

Monaghan  
County  
Council

# Litter Management Plan

2026-2029

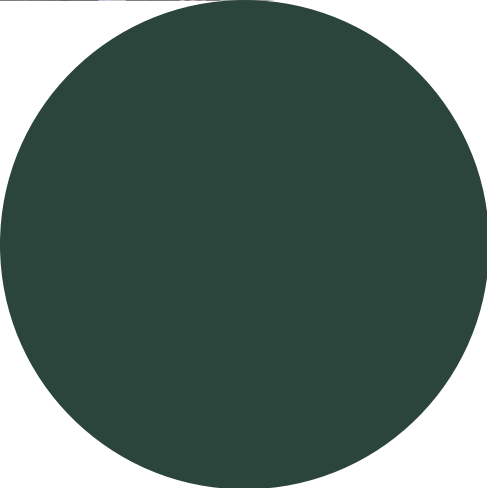
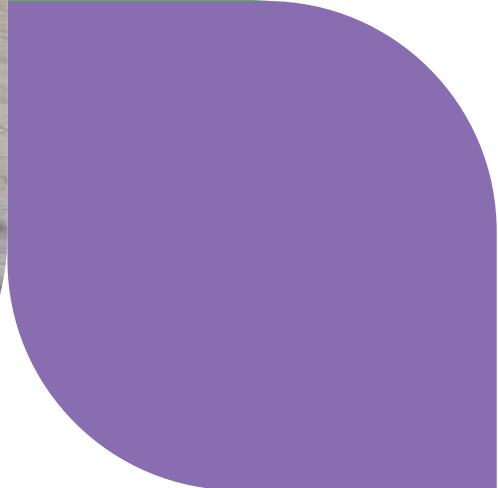


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# Introduction

## 1.1 County Monaghan – An Overview

Co. Monaghan is a land-locked border county, with approximately 1,295 km<sup>2</sup> of land cover and a population of 65,228, with consistent population growth recorded since 2002. It is strategically located on the border with good access to main routes north and south. The county has a rich history, a dynamic natural environment, with attractions such as Concra Wood, Rossmore Forest Park, Lough Muckno, Sliabh Beagh, Ulster-Canal Greenway, Castle Leslie and the Patrick Kavanagh Centre. Its people are characterised by a strong entrepreneurial spirit, a vibrant indigenous SME sector, and a strong sense of community making County Monaghan a great place to live, work and thrive.

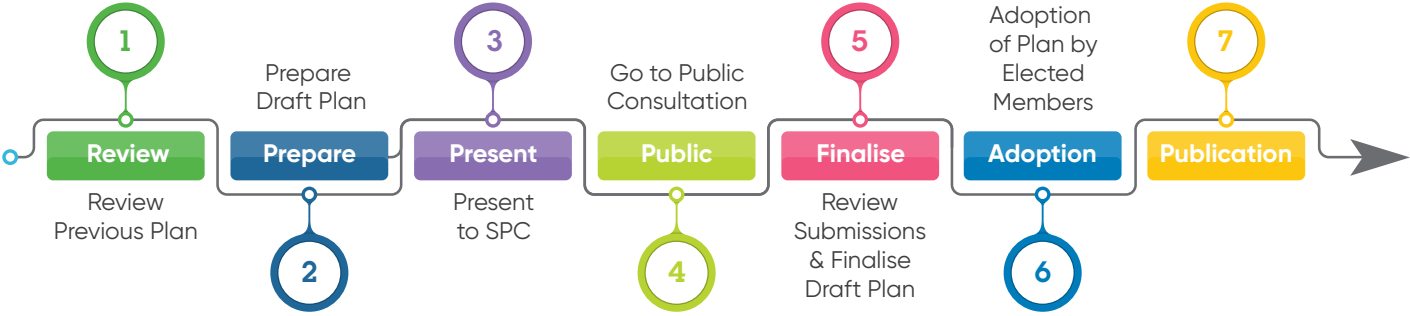
## 1.2 Background to the Litter Plan

The Litter Pollution Act 1997 obliges local authorities to review the Litter Management plan periodically, and to amend or replace it where required. This new 2026–2029 Litter Management Plan will replace the previous plan, and reaffirms Monaghan County Council's commitment to tackling litter, by outlining measures to be taken to prevent and control litter in the period ahead. The legislation prescribes the specific minimum components of a Litter Management Plan, requiring information on litter prevention and control activities and the setting of appropriate policies and objectives. This Plan builds on the progress of the Council's previous Litter Management Plan and aims to encourage public awareness, participation and sets targets and actions for the next three-year period. The Litter Management Plan 2026 – 2029 establishes our objectives for the prevention and management of litter, enforcement of litter legislation in County Monaghan and the means to achieve them. For the plan to be successful, our core message must be that we are all responsible for litter management and prevention as we go about our business. There is a shared responsibility amongst all within the county; Monaghan County Council, businesses, visitors, industry and residents alike to prevent litter.

## 1.3 Consultation Process

Monaghan County Council has engaged with all interested parties and stakeholders to develop a robust plan. The draft plan was presented to members at the Climate Action and Environment SPC and has been approved to go forward for public consultation. This will be a 4-week consultation period. Once the 4-week period has closed the outcome of the consultation process along with the final draft of the LMP 2026–2029 will be presented to the members of Monaghan Council for consideration and adoption.

The info-graphic below shows the consultative process that was carried out to fulfil the requirements of the Litter Pollution Act 1997:



Public notice of the review and making of the Litter Management Plan 2026–2029 will be advertised in the local media. Contributions from members of the public will be invited and can be submitted through the consultation portal at **Monaghan County Council's Consultation Portal**. Following the close of the submissions process, the draft plan will be finalised and presented to the full Council for consideration and adoption. If adopted, the Litter Management Plan 2026–2029 will be published on [www.monaghan.ie](http://www.monaghan.ie).





# Statutory Obligation

## 2.1 What is Litter

Section 2 of Litter Pollution Act 1997 (as amended) defines litter as:

*“any substance or object, whether or not intended as waste, that when deposited in a place other than a litter receptacle or other place designated for the deposit is, or likely to become unsightly, deleterious, nauseous or unsanitary, whether by itself or with any other such substance or object, and regardless of its size and volume or the extent of the deposit.”*

This definition is quite broad and includes graffiti, flytipping, advertising, chewing gum, domestic refuse placed in a litter bin, casual littering from papers/cigarette butts and dog fouling, as well as anything else which is, or is likely to become unsightly. It can range from a mattress or black sack discarded in a forest clearing, to a cigarette butt on a roadside.

Litter can exist in the environment for long periods of time before degrading. In addition, to being unsightly, it detracts from our streets, housing estates, parks, bogs and hedgerows and very often ends up in our rivers and the world’s oceans.

Litter can have a detrimental effect on wildlife, our enjoyment of amenities and on the quality of life of those living in the country. It can also have a negative impact on potential investment to an area and tourism.

## Legislation

Below lists the main legislation used by the Council in relation to litter/waste management:

- **Litter Pollution Act 1997, as amended**
- **Waste Management Act 1996, as amended**
- **Circular Economy and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2022**

Note: the above is not intended to be an exhaustive list, other legislation/regulations may be relevant, depending on each situation.



“Our County  
has a rich  
history with  
a dynamic  
natural  
environment”

## 2.2 You are breaking the law when:

### You are breaking the law when:



You place **unauthorised notices** or **advertisements** on structures such as poles, trees etc. visible from a public eye.

You present your **household waste** for collection in a manner that creates litter.

You fail to clean up after your **dog** in public areas.

You **burn** any materials on your land including household waste, hedge clipping's, tree branches.

You create **litter** in a public space.

You own, hire or drive a **vehicle and litter** is dropped from it.

You place advertising **flyers or notices** on vehicles.

You **own or occupy land** visible from a public place and fail to keep it litter free.

