



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Water Action Plan 2024

A River Basin Management
Plan for Ireland

Appendix 2: Programme of Measures - List of Measures

Prepared by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage
www.gov.ie/RBMP

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1. The Importance of Protecting our Natural Water

Action 1.1		Integrated catchment management approaches will be used to identify and decide on further specific measures for each water body, where they are required in addition to those set in this plan. These will be included in the 46 Catchment Management Work Plans, which will be used to locate measures within each catchment. The co-benefits of water-focused measures on climate and biodiversity will also be identified.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Coordination of the Sectoral Action Work Plans and subsequent CM Work Plans	Coordinated approach to the preparation of the CM Work Plans	Ongoing	LAWPRO	All Sectors / DHLGH / AFU / EPA	Engagement by all sectors. Adequate resources in place.
Each Sector to include proposed measures within the Sectoral Action Work Plan	List of proposed measures included in the sectoral action work plans and then in the specific catchment management work plan	Q4 2024	Each Sector	LAWPRO / DHLGH / AFU / EPA	Engagement by all sectors. Adequate resources in place.
Measures implemented by each sector to be reported at least at a water body scale	List of measures implemented in each water body by sector	Ongoing as implemented	Each Sector	LAWPRO / DHLGH / AFU / EPA	Engagement by all sectors. Adequate resources in place. Data management system in place to capture implemented measures.
Action 1.2		The Catchment Management Work Plans will include the list of water bodies, their associated status, significant pressures/issues and targeted measures, along with outcomes-based targets for the third-cycle and key performance indicators to monitor progress and outcomes. Justification for water bodies not meeting their WFD objective by 2027 should also be included in catchment management plans, in line with Article 4 of the WFD.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Coordination of the preparation of the 46 CMWP through Regional Committees	46 Management Work Plans (CMWP) prepared	Ongoing	LAWPRO	DHLGH / EPA / LAs / An Fóram Uisce / Regional Committees / Project Delivery Office	Adequate resources in place for LAWPRO and coordination aspects of CMWP. Meaningful engagement by stakeholders
Dissemination of the Catchment Management Work Plans template to enable content provision by implementing bodies and community input over time	Template disseminated	Q4 2024	LAWPRO	EPA	Adequate resources in place for LAWPRO and coordination aspects of CMWP

Implementing bodies to provide Work Programmes / Action Plans/ Local Authority Water Action Plans (in the required format) for online reporting in the 46 Catchment Management Work Plans (CMWPs)	CMWP	Ongoing	All implementing bodies including LAs	LAWPRO / EPA / Project Delivery Office / CCMA / Regional Committees / NTIG	Data available in useable format. Data management system developed. Data sharing in place. Resourcing limitations of implementing bodies
Implementing bodies to provide Action Plan Implementation data annually (in the required format) for online reporting in the 46 Catchment Management Work Plans (CMWPs)	Implementation progress tracking	Ongoing	All implementing bodies including LAs	LAWPRO / EPA / Project Delivery Office	Data available in useable format. Data management system developed. Data sharing in place to allow effectiveness of measure to be evaluated. Resourcing limitations of implementing bodies
Action 1.3					
Sectoral Action Work Plans will be developed. They will set out the actions to be taken by the relevant authorities in line with their legally binding general duties under Article 3(1) of the 2003 Water Policy Regulations (SI 722 of 2003).					
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
POMs WG re-established	Bi-lateral meetings with each sector	Q2 2024	DHLGH	EPA / LAWPRO / All Sectors	Timely engagement by all sectors. Adequate resources in place.
Template development	Template with key elements	Q3 2024	DHLGH	LAWPRO / AFU	Engagement by all sectors. Adequate resources in place.
Engagement by each Sector to prepare Sectoral Action Work Plan	Sectoral Action Work Plans	Q1 2025	Each Sector Lead	LAWPRO / DHLGH / AFU / EPA	Engagement by all sectors. Adequate resources in place.
Action 1.4					
When developing new policy, Government Departments will have regard to the OECD principles for policy coherence to consider cross-cutting issues; trade-offs and synergies with other key policy objectives.					
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Consideration of OECD principles for policy coherence during development of new policies	New policies implemented with regards to OECD principles	Ongoing	Whole of Govt.	All relevant Govt. Departments	

2. Status of Ireland’s Water Bodies

Action 2.1	The DHLGH shall continue to engage with counterparts in Northern Ireland via the North/South Water Framework Directive Co-ordination Group as is necessary to ensure coordination of programmes of measures across the whole of shared river basin districts.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Engagement with North/South Water Framework Directive Co-ordination Group	Coordination of programmes of measures to assist in delivering water quality benefits in shared river basin districts	Ongoing	DHLGH	DAERA / NIEA / EPA / North South Ministerial Council	
Action 2.2	A collaborative ‘Shared Waters’ document will be published following publication of the River Basin Management Plans of the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Engagement with DAERA / NIEA	Agreed template for document	Q4 2023	DHLGH (WAU)	DAERA / NIEA / EPA / LAWPRO	
Agreement of final text	Publication of document	Q3 2024	DHLGH (WAU)	DAERA / NIEA / EPA / LAWPRO	

3. Setting Environmental Objectives

Action 3.1	DHLGH will arrange for the development and application of a methodology for the screening and application of WFD Article 4(5) exemptions, extending the deadline for compliance beyond 2027, where justified in accordance with the strict criteria stipulated within the Directive.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
DHLGH will commission the development and application of a methodology for the screening and application of WFD Article 4(5) exemptions	Methods document. Recommendations for exemptions based on the application of the methodology	Q4 2024 - Q4 2025	DHLGH	Other relevant government departments and state bodies	Access to appropriate expertise, availability of best practice methods and support from competent state body expertise
Action 3.2	DHLGH will review and update the Climate Adaptation Plan for the Water Quality and Water Infrastructure Sectors.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Consultation with stakeholders on suggested changes required to strengthen the plan	Suggested amendments to the current plan	Q1 2024	DHLGH (WAU)		

Drafting of updated plan based on review of current Adaptation Plan for the water sectors with input from key stakeholders	Updated Sectoral Adaptation Plan for the Water Quality and Water Services Infrastructure sectors for Ministerial Approval	Q3 2024	DHLGH (WAU)		
Publication of Updated Sectoral Adaptation Plan for the Water Quality and Water Services Infrastructure sectors	Adaptation Plan for the Water Quality and Water Services Infrastructure sectors published	Q4 2024	DHLGH (WAU)		
Action 3.3	LAWPRO will co-ordinate a simplified climate change sensitivity analysis or “climate check” which will be undertaken in line with EU Guidance during the third RBMP cycle at the level of the Catchment Management Work Plans. The check will also inform the setting of RBMP environmental objectives for the following fourth-cycle.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
LAWPRO to engage with implementing bodies on the development of an agreed process for carrying out a ‘Climate Check’	Agreed process for carrying out a ‘Climate Check’	Q2 2025	LAWPRO	Relevant Bodies / EPA	
Measures to be climate checked as part of SEA/AA process for capital projects	Recommendations from SEA/AA to be implemented	Ongoing	LAWPRO	Relevant Bodies	
Carry out climate checks on measures	Confirmation that measures will be resilient to the effects of climate change	Ongoing	LAWPRO	Relevant Bodies	
LAWPRO to report to Programme Delivery Office on climate checks conducted on measures	Monitoring and reporting on outcome of climate checks	Ongoing	LAWPRO	Relevant Bodies / EPA	
Action 3.4	The EPA will review the national monitoring programme and integrate climate change considerations such as identifying water bodies likely to be most vulnerable to climate change and detecting the direct impacts of climate change.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
EPA to examine parameters for inclusion in WFD monitoring programme	Appropriate parameters identified and included in WFD monitoring programme	Q2 2026	EPA		

Action 3.5		Support additional research and pilot projects in the area of climate change in Ireland (impacts and adaptation).			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Support NFGWS pilot project to enable rural communities combat climate change and enhance biodiversity through community owned drinking water supplies	Pilot scheme to run in a minimum of 30 GWS, and enable the schemes to introduce climate change and biodiversity initiatives	2021-2024	DHLGH (WAU) / NFGWS		
Support the Nature-based surface water management implementation strategy	Implementation of publicly funded projects for public realm enhancement and active travel with a view to bring learning across every relevant sector to provide greater climate resilience in terms of water management, greener urban environments, addressing heat island effects, place making as well as other multiple benefits including protecting and improving water quality	2022 - 2027	DHLGH / LAWPRO / CCMA	Local Authorities / EPA / IFI / NPWS / OPW	
Action 3.6		The National Bathing Water Expert Group to undertake a research project to determine the most suitable approach to protecting bathers' health outside of the current bathing season.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Completion of research to support policy development for 'out of season' bathing in Ireland	Report on the research to include: (i) summary of study findings in terms of monitoring and communication and management 'out of season'. (ii) Recommendations to inform policy development for 'out of season' bathing in Ireland (iii) guidance document for bathers	Q1 2024	DHLGH (WAU)	Members of the BWEG. Irish Water Safety / HSE / Uisce Éireann / EPA / Coast Watch / Local Authorities / CCMA	Consultant support for DHLGH to deliver research outputs
Publication of guidance for bathers, including a simple risk assessment tool on what to consider before bathing	Guidance note for bathers	Q1 2024	DHLGH (WAU)	EPA	As above

Action 3.7		DHLGH will amend the existing Bathing Water Regulations (S.I. No. 79 of 2008) to facilitate local authorities defining the length of the “bathing season” on determining the bathing season for individual bathing waters in respect of the “bathing waters” within their jurisdiction. DHLGH will also consider the research outcomes and recommendations from the National Bathing Water Expert Group. The outcome of the EU regulatory fitness and performance programme (REFIT) review of the Bathing Water Directive will be assessed in due course.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Amendment to the existing Bathing Water Regulations (S.I. No. 79 of 2008)	Amended Regulations	Q4 2024	DHLGH	National Bathing Water Expert Group	
Assessment of the impact of amending the existing Bathing Water Regulations (S.I. No. 79 of 2008), taking account of: the outcomes and recommendations of the National Bathing Water Expert Group, and (2) the EU regulatory fitness and performance programme (REFIT) review of the Bathing Waters Directive	Proposed follow up action	Q4 2024	DHLGH	National Bathing Water Expert Group	Such a change in regulations may have a detrimental impact on the BW classification of WFD protected areas
Further actions	Depends on the above assessment	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC
Assessment of the outcome of the EU regulatory fitness and performance programme (REFIT) review of the Bathing Water Directive	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC
Action 3.8		The water-related requirements of water-dependant habitats and species will be reviewed by the Water Division, the National Parks and Wildlife Service and the EPA during the third RBMP cycle, taking account of the most recent scientific evidence. If necessary, proposals for updating the related water standards will be made and this will be integrated into the catchment management process.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Review of the water-related requirements of water-dependant habitats and species will be undertaken based on the most up to date scientific evidence	Completed review. If and where appropriate, recommendations for updating supporting water related water standards	Q1-Q4 2025	DHLGH (NPWS & Water Division) and EPA	Other relevant state bodies and research institutions	Availability of relevant and robust state-of-the art research evidence and outputs

Action 3.9	The National Parks and Wildlife Service and the Water Division, both of this Department, and other relevant stakeholders will continue to engage closely in the catchment management planning process as it relates to Freshwater Pearl Mussel to ensure conformity with the requirements of the Habitats Directive and the Water Framework Directive.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Engage with LAWPRO in the catchment management planning process to ensure that requirements of the Habitats Directive and the Water Framework Directive are included	Catchment management plans that include provision for the protection of the Freshwater Pearl Mussel where needed	Ongoing	DHLGH / NPWS	LAWPRO	
Action 3.10 (also relevant to hydromorphology section)	The Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage will undertake a short public consultation before deciding whether to designate or de-designate water bodies as HMWBs. There were 466 water bodies, which the EPA has found to meet the criteria for designation. The Minister will take into account the recommendations of the EPA and the key concerns raised in the submissions to the consultation process.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Finalise the list of water bodies that have been proposed for HMWB designation on the basis of information supplied by stakeholders	Draft list of water bodies proposed for HMWB designation	Q3 2024	DHLGH	Uisce Éireann / OPW / EPA	Capacity within DHLGH to progress
Public consultation on proposed list of water bodies for HMWB designation	Public consultation process	Q3 2024	DHLGH	EPA	Capacity within DHLGH to progress
Post-consultation, the list of HMWBs for designation will be finalised, taking into account the recommendations of the EPA and any key concerns raised during the public consultation process	Final list of HMWBs for designation	Q4 2024	DHLGH	EPA	Capacity within DHLGH to progress

Action 3.11 (also relevant to hydromorphology section)					
A review of arterial drainage requirements and the underpinning Arterial Drainage Act will be undertaken in order to inform future land use policy decisions arising out of the Land Use Review and to support the preparations for the implementation of the new Nature Restoration Law and the Heavily Modified Water Body review process.					
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Assess and advise on the implications of different land use policy options in the future arising out of the Land Use Review on arterial drainage requirements and the consequential impacts (both positive and negative) on social, economic, climate, biodiversity and water status objectives and outcomes	Report and recommendations	TBC	DECC / DHLGH (Water Policy & WAU) / DAFM / OPW	Members of the National Hydromorphology Expert Group	Complexities and the capacity within DHLGH and across relevant public bodies to progress
Assessing and advising on the legislative changes to the Arterial Drainage Act necessary to (1) support the national land use policy objectives arising out of the Land Use Review, and (2) ensure that future arterial drainage practices are sustainable and support the environmental objectives set out in the 2021 Climate Action Plan, the WFD River Basin Management Plan, the National Biodiversity Action Plan and the related Nature Restoration Law, as well as flood risk management objectives		TBC	DECC / DHLGH (Water Policy & WAU) / DAFM / OPW	Members of the National Hydromorphology Expert Group	Complexities and the capacity within DHLGH and across relevant public bodies to progress

4. Measures Required

Action 4.1		The EPA and LAWPRO, with the support of the implementing bodies and other stakeholders, will continue to assess the impacts of pressures on waters to inform the measures that are needed.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Undertake initial catchment characterisation assessment	Assessment of pressures impacting on waters	Ongoing	EPA	LAWPRO / Local Authorities	
Undertake further characterisation in water bodies that are At Risk of not achieving their objectives	Assessment of actions needed to restore water quality and referrals to implementing bodies to carry out appropriate actions	Ongoing	LAWPRO	Local Authorities / implementing bodies & stakeholders / EPA	

5. Programme of Measures to 2027

Action 5.1		The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage will oversee an independent review of progress with the implementation of the Programme of Measures.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Programme Delivery Office	Staffing and resources provided	Q2 2024	DHLGH (WAU)		
Oversight and coordination of the implementation of the programme of measures	Programme Delivery Office to engage with relevant stakeholders	Ongoing	DHLGH (WAU)	EPA / LAWPRO / LAs / Implementation bodies	
Report from Programme Delivery Office to NCMC on implementation of high level measures	Progress report as standing item on NCMC meeting agenda	Ongoing	DHLGH (WAU)	EPA	
Report from Regional Management Committees to NCMC on implementation of water body level measures	Progress report as standing item on NCMC meeting agenda	Ongoing	Regional Management Committees	DHLGH (WAU) / LAWPRO / EPA	
NTIG to forward issues/matters to NCMC for clarification/further advice	Issues/matters from NTIG as standing item on NCMC agenda	Ongoing	NTIG	EPA / LAWPRO	

Report from NCMC to WPAC on implementation of measures	Progress report as standing item on WPAC meeting agenda	Ongoing	NCMC	DHLGH (WAU)	
Catchment Forum meetings held in the 46 catchments	Updates on implementation of measures to the public. Seek agreement and recommendations for consideration by implementing bodies	Ongoing	LAWPRO	Implementing Bodies / EPA	
WPAC, NCMC and Regional Management Committees to continually review the progress in the implementation of measures	Progress reports on implementation	Ongoing	DHLGH (WAU)	EPA / LAWPRO / WPAC / NCMC / Regional Committees	
Mid-term progress review	Identification of additional, evidence based measures to address identified gaps	Q2 2025	DHLGH (WAU)	EPA / LAWPRO / WPAC / NCMC / Regional Committees	
Action 5.2	The National Technical Implementation Group will identify the issues preventing water quality objectives from being achieved and will identify any further evidence, legislative, policy or implementation gaps that need to be addressed.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Establishment of topic based working groups as necessary	Identification of any evidence, legislative, policy or implementation gaps which need to be addressed with the aim of enhancing the protection of water quality and preventing declines	Ongoing	EPA	NTIG members	
Action 5.3	LAWPRO will confirm significant pressures and work with implementing bodies and stakeholders to promote the implementation of appropriate restoration measures in each Area for Action (restoration) where environmental objectives are not being met.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
LAWPRO carries out local catchment assessment in each priority area for action (PAA)	Referrals for implementation of measures to ASSAP and implementing bodies. Provision of the scientific evidence base uploaded to the WFD app	2023-2027		Regional Committee members	Adequate resources in place for LAWPRO
ASSAP and implementing bodies action the referrals for implementation of measures	Implementation of measures to improve WQ	2023-2027		LAWPRO / ASSAP Oversight Committee	Risk of inaction by responsible body/pressure owner
Local Authorities carry out local catchment assessment/inspections in Areas for Action (AfAs)	Identification of local pressures on water quality. Provision of the scientific evidence base uploaded to the WFD app	2023-2027		LAWPRO / CCMA	Adequate resources in place for LAs

