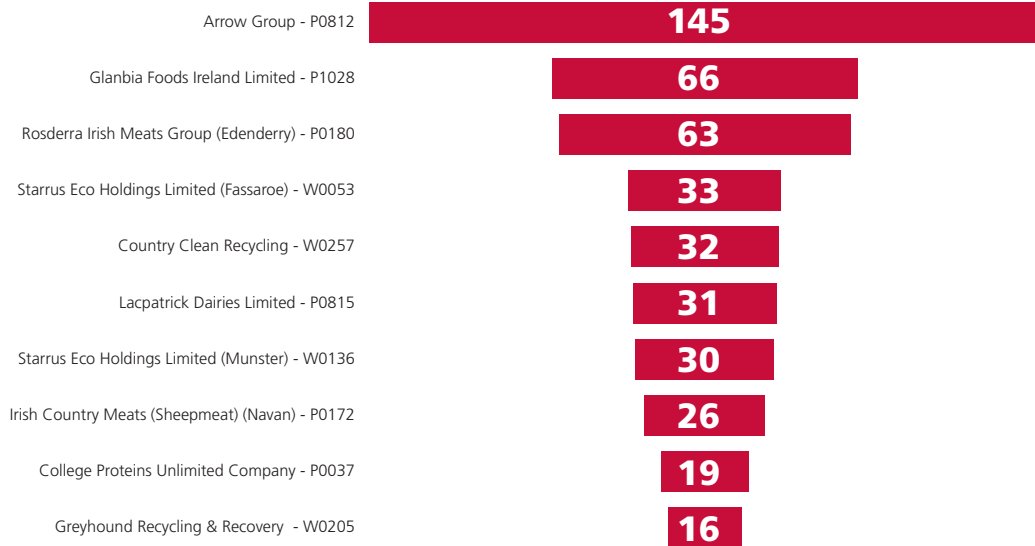


Figure 16 - Most complained about licensed facilities in 2018.

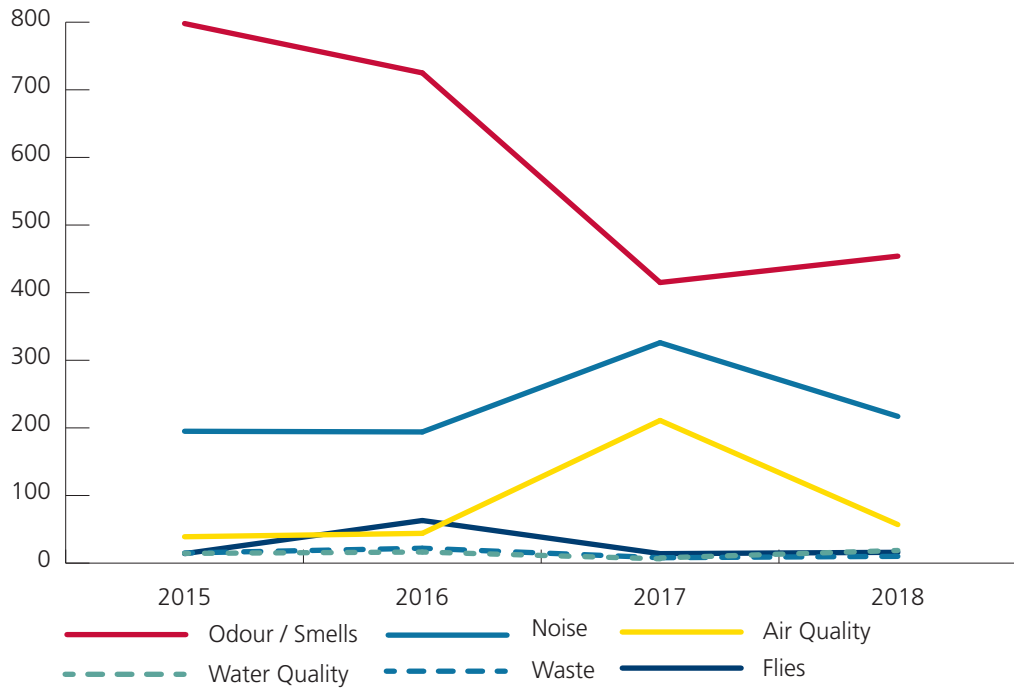


Figure 17 - Trend of odour, noise, air, water and waste complaints received regarding licensed sites from 2015-2018