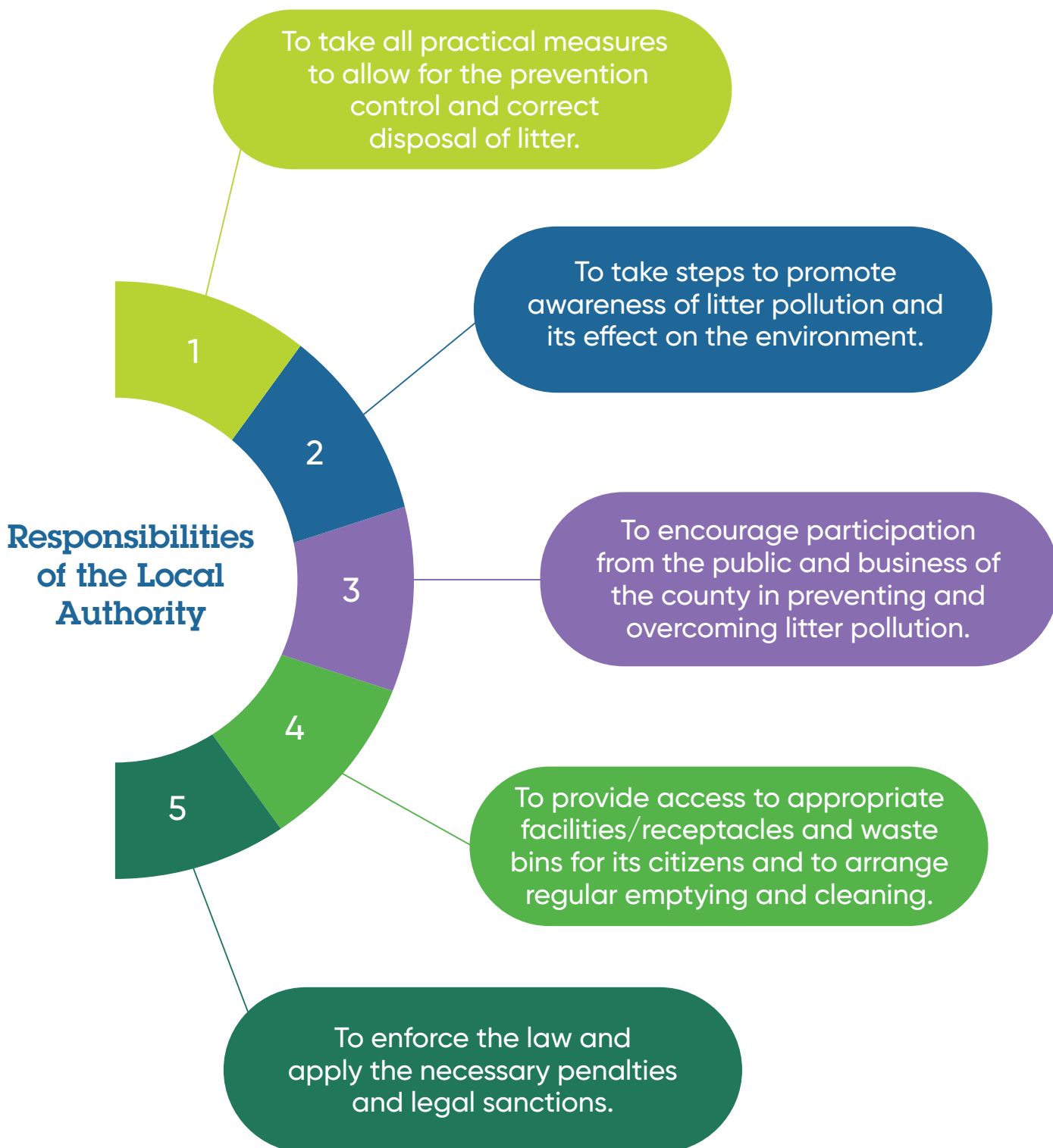
You own or hire a **skip** and fail to take measures to prevent litter generation.

You place household waste into a **street bin**.

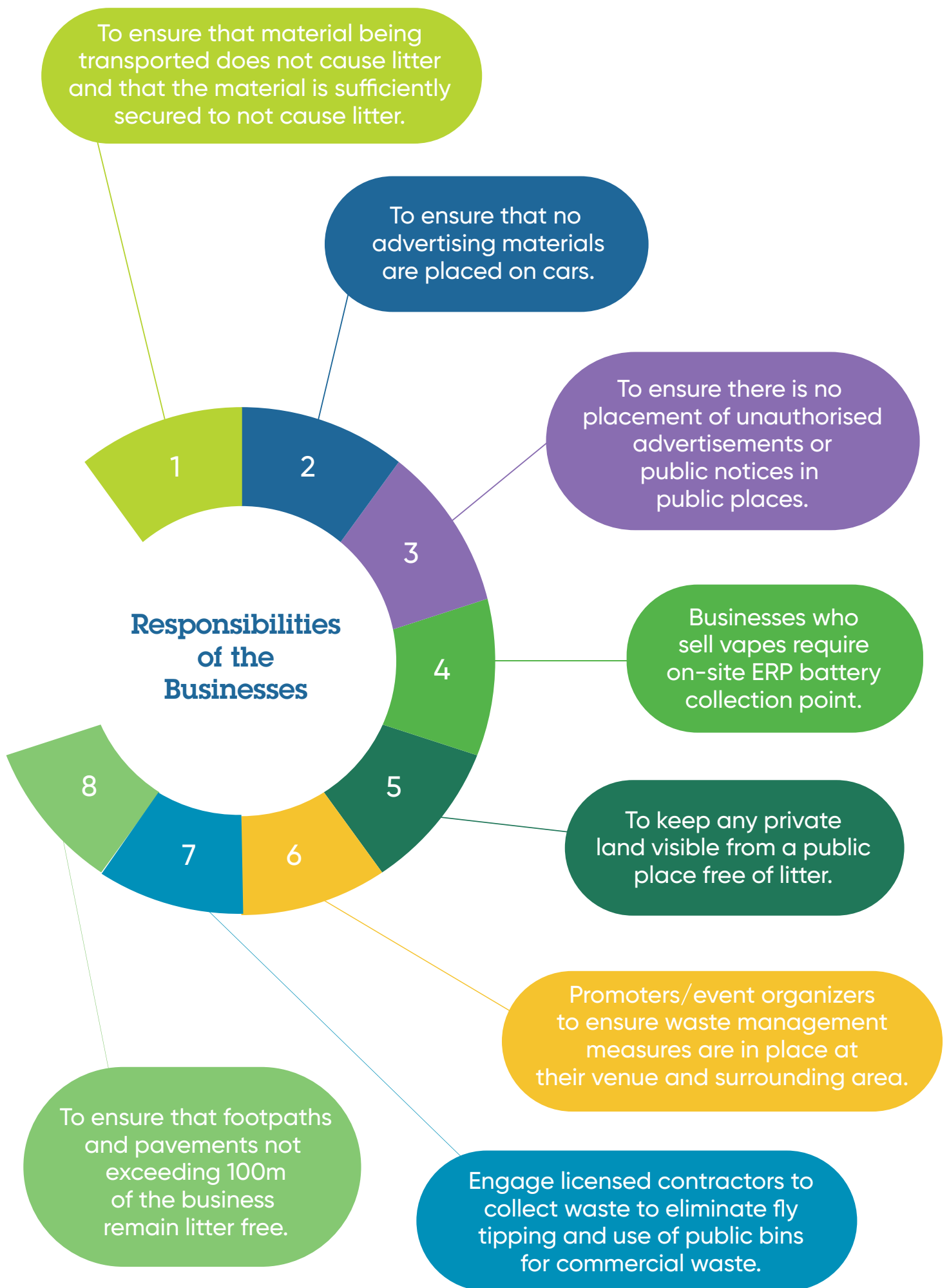
## 2.3 Who is responsible for the prevention of litter