Local Authorities work with relevant agencies to action the local measures required to address the pressures identified	Implementation of measures to improve WQ	2023-2027		Regional Committees	Adequate resources in place for LAs Risk of inaction by responsible body/pressure owner Effective enforcement where necessary
NFGWS prepares a drinking water source protection plan for public health areas for restoration	Identification of risks to DW source	2023-2027		Regional Committees	
NFGWS actions the restoration measures identified in the source protection plan	Implementation of measures to protect the DW source	2023-2027		Regional Committees	
LAWPRO carries out local catchment assessment in Priority Blue Dot Areas for Restoration	Referrals for implementation of measures to ASSAP and implementing bodies. Provision of the scientific evidence base uploaded to the WFD app	2023-2027		Regional Committees	Adequate resources in place for LAWPRO
ASSAP and implementing bodies action the referrals for implementation of measures in Priority Blue Dot Areas for Restoration	Implementation of measures to improve WQ	2023-2027		LAWPRO / ASSAP Oversight Committee	Risk of inaction by responsible body/pressure owner
Commencement of Catchment Management and Catchment Sectoral Plans	Implementation of Catchment Management and Catchment Sectoral Plans	Q2 2024 and every year thereafter		LAWPRO / EPA / Regional Committees	Adequate resources in place for LAWPRO and coordination aspects of CMWP
Action 5.4	LAWPRO will confirm significant pressures and work with implementing bodies and stakeholders to progress the implementation of appropriate protection measures in areas that are meeting their environmental objectives but require protection to ensure that water quality does not deteriorate.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Local Authorities carry out local catchment assessment/inspections and implement planning and regulatory controls in Areas for Action (AfAs) with a Protect objective	Protection Plans for AfAs	Q4 2025	LAWPRO	Local Authorities/ Regional Committees/ CCMA	Adequate LA resources to be provided

NFGWS prepares a drinking water source protection plan for public health areas for protection	DW source protection plan with protect measures to be actioned	Q4 2027	NFGWS	Regional Committees	
LAWPRO to prepare a template Protection Plan for Blue Dot Areas and roll out to all Blue Dots that are meeting their environmental objectives	Protection Plan for Blue Dots	Q4 2027	LAWPRO	LAs and Regional Committees / Blue Dot Steering Committee	Adequate resources for LAWPRO
Action 5.5	LAWPRO, in cooperation with the EU LIFE IP Waters of LIFE project team, will publish a new Blue Dot Programme work plan for waters with a High Status Objective.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Blue Dots specific section in the template designed for the catchment management plans, to include work programmes/ action plans from implementing bodies with the greatest significant pressures on Blue Dots	Agreed template for Pilot Catchment Management Work Plans	Q4 2022	LAWPRO	EPA / All implementing bodies / Blue Dot Catchments Programme Steering Group	Long term resourcing of Blue Dot Programme. LAWPRO resource to deliver the template and coordination aspects of CMWP. Resourcing limitations of implementing bodies
Blue Dot section in each of the 46 Catchment Management Work Plans	46 Management Work Plans prepared	Q4 2024	LAWPRO	DHLGH / EPA / LA's / An Fóram Uisce / Regional Committees/ DHLGH Project Delivery Office / Blue Dot Catchments Programme Steering Group	Adequate resources in place for LAWPRO and coordination aspects of CMWP
Pilot community fora to inform the development and supports needed for local level initiatives specifically for Blue Dot waters	Recommendations on developments and supports required	Q4 2023	LAWPRO	Community Fora	Adequate resources in place for LAWPRO

Restoration and protection measures advanced in all Areas for Action with Blue Dots	Implementation of measures to improve WQ. Protection Plan which may include LCA assessment, inspection activities, enforcement action and planning controls	Q4 2027	Regional Committees / Local authorities	LAWPRO / Blue Dot Catchments Programme Steering Group.	Risk of inaction by responsible body/pressure owner. LA resource to be provided
Waters of LIFE Integrated Project to support the implementation of measures to protect and enhance High-Status Waters and thus to support the work of the Blue Dot Catchments Programme	Building technical understanding and capacity in relation to the design and implementation of measures. Promoting community and landowner ownership of the actions. Making recommendations that will inform the development of future agri-environment and forestry policies and provide for the long-term sustainable management of high-status areas	Q2 2028	DHLGH	LAWPRO / EPA / DAFM / Teagasc / Coillte / OPW / Forest Service / Local Development Companies. Waters of LIFE Steering Group. Blue Dot Catchments Programme Steering Group	Risk of inaction by responsible body/pressure owner. Technical learnings and innovations are developed. Poor integration of learnings from the project into mainstream policies and interventions including capacity, training, resources and enforcement.
Blue Dot Catchments Programme Communications and Engagement Plan implementation	Generate awareness amongst key audiences regarding the quality of our Blue Dot waters, focusing firstly on the key sectoral stakeholders who have the most impact on Blue Dots and on communities within Blue Dot catchments. Turn awareness into engagement and action, in the form of stewardship of Blue Dot waters	Ongoing	LAWPRO	Blue Dot Steering Group / Waters of LIFE IP / All relevant implementing bodies	Long term resourcing of Blue Dot Programme for measures, animation and activation of communities and implementing bodies
Action 5.6	Catchment projects aimed at improving water quality to be advanced in 15 areas (including community initiatives, Rivers Trusts, EIPs, PEACE+)				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Current Catchment Projects that will contribute to WFD water quality objectives	Include work programme for the project in the CMWP with appropriate reporting on implementation	Q1 2023	Catchment Project lead organisation	LAWPRO / Regional Committees	Meaningful engagement by Catchment Project
Addition of Catchment Projects during the lifetime of the RBMP	Revision of list	Ongoing	Project Delivery Office	LAWPRO	Meaningful engagement by Catchment Project

Agriculture

<p>Agri 1</p> <p>DHLGH and DAFM will oversee the implementation of the stronger and more targeted Nitrates Action Programme. The Fifth Nitrates Action Programme (2022-2025) retains and strengthens the existing controls from agricultural nutrient impacts on water and will implement tighter controls on nitrogen and phosphorus inputs by:</p> <p>1) Stipulating tighter controls on the timing and methods of application of chemical nitrogen fertilisers and slurry.</p> <p>2) Reducing the annual maximum fertilisation rate of nitrogen on grassland by 10% in 2022 with potential for a further reduction of, at least, 5% in 2024 following the Interim Review in 2023.</p> <p>3) Reduction in the maximum derogation stocking rate on farms in water bodies where there is, or a risk of, declining water quality.</p> <p>4) Implementing a livestock excretion banding system from Q1 2023 to more accurately reflect the different rates of organic nitrogen loading from different sized animals in the maximum stocking rate calculations.</p> <p>5) Establishing a national fertiliser sales database for farmers.</p>					
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Undertake Interim Review of the Fifth Nitrates Action Programme and implement any required additional measures	Report on water quality assessment (2020-2022) and new measures if required put into effect through an amendment to the Good Agricultural Practice Regulations	Q3 2024	DHLGH (WAU)	DAFM / EPA / Teagasc	Administration support
Fifth Nitrates Action Programme Implementation Review	Review of the implementation of the Fifth Nitrates Action Programme and recommendation on new measures	Q4 2024	EPA	DHLGH / DAFM / LAWPRO / Teagasc including ASSAP / local authorities	Administration support
Publication of draft Sixth Nitrates Action Programme for consultation	Draft Nitrates Action Programme	Q2 2025	DHLGH (WAU)	DAFM / EPA / Teagasc	Administration support
Publication of Sixth Nitrates Action Programme	Nitrates Action Programme	Q4 2025	DHLGH (WAU)	DAFM / EPA / Teagasc	Administration support
Introduce new Good Agricultural Practice Regulations to put the 6th NAP into effect	New Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) Regulations	Q4 2025	DHLGH (WAU)	DAFM	Administration support

<p>Scope out policy on a national fertiliser sales database to include legal advice and consultation with a wide variety of stakeholders</p>	<p>Consultation on national fertiliser sales database policy concluded</p>	<p>Q4 2022</p>	<p>DAFM</p>	<p>Fertiliser manufacturers/ importers / retailers / agricultural contractors / farm advisors service and the farm organisations are all involved in Stakeholder Consultative Committee. Cross-departmental and Government support will be required to enact primary legislation</p>	<p>Primary legislation required Functioning IT system required</p>
<p>Introduce a National Fertiliser Sales Database</p>	<p>Introduce a National Fertiliser Sales Database</p>	<p>Q1 2023</p>	<p>DAFM</p>	<p>All fertiliser traders and end users as well as farm advisory service</p>	<p>Primary legislation required Functioning IT system required</p>
<p>Develop an industry-led initiative to reduce agricultural impacts on water quality. Working group to look at options for driving nitrogen reductions at both national and catchment scales.</p>	<p>Proposals to address:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improvements in slurry management, • compliance with GAP Regs requirements, • N reductions, • improved Communications / knowledge transfer programme, and • behavioural change around slurry storage. 	<p>Q3 2023</p>	<p>DSI</p>	<p>Industry</p>	

<p>Agri 2</p> <p>Local Authorities will strengthen the inspection and enforcement relating to agricultural diffuse pollution.</p> <p>A total of 57 new Inspectors in local authorities have been allocated for the National Agricultural Inspection Programme (NAIP) and five new staff have been allocated to the EPA to oversee the programme. An additional four staff have been allocated to LAWPRO to help in co-ordinating the activity and avoiding duplication where possible. Inspections will be targeted and risk-based using all the available evidence, including water quality data, the EPA's PIP Maps and the Targeting Agricultural Measures Map on up to 4,500 farms per annum during the lifetime of the Nitrate Action Programme.</p> <p>DAFM will undertake 500-1,000 inspections per year under the GAP Regulations focused in Q1 where risk of nutrient impact on water quality is high. DAFM has increased their derogation inspections from 5% to 10% of all derogation farms per year and will undertake approximately 700 inspections per annum.</p>					
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Develop initial risk based plan for local authority agricultural inspections and enforcement using water quality information including EPA PIP maps to target action	An initial plan for the National Agricultural Inspection Programme covering 2023 to include strengthened enforcement activity and recording/tracking of inspection and enforcement activity	Q1 2023	EPA/NIECE	DHLGH / LAs / DAFM / LAWPRO / ASSAP	Administration support
Develop a risk based National Agricultural Inspection Programme for local authorities using water quality information including EPA PIP maps to target action, and build on the learning from 2023	Plan for National Agricultural Inspection Programme covering 2024 with emphasis on follow-up and enforcement, annual reporting and tracking of activity undertaken by the Programme	Q4 2023	EPA/NIECE	DHLGH / LAs / DAFM / LAWPRO / ASSAP	Administration support
For the Sixth Nitrates Action Programme develop a National Agricultural Inspection Programme for 2026-2029 following review of the Fifth NAP and public consultation on the draft sixth NAP	Plan for National Agricultural Inspection Programme (2026-2029)	Q4 2025	EPA/NIECE	DHLGH / LAs / DAFM / LAWPRO / ASSAP	
Develop a risk based National Agricultural Inspection Programme for local authorities using water quality information including EPA PIP maps to target action, and build on the learning from 2024	Plan for National Agricultural Inspection Programme covering 2025 with emphasis on follow-up and enforcement, annual reporting and tracking of activity undertaken by the Programme	Q4 2024	EPA/NIECE	DHLGH / LAs / DAFM / LAWPRO / ASSAP	Administration support

Local authorities to undertake inspections, enforcement and reporting as outlined in the National Agricultural Inspection Programme and cross report to DAFM where non compliances are identified	To undertake inspections on approximately 4,500 farms per annum and follow up inspection/enforcement/cross reporting/reporting targets as specified by the EPA in each iteration of the National Agricultural Inspection Programme	Annual	Local Authorities	EPA / NIECE / DHLGH / DAFM / LAWPRO / ASSAP	Administration support Functioning data management system required Guidance and training required
A data management system will be developed in an incremental and phased manner to capture and track the National Agricultural Inspections Programme. This system will be designed to be integrated with other WFD data systems	Initial phase of data management system	Q4 2024	EPA/NIECE	Local Authorities / CCMA / DHLGH	Administration support
Guidance will be developed for local authority staff undertaking inspections as part of the National Agricultural Inspection Programme	Guidance document	Q2 2023	EPA/NIECE	DHLGH / LAs / DAFM / LAWPRO / ASSAP	Administration support
Training will be developed for the National Agricultural Inspection Programme	Training course material developed	Q3 2023	EPA/NIECE	DHLGH / LAs / DAFM / LAWPRO / ASSAP	Administration support
Training will be provided for local authority staff and others undertaking inspections under the GAP Regulations including DAFM and Inland Fisheries Ireland personnel undertaking inspections	Training courses will be delivered	Q4 2023	EPA/NIECE Local Authorities / LANTG / LAWPRO	DHLGH / DAFM / ASSAP	Administration support
Agri 3	DAFM will implement Ireland's CAP Strategic Plan with a strong emphasis on the achievement of a higher level of environmental ambition. This includes implementing the new Green Architecture of (1) Conditionality, (2) Pillar I Eco-Schemes and (3) the Pillar II Interventions such as ACRES and the new Water EIP.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Develop and finalise appropriate interventions under Ireland's CAP Strategic Plan	CAP Strategic Plan to be published with policies and interventions to support water quality	Q1 2023	DAFM	DHLGH and other government departments	Impact achieved under voluntary schemes will depend on farmer uptake and the implementation of suitable measures in appropriate locations

Delivery of the CSP Eco-scheme which aims to reward farmers for undertaking actions beneficial to climate, environment, biodiversity and water quality	Implementation of suitable measures to support the protection of water quality as well as climate, environment and biodiversity	Timeline for all measures / schemes under CSP will run for the duration (i.e. up to 2027)	DAFM	DHLGH and other government departments	Impact achieved under the eco-scheme is voluntary and hence will depend on farmer uptake and the implementation of suitable measures in appropriate locations
Delivery of the CSP ACRES Cooperation Projects in pre-defined high-priority geographical areas, including high status objective water bodies	Implementation of targeted and bespoke farm and landscape measures, identified through results based assessments/ scorecards, and aimed at improving biodiversity and water	Timeline for all measures / schemes under CSP will run for the duration (i.e. up to 2027)	DAFM	DHLGH and other government departments	Impact achieved will depend on farmer uptake and the implementation of suitable measures in the most effective locations
Delivery of the CSP ACRES General through priority access, e.g. Tier 1 includes farms in high status catchments Tier 2 includes farms located near vulnerable water bodies	Implementation of suitable measures to support the protection of water quality as well as climate, environment and biodiversity	Timeline for all measures / schemes under CSP will run for the duration (i.e. up to 2027)	DAFM	DHLGH and other government departments	Impact achieved will depend on farmer uptake and the implementation of suitable measures in the most effective locations
Agri 4	Eco-scheme measures will contribute to the protection of water quality. DAFM will promote and target the uptake of these measures in locations at farm level where they will maximise water protection. This will be achieved through training and farm advisory services and by using the Pollution Impact Potential (PIP) maps generated by the EPA.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Delivery of advisor training and promotion and use of EPA PIP maps	Advisors trained to target the right measure in the right place	Timeline for all measures / schemes under CSP will run for the duration (i.e. up to 2027)	DAFM	DHLGH and other government departments	Impact achieved will depend on advice given, farmer uptake and the implementation of suitable measures in appropriate locations

Agri 5	The Water EIP project led by LAWPRO, in partnership with Teagasc and Dairy Industries Ireland will focus on reducing losses of phosphorus, nitrogen, sediment and, where relevant, pesticides to water from agricultural lands by promoting the adoption of innovative best practice in nutrient management, the application of Nature-based Solutions and other suitable measures. The project will aim to support up to 15,000 farmers in implementing on-farm water protection and mitigation measures.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Development and delivery of a European Innovation Partnership (EIP) for water	The establishment of a national scale EIP project specifically focussed on water protection and restoration	Timeline for all measures / schemes under CSP will run for the duration (i.e. up to 2027)	LAWPRO	DAFM / DHLGH and other government departments	Impact achieved will depend on farmer uptake and the implementation of suitable measures in appropriate locations
Delivery of the 'Farming for Water' EIP which aims to support farmers in implementing on-farm water protection and mitigation measures	Implementation of suitable measures to support the protection of water quality as well as climate, environment and biodiversity	Timeline for all measures / schemes under CSP will run for the duration (i.e. up to 2027)	LAWPRO / ASSAP / DII	DAFM / DHLGH and other government departments	Impact achieved will depend on farmer uptake and the implementation of suitable measures in appropriate locations
Agri 6	DHLGH and DAFM will put arrangements in place to ensure independent assessments and reviews of the efficacy of the Nitrates Action Programme (NAP), the CAP Strategic Plan and the Water EIP (and other relevant measures) to bring the 1,000 water bodies impacted by agriculture up to good status and to prevent deterioration. They will identify additional measures, where necessary, which will be implemented during the lifetime of the plan or beyond, where justified under Article 4 of the WFD. Mechanisms for review will include; DHLGH monitoring & assessment of progress with the programme of measures, EPA's statutory role in assessing the NAP, EPA research projects and the CAP Strategic Plan Performance Monitoring and Evaluation Framework (PMEF).				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Review and assessments to be completed	Additional measures identified where necessary	2025	DHLGH	DAFM / EPA / LAWPRO	
Agri 7	In support of the Catchment Management Work Plans, the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine will publish an Agricultural Sectoral Action Work Plan to reduce nitrogen losses to waters in areas where levels are increasing or are too high, and to bring nitrogen, phosphorous and sediment losses to water from agricultural sources within sustainable levels by 2027.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Engagement with POMs WG	Agreement on the development of template for Sectoral Action Work Plans and the CM Work Plans	Q2 2024	DAFM	LAWPRO / DHLGH / EPA	Engagement by POMs WG members. Adequate resources available.