6. FINANCIAL PROVISION

In recent years, the EPA has made significant progress in ensuring licensees make financial provision (FP) to cover environmental liabilities at licensed sites. Financial provision is required to pay for site remediation or aftercare and for any potential clean-up that may be required e.g. following an incident. Having adequate financial provision in place is essential to manage environmental risks and to minimise the exposure of the State to the cost of remediating environmental damage if operators fail to do so. Figure 18 below gives summary details of the costs agreed for known and potential environmental liabilities, and the amount of FP secured by the end of 2018.

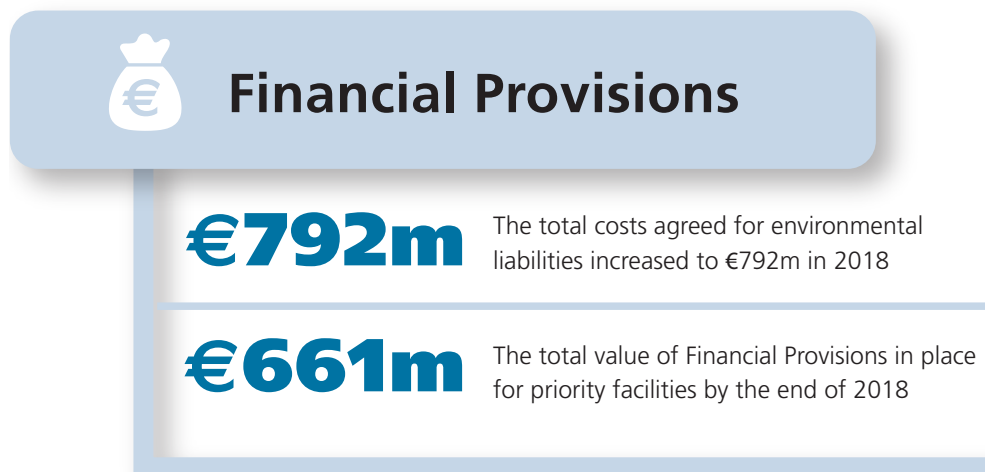
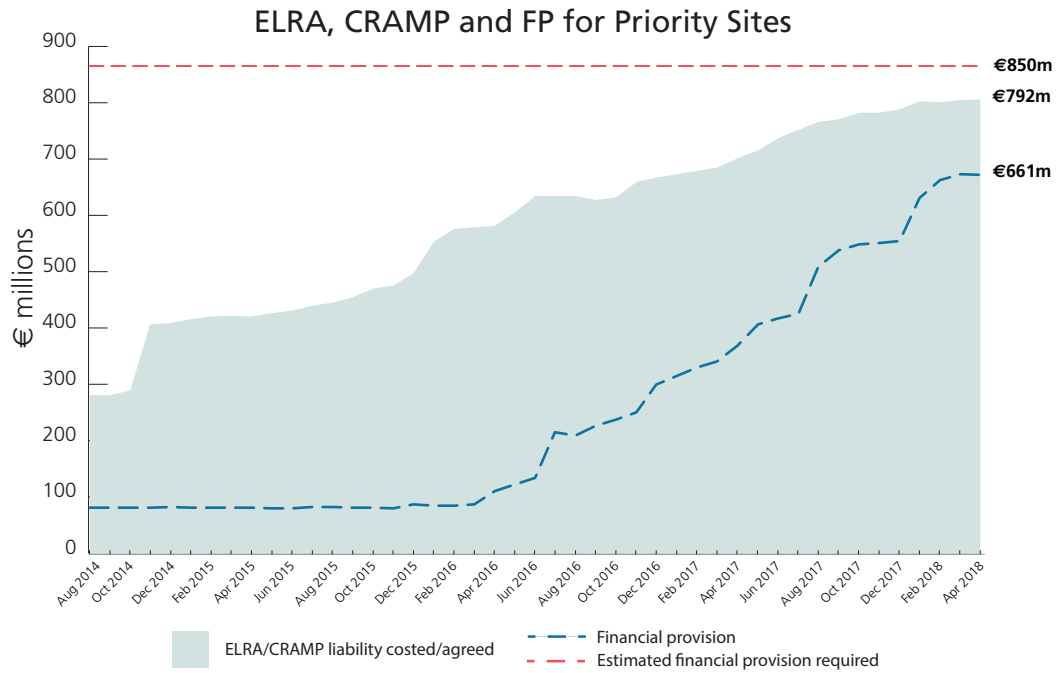