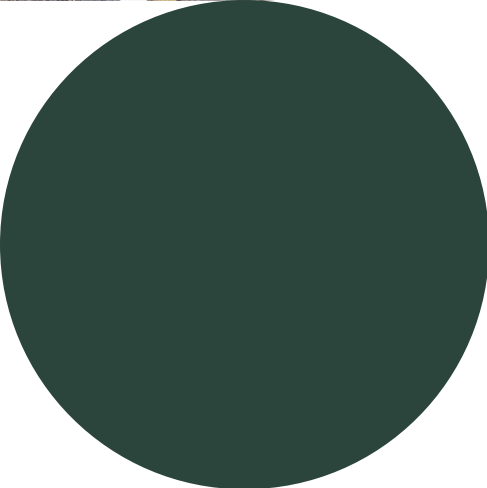
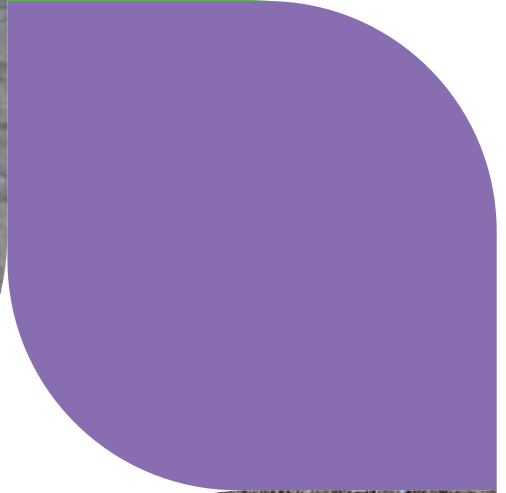
There is a shared responsibility for tackling litter. The Local Authority, public and businesses each have a part to play. The diagrams below outline the:

- Responsibilities of Local Authority
- Responsibilities of The Public
- Responsibilities of Businesses











**“We are all responsible  
for litter management”**

# Overview of Litter Management Plan 2021-2024

## Existing litter prevention and control programmes

### 3.1 Dedicated Litter Wardens

Our dedicated litter warden offers significant advantages for Monaghan County Council in maintaining a cleaner, more attractive environment.

- Their visible presence acts as a powerful deterrent against littering, while enabling consistent enforcement of local regulations through on-the-spot fines and warnings.
- Engages directly with the community, educating residents and businesses on responsible waste disposal and promoting anti-litter initiatives.
- Provides valuable data on litter hotspots allowing the Council to target resources more effectively.
- Through regular monitoring and enforcement, our litter warden helps reduce clean-up costs, enhances public spaces, and supports Monaghan's reputation as a welcoming and environmentally conscious county.

### 3.2 Programmes/Initiatives

Monaghan Co. Council supports several initiatives aimed at students and the wider community to create awareness around the damaging effects of litter.

#### 3.2.1 Green Schools Programme

Monaghan County Council participates in the Green Schools Programme. The programme is operated and coordinated by the Environmental Education Unit of An Taisce (FEE member of Ireland). It promotes long term, whole-school action for the environment. The theme for the first flag award is litter and waste, with subsequent environmental themes on a rolling two-year programme. This seven-step environmental programme is an excellent way for Monaghan County Council to encourage environmental education among young people led by the Environmental Awareness Officer.



An Taisce -  
the National  
Trust for  
Ireland



### 3.2.2 Picker Pals Programme

For the first time in 2024, Monaghan Co. Council has engaged with this programme, with participation from 22 schools. The programme is aimed at 6–9 year olds and is focused on stewardship, learning and fun. Picker Pals engages children to become aware of litter and its negative impacts through a colourful character-led world of activity books, environmental readers, songs and storytelling.

It empowers action by providing unique upcycled Picker Packs to classrooms. These contain childfriendly litter-picking equipment and enable children and their families to make a real impact in their local areas.

It also celebrates Picker Pals' actions by telling stories of their litter-picking adventures thereby building a community of young environmentalists around the world. Ongoing interaction with participating classrooms through Picker Pals TV, competitions and other events ensures long-term motivation and behavioural change in children and their families.

### 3.2.3 Dog Fouling & The Green Dog Walker Initiative



Dog fouling in towns and villages has become an increasing litter issue over many years. Not only is dog fouling unsightly, but it poses a health and safety risk to many, particularly those who use wheelchairs, pushchairs and prams. Addressing the issue of dogs being let out unaccompanied is challenging unless the owner can be identified and subsequently visited by the Dog Warden. Under the **Control of Dogs Act 1986**, it is illegal to allow a dog to roam without supervision.

The Green Dog Walker initiative is a community-led project aimed at fostering responsible dog ownership while promoting a cleaner and healthier county. The initiative encourages dog walkers not only to clean up after their pets but also to carry extra waste bags to share with other dog owners, helping address the ongoing issue of dog fouling in public spaces.

This initiative aims to create cleaner, greener, and more pleasant communities by emphasising the importance of shared responsibility for public spaces.

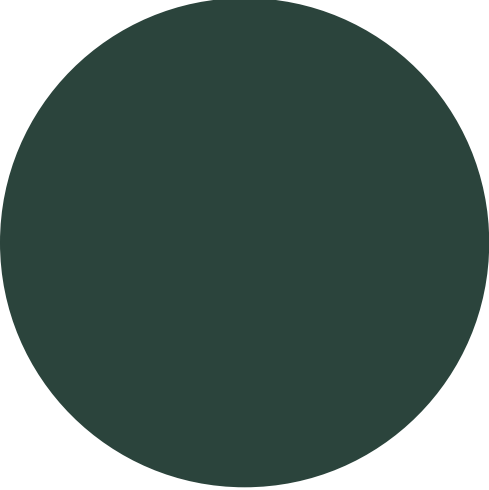
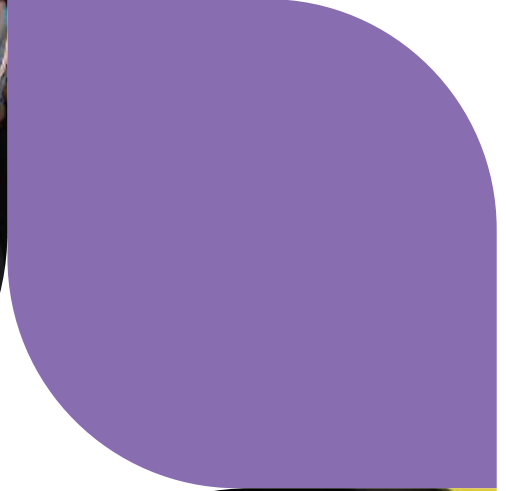
Monaghan County Council has installed 51 dog foul bin dispensers at various locations throughout the county and plans to add more in future development phases.

### 3.2.4 Cigarettes and Vaping

Cigarettes and vaping remain a significant issue, especially in urban areas. The rise of single use vapes and vape sticks on bins is a notable new phenomenon. Monaghan County Council supports initiatives across the county to tackle vape disposal through awareness campaigns and working within the community to identify black spots and to implement innovative solutions.



(Vape Bin Initiative 2024 - Clones Youth Group)



### 3.3 Establishment of Reverse Register

Household and commercial waste management is an enforcement priority for Monaghan County Council. All households and commercial premises are obliged to manage their waste responsibly. Premises who do not participate in a waste collection service (through a contract with an authorised waste collector or through approved bin-sharing arrangements) or dispose of their waste directly at an authorised waste facility are committing an offence under the Monaghan County Council (Segregation, Storage and Presentation of Household and Commercial Waste) Bye Laws 2019. Section 34C (7) of the Waste Management Act 1996, as amended, requires local authorities to maintain a register of people availing a household and commercial waste collection service.

The establishment and maintenance of a Section 34C (7) Register, which contains data on households and commercial premises availing of a waste collection service, will be used to assist in the establishment of a Section 34C (9) Register, which contains data on those not availing of a waste collection service. Both registers will be used to inform awareness programs and potential enforcement proceedings under the Monaghan County Council (Segregation, Storage and Presentation of Household and Commercial Waste) Bye Laws 2019.