<p>Plan Development: Review of 2024 Agricultural Work Plans including water body scale actions for the development of the Sectoral Action Work Plan template and for use in the pilot Catchment Management Work Plans</p>	<p>To inform the Sectoral Action Work Plan template and CM Work Plan template and data for input into the pilot CM Work Plan</p>	<p>Q2-Q3 2024</p>	<p>DAFM</p>	<p>LAWPRO / DHLGH / EPA</p>	<p>Agreement on the relevant data to be collated.</p> <p>Full participation by different implementing bodies and projects in Agriculture sector.</p> <p>Data available in useable format.</p> <p>Data management system developed.</p> <p>Data sharing arrangements in place.</p>
<p>Plan Development: Data collation of relevant work plan items and proposed measures on national basis including targets (annual or multi-annual data 2025-2027)</p>	<p>Sectoral Action Work Plan and data for input into the CM Work Plans</p>	<p>Q1 2025</p>	<p>DAFM</p>	<p>LAWPRO / DHLGH / EPA</p>	<p>Agreement on the relevant data to be collated.</p> <p>Full participation by different implementing bodies and projects in Agriculture sector. Data available in useable format.</p> <p>Data management system developed.</p> <p>Data sharing arrangements in place.</p>
<p>Implementation Tracking: Annual reporting of implementation of measures per catchment</p>	<p>Catchment implementation recorded and accessible via data management system to the public</p>	<p>Q1-Q2 2026 (interim assessment)</p>	<p>DAFM</p>	<p>LAWPRO / DHLGH / EPA</p>	<p>Implementation data available in a timely manner and at catchment scale.</p> <p>Data management system in place.</p>
<p>Implementation Tracking: Annual reporting of implementation of measures per catchment</p>	<p>Catchment implementation recorded and accessible via data management system to the public</p>	<p>Q1-Q2 2027 (3rd Cycle outcomes)</p>	<p>DAFM</p>	<p>LAWPRO / DHLGH / EPA</p>	<p>Implementation data available in a timely manner and at catchment scale.</p> <p>Data management system in place.</p>

Agri 8		Online Farm Sustainability Planning: Teagasc will develop an online Farm Sustainability Plan for farmers complementing existing Nutrient Management Planning online tool to support the wider Agricultural Knowledge and Information Systems (AKIS) programme.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Tool design and development	User ready farm sustainability tool	Q3 2023	Teagasc	DAFM / Software developers	Team of 4 Programmers assigned to project and Approved for development. Require some input from LAWPRO / EPA to integrate components e.g. Referral process / reporting
Pilot tool with advisors/farmers	Refine tool based on feedback	Q4 2023	Teagasc	DAFM / DII	ASSAP team – Current resource allocation should mean low risk
Launch	Final version of farm sustainability tool ready for widespread use	Q1 2024	Teagasc		Approach will involve continual ongoing development.
Agri 9		Extend and expand the local authorities' water protection office. LAWPRO will be extended for the full duration of Cycle 3 up to 2027. The CCMA will identify the appropriate level of resources and involvement of LAWPRO to meet WFD objectives up to 2027 and beyond in future RBMPs.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Internal review of LAWPRO	Report and recommendations	Q4 2021	LAWPRO	DHLGH	
Agri 10		Provide free on-farm advice to farmers. The sustainability advisory service (ASSAP) will be extended for the full duration of Cycle 3. The dairy industry has increased the number of advisors involved in ASSAP by six for the period 2022 to 2027.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Consideration of the ASSAP Review Report Recommendations	Proposals for expansion of ASSAP Programme and associated outputs	Q3 2023	DHLGH / DAFM/ Dairy Industry	Teagasc / LAWPRO	Administration Support
Agri 11		To support the goal of targeting the right measure in the right place all farm advisers involved in the 'Farming for Water' Agri-EIP, will be provided with ongoing professional development, including an appropriate level of catchment science training to ensure that measures are sufficiently targeted.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Delivery of relevant training to advisors in support of the "Farming for Water" Agri-EIP	Provision of training courses	Ongoing	LAWPRO / Teagasc	DII	Administration support and availability of trainers

Agri 12					
Upskill farmers and advisors to ensure they have the knowledge and tools to implement appropriate measures to reduce the impact on water quality and freshwater biodiversity from farming practices.					
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Delivery of derogation courses to farmers	Provision of training courses	On-going	Teagasc / ACA / Farm Advisors	DAFM	Farmers are required to have completed training courses, without which they will be rejected from nitrates derogation. Any new derogation applicant must complete training course and will require resources from advisors to provide the course – list of those farmers who have completed courses is sent to DAFM and DAFM must maintain a record
Delivery of relevant training to advisors and farmers in support of future environmental schemes & programmes e.g. ACRES CP and ACRES general	Provision of training courses. Training courses have been provided in 2022, 2023 & 2024 on ACRES for all advisors and only those advisors that have completed training can develop ACRES plans. Each ACRES participant must complete 1 compulsory training course with the option of additional voluntary courses	As per scheme / programme requirements	DAFM	Teagasc and ACA	Training courses have been provided in 2022, 2023 & 2024 on ACRES for all advisors and only those advisors that have completed training can develop ACRES plans

Physical modifications to the flow, form and/or function of natural surface water bodies (Pressures on Hydromorphology)

Hymo 1					
A Hydromorphology Expert Group will be established to support the new National Hydromorphology Programme. This Expert Group will identify interim measures which will be readily implemented during the third RBMP cycle to assist in removing pressures on hydromorphology.					
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Establishment of a national Hydromorphology Expert Group Advise the Minister on the structure of an appropriate regulatory framework/regime	Established Expert Group Work Programme New regulatory regime	End of Q2 2024 End of Q3 2024 Dependent on the scoping	DHLGH (WAU)	Hydromorphology Expert Group: DECC / IFI / OPW / DAFM / EPA / Uisce Éireann / Waterways Ireland / CCMA / LAWPRO / Teagasc / ESB Internal: NPWS / WAU / Water Policy Unit / EUIPR	Complexities and the capacity within DHLGH and across relevant public bodies to progress
Hymo 2					
DHLGH will lead the development of a new enhanced and consolidated legislative regime to address pressures on the physical condition of waters.					
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Draft a framework for controlling pressures on hydromorphology and engage/consult with the public and stakeholders on it	Publish framework Public consultation	TBC	DHLGH (WAU)	Hydromorphology Expert Group: DECC / IFI / OPW / DAFM / EPA / Uisce Éireann / Waterways Ireland / CCMA / LAWPRO / Teagasc / ESB Internal: NPWS / WAU / Water Policy Unit / EUIPR	Complexities and the capacity within DHLGH and across relevant public bodies to progress
Legislate and implement	New bill/amendments to existing legislation	Q4 2026	DHLGH (WAU) and other departments with responsibility for relevant legislation		

Hymo 3		IFI will establish a restoration programme to mitigate the negative impact of past construction in or near water bodies.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Agreement across government (principally DECC and DHLGH) to develop a single restoration/mitigation programme designed to meet Water Framework Directive, Habitats Directive and Biodiversity Strategy objectives	A single restoration / mitigation programme to be led and managed by IFI	Q1 2024	DHLGH / DECC / IFI	Hydromorphology Expert Group: DECC / IFI / OPW / DAFM / EPA / Uisce Éireann / Waterways Ireland / CCMA / LAWPRO / Teagasc / ESB Internal: NPWS / WAU / Water Policy Unit / EUIPR	Administrative support from DHLGH (WAU) Financial: DHLGH to co-fund IFI resources (with DECC) for 2023 Joint application to be made by DHLGH and DECC to the new Infrastructure, Climate and Nature Fund (2026 – 2030), once established, for additional funding.
Development of a long-term Plan for mitigation of all problem barriers identified as part of IFI's Barrier Assessment	Prioritisation plan for barriers to be mitigated during the period of the 3 rd Cycle RBMP	Q4 2024	IFI		Funding: co-funding arrangement between DHLGH and DECC for additional resources to facilitate IFI's barrier mitigation plan (for the 3 rd Cycle
IFI to establish new Barriers Mitigation Division	New IFI division	2023 / 2024 (in progress)	IFI	DECC & DHLGH	Financial: DHLGH to co-fund IFI resources (with DECC) for 2023 Subject to the provision of further resources will augment this division in 2024 and beyond to manage the barriers works programme. Initial Target Capital Budget to be secured at minimum of €50m through the new Infrastructure, Climate and Nature Fund (2026-2030)

Remove/modify approximately 10% of problem barriers	Barrier removal/modification	2022-2027	IFI	DECC & DHLGH	Financial: DHLGH to co-fund IFI resources (with DECC) for 2024/2025. Thereafter, funding through the new Infrastructure, Climate and Nature Fund (2026-2030) is anticipated. Risk: Delays within the planning system
Hymo 4 A Sectoral Action Work Plan for Hydromorphology will be developed, which will include measures and plans to address the 448 water bodies at risk from pressures on hydromorphology, including barriers, channelization, drainage, sediment and flood protection. It will be led and coordinated by DHLGH with supporting bodies IFI, DAFM, Forestry, OPW and DECC.					
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Engagement with POMs WG	Agreement on the development of the template for Sectoral Action Work Plans and the CM Work Plans	Q2 2024	DHLGH	IFI / DAFM / Forestry / OPW / DECC / LAWPRO / LA / EPA	Engagement by POMs WG members. Adequate resources available.
Plan Development: Review of 2024 Hydromorphology Work Plans including water body scale actions for the development of the Sectoral Action Work Plan template and for use in the pilot Catchment Management Work Plans	To inform the Sectoral Action Work Plan template and CM Work Plan template and data for input into the pilot CM Work Plan	Q3 2024	DHLGH	IFI / DAFM / Forestry / OPW / DECC / LAWPRO / LA / EPA / ESB	Agreement on the relevant data to be collated. Full participation by different implementing bodies and projects in pressures on hydromorphology. Data available in useable format. Data management system developed. Data sharing arrangements in place

Plan Development: Data collation of relevant work plan items and proposed measures on national basis including targets (annual or multi-annual data 2025-2027)	Sectoral Action Work Plan and data for input into the CM Work Plans	Q1 2025	DHLGH	IFI / DAFM / Forestry / OPW / DECC / LAWPRO / LA / EPA	<p>Agreement on the relevant data to be collated.</p> <p>Full participation by different implementing bodies and projects in hydromorphology sector.</p> <p>Data available in useable format.</p> <p>Data management system developed.</p> <p>Data sharing arrangements in place</p>
Implementation Tracking: Annual reporting of implementation of measures per catchment	Catchment implementation recorded and accessible via data management system to the public	Q1-Q2 2026 (interim assessment)	DHLGH	IFI / DAFM / Forestry / OPW / DECC / LAWPRO / LA / EPA	<p>Implementation data available in a timely manner and at catchment scale.</p> <p>Data management system in place.</p>
Implementation Tracking: Annual reporting of implementation of measures per catchment	Catchment implementation recorded and accessible via data management system to the public	Q1-Q2 2027 (3 rd Cycle outcomes)	DHLGH	IFI / DAFM / Forestry / OPW / DECC / LAWPRO / LA / EPA	<p>Implementation data available in a timely manner and at catchment scale.</p> <p>Data management system in place.</p>
Hymo 5	It is proposed that IFI will lead a multi-agency whole of catchment pilot project on the River Dodder from source to sea with the aim of examining the feasibility of opening up this heavily urbanised catchment to migratory fish species by mitigating the five most significant barriers in the lower reaches and progressing to the next stage, as appropriate.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Stakeholder engagement, feasibility studies, tendering for consultant support/physical works, completion of barrier mitigation works	Mitigation of barriers on the River Dodder	2024 - 2027	IFI	DHLGH / DECC	<p>Recruitment of IFI's new Barrier Mitigation team.</p> <p>Risk: Delays within the planning system</p>

Hymo 6					
IFI will lead a pilot project to be undertaken for the Annacotty Weir in County Limerick. The project will provide an opportunity to test a collaborative and ecology focussed design approach. It will also test enhanced community engagement opportunities that go beyond the standard consultation practices involved in the planning process, thereby assisting with the design and implementation of the national restoration programme. The pilot project is initially examining the feasibility of mitigation and will progress to the next stages, as appropriate.					
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Deliver the feasibility study to outline the preferred option for the mitigation of the barrier at Annacotty	A documented national process for the establishment of the most appropriate Barrier Mitigation Measure	2022 - 2024	IFI	OPW / ESB / LAWPRO / LC&CC / Local stakeholders	Stakeholder acceptance, consent from Local Authority
Design generic tender documents and processes for the specification of consultancy services to deliver consent and contract documents for similar type barrier mitigation projects	Development of generic tender documents and processes to support barrier mitigation projects	2024	IFI	Interagency working group	Finance: dependent on outcome of National Barrier Mitigation Funding Plan (2024 - 2027) Dependent on new barriers team input
Design standard survey and monitoring protocols to determine the metrics necessary to assess the success of barrier mitigation projects	Pilot project to be used to develop, evaluate and document measures of success (KPI) for barrier mitigation projects	2024	IFI	Interagency working group	Dependent on new barriers team and IFI research collaboration
Completion of barrier mitigation works at Annacotty	Establishment of measures for the documentation of improved hydromorphology outcomes	2025	IFI	OPW / ESB / LC&CC	Funding required

Hymo 7 Implementation of the roadmap of actions, including the use of state-of-the-art technical solutions, to improve fish migration in the lower Shannon at the Hydroelectric scheme located around Parteen and Ardnacrusha. The pilot project will initially examine the feasibility of mitigation and will progress to the next stages, as appropriate.					
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
New fish pass at Parteen Weir	New fish pass at Parteen Weir	2027	DHLGH (WAU)	External: IFI / EPA / OPW / Waterways Ireland / LAWPRO / Uisce Éireann / Shannon Fisheries Partnership / Salmon Watch Ireland / ESB Internal: NPWS / WAU	Administrative support by DHLGH (WAU). Consultant support to be tendered for. Co-funding agreement with ESB to be finalised. Partial funding through the new Infrastructure, Climate and Nature Fund (2026-2030) is anticipated.
Eflow study programme	Determination of Eflows	2024 - 2026	DHLGH (WAU)	External: IFI / EPA / OPW / Waterways Ireland / LAWPRO / Uisce Éireann / Shannon Fisheries Partnership / Salmon Watch Ireland / ESB Internal: NPWS / WAU	Administrative support by WAU. Consultant support to be tendered for. Co-funding agreement with ESB to be finalised.
Feasibility study for tailrace barrier	Tailrace barrier recommendations	End 2025	DHLGH (WAU)	External: IFI / EPA / OPW / Waterways Ireland / LAWPRO / Uisce Éireann / Shannon Fisheries Partnership / Salmon Watch Ireland / ESB Internal: NPWS / WAU	Administrative support by WAU. Consultant support to be tendered for. Co-funding agreement with ESB to be finalised.