Figure 18 - Summary details of Financial Provisions in 2018.



CRAMP – Closure, Restoration and Aftercare Management Plan.
ELRA – Environmental Liabilities Risk Assessment

Figure 19 - Financial Provision in place at end of 2018.

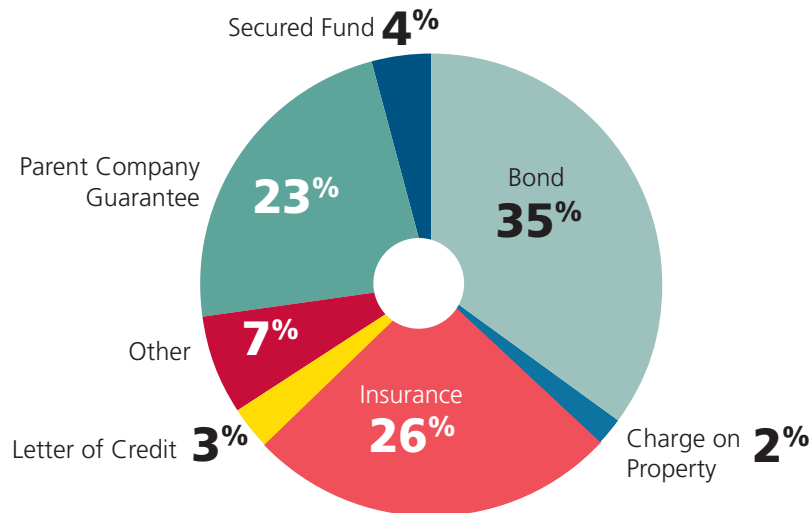


Figure 20 - Types of financial provision in place at end of 2018.

7. SUMMARY ANALYSIS OF KEY ENFORCEMENT DATA FOR PERIOD 2015 - 2018

A comparative analysis of the key enforcement data for the years 2015 to 2018 is provided in Table 3 below and can be summarised as follows:

- ▲ On average, more than half of the industrial and waste licensed sites had no non-compliance recorded by the EPA in the period 2015-2018.
- ▲ The number of compliance investigations opened by the EPA in 2018 (94) was similar to 2017 (93) and is down from a high of 184 in 2015.
- ▲ On average almost three quarters of all sites were visited by EPA each year in the period 2015 to 2018 and 41% of all sites were visited at least twice in 2018.
- ▲ On average 17 prosecutions, taken by the EPA, are concluded each year. In 2018, 15 cases concluded.
- ▲ 2018 saw a significant reduction (22%) in the number of complaints received from members of the public when compared with 2015, 2016 and 2017. Odour remained the key issue for the public (57% of all complaints).

Category	2015	2016	2017	2018
Number of non-compliances	1,612	1,546	1,619	1,603
Operational sites with no non-compliances recorded	58%	45%	54%	56%
New compliance investigations opened	184	124	93	94
Number of site visits conducted	1,306	1,552	1,522	1,490
Percent of licensed sites visited	70%	72%	75%	72%
Percent of licensed sites visited twice or more	37%	42%	44%	41%
Percent of licensed sites visited three time or more	22%	22%	23%	23%
Prosecutions	13	17	22	15
Total fines from prosecutions (EUR)	20,151,000*	179,000	375,000	242,000
Complaints received	1,031	1,101	1,030	799
Percent of complaints for odour	71%	66%	40%	57%
Percent of complaints for noise	19%	18%	33%	27%
Percent of complaints for air quality	4%	4%	20%	7%

* includes fines and costs from DPP case.