### 3.4 Street Cleaning Municipal District Areas

A street cleaning schedule is in place for the larger towns, i.e. Monaghan, Carrickmacross, Castleblayney, Clones and Ballybay. Each Municipal District Area Office decides on their local street cleaning schedule and works within the constraints of the annual budget. Monaghan County Council spent €1,081,196 in 2024 and €1,018,655 in 2025.

### 3.5 Litter Bins in Municipal District Towns and Villages

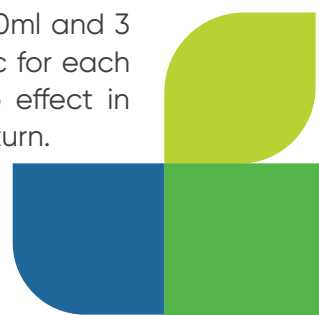
Litter Bins are serviced in each town and village by various arrangements depending on the locality. Some communities manage their own local street bins through various funding streams, while others are managed by the Local Authority.

### 3.6 Financial Resources for Communities

Monaghan County Council supports communities who tackle litter in their communities and several groups around the county take on the responsibility of looking after bins in areas where the Council is unable to provide such a service. These groups are supported by their local MD and they have opportunities to draw down funds through Council grants.

### 3.7 The Deposit Return Scheme (DRS)

The Deposit Return Scheme aims to boost the recycling rate for drinks containers by charging a small, refundable deposit for each plastic bottle or can at point of sale. The Scheme includes PET plastic bottles and aluminium and steel cans between 150ml and 3 litres. A deposit of 15c applies to containers 500mls or less and a deposit of 25c for each container above 500ml. The Scheme is operated by Re-turn and came into effect in February 2024. All producers and retailers are legally obliged to register with Re-turn.



If a container does not have a Re-turn logo on it, it should be recycled as normal. Containers can be returned to any shop that sells drink containers with the Re-turn logo, regardless of where it was purchased. At these shops, you can return the containers by:

- Use a Reverse Vending Machine (RVM) or;
- Manually in the shop (not all shops will have a RVM machine). If a shop does not have a RVM but they sell containers with the Re-turn logo, the shop must allow you to manually return containers in the shop.

### 3.8 Scattered Litter on Busy Roads

Scattered litter is visually obtrusive, potentially harmful to wildlife and is often dangerous to remove due to its occurrence on the sides of busy roads. Bulky goods can block drains leading to surface flooding on rural roads while plastic litter can pose a threat to wildlife.

Annual litter picking along the N2 is carried out by contractors appointed by Monaghan County Council and consists of the following:

- Two litter picking visits annually to the road network, to coincide with verge cutting.
- Three litter picking visits annually to each of the roundabouts, to coincide with the general maintenance of the roundabouts.
- On the regional road network junctions have verges cut and litter picked on an annual basis.

### 3.9 Illegal Dumping

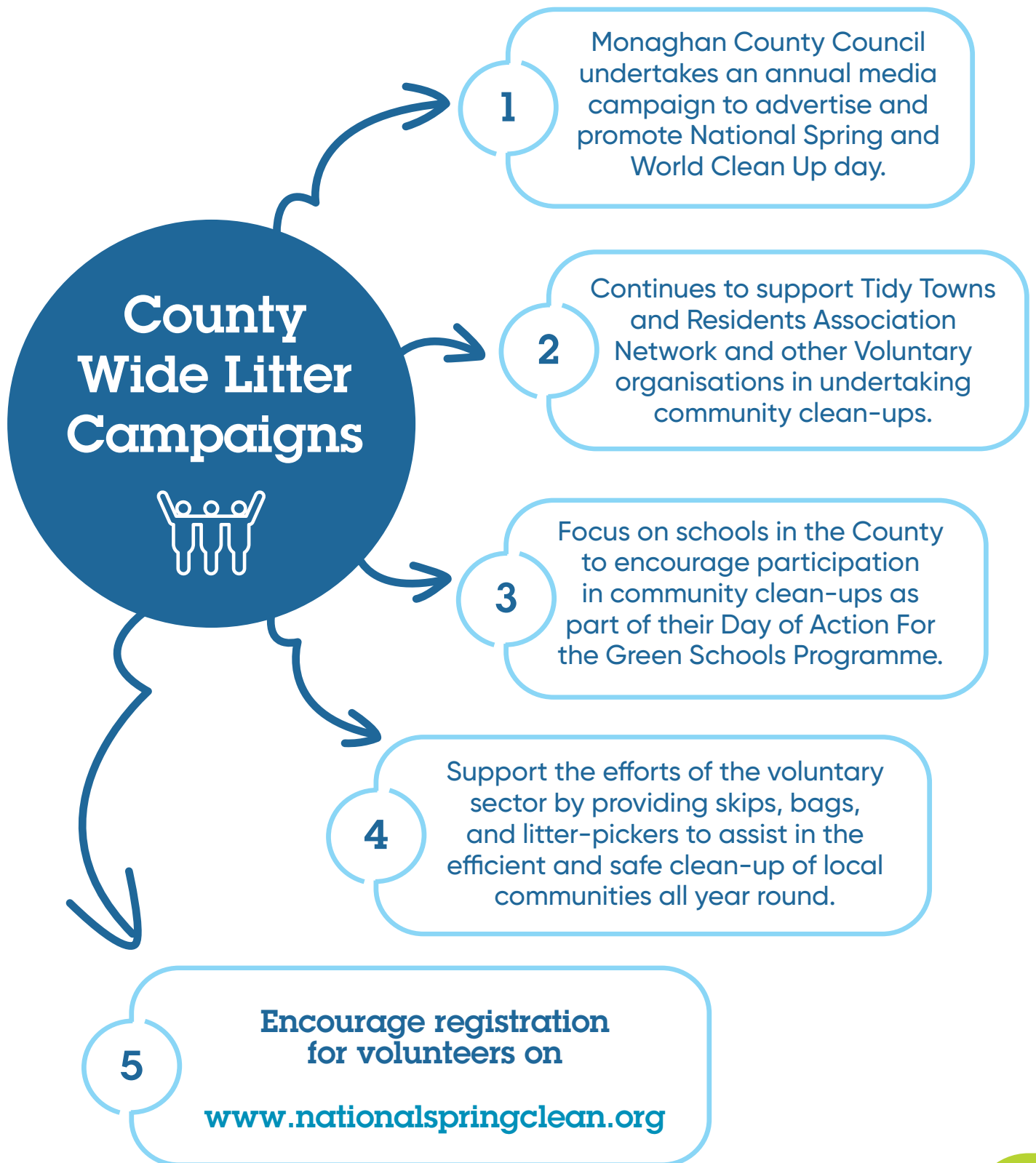
Monaghan County Council's enforcement team has strengthened its capability to tackle illegal dumping through funding provided by central government for waste enforcement inspectors. This financial support, delivered under national waste enforcement structures and coordinated by the Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment, ensures that local authorities can retain a network of trained officers dedicated to monitoring compliance and addressing breaches of waste legislation.

Combined with advanced technology and community- driven initiatives such as "See Something? Say Something!", this funding enables Monaghan to respond swiftly and effectively to illegal dumping, safeguarding the environment and public health.



### 3.10 County Wide Litter Campaigns

Monaghan County Council runs community initiatives throughout the year to combat litter and implements a range of measures aimed at raising public awareness about litter prevention.