Downstream fish pass feasibility study	Downstream fish passage recommendations	End 2025	DHLGH (WAU)	External: IFI / EPA / OPW / Waterways Ireland / LAWPRO / Uisce Éireann / Shannon Fisheries Partnership / Salmon Watch Ireland / ESB Internal: NPWS / WAU	Administrative support by WAU. Consultant support to be tendered for. Co-funding agreement with ESB to be finalised.
New fish pass feasibility study at Ardnacrusha	Recommendations for fish pass feasibility at Ardnacrusha	End 2025	DHLGH (WAU)	External: IFI / EPA / OPW / Waterways Ireland / LAWPRO / Uisce Éireann / Shannon Fisheries Partnership / Salmon Watch Ireland / ESB Internal: NPWS / WAU	Administrative support by WAU. Consultant support to be tendered for. Co-funding agreement with ESB to be finalised.
Lower Shannon Management Plan agreed subject to public consultation	Lower Shannon Management Plan	End 2025	DHLGH (WAU)	External: IFI / EPA / OPW / Waterways Ireland / LAWPRO / Uisce Éireann / Shannon Fisheries Partnership / Salmon Watch Ireland / ESB Internal: NPWS / WAU	Administrative support by WAU. Consultant support to be tendered for. Co-funding agreement with ESB to be finalised.
Continuation of project Steering Group to oversee implementation of the roadmap	Oversight of implementation of roadmap	Ongoing to project end	DHLGH (WAU)	External: IFI / EPA / OPW / Waterways Ireland / LAWPRO / Uisce Éireann / Shannon Fisheries Partnership / Salmon Watch Ireland / ESB Internal: NPWS / WAU	Administrative support by WAU.

Procurement of expert consultancy support to manage the implementation of the roadmap under the Steering Group	Implementation of roadmap	Ongoing until completion of roadmap	DHLGH (WAU)	External: IFI / EPA / OPW / Waterways Ireland / LAWPRO / Uisce Éireann / Shannon Fisheries Partnership / Salmon Watch Ireland / ESB Internal: NPWS / WAU	Administrative support by WAU. Co-funding agreement with ESB to be finalised
Hymo 8					
A proposed pilot project on the Slaney River at Clohamon will aim to improve fish passage at a medium scale hydroelectric scheme through a state and community collaborative initiative. The pilot project will initially examine the feasibility of mitigation and will progress to the next stages, as appropriate.					
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Stakeholder engagement, feasibility studies, tendering for consultant support/physical works, completion of barrier mitigation works.	Mitigation of the barriers at Clohamon on the River Slaney	2024 – 2027	IFI	Slaney Rivers Trust and DHLGH / DECC	Co-funding agreement with the Slaney Rivers Trust to be finalised. Partial funding through the new Infrastructure, Climate and Nature Fund (2026-2030) is anticipated. Recruitment of IFI's new Barrier Mitigation team. Risk: Delays within the planning system
Hymo 9					
In addition to river barrier removal and mitigation other restoration and mitigation work will be developed. This will be partly guided by the framework for prioritising measures for both river restoration and Nature-based Catchment Management prepared by the EPA.					
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Initial scoping and identification of other pressures on hydromorphology on water status	Report with recommendations	2024-2025	DHLGH (WAU)	External: IFI / EPA / OPW / Waterways Ireland / LAWPRO / Uisce Éireann / Shannon Fisheries Partnership / Salmon Watch Ireland / ESB Internal: NPWS / WAU	Complexities and the capacity within DHLGH and across relevant public bodies to progress

Action 3.10 repeat (as above)		The Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage will undertake a short public consultation before deciding whether to designate or de-designate water bodies as HMWBs. There were 466 water bodies, which the EPA has found to meet the criteria for designation. The Minister will take into account the recommendations of the EPA and the key concerns raised in the submissions to the consultation process.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Finalise the list of water bodies that have been proposed for HMWB designation on the basis of information supplied by stakeholders	Draft list of water bodies proposed for HMWB designation	Q3 2024	DHLGH	Uisce Éireann / OPW / EPA	Capacity within DHLGH to progress
Public consultation on proposed list of water bodies for HMWB designation	Public consultation process	Q3 2024	DHLGH	EPA	Capacity within DHLGH to progress
Post-consultation, the list of HMWBs for designation will be finalised, taking into account the recommendations of the EPA and any key concerns raised during the public consultation process	Final list of HMWBs for designation	Q4 2024	DHLGH	EPA	Capacity within DHLGH to progress
Action 3.11 repeat (as above)		A review of arterial drainage requirements and the underpinning Arterial Drainage Act will be undertaken in order to inform future land use policy decisions arising out of the Land Use Review and to support the preparations for the implementation of the new Nature Restoration Law and the Heavily Modified Water Body review process.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Assess and advise on the implications of different land use policy options in the future arising out of the Land Use Review on arterial drainage requirements and the consequential impacts (both positive and negative) on social, economic, climate, biodiversity and water status objectives and outcomes	Report and recommendations	TBC	DECC / DHLGH (Water Policy & WAU) / DAFM / OPW	Members of the National Hydromorphology Expert Group	Complexities and the capacity within DHLGH and across relevant public bodies to progress

<p>Assessing and advising on the legislative changes to the Arterial Drainage Act necessary to (1) support the national land use policy objectives arising out of the Land Use Review, and (2) ensure that future arterial drainage practices are sustainable and support the environmental objectives set out in the 2021 Climate Action Plan, the WFD River Basin Management Plan, the National Biodiversity Action Plan and the related Nature Restoration Law, as well as flood risk management objectives</p>		<p>TBC</p>	<p>DECC / DHLGH (Water Policy & WAU) / DAFM / OPW</p>	<p>Members of the National Hydromorphology Expert Group</p>	<p>Complexities and the capacity within DHLGH and across relevant public bodies to progress</p>
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Forestry

<p>Forestry 1 In support of the Catchment Management Work Plans, the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine will publish a Sectoral Action Work Plan. DAFM will update the 2018 document “Forests and Water: Achieving Objectives under Ireland’s River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021” as the Forestry Sectoral Action Work Plan supporting the third RBMP.</p>					
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
<p>Appropriate staff resources to allow for the drafting of revisions</p>	<p>New or updated standards, requirements, protocols and procedures.</p>	<p>Q3 2023</p>	<p>DAFM - Forestry Inspectorate</p>	<p>IFI / NPWS / LAWPRO / ASSAP / Local Authorities / Uisce Éireann / NFGWS / EPA / GSI</p>	<p>Availability of staffing resources</p>
<p>Training of relevant parties (DAFM Forestry Inspectors and Ecologists, Registered Foresters and private Ecologists) on new or updated standards, requirements, protocols and procedures</p>	<p>All relevant professionals working in the sector updated and upskilled</p>	<p>Q4 2023</p>	<p>DAFM - Forestry Inspectorate</p>	<p>IFI / NPWS / LAWPRO / ASSAP / Local Authorities / Uisce Éireann / NFGWS / EPA / GSI</p>	<p>Availability of staffing resources</p>
<p>Engagement with POMs WG</p>	<p>Agreement on the development of the template for sectoral action work plans and the CM Work Plans</p>	<p>Q2 2024</p>	<p>DAFM - Forestry Inspectorate</p>	<p>DHLGH / LAWPRO / EPA</p>	<p>Engagement by POMs WG members. Adequate resources available</p>

<p>Plan Development: Review of 2024 Forestry Sectors Work Plans including water body scale actions for the development of the Sectoral Action Work Plan template and for use in the pilot Catchment Management Work Plans</p>	<p>To inform the Sectoral Action Work Plan template and CM Work Plan template and data for input into the pilot CM Work Plan</p>	<p>Q2-Q3 2024</p>	<p>DAFM - Forestry Inspectorate</p>	<p>DHLGH / LAWPRO / EPA</p>	<p>Agreement on the relevant data to be collated.</p> <p>Full participation by different implementing bodies and projects in forestry sector.</p> <p>Data available in useable format.</p> <p>Data management system developed.</p> <p>Data sharing arrangements in place</p>
<p>Plan Development: Data collation of relevant work plan items and proposed measures on national basis including targets (annual or multi-annual data 2025-2027</p>	<p>Sectoral Action Work Plan and data for input into the CM Work Plan</p>	<p>Q1 2025</p>	<p>DAFM - Forestry Inspectorate</p>	<p>DHLGH / LAWPRO / EPA</p>	<p>Agreement on the relevant data to be collated.</p> <p>Full participation by different implementing bodies and projects in forestry sector.</p> <p>Data available in useable format.</p> <p>Data management system developed.</p> <p>Data sharing arrangements in place</p>
<p>Implementation Tracking: Annual reporting of implementation of measures per catchment</p>	<p>Catchment implementation recorded and accessible via data management system to the public</p>	<p>Q1-Q2 2026 (interim assessment)</p>	<p>DAFM - Forestry Inspectorate</p>	<p>DHLGH / LAWPRO / EPA</p>	<p>Implementation data available in a timely manner and at catchment scale.</p> <p>Data management system in place</p>
<p>Implementation Tracking: Annual reporting of implementation of measures per catchment</p>	<p>Catchment implementation recorded and accessible via data management system to the public</p>	<p>Q1-Q2 2027 (3rd Cycle outcomes)</p>	<p>DAFM - Forestry Inspectorate</p>	<p>DHLGH / LAWPRO / EPA</p>	<p>Implementation data available in a timely manner and at catchment scale.</p> <p>Data management system in place</p>

Forestry 2		DAFM recognises the key recommendation from the HYDROFOR Project (2016) to “cease afforestation on peat soils in acid-sensitive headwater catchments”, and is applying various water and non-water related policies, procedures and protocols that combine to rule out afforestation on such sites, or to limit it to appropriate multi-benefit native woodland.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Application of various State Aid rules underpinning the Forestry Programme (e.g. new soil type and fertility requirements, the exclusion of afforestation from undesignated Annex 1 habitats, SPAs and wetland habitats) and existing procedures and protocols (e.g. appropriate assessment and the protocol for acid sensitive areas)	Sites on peat soils in acid sensitive headwater catchments not approved for afforestation. Where afforestation does occur, limited to native woodland establishment and aimed at delivering eco-system services, including the protection of water	Forestry Programme 2023-2027	DAFM - Forestry	Water agencies and eNGOs / forestry sector	Forestry sector; adequate number of suitably qualified and experienced staff working to appropriate SOPs
Forestry 3		DAFM to increase the area of forests with appropriate water setbacks through the ongoing restructuring of existing forest stands at clearfell / reforestation stage.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Assessment of applications for tree felling licences for projects involving clearfelling and reforestation, including the constituent elements (such as referrals to other agencies, public consultation and Appropriate Assessment, and relevant protocols)	Applications complete the process and constituent elements within a reasonable timeframe, and a final robust decision is reached to license or not to license. If licensed, any conditions attached adhere to the criteria set out in DEHLG Development Management Guidelines 2007. Chapter 7, Section 7.3 (i.e. necessary; relevant to planning; relevant to the development to be permitted; enforceable; precise; and reasonable)	Forestry Programme 2023 - 2027	DAFM - (Forestry Inspectorate and Forestry Division)	NPWS / IFI / LAWPRO / Local Authorities / Uisce Éireann / other consultation bodies and the general public	Adequate number of suitably qualified and experienced staff working to appropriate SOPs

Continue to bring about the restructuring of forests and to undertake selected forest removal, where required, through the felling licence system and in accordance with the Felling and Reforestation Policy (and also through the availability of support for forest owners, under various support schemes under the current Forestry Programme, including the Continuous Cover Forestry Scheme and the Reforestation for Climate Resilience Scheme)	Continual engagement with relevant stakeholders (including forest owners and Registered Foresters), to underline the necessity for such restructuring in various subbasins, and to flag the availability of possible supports under the Forestry Programme, using relevant schemes	Forestry Programme 2023 - 2027	DAFM - Forestry	Forestry sector (private and public (Coillte)) / NPWS / IFI / LAWPRO / Local Authorities / Uisce Éireann / other consultation bodies / and the general public	Adequate number of suitably qualified and experienced staff working to appropriate SOPs
Continued engagement with stakeholders to ensure the most current and accurate data are used in the assessment process	Data incorporated into the information systems used by Registered Foresters (i.e. iNET) and Inspectorate staff (iFORIS, Ecology QGIS), as soon as possible after it is issued by the parent agency	Forestry Programme 2023 - 2027	DAFM - Forestry	Forestry sector (private and public (Coillte)) / NPWS / IFI / LAWPRO / Local Authorities / EPA / Uisce Éireann / GSI / OPW / NFGWS	Compatible datasets; ongoing maintenance and upgrading of the GIS based platforms IFORIS and Ecology QGIS (as used by the Forestry Inspectorate), and iNET (as used by Registered Foresters)
Number of field inspections	Field inspections undertaken by Forestry Inspectorate (including Forestry Inspectors and Ecologists); different types of inspections (pre-approval, operation, post-operation, ad hoc, incident-related)	Forestry Programme 2023 - 2027	DAFM - (Forestry Inspectorate and Forestry Division)	Forestry sector (private and public (Coillte)) / NPWS / IFI / LAWPRO / Local Authorities / EPA / Uisce Éireann / GSI / OPW / NFGWS	Adequate number of suitably qualified and experienced staff working to appropriate SOPs
Forestry 4	DAFM to ensure the application of water setbacks and other water-based protection during the creation of new forests, principally realised with support under the 2023 – 2027 Afforestation Scheme.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Continued engagement with stakeholders to ensure the most current and accurate data are used in the assessment process	Data incorporated into the information systems used by Registered Foresters (i.e. iNET) and Inspectorate staff (i.e. iFORIS, Ecology QGIS), as soon as possible after it is issued by the parent agency	Forestry Programme 2023 - 2027	DAFM - Forestry	Forestry sector (private and public (Coillte)) / NPWS / IFI / LAWPRO / Local Authorities / EPA / Uisce Éireann / GSI / OPW / NFGWS	Compatible datasets; ongoing maintenance and upgrading of the GIS based platforms IFORIS and Ecology QGIS (as used by the Forestry Inspectorate), and iNET (as used by Registered Foresters)

Assessment of the application for afforestation (with or without grant aid), including the constituent elements (such as referrals to other agencies, public consultation, Appropriate Assessment and EIA procedures, and relevant protocols, such as that for acid sensitive areas)	Applications complete the assessment process and constituent elements within a reasonable timeframe, and a final robust decision is reached to license or not to license. If licensed, any conditions attached adhere to the criteria set out in DEHLG Development Management Guidelines 2007. Chapter 7, Section 7.3 (i.e. necessary; relevant to planning; relevant to the development to be permitted; enforceable; precise; and reasonable)	Forestry Programme 2023 - 2027	DAFM - (Forestry Inspectorate and Forestry Division)	Forestry sector (private and public (Coillte)) / NPWS / IFI / LAWPRO / Local Authorities / EPA / Uisce Éireann / GSI / OPW / NFGWS	Adequate number of suitably qualified and experienced staff working to appropriate SOPs
Forestry 5					
DAFM to manage the application of support measures that have a clear role in relation to the protection of water, including: the Continuous Cover Forestry Scheme; the various native woodland and agro-forestry options under the Afforestation Scheme, the Native Woodland Conservation Scheme, and the Reforestation for Climate Resilience Scheme.					
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
New schemes with a particular relevance to the delivery of water-related ecosystem services to be introduced in the Forestry Programme 2023 - 2027	The roll-out and subsequent uptake of new schemes included in the Forestry Programme and relating to native woodland and agro-forestry establishment, continuous cover forestry, the restoration of existing native woodland, conversion of conifer stands to native woodland, the environmental enhancement of existing forests, and also, support measures such as temporary bridging programme	Forestry Programme 2023 - 2027	DAFM - Forestry	NPWS / EPA / IFI / Local Authorities / Woodlands of Ireland	Ongoing availability of funding through the period; availability of suitable planting material
Forestry 6					
DAFM to encourage the uptake of Forest Type 3 under the Afforestation Scheme, aimed at funding native woodland creation on public land, specifically to deliver woodland-based solutions for the protection of drinking water sources and water in general.					
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Direct engagement with public bodies eligible under FT3	Number of projects approved under FT3, and subsequently implemented	Forestry Programme 2023 -2027	DAFM - Forestry	Climate Action Regional Office (CARO) / Woodlands of Ireland / and all public bodies with land ownership	Adequate number of suitably qualified and experienced staff