Table 4 - Summary information for 2015 – 2018 period.

8. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This report provides information on the EPA's regulation of industrial and waste sites together with details on compliance with licences issued by the EPA for such activities.

8.1 Positive findings:

- ▲ Overall, the level of compliance amongst industrial and waste licensed sites in Ireland in 2018 was good. This maintains the good level of compliance seen by the EPA at Industrial and Waste Sites in 2015, 2016 and 2017.
- ▲ The EPA's National Priority Sites system, published quarterly, is continuing to drive investment and environmental improvements at licensed sites. There were 15 National Priority Sites in 2018 (down from 20 in 2017). These represent a small percentage (3%) of operational sites.
- ▲ The amount of Financial Provision secured continues to increase - up €116m in 2018. The EPA continues to focus attention on this area in order to ensure that licensees set aside the necessary financial provision to known and potential liabilities.
- ▲ In 2018, there was a 22% reduction in the number of complaints received by the EPA from members of the public when compared with previous years. This reflects both significant investment and operational improvements made by licensees, as well as targeted enforcement action by the EPA to address odour issues at licensed sites.
- ▲ The number of site visits in 2018 was similar to previous years; almost three quarters of all operational sites were visited during the year. The EPA continues to focus its resources where they are needed most and in this regard Arrow Group, which has been on the National Priority Site list since it was first published in 2017, was the most visited site in 2018 (35 visits).

8.2 Improvements required

- ▲ The Food and Drink (agrifood) sector continues to face challenges in maintaining environmental compliance as the industry adapts to increased agricultural production under the “Harvest 2020” and “Foodwise 2025” strategies. While this sector again had the poorest compliance record in 2018, it should be noted that there are many sites within this sector who operator in compliance, and manage their facility in an environmentally sound manner.
- ▲ Complaints from members of the public remain an issue for the waste sector; the majority of complaints now relate to waste transfer stations (71%). Further improvements are required in this sector to maintain and improve compliance rates.
- ▲ The implementation of the Water Framework Directive in Ireland has increased the focus on protecting and improving water quality. A total of 33 licensed facilities have been identified as a pressure on a water body which is at risk of failing environmental quality standards. Whilst there has been significant investment in wastewater treatment across all sectors in recent years, significant further investment will be required in some cases to protect and improve water quality.

AN GHNÍOMHAIREACTH UM CHAOMHNÚ COMHSHAOIL

Tá an Gníomhaireacht um Chaomhnú Comhshaoil (GCC) freagrach as an gcomhshaoil a chaomhnú agus a fheabhsú mar shócmhainn luachmhar do mhuintir na hÉireann. Táimid tiomanta do dhaoine agus don chomhshaoil a chosaint ó éifeachtaí díobhálacha na radaíochta agus an truaillithe.

Is féidir obair na Gníomhaireachta a roinnt ina trí phríomhréimse:

Rialú: Déanaimid córais éifeachtacha rialaithe agus comhlíonta comhshaoil a chur i bhfeidhm chun torthaí maithe comhshaoil a sholáthar agus chun díriú orthu siúd nach gcloíonn leis na córais sin.

Eolas: Soláthraimid sonraí, faisnéis agus measúnú comhshaoil atá ar ardchaighdeán, spriocdhírthe agus tráthúil chun bonn eolais a chur faoin gcinnteoireacht ar gach leibhéal.

Tacaíocht: Bímid ag saothrú i gcomhar le grúpaí eile chun tacú le comhshaoil atá glan, táirgiúil agus cosanta go maith, agus le hiompar a chuirfidh le comhshaoil inbhuanaithe.