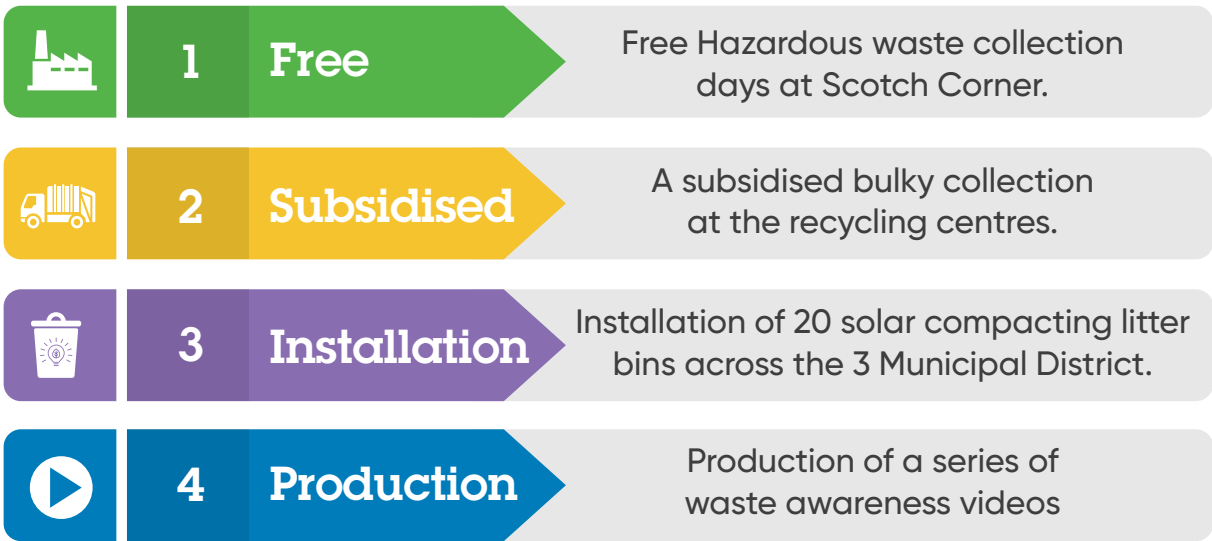
### 3.11 The National Spring Clean

National Spring Clean is Ireland’s most popular, well recognised and successful anti-litter initiative. Taking place during the whole month of April, the campaign encourages every sector of society to actively participate and take responsibility for litter by conducting clean ups in their own local environment. Monaghan County Council can provide skips free of charge during this month, to assist large groups to clean up their estate or locality. Monaghan County Council offer litter pickers and bags also to groups within the county. To avail of this, communities must be registered with [www.nationalspringclean.org](http://www.nationalspringclean.org).

### 3.12 Anti-Dumping Initiatives

The Environment Services Section secures annual funding through the Anti-Dumping Initiative to support a variety of environmental projects. It is anticipated that funding will continue to be available under this initiative throughout the 2026–2029 Litter Management Plan, and the Council will submit an annual application for the maximum allocation. Between 2021 and 2024, over €400,000 was secured under the previous Litter Management Plan through the Anti-Dumping Initiative, enabling the delivery of numerous environmental projects.

#### Anti-Dumping initiatives



### 3.13 Green your Festival Initiative

The Environment Section has introduced the Green your Festival Initiative which sets up the following steps to make your festival more sustainable.

- Implement measures such as providing clearly marked recycling and compost bins throughout the venue
- Encouraging vendors to use biodegradable or reusable packaging,
- Introducing a “bring your own bottle” policy supported by free water refill stations.
- Partner with local waste management services to ensure proper disposal and recycling
- Additionally, event organisers engage attendees through social media campaigns that highlight the green initiatives of the festival / event, fostering a culture of environmental responsibility.



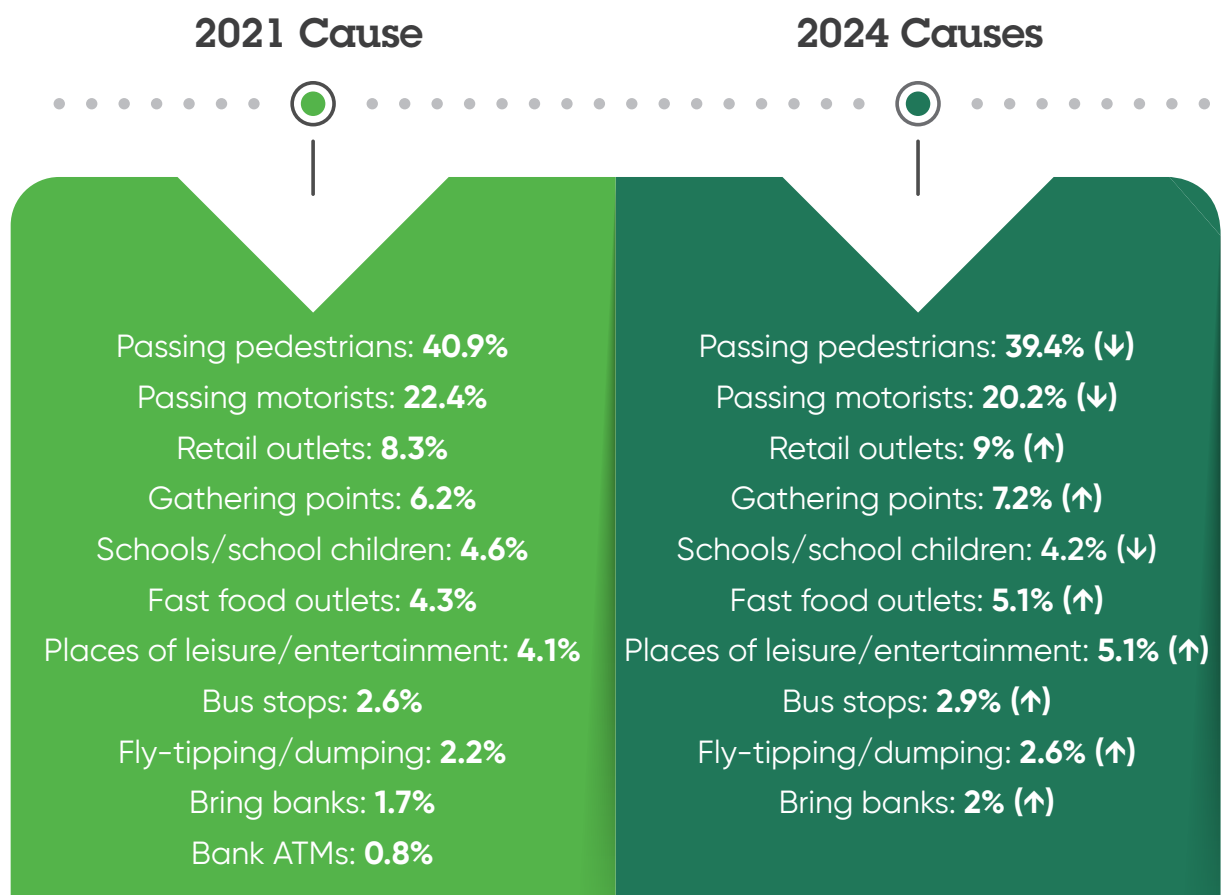
**“See Something?  
Say Something!”**

# Measuring Progress 2021-2025

## 4.1 National Litter Pollution Monitoring System (NLPMS)

The purpose of the NLPMS is to assess the extent and composition of Litter Pollution. It is a decision-making tool, giving Local Authorities a picture of litter pollution in their functional areas, allowing them to adapt anti-litter measures to address the problems and evaluate the effectiveness of the measures. The Litter Pollution Surveys and Litter Quantification Surveys will continue to be conducted annually to assess the effectiveness of the measures implemented to tackle litter pollution and to highlight current issues as they arise.