Training for relevant parties in making applications under the scheme and assessing applications	Training targeted at Registered Foresters involved in developing applications under FT3, and at members of the Inspectorate involved in assessing applications under FT3	Forestry Programme 2023 - 2027	DAFM - Forestry	Climate Action Regional Office (CARO) / Woodlands of Ireland / and all public bodies with land ownership	Adequate number of suitably qualified and experienced staff; availability of stakeholders to co-develop and deliver training
Awareness-raising targeted at potential applicants and also at personnel of water-related stakeholders, who may direct potential applicants towards the scheme	Awareness-raising through normal promotional means and also via articles and presentations at various water-related forums and to specific water agencies	Forestry Programme 2023 - 2027	DAFM - Forestry	Climate Action Regional Office (CARO) / Woodlands of Ireland / all public bodies with land ownership / the forestry sector (private and public (Coillte)) / NPWS / IFI / LAWPRO / Local Authorities / EPA / Uisce Éireann / GSI / OPW / NFGWS / ENGOs	Adequate number of suitably qualified staff; availability of stakeholders to engage and promote the scheme
Monitor uptake of the scheme	Through in-house records, monitor the uptake of FT3 and the subsequent realisation of approved projects. Identify and address problems identified, exploit new opportunities as they arise	Forestry Programme 2023 - 2027	DAFM - Forestry	Climate Action Regional Office (CARO) / Woodlands of Ireland / all public bodies with land ownership / the forestry sector (private and public (Coillte)) / NPWS / IFI / LAWPRO / Local Authorities / EPA / Uisce Éireann / GSI / OPW / NFGWS / ENGOs	Ongoing maintenance and upgrading of the GIS based platforms IFORIS and Ecology QGIS (as used by the Forestry Inspectorate), and iNET (as used by Registered Foresters); availability of suitable planting material

Forestry 7					
DAFM to launch the new Forests for Water option (Forest Type 2) under the Afforestation Scheme, which offers added incentives to farmers and other landowners to promote the creation of new native forests specifically to provide water services, including improvements to water quality, drinking water source protection, natural water retention, the improvement of aquatic and riparian habitats, and the expansion of alluvial woodland.					
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Implementation of a new Forests for Water Scheme (represented by FT2 under the Afforestation Scheme)	Number of projects approved under FT2, and subsequently implemented	Forestry Programme 2023 - 2027	DAFM - Forestry	Woodlands of Ireland / IFI / NPWS / LAWPRO / ASSAP / Local Authorities / Uisce Éireann / NFGWS / EPA	Ongoing availability of funding through the period Availability of suitable planting material.
Training for relevant parties in making applications under the scheme and assessing applications	Training targeted at Registered Foresters involved in developing applications under FT3, and at members of the Inspectorate involved in assessing applications under FT3	Forestry Programme 2023 - 2027	DAFM - Forestry	Woodlands of Ireland / IFI / NPWS / LAWPRO / ASSAP / Local Authorities / Uisce Éireann / NFGWS / EPA	Adequate number of suitably qualified and experienced staff; availability of stakeholders to co-develop and deliver training
Awareness-raising targeted at potential applicants and also at personnel of water-related stakeholders, who may direct potential applicants towards the scheme	Awareness-raising through normal promotional means and also via articles and presentations at various water-related forums and to specific water agencies	Forestry Programme 2023 - 2027	DAFM - Forestry	Woodlands of Ireland / IFI / NPWS / LAWPRO / ASSAP / Local Authorities / Uisce Éireann / NFGWS / EPA	Adequate number of suitably qualified staff; availability of stakeholders to engage and promote the scheme
Monitor uptake of the scheme	Through in-house records, monitor the uptake of the scheme and the subsequent realisation of approved projects. Identify and address problems identified, exploit new opportunities as they arise	Forestry Programme 2023 - 2027	DAFM - Forestry	Woodlands of Ireland / IFI / NPWS / LAWPRO / ASSAP / Local Authorities / Uisce Éireann / NFGWS / EPA	Ongoing maintenance and upgrading of the GIS based platforms IFORIS and Ecology QGIS (as used by the Forestry Inspectorate), and iNET (as used by Registered Foresters); availability of suitable planting material

Forestry 8		DAFM to continue to address all forestry-related water incidents, as identified by DAFM Inspectors and LAWPRO or reported to DAFM Forestry by foresters, water agencies, environmental NGOs and members of the public.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Effective Standard Operating Procedures for inspecting live sites	Kept up-to-date and available to Inspectorate staff	Forestry Programme 2023 - 2027	DAFM - Forestry Inspectorate	IFI / NPWS / LAWPRO / ASSAP / Local Authorities / Uisce Éireann / NFGWS / EPA	Adequate number of suitably qualified and experienced staff
Effective Standard Operating Procedures for responding to, assess and resolve incidents	SOP updated as new issues necessitate it; also, periodic review of SOP	Forestry Programme 2023 - 2027	DAFM - (Forestry Inspectorate and Forestry Division)	IFI / NPWS / LAWPRO / ASSAP / Local Authorities / Uisce Éireann / NFGWS / EPA	Adequate number of suitably qualified staff
Continued active engagement with relevant stakeholders	Effective resolution of forestry-related water incidents, following engagement with forest owner and his / her agents (incl. Registered Forester and Operator) and with relevant water-related stakeholders	Forestry Programme 2023 - 2027	DAFM - (Forestry Inspectorate and Forestry Division)	IFI / NPWS / LAWPRO / ASSAP / Local Authorities / Uisce Éireann / NFGWS / EPA	Adequate number of suitably qualified and experienced staff; availability of stakeholders to engage
Training provided to Registered Foresters and Contractors	Engagement through Circular(s) to the Trade with the forestry sector, information notes and direct engagement via training events	Forestry Programme 2023 - 2027	DAFM - (Forestry Inspectorate and Forestry Division)	IFI / NPWS / LAWPRO / ASSAP / Local Authorities / Uisce Éireann / NFGWS / EPA / forestry representative bodies	Adequate number of suitably qualified and experienced staff
Forestry 9		DAFM to train Registered Foresters, Consultant Ecologists and machine operators, in relation to the design, and implementation of forestry projects, from the perspective of protecting and enhancing receiving waterways.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Training of forest owners	No. of owners trained	Forestry Programme 2023 - 2027	DAFM - Forestry	Forest owner representative bodies (e.g. ITGA, IFA) / Teagasc / EPA / IFI and other water agencies, to input into training content	Adequate number of suitably qualified and experienced staff; availability of stakeholders to engage; availability of water agencies to input

Training of Registered Foresters	No. of foresters trained	Forestry Programme 2023 - 2027	DAFM - Forestry	Registered Foresters / EPA / IFI and other water agencies, to input into training content	Adequate number of suitably qualified and experienced staff; availability of stakeholders to engage; availability of water agencies to input
Training of forestry contractors	No. of contractors trained	Forestry Programme 2023 - 2027	DAFM - Forestry	Forestry contractors / EPA / IFI and other water agencies, to input into training content	Adequate number of suitably qualified and experienced staff; availability of stakeholders to engage; availability of water agencies to input
Training of DAFM Forestry staff involved in licence assessments	Number of staff trained	Forestry Programme 2023 - 2027	DAFM - Forestry	DAFM Forestry staff / EPA / IFI and other water agencies, to input into training content, relevant agencies in the development of training materials	Adequate number of suitably qualified and experienced staff; availability of stakeholders to engage; availability of water agencies to input
Forestry 10	Continue to seek improvements to the licence applications process for key forestry activities.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Appropriate numbers of suitably qualified staff to access applications for forestry licences (with or without grant approval)	Number of applications processes and final decisions issued	Forestry Programme 2023 - 2027	DAFM - (Forestry Inspectorate and Forestry Division)	Forestry sector (private and public (Coillte)) / NPWS / IFI / LAWPRO / Local Authorities / An Taisce / EPA and Uisce Éireann (via referral process and bilateral engagement); other 3rd parties and the public, through consultation processes	Approval and availability of funding for recruitment
Continued engagement with stakeholders	Number of bilateral meetings; development of bespoke solutions and protocols	3rd cycle River Basin Management Plan	DAFM - Forestry	Forestry sector (private and public (Coillte)) / NPWS / IFI / LAWPRO / Local Authorities / An Taisce / EPA / Uisce Éireann / GSI / OPW NFGWS / ENGOS	Availability and capacity of stakeholders

Continued engagement with stakeholders to ensure the most current and accurate data are used in the assessment process	Engagement at various WFD forums and also, bilaterals with specific bodies with data, including EPA, LAWPRO, IFI and NPWS	Forestry Programme 2023 - 2027	DAFM - Forestry	Forestry sector (private and public (Coillte)) / NPWS / IFI / LAWPRO / Local Authorities / An Taisce / EPA / Uisce Éireann / GSI / OPW / NFGWS / ENGOs	Compatible datasets; ongoing maintenance and upgrading of the GIS based platforms IFORIS and Ecology QGIS (as used by the Forestry Inspectorate), and iNET (as used by Registered Foresters)
Review and update policy and procedures in line with new legislation, judgements, research and policy decisions	Engagement at various WFD forums and with specific bodies directly involved, including research institutes, EPA, LAWPRO, IFI, NPWS, and DAFM Research Division	Forestry Programme 2023 - 2027	DAFM - Forestry	Forestry sector (private and public (Coillte)) / NPWS / IFI / LAWPRO / Local Authorities / An Taisce / EPA / Uisce Éireann / GSI / OPW / NFGWS / ENGOs	Adequate number of suitably qualified and experienced staff working to appropriate SOPs
Number of field inspections	Field inspections undertaken by Forestry Inspectorate (including Forestry Inspectors, Ecologists and Engineers); different types of inspections (pre-approval, operation, post-operation, ad hoc, incident-related)	Forestry Programme 2023 - 2027	DAFM - (Forestry Inspectorate and Forestry Division)	Forestry sector (private and public (Coillte)) / NPWS / IFI / LAWPRO / Local Authorities / EPA / Uisce Éireann / GSI / OPW / NFGWS	Adequate number of suitably qualified and experienced staff working to appropriate SOPs

Urban Wastewater

UWW 1	Uisce Éireann will continue investment in wastewater infrastructure investing over €2.3bn over the period 2020 – 2024. This includes 108 wastewater treatment plants and 77 collection networks at an estimated cost of €1.542bn and 92 national programmes at an estimated cost of €780m.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Compile list of RC3 projects	List of projects that have been completed in RC3*	Q4 2024	Uisce Éireann	DHLGH / CRU	Capacity, funding, supply chain, statutory consent process

*See Appendix 9 for more information on RC3 Project List. This list includes projects that are complete and also some that are underway. Figures correct as of 19th March 2024.

UWW 2		Uisce Éireann will deliver infrastructure projects as set out in the Appendices for the next RBMP third-cycle (2022-2027).			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Compile list of proposed projects between 2022-2027	List of projects to be completed between 2022-2027 compiled*	Q4 2027	Uisce Éireann	DHLGH (WAU)	Capacity, funding, supply chain, statutory consent process

*See 'Appendix 6 – Urban Wastewater Project List – Uisce Éireann' for further information. Uisce Éireann have compiled a list (Appendix 6 - List 1) of projects that will be completed within the 3rd cycle of the RBMP. Uisce Éireann have also compiled a list (Appendix 6 - List 2a) of projects which will have started and will be complete in the three years following the 3rd cycle of the RBMP. Figures correct as of 19th March 2024. Subject to approval of RC4 funding.

UWW 3		Uisce Éireann will assess urban wastewater requirements for the 197 Water Bodies where Urban Wastewater has been identified as a significant pressure by 2027, including any new significant pressure water bodies identified by LAWPRO.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Assess the 197 Water Bodies where urban wastewater is identified as a significant pressure	List compiling the actions on all 197 WB where urban wastewater is identified as a significant pressure*	Q4 2022 and reviewed every 2 years	Uisce Éireann	EPA / DHLGH	Supply chain constraints, any further issues or constraints identified during the feasibility study process

*See Appendix 7 for further information. Uisce Éireann have compiled a list which addresses the 197 water bodies where urban wastewater has been identified as a significant pressure. Figures correct as of 19th March 2024.

UWW 4		Uisce Éireann will apply for reviews of Wastewater Discharge Authorisations, where required. The applications shall be in a timeframe that is appropriate to the delivery programme and agreed with the EPA.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Review of the licences initiated by the Agency Review licences where Uisce Éireann propose to increase wastewater capacity in support of social and economic growth	Licence applications prepared by Uisce Éireann	Ongoing	Uisce Éireann	EPA	Timeframes for submission of WWDA review applications, should have regard for: Lead time to collect, prepare the relevant environmental studies necessary to support review application e.g. EIAR, NIS, Marine Modelling Studies. Should be aligned to the timeframes set in UÉ Investment Plan/Revenue Cycle, where the proposal involves infrastructural development for which a grant of permission is required

UWW 5		DHLGH will deliver a multi-annual investment programme to provide wastewater infrastructure for villages not served by public wastewater collection systems.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Prepare Framework document for new funding measure under the Multi-annual Rural Water Programme (MARWP)	Funding under MARWP	Q2 2022 (Framework completed)	DHLGH (Rural Water)	Local Authorities / Uisce Éireann / EPA / LAs / communities	
Launch funding measure under the MARWP	Demonstration projects in medium term (4-6 years)	Q2 2022 (Launch completed)	DHLGH (Rural Water)	Uisce Éireann / EPA / LAs / communities	Land acquisition, planning issues
UWW 6		Uisce Éireann's River Basin Management Plan – Enhanced Ambition Programme will deliver at least 10 new wastewater treatment plant upgrades not funded under the current investment plan where discharges have been identified as being significant pressures on water bodies and impacting on WFD objectives.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Works identification	Works identified for inclusion on the programme	Q3 2022	Uisce Éireann	Project funded by the European Union under the National Recovery and Resilience Plan	Supply chain constraints. Any further issues or constraints identified during the feasibility study process
Works completion	Completion of the upgrades to the selected small waste water treatment plants	Q3 2025	Uisce Éireann	Project funded by the European Union under the National Recovery and Resilience Plan	Supply chain, planning and technical constraints, inflationary pressures. Successful navigation of the statutory processes
UWW 7		Uisce Éireann will continue investment in storm water overflows with a minimum of 139 upgrades over the period 2022-2027.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Investment in 139 Storm Water Overflows	Upgrade work to 139 Storm Water Overflows*	2027	Uisce Éireann	DHLGH / CRU	Capacity, funding, supply chain, statutory consent process

*Subject to approval of RC4 funding

UWW 8		Following the completion of negotiations, DHLGH will undertake transposition into Irish law of the recast Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Engage with the EU Commission and Member States on the negotiation of a recast of the Directive	Recast Urban Wastewater Directive	Q3 2022 to Q2 2027 (estimated)	DHLGH (WAU)	EPA / Uisce Éireann / Other national experts as required	Resources will be drawn from the Stakeholders. Risks: - recast Directive sets undeliverable targets environmentally and / or financially - delays in the negotiation process
UWW 9		Following the expected recast Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive the DHLGH will update the criteria for the performance of Combined Storm Water Overflows.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Convene stakeholder group to develop proposed new national policy	National Storm Water Overflow Policy to replace the Department of the Environment document: Procedures and Criteria in relation to Storm water Overflows	Q2 2028 depending on revision of UWWTD	DHLGH (WAU)	Uisce Éireann / EPA / CRU	Following the adoption of the revised UWWTD (estimated date Nov 2024), the Directive will then be transposed into National Law and following this transposition the Guidance on SWOs will be completed
UWW 10		Uisce Éireann will put in place a Research and Innovation Programme on nature-based solutions for small wastewater treatment plants			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Stage 1, Literature Review and Monitoring, including: Review international practice to identify appropriate NBS Enhanced monitoring and data collection at existing sites	Report on appropriate NBS including monitoring at selected sites. Data on process and ecosystem performance	Q3 2025	Uisce Éireann	EPA / CRU	Funding / Recruitment procurement