Ár bhFreagrachtaí

Ceadúnú

- Déanaimid na gníomhaíochtaí seo a leanas a rialú ionas nach ndéanann siad dochar do shláinte an phobail ná don chomhshaoil:
- saoráidí dramhaíola (*m.sh. láithreáin líonta talún, loisceoirí, stáisiúin aistriúcháin dramhaíola*);
- gníomhaíochtaí tionsclaíoch ar scála mór (*m.sh. déantúsaíocht cógaisíochta, déantúsaíocht stroighne, stáisiúin chumhachta*);
- an diantalmhaíocht (*m.sh. muca, éanlaith*);
- úsáid shrianta agus scaoileadh rialaithe Orgánach Géinmhodhnaithe (*OGM*);
- foinsí radaíochta ianúcháin (*m.sh. trealamh x-gha agus radaiteiripe, foinsí tionsclaíochta*);
- áiseanna móra stórála peitрил;
- scardadh dramhuisce;
- gníomhaíochtaí dumpála ar farraige.

Forfheidhmiú Náisiúnta i leith Cúrsaí Comhshaoil

- Clár náisiúnta iniúchtaí agus cigireachtaí a dhéanamh gach bliain ar shaoráidí a bhfuil ceadúnas ón nGníomhaireacht acu.
- Maoirseacht a dhéanamh ar fhreagrachtaí cosanta comhshaoil na n-údarás áitiúil.
- Caighdeán an uisce óil, arna sholáthar ag soláthraithe uisce phoiblí, a mhaoirsiú.
- Obair le húdarás áitiúla agus le gníomhaireachtaí eile chun dul i ngleic le coireanna comhshaoil trí chomhordú a dhéanamh ar líonra forfheidhmiúcháin náisiúnta, trí dhírí ar chiontóirí, agus trí mhaoirsiú a dhéanamh ar leasúchán.
- Cur i bhfeidhm rialachán ar nós na Rialachán um Dhrámhthrealamh Leictreach agus Leictreonach (DTLL), um Shrian ar Shubstaintí Guaiseacha agus na Rialachán um rialú ar shubstaintí a ídionn an ciseal ózóin.
- An dlí a chur orthu siúd a bhriseann dlí an chomhshaoil agus a dhéanann dochar don chomhshaoil.

Bainistíocht Uisce

- Monatóireacht agus tuairisciú a dhéanamh ar cháilíocht aibhneacha, lochanna, uisce idirchríosacha agus cósta na hÉireann, agus screamhuiscí; leibhéal uisce agus sruthanna aibhneacha a thomhas.
- Comhordú náisiúnta agus maoirsiú a dhéanamh ar an gCreat-Treoir Uisce.
- Monatóireacht agus tuairisciú a dhéanamh ar Cháilíocht an Uisce Snámha.

Monatóireacht, Anailís agus Tuairisciú ar an gComhshaoil

- Monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar cháilíocht an aeir agus Treoir an AE maidir le hAer Glan don Eoraip (CAFÉ) a chur chun feidhme.
- Tuairisciú neamhspleách le cabhrú le cinnteoireacht an rialtais náisiúnta agus na n-údarás áitiúil (*m.sh. tuairisciú tréimhsíúil ar staid Chomhshaoil na hÉireann agus Tuarascálacha ar Tháscairí*).

Rialú Astaíochtaí na nGás Ceaptha Teasa in Éirinn

- Fardail agus réamh-mheastacháin na hÉireann maidir le gás cheaptha teasa a ullmhú.
- An Treoir maidir le Trádáil Astaíochtaí a chur chun feidhme i gcomhair breis agus 100 de na táirgeoirí dé-ocsaíde carbóin is mó in Éirinn

Taighde agus Forbairt Comhshaoil

- Taighde comhshaoil a chistiú chun brúnna a shainaitheint, bonn eolais a chur faoi bheartais, agus réitigh a sholáthar i réimsí na haeráide, an uisce agus na hinbhuanaitheachta.

Measúnacht Straitéiseach Timpeallachta

- Measúnacht a dhéanamh ar thionchar pleananna agus clár beartaithe ar an gcomhshaoil in Éirinn (*m.sh. mórphleananna forbartha*).