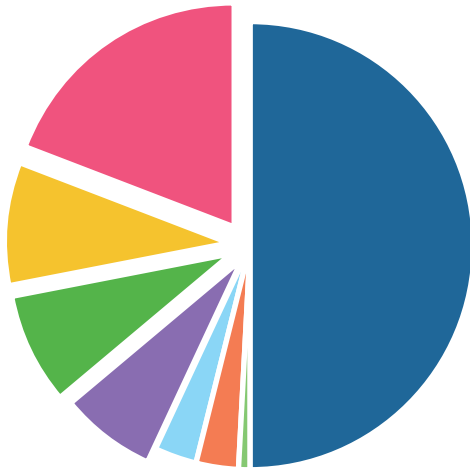
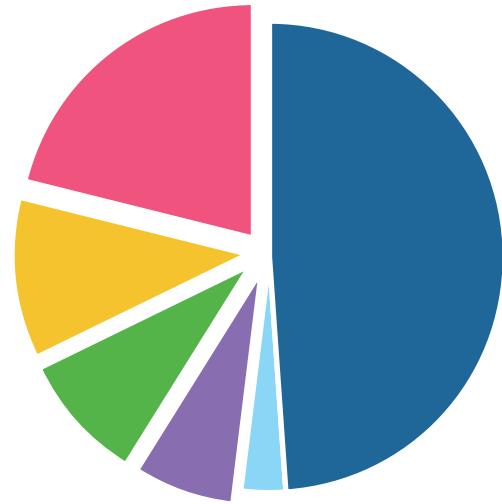
Here's a comparison of the **main causes of litter pollution** between 2021 and 2024:



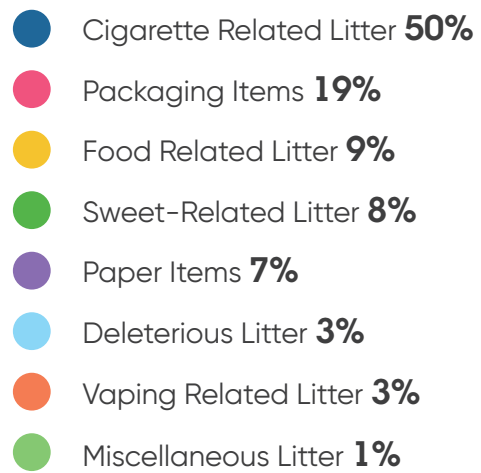
### Key Observations

- **Pedestrians and motorists** remain the top causes, but both decreased slightly.
- **Retail outlets, gathering points, leisure places, and fast-food outlets** all increased.
- **Fly-tipping/dumping** rose from 2.2% to 2.6%.

## 2021 Litter Constituents



## 2024 Litter Constituents



## Key Observations

- **Cigarette-related litter** dominates both years (48.4% → 49.5%).
- **Packaging items** slightly decreased (20.4% → 19%).
- **Food-related litter** dropped from 11.2% to 8.7%.

### New category in 2024:

- **Vaping-related litter** (2%)



## 4.2 Tidy Town Forum (Community Engagement)

Tidy Towns Committees in County Monaghan have a long tradition of participating in the SuperValu Tidy Towns Competitions. Our Tidy Towns committees around the county work tirelessly in enhancing the appearance of towns and villages.

The table below shows the percentage improvement of each Tidy Town Group that has entered 3 or more times in the period 2021 – 2025.

TT Group	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Growth Rate (%)
Oram	209	217	227	240	250	19.6%
Killeevan	215	223	231	246	256	19.1%
Smithborough	213	221	229	242	251	17.8%
Doohamlet	237	246	253	265	276	16.5%
Monaghan	335	346	356	371	386	15.2%
Knockatallon	213	221	228	234	240	12.7%
Carrickmacross	347	356	365	376	389	12.1%
Emyvale	282	289	297	306	316	12.1%
Ballinode	309	314	321	334	346	12.0%
Glaslough	352	361	373	381	393	11.6%
Tydavnet	305	312	318	329	339	11.1%
Greenans Cross	268	275	280	287	295	10.1%
Castleblayney	312	320	326	333	342	9.6%
Ballybay	268	276		285	293	9.3%
Clones	304	311	318	325	332	9.2%
Scotstown	290	298	304	309	316	9.0%
Inniskeen	318	325	332	337	344	8.2%
Ballyoisin	225	231	237	243		8.0%
Ardaghey	306	310	316	322	329	7.5%
Scotsthouse		287	294	301		4.9%
Drum			307	313	319	3.9%

Each entrant is assessed under eight criteria with a total of 550 marks available as above.

As you can see from the Table above the overall trend for each Tidy Town group is on an upward trajectory which is a fantastic testament to all involved in their community over a 5-year period from 2021 – 2025.

2 New Entrants in 2025 were Lough Egish with a score of 231 and Rockcorry with a score of 297.

For more information please go to: [Historic Reports – SuperValu Tidy Towns Competition](#)

Results achieved during the previous Litter Management Plan 2021–2023 are outlined below:

**Tidy Town Results in 2021**

**Glaslough – Cat B**

- County First & Gold Medal
- Northwest Regional Award
- Inaugural winner of the Young Persons in Tidy Towns Award

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**Carrickmacross – Cat E**

- County Second & Gold Medal
- National Most Innovate Project Award

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**Monaghan Town – Cat E**

- County Third & Silver Medal

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Endeavour Award – **Smithborough**

**Tidy Town Results in 2022**

**Glaslough – Cat B**

- County First & Gold Medal

---

**Carrickmacross – Cat E**

- County Second & Gold Medal

---

**Monaghan Town – Cat E**

- County Third & Silver Medal

---

Endeavour Award – **Oram**

**Tidy Town Results in 2023**

**Glaslough – Cat B**

- County First & Gold Medal

---

**Carrickmacross – Cat E**

- County Second & Gold Medal

---

**Monaghan Town – Cat E**

- County Third & Silver Medal

---

Endeavour Award – **Oram**

**Tidy Town Results in 2024**

**Glaslough – Cat B**

- County First & Gold Medal

---

**Carrickmacross – Cat E**

- County Second & Gold Medal

---

**Monaghan Town – Cat E**

- County Third & Gold Medal

---

Endeavour Award – **Killeevan**

**Tidy Town Results in 2025**

**Glaslough – Cat B**

- County First & Gold Medal

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**Carrickmacross – Cat E**

- County Second & Gold Medal

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**Monaghan Town – Cat E**

- County Third & Gold Medal

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Endeavour Award – **Oram**

## Prize Structure

- Endeavour Awards are for the biggest improvement by an entrant in each county from the previous year.
- County Awards for the top three entrants in each county.
- Regional Awards for the top-scoring entrant in each region.
- Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals for entrants with scores that fall within a set range from that year's winning score.
- Category Awards for the highest scoring entrants in the Village, Small Town, Large Town and Large Urban Centre categories.
- Ireland's Tidiest Town Award for the highest scoring entrant in the whole competition.



**Co. Monaghan's Towns & Villages compete in the following Categories depending on their population size**

<p><b>Ireland's Tidiest Village</b></p>	<p>= Population Categories – A&amp;B</p>	<p>Population Category A = Under 200 Population Category B = 201 to 1,000</p>
<p><b>Ireland's Tidiest Small Town</b></p>	<p>= Population Categories – C&amp;D</p>	<p>Population Category C = 1,001 to 2,500 Population Category D = 2,501 to 5,000</p>
<p><b>Ireland's Tidiest Large Town</b></p>	<p>= Population Categories –E&amp;F</p>	<p>Population Category E = 5,001 to 10,000 Population Category F = 10,001 to 15,000</p>

For more information on Judging categories please go to:  
[\*\*TidyTowns Results Book - SuperValu TidyTowns Competition\*\*](#)

For more information previous scores please go to:  
[\*\*Historic Reports - SuperValu TidyTowns Competition\*\*](#)





**“Community initiatives helping to create awareness around the damaging effects of litter.”**



5.0

# Challenges and Future Solutions

Litter continues to be a national issue that requires a consistent and concentrated approach to address it effectively. This is no different in County Monaghan and litter continues to be a challenge locally. Litter contributes to the degradation of our local environment. As a visible blight on the landscape, it erodes the sense of pride and connection that community members share. The cost of dealing with litter is a very significant drain on local funds and human resources. Most of the people in Monaghan are actively committed to the prevention and eradication of litter in our rural communities, urban towns and our natural environment. Litter can make our county less attractive for leisure, tourism, and investment. Beyond the immediate visual impact, a litter-free community promotes a sense of wellbeing, pride, and belonging. Residents working together to combat litter contribute not only to the improvement of their surroundings but also to the creation of a thriving and interconnected community with a sense of shared ownership and responsibility.

This challenge is best addressed by a partnership approach involving all key stakeholders in society in raising awareness of litter and its effects. In tandem, the Council must review and enhance, where necessary, its own role in litter prevention and control. There is a growing awareness of the importance of keeping our county litter free, but there is still a need to change attitudes and behaviour to recognise that littering is antisocial and can cause harm to water courses, animals and wildlife.