<p>Stage 2, Ecosystems approach, including:</p> <p>Develop methodology for seasonal ELV approach to achieve environmental objectives using ecosystems design approach</p> <p>Design manual and updated NBS selection tool</p>	<p>Design approach that optimises NBS design having regard for ecosystems approach and seasonal/variable licensing.</p> <p>Design standards and process selection tool.</p>	<p>Q4 2027</p>	<p>Uisce Éireann</p>	<p>EPA / CRU</p>	<p>Funding / Recruitment procurement</p>
<p>UWW 11 As part of the distance to target analysis process led by the EPA, the impact of Sectoral Action Work Plans, including that for urban wastewater discharges, will be assessed as part of the preparation of the 46 Catchment Management Work Plans. Uisce Éireann will publish a Sectoral Action Work Plan. The Sectoral Action Work Plan for urban wastewater discharges will include further detailed information on the targeting of measures to address the 197 water bodies at risk from urban wastewater discharges during the third-cycle.</p>					
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
<p>Engagement with POMs WG</p>	<p>Agreement on the development of the template for Sectoral Action Work Plans and the CM Work Plans</p>	<p>Q2 2024</p>	<p>Uisce Éireann</p>	<p>LAWPRO / DHLGH / EPA</p>	<p>Engagement by POMs WG members.</p> <p>Adequate resources available</p>
<p>Plan Development: Review of 2024 Wastewater Sector Work Plans including water body scale actions for the development of the Sectoral Action Work Plan template and for use in the pilot Catchment Management Work Plans</p>	<p>To inform the Sectoral Action Work Plan template and CM Work Plan template and data for input into the pilot CM Work Plan</p>	<p>Q3 2024</p>	<p>Uisce Éireann</p>	<p>LAWPRO / DHLGH / EPA</p>	<p>Agreement on the relevant data to be collated.</p> <p>Full participation by different implementing bodies and projects in Urban Wastewater sector.</p> <p>Data available in useable format.</p> <p>Data management system scoped – system development initiated.</p> <p>Data sharing arrangements in place</p>

Plan Development: Data collation of relevant work plan items and proposed measures on national basis including targets (annual or multi-annual data 2025-2027)	Sectoral Action Work Plan and data for input into the CM Work Plans	Q1 2025	Uisce Éireann	LAWPRO / DHLGH / EPA	<p>Agreement on the relevant data to be collated.</p> <p>Full participation by different implementing bodies and projects in Urban Wastewater sector.</p> <p>Data available in useable format.</p> <p>Data management system at advanced development stage.</p> <p>Data sharing arrangements in place</p>
Implementation Tracking: Annual reporting of implementation of measures per catchment	Catchment implementation recorded and accessible via data management system to the public	Q2 2026 (interim assessment)	Uisce Éireann	LAWPRO / DHLGH / EPA	<p>Implementation data available in a timely manner and at catchment scale.</p> <p>Data management system in place</p>
Implementation Tracking: Annual reporting of implementation of measures per catchment	Catchment implementation recorded and accessible via data management system to the public	Q2 2027 (3rd Cycle outcomes)	Uisce Éireann	LAWPRO / DHLGH / EPA	<p>Implementation data available in a timely manner and at catchment scale.</p> <p>Data management system in place</p>
UWW 12					
Uisce Éireann will engage with LAWPRO with the data required for their work in compiling the 46 catchment work plans and also trialling the Catchment Management Work Plans template in the 5 pilot catchments.					
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Engage with LAWPRO in the development of 46 Catchment Work Plans also trialling the Catchment Management Work Plans template in the 5 pilot catchments	Provide information as required for catchment work plans and pilot catchment areas	2027	LAWPRO	UÉ	Resources capacity
UWW 13					
Continue to develop and update the distance to target/Gap Analysis as a tool to reflect Uisce Éireann's understanding of future needs, and consequent investment requirements.					
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Refresh of data and re-run of analysis	Updated UÉ gap analysis	Q4 2024 with regular subsequent updates, typically every 2 years	Uisce Éireann	DHLGH / EPA	

UWW 14		Update the Nutrient Sensitive Areas designations under the Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Review of Trophic Status	Technical Report	4 year cycle	DHLGH (WAU)	EPA	
For selected NSAs carry out review of impact of WWTPs on level of eutrophication to determine whether Article 5 Standards should apply	Technical Reports for each NSA including Source Apportionment Analyses and/or simple/complex modelling as required	1-2 years for simple analyses 3-4 years for complex cases	Uisce Éireann (as Sanitary Authority as per UWWTD)	DHLGH / EPA / UÉ	Risks: Requires resourcing/funding and continued buy-in from stakeholders for evidenced-based solutions.

Urban Runoff Pressures

Urban Runoff 1		LAWPRO in conjunction with DHLGH to develop recommendations for an implementation strategy for nature-based Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems on a national scale.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Drafting of scoping document based on views of stakeholders obtained and detailed research	Draft scoping document submitted for approval	Q4 2021	DHLGH (WAU)	LAWPRO	
Publication of the scope for the delivery of a National Implementation Strategy through the River Basin Management Plan making process	Scoping document for the delivery of a National Implementation Strategy	Q4 2021	DHLGH (WAU)	LAWPRO	
Urban Runoff 2		DHLGH to provide interim guidance documentation to the Local and Planning Authorities on measures to be implemented to support the delivery of a greater focus on nature-based solutions in advance of a national implementation strategy.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Drafting of interim guidance based on views of key stakeholders obtained and further research undertaken	Draft interim guidance document submitted for approval	Q4 2021	DHLGH (WAU)	LAWPRO	
Publication of interim guidance on best practice for Nature-based Solutions to the Management of Rainwater and Surface Water Runoff in Urban Areas	Interim guidance on the best practice for utilising Nature-Based Solutions	Q4 2021	DHLGH (WAU)	LAWPRO	

Urban Runoff 3		Develop a National Implementation Strategy for Nature-based Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems on a national scale.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Draft a National Implementation Strategy based on views of key stakeholders	Draft National Implementation Strategy document submitted for approval	Q4 2025	DHLGH (WAU)	LAWPRO	
Roll out of implementation strategy	<p>NBS Advice note for Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets</p> <p>Rainwater Management Plan guidance</p> <p>Training across sectors and disciplines</p> <p>Integration into LA, national and local projects, planning and settlement plans</p> <p>Set up NBS inter agency visibility group to encourage NBS uptake across publicly funded projects</p> <p>Public engagement and participation in NBS</p>	2027	DHLGH (WAU & Planning)	LAWPRO / DOT / TII / DRCD (funded projects) / DHLGH (funded projects) / NTA (funded projects)	
Urban Runoff 4		DHLGH to establish a pilot project to investigate solutions to urban runoff using Nature-based Solutions.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
<p>1. Study impact of urban runoff on water quality over 2 years</p> <p>2. Develop and construct a Nature-based solution to mitigate impacts of urban runoff on water quality</p> <p>3. Monitor performance of Nature-based Solution for 2 years</p>	Final report on performance of Nature-based Solution to mitigate urban runoff	5 years	Dublin City Council & Cork County Council	DHLGH (WAU)	Resource capacity, tight timeline of projects
Urban Runoff 5		Additional resources will be provided to LAWPRO to provide specialist support to local authorities in adopting international best practice on nature-based surface water management within planning and infrastructure project delivery.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Complete review of Local Authority and agree resources required	Report to DHLGH	Q4 2023	CCMA	DHLGH / EPA / Local Authorities	Intermediate approval of Public Service Reform and Oversight Group required

Urban Runoff 6		The DHLGH will work with NIEA to seek Peace Plus funding projects, which will trial Nature-based Solution measures and sustainable technologies.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
DHLGH and NIEA, with the support of the EPA, to coordinate the technical aspects of a proposal for inclusion in the next call of Peace Plus	Proposal to trial Nature-based Solution measures and sustainable technologies under Peace Plus	Q3 2022	DHLGH and NIEA		
DHLGH to administer the funding arrangements should there be successful projects awarded	Catchment based project to trial nature-based solution and sustainable technology measures	2027	DHLGH		
Urban Runoff 7		Review of outcomes of the Dublin Urban Rivers Life project.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Review Final Report in Dublin Urban Rivers Life Project (project end date Q2 2024)	Review of Life project outcomes	2026	DHLGH (WAU)	South Dublin County Council / Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council	Resource capacity, LIFE Project overrun
Urban Runoff 8		Oversee the preparation of integrated urban drainage management plans.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Engagement between DHLGH, some LAs, Uisce Éireann and CRU to agree in principle a collaborative approach to development of integrated urban drainage management plans and thereafter develop a roadmap for same	Roadmap and guidance documents for integrated drainage planning based on undertaking integrated urban drainage management plans across six drainage sub-catchments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 No. within the Dublin Region • 1 No. within the Eastern Region • 1 No. within the Midlands Region • 1 No. within the Southern Region 	2027	Uisce Éireann	LA's / DHLGH (WAU) / CRU	Resource capacity for LA and Uisce Éireann. Note the revised UWWTD includes requirements for integrated drainage planning for larger agglomerations

Domestic Wastewater Discharges (Septic Tanks)

Domestic WW 1	DHLGH will continue to promote and monitor the uptake of the new grant schemes to ensure adequate numbers of people are availing of this measure. A research project will be initiated under the ESRI Research Programme on behaviours and attitudes to assess the level of uptake, impediments to uptake and to make recommendations for improving uptake.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Monitor uptake of DWWTS grant schemes	Numbers of DWWTS grants claimed annually	Ongoing	DHLGH (Rural Water)	LAs	Sufficient availability of funding
ESRI to undertake research	Research paper outlining recommendations for improving the uptake in domestic wastewater treatment system upgrade grants	Q4 2023	DHLGH (WAU)		
Domestic WW 2	A review of the National Inspection Plan (NIP) 2018-2021 was completed, with the outcome informing the next NIP for the period 2022-2027. An objective of these plans is to prioritise inspections to areas of greatest environmental and public health risk and secure upgrading works where required.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Review of National Inspection Plan (NIP) 2018-2021	Review of National Inspection Plan (NIP) 2018-2021	Q4 2021	EPA		
Domestic WW 3	Local Authorities to engage with householders to improve general awareness of septic tank maintenance requirements, and to address any failing septic tanks.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Local Authorities shall establish a clearly ringfenced resource for this action	Assigned personnel and time		EPA and LA	DHLGH (WAU)	
Local Authorities shall put a written plan in place to complete the engagement activities as set out in the NIP	Engagement activities at level appropriate to the scale of reliance on DWWTS in the Local Authority functional area		EPA and LA	NIECE Septic Tank Inspectors Network / EPA	
Document and report activities	Annual report to DHLGH and EPA		LA	DHLGH / NIECE Septic Tank Inspectors Network / EPA	

Domestic WW 4		Local Authorities to complete 5,800 inspections between 2022 and 2026 under the National Inspection Programme.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Local Authorities shall establish a clearly ringfenced resource for this action	Assigned personnel and time		EPA and LA	DHLGH (WAU)	
Inspections planned and completed each year as set out in the NIP	All inspections completed per the NIP		EPA and LA	NIECE Septic Tank Inspectors Network / EPA	
Domestic WW 5		The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage to issue a policy direction to Local Authorities regarding Advisory Notices and Local Authorities to enforce advisory notices under the National Inspection Plan.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
DHLGH to issue Advisory Notice to LAs	Advisory Notice issued		DHLGH (Rural Water)	Inspectors Network / EPA	
Local Authorities shall establish a clearly ringfenced resource for this action	Assigned personnel and time		EPA and LA	DHLGH (Rural Water)	
Enforcement progressed in line with the Water Services Act and NIP	All advisory notices followed through on in line with the Water Services Act and NIP		EPA and LA	DHLGH (Rural Water) / NIECE Septic Tank	
Document and report activities	Annual report to DHLGH and EPA		EPA and LA	DHLGH (Rural Water) / NIECE Septic Tank Inspectors Network, EPA	
Domestic WW 6		DHLGH to consider the outcomes of the research project into the application of zero discharge nature-based solutions and their applicability or not within Ireland's climatic conditions.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Complete research project on: What are the feasible and sustainable nature-based options that can be developed further to achieve zero discharge and minimise the adverse impacts on water quality from domestic wastewater discharges	The research output aims to advance the management practices for domestic wastewater discharges in areas of low permeability soils where there are higher risks to groundwater and surface water quality	Q2 2025	TCD / Leitrim County Council	DHLGH (WAU)	This research project is ongoing and funded by the EPA. As with all research there is a possibility that the envisaged outcomes will not be attained. However robust research provides learning outcomes that will inform future practical applications and or further research

Domestic WW 7	Review the outcomes of the pilot projects under the first multi-annual Developer-Provided Water Services Infrastructure Resolution Programme to inform future policy considerations on resolving sub-standard developer provided infrastructure with sustainable solutions.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Provide funding under the multi-annual DPI programme	Demonstration projects in medium term (2-4 years)	Q3 2022 (funding)	DHLGH (Rural Water)	LAs / Uisce Éireann / Local Authorities	Land acquisition, planning issues

Unknown Pressures

Unknown 1	The Local Authority Waters Programme (LAWPRO) will conduct assessments of water bodies in Priority Areas for Action where the pressures are unknown to identify the specific issues and actions that are required to protect or restore water quality as necessary.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Assess unassigned WBs as part of PAA work and make referrals for implementation of measures	Identification of significant pressures. Implementation of measures	Q4 2027	LAWPRO	Regional Committees	Adequate resources in place for LAWPRO
Unknown 2	Each local authority supported by LAWPRO will conduct assessments of other water bodies where the pressures are unknown (which are not within priority areas for action) to identify the specific issues and actions that are required to protect or restore water quality as necessary.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Assess unassigned WBs	Identification of significant pressures, where previously unknown	Q4 2027	Local Authorities	LAWPRO / Regional Committees	Adequate resources for local authorities
Unknown 3	The Local Authority Services National Training Group (LASNTG) will provide appropriate training programmes including on Catchment assessment, Integrated Catchment Management, and farm inspections for the staff of local authorities and all implementing bodies.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Review training programme necessary for the LA natural water sector	Competency framework of training courses for LA environment section staff	Q1 2024	LAWPRO	LASNTG	Adequate resources for LAWPRO. CCMA Business case review report
Coordination of development of training materials	Training materials. Update of the Agricultural Pollution Inspection Programme to be prioritised for training development	Ongoing	LAWPRO	LASNTG / NIECE WG	Adequate resources for LAWPRO and LASNTG. NIECE WG on Agriculture Inspections recommendations on training. Sustainable funding available for training programmes

Roll out of training programme	<p>Delivery of training to all implementing body staff.</p> <p>The Catchment Science course will now also be made available to members of the ACRES Cooperation Project Teams, which are responsible for delivering the ACRES CP under the CAP Strategic Plan</p>	Ongoing	LASNTG	LAWPRO / NIECE WG / Implementing Bodies	<p>Adequate resources for LAWPRO and LASNTG.</p> <p>Sustainable funding available for training programmes</p>
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Other Pressures

Other 1		DHLGH will prepare a proposal for enacting abstraction regulations.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Draft legislation to be settled	Regulations published	Q2 2024	DHLGH		Drafter availability/approval granted/timetabling issues
Licensing fees regulations to be settled	Regulations published	02 2024	DHLGH		Drafter availability/approval granted/timetabling issues
Other 2		The EPA, as competent authority will work with stakeholders to identify mitigation measures for abstractions determined to be significant pressures, and through the abstraction licensing process, require the implementation of relevant mitigation measures.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Site based monitoring to determine what mitigation measures are required	Monitoring results	Ongoing	Uisce Éireann and/or Asset Owner where appropriate e.g. ESB for abstractions from ESB dams	Stakeholders include but are not limited to EPA/WI/ESB/OPW/IFI/ Riparian Owners and impacted members of the public where appropriate	<p>Resources will be required across multiple agencies for large scale monitoring, data collection, implementation of mitigation measures, applications for and processing of consents, etc.</p> <p>Stakeholder engagement is likely to be a key factor in the agreement and implementation of mitigation measures</p>