Cosaint Raideolaíoch

- Monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar leibhéal radaíochta, measúnacht a dhéanamh ar nochtadh mhuintir na hÉireann don radaíocht ianúcháin.
- Cabhrú le pleananna náisiúnta a fhorbairt le haghaidh éigeandálaí ag eascairt as taismí núicléacha.
- Monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar fhorbairtí thar lear a bhaineann le saoráidí núicléacha agus leis an tsábháilteacht raideolaíochta.
- Sainseirbhísí cosanta ar an radaíocht a sholáthar, nó maoirsiú a dhéanamh ar sholáthar na seirbhísí sin.

Treoir, Faisnéis Inrochtana agus Oideachas

- Comhairle agus treoir a chur ar fáil d'earnáil na tionsclaíochta agus don phobal maidir le hábhair a bhaineann le caomhnú an chomhshaoil agus leis an gcosaint raideolaíoch.
- Faisnéis thráthúil ar an gcomhshaoil ar a bhfuil fáil éasca a chur ar fáil chun rannpháirtíocht an phobail a spreagadh sa chinnteoireacht i ndáil leis an gcomhshaoil (*m.sh. Timpeall an Tí, léarscáileanna radóin*).
- Comhairle a chur ar fáil don Rialtas maidir le hábhair a bhaineann leis an tsábháilteacht raideolaíoch agus le cúrsaí práinnfhreagartha.
- Plean Náisiúnta Bainistíochta Dramhaíola Guaisí a fhorbairt chun dramhaíl ghuaiseach a chosc agus a bhainistiú.

Múscailt Feasachta agus Athrú Iompraíochta

- Feasacht chomhshaoil níos fearr a ghiniúint agus dul i bhfeidhm ar athrú iompraíochta dearfach trí thacú le gnóthais, le pobail agus le teaghlaigh a bheith níos éifeachtúla ar acmhainní.
- Tástáil le haghaidh radóin a chur chun cinn i dtithe agus in ionaid oibre, agus gníomhartha leasúcháin a spreagadh nuair is gá.

Bainistíocht agus struchtúr na Gníomhaireachta um Chaomhnú Comhshaoil

Tá an ghníomhaíocht á bainistiú ag Bord lánaimseartha, ar a bhfuil Ard-Stiúrthóir agus cúigear Stiúrthóirí. Déantar an obair ar fud cúig cinn d'Oifigí:

- An Oifig um Inmharthanacht Comhshaoil
- An Oifig Forfheidhmithe i leith cúrsaí Comhshaoil
- An Oifig um Fianaise is Measúnú
- Oifig um Chosaint Radaíochta agus Monatóireachta Comhshaoil
- An Oifig Cumarsáide agus Seirbhísí Corparáideacha

Tá Coiste Comhairleach ag an nGníomhaireacht le cabhrú léi. Tá dáréag comhaltaí air agus tagann siad le chéile go rialta le plé a dhéanamh ar ábhair inní agus le comhairle a chur ar an mBord.



Environmental Protection Agency
An Ghníomhaireacht um Chaomhú Comhshaoil

Headquarters

**PO Box 3000,
Johnstown Castle Estate
County Wexford, Ireland**

**T: +353 53 916 0600
F: +353 53 916 0699
E: info@epa.ie
W: www.epa.ie
LoCall: 1890 33 55 99**

Regional Inspectorate

McCumiskey House,
Richview, Clonskeagh Road,
Dublin 14, Ireland

T: +353 1 268 0100
F: +353 1 268 0199

Regional Inspectorate

Inniscarra, County Cork,
Ireland

T: +353 21 487 5540
F: +353 21 487 5545

Regional Inspectorate

Seville Lodge, Callan Road,
Kilkenny, Ireland

T +353 56 779 6700
F +353 56 779 6798

Regional Inspectorate

John Moore Road, Castlebar
County Mayo, Ireland

T +353 94 904 8400
F +353 94 902 1934

Regional Inspectorate

The Glen, Monaghan, Ireland

T +353 47 77600
F +353 47 84987

Regional Offices

The Civic Centre
Church St., Athlone
Co. Westmeath, Ireland
T +353 906 475722

Room 3, Raheen Conference Centre,
Pearse House, Pearse Road
Raheen Business Park, Limerick,
Ireland
T +353 61 224764