Co-operation and joint working with communities is key to the objectives of this plan being achieved. Monaghan County Council has built many successful partnerships over the years and will continue to foster these relationships into the future. The invaluable contribution made by Voluntary and Community Groups, Schools, Tidy Towns, Residents' Associations, Businesses, Statutory Agencies and proactive individuals who play a fundamental role in preserving our county's natural environment, must be acknowledged.



Change can be achieved by the heightening awareness of littering, its causes, and its consequences, along with enforcement through on-the-spot fines and prosecutions. It is essential that all sectors (e.g., residential, commercial and community) work with Monaghan County Council to ensure that the streets, footpaths and roadways in our towns, villages and county are kept clean and attractive.

The Plan seeks to achieve a continued reduction of the litter pollution levels throughout the county. Performance will be monitored through a yearly review of the National Litter Pollution Monitoring System as referred to in Section 4.1 above and reviewing Monaghan County Council Key Performance Indicators.

Monaghan County Council has identified the following as being challenging issues:

## Principal Litter Challenges Identified

Litter Challenge	Action required
 <p><b>Illegal dumping in the countryside including bogs, mountain sides, rivers, and forests</b></p>	Enforcement action coupled with the involvement of local communities is required in dealing with litter black spots. Where appropriate, assess the suitability of CCTV in line with Monaghan County Council's Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Assessment of Sites for Overt CCTV Installation in specific designated locations to aid in the detection and prosecution of offences. Build partnership with the Conservation Ranger within NPWS.
 <p><b>Dog fouling is problematic along some walking routes and in some housing estates</b></p>	Education and awareness campaigns coupled with enforcement along with the involvement of local communities to identify and report those responsible is required in dealing with dog fouling
 <p><b>Passing motorists and pedestrians fly tipping litter</b></p>	Target motorists and pedestrians with messages via social media, local radio, and visible litter and traffic wardens
 <p><b>Litter from convenience food outlets</b></p>	Engagement with the business community to develop an integrated plan to prevent large amounts of packaging litter that is being discarded.
 <p><b>Cigarette &amp; Vaping litter outside commercial outlets</b></p>	Engagement with businesses and the public to reduce cigarette and vape related litter in the county.
 <p><b>Chewing Gum</b></p>	Engagement with businesses and the public to reduce chewing gum related litter in the county.



# Objectives and Actions for the Litter Management Plan 2026-2029

The main objectives of the Litter Management Plan are:

- Education and Awareness Programmes
- Partnership and Community Support
- Local Authority Litter Prevention and Control Actions
- Enforcement and Regulation

## Education and Awareness

**To educate and raise awareness of the effects of litter on the environment Monaghan County Council will:**

- Communicate anti-litter messages via public campaigns.
- Continue to support Green Schools Programme and work with youth programmes to communicate the anti-litter message.
- Implement waste prevention campaigns that support circular economy initiatives.
- Liaise with stakeholders with common interests to combat litter collectively and to increase access to litter awareness information for all sections in society i.e. easy to read form, other languages and formats.
- Use the National Litter Monitoring System to inform priorities for annual education and awareness campaign(s).
- Continue to update the Environment Page of the Monaghan County Council website on all matters relating to Environment.
- Encourage multi agency cooperation, shared learning and partnership to positively impact on litter amongst both the business and community sectors to deliver a litter-free Monaghan.
- Ensure all businesses are aware of their legal responsibilities in relation to litter within the curtilage of their premises, and litter created by their customers.



## Partnership and Community Support

**To work with community groups, Tidy Towns committees, residents' associations, local businesses, voluntary sector and the education sector in encouraging and implementing programmes and anti-litter initiatives.**

Monaghan County Council recognises that local community engagement is a key driver for change in delivering both prevention and control of litter. We aim to work with citizens to facilitate their engagement as equal partners in tackling the challenges presented by littering and dumping in our communities. Working with local groups ensures that communities can play a key role in tackling the issues associated with litter. Action at community level is essential to ensure that prevention and control can reach all communities of County Monaghan and engage all sectors of society.

#### **Monaghan County Council will:**

- Actively encourage and support participation of residents' associations, estate management groups and other voluntary groups in anti-litter actions, initiatives and programmes.
- Continue to liaise with community groups on grants available towards anti-litter actions initiatives and programmes.
- Assist community and business groups in their clean-up campaigns, i.e. through provision of equipment, coordination of disposal, promotion of campaigns, and acknowledgement of efforts.
- Support Tidy Town entrants and proactive community groups and continue to support the Tidy Towns Forum.
- Continue to work with businesses and traders on the development of local anti-litter programmes and Green initiatives ie Monaghan Green Business Hub.
- Provide materials for the National Spring Clean Campaign, and other clean-up events through Big Monaghan Clean Up.
- Support the efforts of the Housing Section to engage residents' associations in management of litter on their estates.

### **Local Authority Litter Prevention and Control Actions**

To deliver an efficient and comprehensive litter control programme throughout the County.

#### **Monaghan County Council will:**

- Encourage the reporting of illegal dumping and littering via the confidential litter line 1800 200 014 and using the [litter@monaghancoco.ie](mailto:litter@monaghancoco.ie).
- Communicate clearly the steps involved in making a complaint – Appendix 2.
- Provide high visibility county wide of the Litter Warden service.
- Implement an efficient street cleaning and litter bins emptying programme.
- Ensure prompt investigation of all litter related complaints.
- Conduct litter surveys in accordance with the National Litter Monitoring Scheme.
- Ensure work practices by Monaghan County Council do not contribute to litter.
- Monitor and address litter blackspots arising in our towns and villages.
- Ensure adequate servicing and cleaning of existing bring facilities to encourage use.
- Co-ordinate waste prevention measures to limit the amount of litter being generated by promoting schemes such as reusable drink bottles and the placement of public water fountains when infrastructure is being developed.
- Implement a programme of verge cutting and litter picks on the National road network.
- MCC's "Green your Festival" policy encourages both festival organisers and attendees to reduce the environmental impact of events by minimising waste, using reusable items, and making sustainable choices.



## Enforcement and Regulation

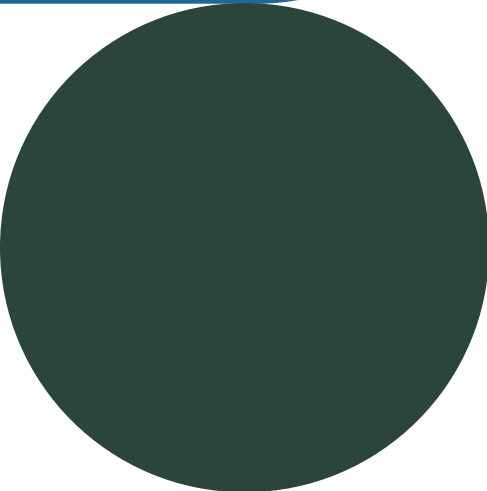
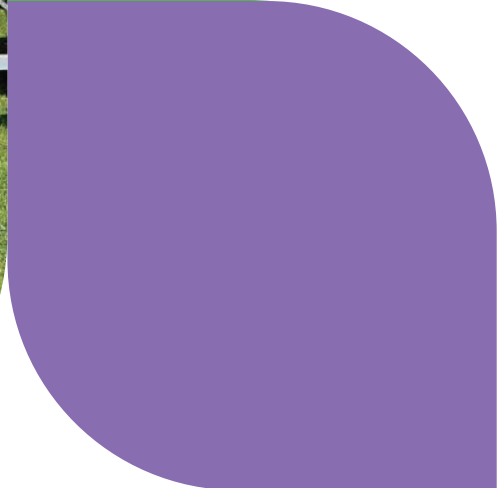
**To implement a consistent and coordinated approach to the enforcement of litter pollution legislation to prevent and control litter and illegal dumping.**

Preventing litter at its source is fundamental to achieving a litter-free county and remains a key priority for Monaghan County Council. Addressing this challenge requires a collective effort, as no single organisation can accomplish it alone. As the authority responsible for enforcing the Litter Pollution Act, Monaghan County Council is committed to leveraging its regulatory powers to hold offenders accountable.