Agreement of mitigation measures in consultation with the EPA	Mitigation measures		EPA (Regulator) and Uisce Éireann and/or Asset Owner where appropriate		Resources will be required across multiple agencies for large scale monitoring, data collection, implementation of mitigation measures, applications for and processing of consents, etc. Stakeholder engagement is likely to be a key factor in the agreement and implementation of mitigation measures
Implementation of mitigation measures and provision of site-based monitoring			Uisce Éireann and/or Asset Owner where appropriate		Resources will be required across multiple agencies for large scale monitoring, data collection, implementation of mitigation measures, applications for and processing of consents, etc. Stakeholder engagement is likely to be a key factor in the agreement and implementation of mitigation measures
Determination of effectiveness of measures based on ongoing monitoring			EPA (Regulator) and Uisce Éireann and/or Asset Owner where appropriate		Resources will be required across multiple agencies for large scale monitoring, data collection, implementation of mitigation measures, applications for and processing of consents, etc. Stakeholder engagement is likely to be a key factor in the agreement and implementation of mitigation measures
Other 3	The need for exemptions will be reviewed as the abstraction licensing process is rolled out.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Ongoing monitoring of implementation of the abstraction licensing process	Identification of exemptions which may be required for specific abstractions	Ongoing	DHLGH (WAU)	Uisce Éireann / EPA	

Peatlands

Peat 1					
Measures set out in the National Peatlands Strategy to be updated into a new Implementation Plan by NPWS.					
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
The Peatlands Strategy Implementation Group will report on progress in the implementation of actions regarding peatlands additional to those set out in the National Peatlands Strategy 2015	Progress reports on the implementation of the National Peatlands Strategy	Annually	NPWS	Peatlands Strategy Implementation Group	Reliant on the involvement of key stakeholders to the Strategy
Updating of measures in the National Peatlands Strategy	Publication of new Implementation plan for the National Peatlands Strategy	Q1 2023	NPWS	Peatlands Strategy Implementation Group	Reliant on the involvement of key stakeholders to the Strategy
Peat 2					
In support of the Catchment Management Work Plans, the NPWS will publish a Sectoral Action Work Plan. Measures set out in the National Peatlands Strategy to be updated into the Sectoral Action Work Plan by NPWS.					
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Engagement with POMs WG	Agreement on the development of the template for Sectoral Action Work Plans and the CM Work Plans	Q2 2024	NPWS	LAWPRO / DHLGH / EPA	Engagement by POMs WG members. Adequate resources available
Plan Development: Review of 2024 Peatlands Sector Work Plans including water body scale actions for the development of the Sectoral Action Work Plan template and for use in the pilot Catchment Management Work Plans	To inform the Sectoral Action Work Plan template and CM Work Plan template and data for input into the pilot CM Work plan	Q3 2024	NPWS	BnM / LAWPRO / DHLGH / EPA	Agreement on the relevant data to be collated. Full participation by different implementing bodies and projects in Peatlands sector. Data available in useable format. Data management system developed. Data sharing arrangements in place

Plan Development: Data collation of relevant work plan items and proposed measures on national basis including targets (annual or multi-annual data 2025-2027)	Sectoral Action Work Plan and data for input into the CM Work Plans	Q1 2025	NPWS	BnM / LAWPRO / DHLGH / EPA	Agreement on the relevant data to be collated. Full participation by different implementing bodies and projects in Peatlands sector. Data available in useable format. Data management system developed. Data sharing arrangements in place
Implementation Tracking: Annual reporting of implementation of measures per catchment	Catchment implementation recorded and accessible via data management system to the public	Q2 2026 (interim assessment)	NPWS	BnM / LAWPRO / DHLGH / EPA	Implementation data available in a timely manner and at catchment scale. Data management system in place
Implementation Tracking: Annual reporting of implementation of measures per catchment	Catchment implementation recorded and accessible via data management system to the public	Q2 2027 (3 rd Cycle outcomes)	NPWS	BnM / LAWPRO / DHLGH / EPA	Implementation data available in a timely manner and at catchment scale. Data management system in place
Peat 3					
Continuation and expansion of NPWS national programme of peatland restoration on SAC and NHA raised bogs, blanket bogs and fens.					
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Continue implementation of the various programmes to restore the raised bog Special Area of Conservation and Natural Heritage Area network	Restoration measures commenced/ undertake on protected raised bogs	On-going during lifetime of plan	NPWS	External contractors and service providers/ Landowners / local communities & other stakeholders	Non-agreement by landowners. Ground conditions. Reliant on adequate resources and market availability of external providers. Necessary funding available

Peat 4		Bord na Móna to oversee the EU LIFE Integrated Project “Peatlands and People”.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Implementation of actions under the three pillars of the project	Restoration and rehabilitation of areas of peatlands in the midlands region. Implementation of actions under Climate Action Plan	2021-2028	Bord na Móna	Project partners (NPWS , EPA, NUIG, Erinn Innovation, DAFM (co-financer) / landowners / local communities & other stakeholders	Non-agreement by landowners. Ground conditions. Reliant on adequate resources. Necessary funding available
Delivery of Pillar 1, the Peatlands catalyst, to support climate action and carbon benefits	Rehabilitation across 7000 ha of BnM cutaway bog. Restoration of raised bog habitats across 15 SAC, NHA and other sites (2900 ha). Develop best practise and enhanced measures in peatlands restoration. Monitor climate action benefits. Rehabilitation and restoration of 9900 ha pf peatlands is expected to support improving water quality in the receiving catchments	2021-2028	Bord na Móna / NPWS	EPA / Local communities	
Delivery of Pillar 2, the economic catalyst, a Just Transition accelerator programme to support climate action and carbon benefits	Develop an Accelerator Hub for systemic innovation and incubator for low-carbon and circular economies. Adaptation technologies will be provided with incubator infrastructures to allow businesses to test and adopt ideas and technologies for a Just Transition, and for new SMEs to incubate ideas (and investment and funding opportunities) for application by businesses and local Councils. In addition, these will lead to job creation in a ‘carbon region of transition’	2021-2028	Bord na Móna NUIG Erinn Innovation	Local authorities / Local enterprise boards / SMEs Local communities	

<p>Delivery of Pillar 3, “the People’s Attraction” the social and cultural catalyst, to support climate action and carbon benefits</p>	<p>Delivery of programme of actions.</p> <p>Develop an immersive, inspiring and magical attraction introducing visitors to the importance of climate action, peatlands, carbon, biodiversity and behaviour change.</p> <p>Screen potential sites, select a site and achieve planning permission for the development.</p> <p>Co-create behaviour and social change with communities and stakeholders through a financially sustainable, highly immersive and accessible tourist attraction of importance to climate action, peatlands, carbon and biodiversity (IP)</p>	<p>2021-2028</p>	<p>Bord na Móna NUIG Erinn Innovation</p>	<p>Eden International / Local authorities / Local communities</p>	
<p>Peat 5</p>	<p>NPWS and Geological Survey Ireland to fund an investigation into the causes of blanket bog landslides that occurred across Ireland in 2020, and the vulnerability of other at-risk areas to future failures.</p>				
<p>Steps Necessary for Delivery</p>	<p>Proposed Output</p>	<p>Timeline</p>	<p>Lead Org</p>	<p>Stakeholder Support</p>	<p>Resources/Risks/Dependencies</p>
<p>Investigate environmental factors of peatland failure; investigate potential to update National Landslide Susceptibility Map; prepare technical advisory note</p>	<p>Reports on main environmental factors that contributed to 3 major 2020 peatland failures in Ireland; potential to update National Landslide Susceptibility Map; technical advisory note to assist LAs in appraisal of failure susceptibility of developments proposed in peatlands</p>	<p>By Q3 2022</p>	<p>NPWS & GSI</p>		<p>Landowner co-operation for site access; quality of contractor outputs</p>

Peat 6		DAFM to oversee the implementation of sustainable management practices developed through the Blackstairs Mountains and Wicklow Mountains EIP projects within the ACRES East/South East Cooperation Project zone.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
For Blackstairs EIP agreement of shareholders to burning moratorium and establishing firewatch programmes	Reduction of wildfires/peat erosion will reduce sediment load entering watercourses	2018 - 2023	DAFM	Yes – established project at start and developed and organised by individual commonage community groups	Communication upkeep with wider community and non-project commonages not covered. Heavy time investment for landowners and unlikely to continue past project end. Located partially within ACRES Cooperation Project Area, which will continue actions when EIP is finished
For Wicklow Mountains EIP there are a number of steps including implementation of measures such as fencing off areas, establishing vegetation on bare or eroding peat, tree planting, peatland rewetting, development of sustainable grazing plans, establishment of buffer zones	Implementation of these measures will help to stabilise stream banks and prevent erosion and prevent peat/silt entering streams, provide filtering water flow, provide shading for water, improving biodiversity, raising water table to restore peatland, addressing overgrazing issues and ensuring good quality habitats to deliver for good quality water into the future	Benefits from implementation of measures will take effect immediately such as buffer zones preventing losses and some can take years – recovery of peatland could take 5 to 10 years	DAFM	Yes including NPWS, LAWPRO, farmers	Sourcing native trees and this may need a lead time to ensure sufficient stocks, peat measures can be very labour intensive if areas are hard to access and lack of machinery can be an issue, grazing management can be slow to change. Located partially within ACRES Cooperation Project Area, which will continue actions when EIP is finished
Peat 7		Continuation of the Bord na Móna operated Enhanced Decommissioning, Rehabilitation and Restoration Scheme (EDRRS) to H2 2026.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Implementation of EDRRS on 33,000ha of peatlands where turf harvesting has ceased	Rehabilitation of 33,000ha of peatlands	By end of Q4 2026	DECC / Bord na Móna	NPWS (sponsor of EDRRS) / Bord na Móna (operator of EDRRS)	Necessary funds continue to be available from NRRF

Peat 8					
Continuation of NPWS-led EU LIFE IP Wild Atlantic Nature programme, including the development of complementary projects such as enhancing restoration capacity through building projects such as Natura Communities, retrofitting programmes to reduce turf cutting in the Natura 2000 network of sites and development of a nature restoration programme compatible with Ireland's CAP Strategic Plan.					
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
DHLGH to oversee the coordination of the Wild Atlantic Nature LIFE Integrated Project (IP), bringing together the experience and knowledge of the associated partners, including implementation of preparatory and concrete actions	<p>Actions implemented.</p> <p>Updates provided to PSG and LIFE monitors on progress of project actions</p>	2021-2029	NPWS	<p>Associated Beneficiaries – DAFM / Teagasc / Fáilte Ireland / Coillte / RTÉ / NWRA / The Heritage Council / Bord na Móna / USC</p>	Resources for implementation

Industry, Mines & Quarries

IMQ 1					
DHLGH will examine opportunities to further support businesses in taking on a water stewardship approach in their operations.					
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Draft a National Water Stewardship policy	National Water Stewardship policy document drafted	Q4 2023	DHLGH (WAU)	DAFM / DETE / EPA / Uisce Éireann / CRU / Enterprise Ireland / IDA / Teagasc / Bord Bia / Bord Iascaigh Mhara	
Develop water stewardship standards	Delivery of water stewardship standards	Q1 2024	DHLGH (WAU)	National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI) / EPA / Enterprise Ireland / SEAI / Uisce Éireann	
Develop industry support structures and systems	Development of programmes and supports for water stewardship	Ongoing	DHLGH (WAU)	EPA	
Develop water stewardship standards for agriculture	Development of water stewardship standards for agriculture	Ongoing	DHLGH (WAU)	EPA / DAFM / Bord Bia	

Action 5.2 repeat (as above)		The National Technical Implementation Group will identify the issues preventing water quality objectives from being achieved and will identify any further evidence, legislative, policy or implementation gaps that need to be addressed.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Establishment of topic based working groups as necessary	Identification of any evidence, legislative, policy or implementation gaps which need to be addressed with the aim of enhancing the protection of water quality and preventing declines	Ongoing	EPA	NTIG members	

Drinking Water Source Protection

Drinking Water 1		Development of Drinking Water Source Protection Framework and Guidelines to meet the requirements of the recast Drinking Water Directive, and incorporating the application of abstraction controls under the implementing regulations for the Water Environment (Abstractions and Associated Impoundments) Act 2022.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Engagement with stakeholders (underway at present) Publish Guidance Review of National Framework and Guidance	Drinking Water Source Protection National Framework and Guidance Drinking Water Source Protection Guidance Review of implementation of Framework and Guidance	Q2 2023 Q2 2024 Q2 2026 (commence review)	DHLGH (WAU)	EPA / GSI / Uisce Éireann / LAWPRO / NFGWS	This output will be based on the recommendation from the Drinking Water Expert Group. Effective Drinking Water Source Protection requires: - Allocation of responsibilities in the Drinking Water Regulations 2023. - Provision of resources and funding for implementation of Drinking Water Source Protection
Regulations for the implementation of Water Environment (Abstractions and Associated Impoundments) Act 2022	Framework for the implementation of abstraction controls on large and environmentally significant abstractions	2024	DHLGH (Water Policy)	EPA / GSI / Uisce Éireann / LAWPRO / NFGWS	Effective abstraction control may impact of volumes of water currently being abstracted for Drinking Water supply. Alternative sources and more efficient resource management including leakage reductions will be needed

Drinking Water 2		A Sectoral Action Work Plan for Drinking Water will include measures and plans to address the source protection actions proposed under the Drinking Water Regulations. It will be coordinated by the DW Expert Group with support from Uisce Éireann, NFGWS and LAs.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Engagement with POMs WG	Agreement on the development of the template for Sectoral Action Work Plans and the CM Work Plans	Q2 2024	DW Expert Group (DHLGH)	Uisce Éireann / NFGWS / LA / LAWPRO / GSI / HSE / EPA	Engagement by POMs WG members. Adequate resources available
Plan Development: Review of 2024 Drinking Water Work Plans including water body scale actions for the development of the Sectoral Action Work Plan template and for use in the pilot Catchment Management Work Plans	To inform the Sectoral Action Work Plan template and CM Work Plan template and data for input into the pilot CM Work Plan	Q3 2024	DW Expert Group (DHLGH)	Uisce Éireann / NFGWS / LA / LAWPRO / GSI / HSE / EPA	Agreement on the relevant data to be collated. Full participation by different implementing bodies and projects in Drinking Water sector. Data available in useable format. Data management system developed. Data sharing arrangements in place
Implementation Tracking: Data collation of relevant work plan items and proposed measures on national basis including targets (annual or multi-annual data 2025-2027)	Sectoral Action Work Plan and data for input into the CM Work Plans	Q1 2025	DW Expert Group (DHLGH)	Uisce Éireann / NFGWS / LA / LAWPRO / GSI / HSE / EPA	Agreement on the relevant data to be collated. Full participation by different implementing bodies and projects in Drinking water sector. Data available in useable format. Data management system developed. Data sharing arrangements in place
Implementation Tracking: Annual reporting of implementation of measures per catchment	Catchment implementation recorded and accessible via data management system to the public	Q2 2026 (interim assessment)	DW Expert Group (DHLGH)	Uisce Éireann / NFGWS / LA / LAWPRO / GSI / HSE / EPA	Implementation data available in a timely manner and at catchment scale. Data management system in place

Implementation Tracking: Annual reporting of implementation of measures per catchment	Catchment implementation recorded and accessible via data management system to the public	Q2 2027 (3 rd Cycle outcomes)	DW Expert Group (DHLGH)	Uisce Éireann / NFGWS / LA / LAWPRO / GSI / HSE / EPA	Implementation data available in a timely manner and at catchment scale. Data management system in place
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Invasive Alien Species

Invasive 1		Finalise legislation for the implementation of the EU Invasive Alien Species (IAS) Regulation.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Resolve outstanding drafting issues	Draft legislation finalised	Q4 2024	NPWS	DHLGH	Allocation of resources
Bring new Statutory Instrument to Government	Memo for Government	Q4 2024	NPWS	IFI	Allocation of resources/funding
Invasive 2		Implementation of existing management plans and Priority Pathway Action Plans (PPAP) for priority invasive species, and drafting of a new PPAP for Soils and Spoil.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Implement PPAP for water and boat users	PPAP for water and boat users to be published and implemented	Q4 2022	NPWS	NBDC / representative groups	Allocation of resources/funding
Implement PPAP for angling	PPAP for angling to be published and implemented	Q4 2022	NPWS	NBDC / representative groups	Allocation of resources/funding
Draft PPAP for Soils and Spoil	PPAP for Soils and Spoil	Q2 2023	NPWS	NBDC / representative groups	Allocation of resources/funding
Implement PPAP for Soils and Spoil	PPAP for Soils and Spoil to be implemented	Q2 2023	NPWS	NBDC / representative groups	Allocation of resources/funding
Invasive 3		In support of the Catchment Management Work Plans, the NPWS will publish a Sectoral Action Work Plan, which will include for the implementation of existing management plans and Priority Pathway Action Plans (PPAP) for priority invasive species, and drafting of a new PPAP for Soils and Spoil.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Engagement with POMs WG	Agreement on the development of the template for Sectoral Action Work Plans and the CM Work Plans	Q2 2024	NPWS	LAWPRO / DHLGH / LA / EPA	Engagement by POMs WG members. Adequate resources available