### **Monaghan County Council will:**

- Issue Litter Fines and prosecute offenders under relevant legislation.
- Take enforcement action against illegal waste collectors.
- Conduct Household Waste Surveys, utilising Reverse Registers, to enforce compliance with the County Monaghan (Segregation, Storage and Presentation of Household and Commercial Waste) Bye-laws, 2019.
- Utilise CCTV in compliance with legislation, to enhance enforcement.
- Tackle the issue of dog fouling with enforcement and where appropriate, the provision of bins and the promotion of the Green Dog Walker programme.
- Increase the usage of technology including smart phones, tablets, applications, and data collection systems to improve the success of enforcement, monitoring and action against offenders.







# Review & Monitoring

The actions set out in this plan will be reviewed by the Environment Services Section and a Litter Activity Report in accordance with Section 10 of the Litter Pollution Act 1997 (as amended), will be presented to the Council annually via the Chief Executive's (CE) Report.

## Key Performance Indicators 2026 – 2029

The Key Performance Indicators regarding Monaghan's Litter Management are:

- 1. Number of litter complaints received and investigated annually.**
- 2. Number of litter fines issued each year.**
- 3. Number of litter fines paid each year.**
- 4. Number of prosecutions.**
- 5. Performance in annual litter surveys.**
- 6. Performance in annual Tidy Towns competition.**
- 7. Performance in annual IBAL monitoring.**
- 8. Tonnage collected during Spring Clean month.**
- 9. Expenditure incurred on litter-related activities, such as ALAG funding and MD Sweeping & Scavenging Budget.**
- 10. Number of campaigns and initiatives supported by the Environmental Awareness Officer.**

# Services and Facilities Provided by Monaghan County Council

## Recycling Centres

There are 2 Civic Amenity sites in County Monaghan located at **Scotch Corner Recycling Centre** and **Carrickmacross Recycling Centre**.

A full list of authorised waste collectors is available at [www.nwcpc.ie](http://www.nwcpc.ie)

Both facilities take cardboard, plastic, newspapers, magazines, books, glass, aluminum cans, textiles, tins, batteries, green waste, scrap metal, fluorescent tubes, waste oils, wood, waste electrical equipment, builders' rubble, and waste fuel filters.

## List of Bring Bank Sites in County Monaghan

Monaghan Co. Council also provides 24 bring bank facilities at the following locations around the County – See Appendix 1.

## Conclusion

In conclusion, the 3-year litter management plan for Co. Monaghan aligns with all relevant legislation and requirements, aiming to effectively address littering issues while promoting a sustainable and environmentally friendly approach.

The Plan incorporates various strategies to tackle litter problems, including public awareness campaigns, educational programmes, continued maintenance and enhanced waste collection and recycling infrastructure and strict enforcement measures. These measures are designed to not only alleviate the immediate littering problem but also to foster a culture of responsible waste management and resource conservation among the county's residents and visitors.

Furthermore, the plan acknowledges the importance of collaboration and partnership with local stakeholders, businesses, community groups and relevant governmental agencies. By encouraging co-operation and engaging all members of society, the plan aims to foster a sense of ownership and collective responsibility towards keeping Monaghan County clean and litter-free.



# Appendices

## Appendix 1 – List of Bring Bank Sites in County Monaghan

<i>Number Sites</i>	<i>Location - *Sites are subject to change</i>	<i>Total No. of Banks</i>
1	Aghabog – Catholic Church Car Park	7
2	Ballybay- Entrance to Mart	6
3	Carrickmacross – Rear of SuperValu	10
4	Carrickroe – Catholic Church Car Park	6
5	Castleblayney Town – Commons Car Park	10
6	Clones – 98 Avenue Council Car Park	11
7	Clones – Rear of Apple Green	8
8	Clontibret – Catholic Church Car Park	4
9	Crescent Hill Bottle Bank, Castleblayney	8
10	Emyvale – Rear of Community Centre	12
11	Glaslough Community Centre	7
12	Inniskeen	8
13	Latton – Catholic Church Car Park	7
14	Lisdoonan	5
15	Monaghan Town – Cortolvin Resource Centre	8
16	Monaghan Town – Glaslough Street Car Park	5
17	Monaghan Town – Shopping Centre Car Park	7
18	Mullan Village	4
19	Newbliss – Village Carpark	6
20	Oram – GAA pitch	6
21	Scotshouse – Housing Estate	5
22	Scotstown – Rear of Catholic Church	9
23	Sloan’s Shop, Monaghan town	7
24	Tydavnet Community Centre	7



## Appendix 2 – How to Make a Litter Complaint

The public can contact Monaghan County Council to report littering, illegal waste activity, water pollution and air and noise complaints.

Such complaints or reports can be lodged via the following means.

- **By email** – for litter related complaints please email the litter team directly on [litter@monaghancoco.ie](mailto:litter@monaghancoco.ie)  
For all other complaints such as illegal waste activity, air and noise complaints, and water pollution complaints or incidents please email [envservices@monaghancoco.ie](mailto:envservices@monaghancoco.ie)
- **By Telephone** – You can report environmental complaints by contacting the Environment Services Section directly on 042 9661240.
- **Confidential Freephone:** – Environmental complaints can also be lodged by phoning our confidential Freephone Number 1800 200 014. (note this is an answering machine, but we listen to messages daily).
- **In person:** The public is welcome to make an environmental complaint in person. The offices of the Environment Services section are located in the Carrickmacross Civic Offices, Riverside Road, Carrickmacross, Co. Monaghan, A81 RY22.
- **Using the online Complaints Form** – An environmental complaint can be submitted by using the online form below. You can now upload photographs in support of your complaint. Photographs may include screenshots of maps where the incident took place, or photos of the littering, dumping or pollution incident.

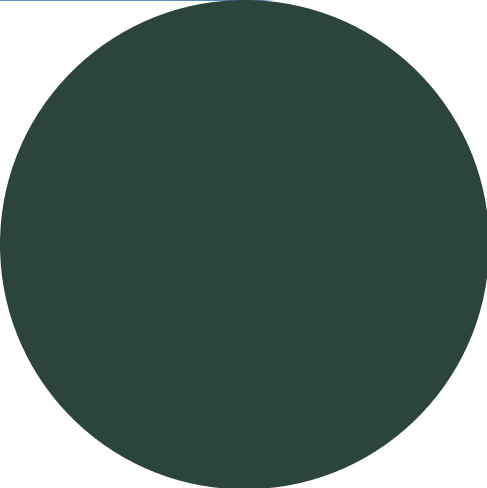
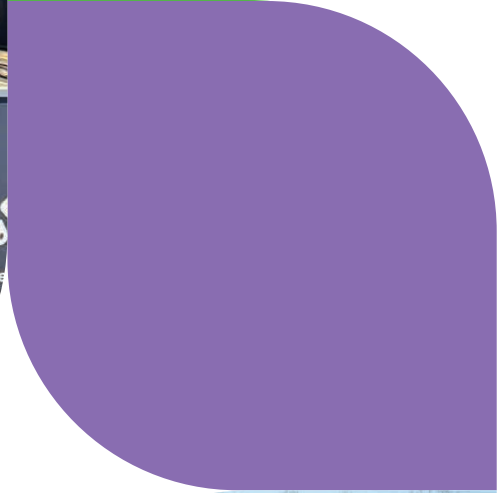
To make a complaint, please click on the link below:

[Environment / Litter Complain](#)

Please Note that when making a Litter Complaint to Monaghan County Council try to include as much information as possible, such as:

1. **Name of area where the incident has occurred.**
2. **Clear Directions to the site in question.**
3. **Eircode if known or site coordinates if known**
4. **Details of those allegedly responsible.**







Comhairle Contae Mhúineacháin  
Monaghan County Council