<p>Plan Development: Review of Invasive Species Work Plans including water body scale actions for the development of the Sectoral Action Work Plan template and for use in the pilot Catchment Management Work Plans</p>	<p>To inform the Sectoral Action Work Plan template and CM Work Plan template and data for input into the pilot CM Work Plan</p>	<p>Q3 2024</p>	<p>NPWS</p>	<p>LAWPRO / DHLGH / LA / NBDC / EPA</p>	<p>Agreement on the relevant data to be collated.</p> <p>Full participation by different implementing bodies and projects in Invasive Species sector.</p> <p>Data available in useable format.</p> <p>Data management system developed.</p> <p>Data sharing arrangements in place</p>
<p>Plan Development: Data collation of relevant work plan items and proposed measures on national basis including targets (annual or multi-annual data 2025-2027)</p>	<p>Sectoral Action Work Plan and data for input into the CM Work Plans</p>	<p>Q1 2025</p>	<p>NPWS</p>	<p>LAWPRO / DHLGH / LA / NBDC / EPA</p>	<p>Agreement on the relevant data to be collated.</p> <p>Full participation by different implementing bodies and projects in Invasive Species sector.</p> <p>Data available in useable format.</p> <p>Data management system developed.</p> <p>Data sharing arrangements in place</p>
<p>Implementation Tracking: Annual reporting of implementation of measures per catchment</p>	<p>Catchment implementation recorded and accessible via data management system to the public</p>	<p>Q2 2026 (interim assessment)</p>	<p>NPWS</p>	<p>LAWPRO / DHLGH / LA / NBDC / EPA</p>	<p>Implementation data available in a timely manner and at catchment scale.</p> <p>Data management system in place</p>
<p>Implementation Tracking: Annual reporting of implementation of measures per catchment</p>	<p>Catchment implementation recorded and accessible via data management system to the public</p>	<p>Q2 2027 (3rd Cycle outcomes)</p>	<p>NPWS</p>	<p>LAWPRO / DHLGH / LA / NBDC / EPA</p>	<p>Implementation data available in a timely manner and at catchment scale.</p> <p>Data management system in place</p>

Invasive 4		Complete negotiations on the recruitment of additional Biodiversity Officers.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Conclude negotiations on the recruitment of additional Biodiversity Officers (10 new positions)	Agreement to roll out of a Biodiversity Officer Programme in local authorities	Q2 2022	The Heritage Council	NPWS / CCMA / LGMA / DHLGH	Availability of qualified personnel / budgetary provisions
Recruitment of additional Biodiversity Officers (11 new positions, approved February 2023)	Bring national total of Biodiversity Officers to 25 no.	Q3 2023	The Heritage Council	NPWS / CCMA / LGMA / DHLGH	Availability of qualified personnel / budgetary provisions
Invasive 5		Include action on Invasive Alien Species (IAS) as a priority under Local Authority Biodiversity Grant Scheme. The Local Biodiversity Action Fund provides Local Authorities with funding to target actions in the National Biodiversity Action Plan. Projects that include the mapping and appropriate treatment of IAS are listed as priorities within this funding stream.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Call for proposals announced to Local Authorities to include IAS projects	Inclusion of IAS actions in funding proposals	Annually	NPWS	Local Authorities	Allocation of resources / funding
Invasive 6		Develop a National Management Plan for Invasive Species, and bring to public consultation in early 2024.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Convene Steering Group to finalise the draft Plan	Advanced draft of Plan	Q2 2023	NPWS	NBDC / IFI / DHLGH / LAWPRO / Marine Institute / BIM / OPW	Allocation of resources
Public consultation and stakeholder engagement	Ensure wide engagement and important input from relevant stakeholders	Q2 2024	NPWS	NBDC / IFI / DHLGH / LAWPRO / Marine Institute / BIM / OPW / NIEA	Allocation of resources / funding
Progress to publication of the National Management Plan for Invasive Species	Agreed plan to be launched	Q4 2024	NPWS	NBDC / IFI / DHLGH / LAWPRO / Marine Institute / BIM / OPW	Allocation of resources / funding

Hazardous Chemicals in the Aquatic Environment

HazChem 1					
DHLGH will amend the EQS Regulations to take account of the assessment of River Basin Specific Pollutants (RBSPs) by the National Aquatic Environmental Chemistry Group (NAECG).					
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
<p>The NAECG is co-ordinated a review of the River Basin Specific Pollutants (RBSPs), which involves:</p> <p>Review of the current RBSP list.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of potential substances of concern for Ireland. • Determine the presence or otherwise of potential substances of concern in Irish surface waters. • Set EQSs for new specific pollutants (and review existing if required) 	<p>Report of monitoring results from the 24 no. sites monitored to determine the presence or otherwise of potential substances of concern in Irish surface waters.</p> <p>Revised Surface Water Regulations to take account of any new RBSP, deselection of existing SPs, and the revision of existing EQSs, if required</p>	<p>Q4 2024 for removal/addition of SPs. Following this, selection of suitable EQSs and review of existing EQSs will be completed</p>	<p>DHLGH (WAU) & EPA</p>	<p>Marine Institute / Uisce Éireann / GSI / DAFM / Waterways Ireland</p>	<p>The review of existing EQSs and selection of suitable EQSs may require contractor support, resulting in timeline of Q4 2023</p>
HazChem 2					
DHLGH and EPA will input into the recently commenced EU work to revise the list of Priority Substances and Priority Hazardous Substances. This will include liaison with the EU Commission in relation to the proposed amendments to the EQS Directive.					
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
<p>DHLGH and EPA attend meetings of WFD Common Implementation Strategy Working Group Chemicals, and participate in discussions on changes to the priority substances list, and participation in the sub-group on revision of the priority substances list</p> <p>Adoption of the revised list, and transposition into Irish legislation</p>	<p>Production of draft substance dossiers and subsequent legislative proposals for update of the surface water priority substance list by the European Commission</p>	<p>Legislative proposals for the revised list to be put forward on 26/10/2022</p>	<p>DHLGH & EPA</p>	<p>Marine Institute</p>	
	<p>Adoption and transposition periods will follow legislative proposal</p>	<p>DHLGH & EPA</p>	<p>Marine Institute</p>		

Liaise with the European Commission in relation to the proposed amendments to the EQS Directive, to include amendments to the list of priority substances	Changed list of priority substances (monitor for possible inclusion of antimicrobial resistance and microplastics)	Draft proposal received Q4 2022, negotiations to continue in 2023 & 2024	DHLGH	EPA / NAECG / Marine Institute	Currently a draft proposal with ongoing negotiations occurring at EU level. Outcome unknown
HazChem 3					
Teagasc, ASSAP and DAFM, with support from LAWPRO, will implement specific actions in high risk catchments to protect water quality from toxic impacts arising from the handling, use and disposal of sheep dip.					
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Assess the feasibility of introducing a register to record sales, use and disposal of chemicals associated with sheep dip	Register to track sales and disposal of (cypermethrin, diazinon and amitraz)	TBC	DAFM / LAWPRO	DHLGH / National Aquatic Environment Chemicals Group (NAECG)	Resources for implementation / funding
NTIG will work with the National Hazardous Waste Management Plan 2021 – 2027 Working Group in relation to preventing toxic impacts from the handling, use and disposal of sheep dip causing water quality deteriorations	Draft recommendations for the management of sheep dip	Throughout third-cycle	NTIG	DAFM / DHLGH	Resources for implementation / funding

Aquaculture

Aqua 1	Review of consents causing impacts: DAFM will conduct a periodic review, and where necessary, update of controls contained in aquaculture consents.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Discussions between DAFM and DHLGH	Revised licences as appropriate	Q4 2024	DAFM	DHLGH / Marine Institute / EPA	
Aqua 2	Enhanced integration of WFD into Aquaculture Consents: DAFM to enhance links between the aquaculture authorisation and the objectives of the Water Framework Directive.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
DAFM and the DHLGH will engage to review how the WFD assessment process is provided for within the aquaculture licensing system	DAFM, DHLGH and MI, will work collaboratively to update aquaculture licensing guidelines/process, if required, to ensure that the WFD assessment process is provided for. DHLGH and MI will assist with guidance pertaining to the WFD assessment process, where needed	End Q4 2024	DAFM / DHLGH	Marine Institute	
Aqua 3	Online Aquaculture licensing: To encourage the active involvement of all interested parties DAFM is to launch an online mapping viewer of licensed aquaculture sites in Ireland including access to licence and licence application information.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Development of the public aquaculture online viewer	Launch of the public aquaculture online viewer to enable access to mapping of licensed sites	Launch of public viewer in Q2 2022. Phase 2 delivery in 2024	DAFM	Marine Institute	Administrative support
Aqua 4	Enhanced Protection for Designated Shellfish Production Areas: DHLGH will examine the need for amendments to legislation and whether a new management framework for shellfish waters in Ireland is needed.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Creation of Expert Group who will identify the technical requirements for assessing shellfish waters	Identify the technical requirements for assessing shellfish waters including agreed assessment methods and metrics	Q4 2024	DHLGH (WAU)	DAFM / Marine Institute / Uisce Éireann / EPA / SFPA / BIM	Administrative support

Draft new primary legislation for shellfish waters	New draft primary legislation to include, amongst other updates, provision for revision of existing Designated Shellfish Waters and, where appropriate, the introduction of exclusion zones around rivers/outfalls		DHLGH (WAU)	DAFM / Marine Institute / Uisce Éireann / EPA / SFPA / BIM	Administrative support
New regulations to outline shellfish areas and the specific monitoring requirements and standards	New draft regulations		DHLGH (WAU)		Administrative support
Enactment of legislation	Full enactment of the legislation developed	Q4 2026	DHLGH (WAU)		Administrative support
Aqua 5	Complete the National Strategic Plan for Sustainable Aquaculture, including water quality measures.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Complete SEA, AA and Draft Plan following public consultation	Report	Q1 2022	BIM	DAFM	
Publish SEA, AA and final NSPA and submit to the EU	Strategy	Q1 2022	BIM	DAFM	

Land-Use Planning

Land-Use 1	Finalise guidelines for the incorporation of the Water Framework Directive into the planning system and rollout of training on the new water and planning guidelines to practitioners.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Public Consultation to be carried out on the Water and Planning Guidance	Public Consultation on draft guidance and Strategic Environmental Assessment	Q2 2024	DHLGH (WAU/ EUIPR)		Capacity with DHLGH. Consultant support
Finalised Guidelines following public consultation	Guidance document	Q1 2025	DHLGH (WAU/ EUIPR)	Steering Group: CCMA / Local Authorities / OPR / IFI / OPW / NPWS / Southern Regional Assembly / LAWPRO / Uisce Éireann / An Bord Pleanála / EPA	

Procure appropriate resource for the development and delivery of training	Appointment of appropriate consultancy support & deliver of training course to public sector employees	Q2 2025	DHLGH (WAU/ EUIPR)	n/a	Capacity within DHLGH. Consultant support
Recurring training for new practitioners / refresher courses for existing practitioners	Full and refresher courses in line with demand	Annually	DHLGH (WAU/ EUIPR)	n/a	Capacity within DHLGH. Consultant support
Land-Use 2	Legislative provision to give effect to the new Water and Planning Guidance to be progressed.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Develop legislative proposal/ Government Approval to proceed with legislative amendments / enactment of legislation	Full enactment of the legislation developed	(TBC)	DHLGH (EUIPR)	AGO	Capacity within DHLGH

Protecting and Restoring Estuarine and Coastal Waters

Coastal Action 1	Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) which are within the areas covered by the WFD (up to one nautical mile off shore) will be incorporated into the register of protected areas under the WFD, once the legislation is enacted.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
The enactment of stand-alone legislation to enable the identification, designation, and management of MPAs in accordance with our national ambitions and international commitments	Enactment of legislation	Q3 2024	DHLGH		
The designation of MPAs using best available science and a participatory, ecosystem-based approach	Designation of MPAs	2024-2030 ongoing	DHLGH		
The development of management plans for designated MPAs	The achievement of 30% MPA coverage by 2030	2024-2030 ongoing	DHLGH		

6. Implementation and Governance

Action 6.1					
LAWPRO will oversee the development of the template for the 46 Catchment Management Work Plans by Q2 2024.					
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Engagement with POMs WG	Feedback	Q2 2024 Ongoing	LAWPRO	DHLGH / EPA	
Engagement with LAWPRO on the information required for inclusion in the CMWPs		Q3 2024	All implementing bodies	LAWPRO / EPA / DHLGH / An Fóram Uisce / Regional Committees	LAWPRO resource to deliver the template and coordination aspects of CMWP. Resourcing limitations of implementing bodies
Implementation bodies to provide 2024 Work Programmes / Action Plans with actions at a water body scale to be trialled as part of the development of the CMWP template in the pilot catchment areas	Trial of existing work programmes/ plans as part of development of CMWP template	Q3 2024	All implementing bodies	LAWPRO / EPA / DHLGH / Regional Committees / NTIG	Meaningful engagement by stakeholders. LAWPRO resource to deliver the template and coordination aspects of CMWP. Full participation by all Implementing bodies. Resourcing limitations of implementing bodies.
Outline of template for Catchment Management Work Plans communicated	Feedback	Q3 2024	LAWPRO	EPA / DHLGH / All implementing bodies	Meaningful engagement by stakeholders. Adequate resources in place for LAWPRO
Finalise Catchment Management Work Plans for pilot catchments	Report on the trialling of template in pilot catchments	Q4 2024	LAWPRO	EPA / DHLGH / All implementing bodies	Adequate resources in place for LAWPRO
Finalise CMWP Templates and Processes	Agreed Templates and final report produced	Q4 2024	LAWPRO	EPA / DHLGH / All implementing bodies	Adequate resources in place for LAWPRO

Action 6.2		Implementing Bodies to engage with LAWPRO with the data required for their work in compiling the 46 Catchment Work Plans and also trialling the CMWP template in the 5 pilot catchments.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Engage with LAWPRO in the development of 46 Catchment Work Plans also trialling the CMWP template in the 5 pilot catchments	Provide information as required for catchment plans and pilot catchment areas	Q3 2024	LAWPRO	IFI / OPW / Bord na Móna / DAFM / Forest Service / NPWS / LAs / Marine Institute / EPA / ASSAP / relevant implementing bodies	Resources capacity
Action 6.3		DHLGH will establish a Programme Delivery Office to oversee and co-ordinate the many relevant bodies that manage, implement and enforce legislation and policies relevant to the Water Framework Directive.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Submission of business case	Business case submitted	Q1 2024	DHLGH (WAU)		
Agree structure and functions of the Delivery Office	Project delivery team structure and functions established	Q2 2024	DHLGH (WAU)		
Engagement with stakeholders on measures for implementation	Engagement structures	Q3 2024	DHLGH (WAU)		
Submission of progress reports on implementation of high level measures to NCMC	Submission of progress reports as standing item on NCMC meeting agenda	Ongoing	DHLGH (WAU)	EPA	
Coordination and publication of progress reports on implementation of programme of measures	Publication of progress reports on implementation of programme of measures	Ongoing	DHLGH (WAU)		
Action 6.4		DHLGH will review the roles and responsibilities of implementation bodies, shifting emphasis from the sharing of information and the provision of updates to a more focused provision of high-level policy direction, monitoring implementation of the Plan, and project management.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Engagement with implementation bodies	Review and agree new Terms of Reference, as necessary, of the relevant implementation committees within the WFD Governance structures	Q3 2023	DHLGH (WAU)	WPAC / NCMC / Regional Committees / LAWPRO	
If necessary, issue a circular setting out the responsibilities of implementation bodies	Issuing of circular setting out the responsibilities of implementation bodies, if considered necessary	Q3 2023	DHLGH (WAU)	WPAC / NCMC / Regional Committees / LAWPRO	

Action 6.5		An enhanced programme of formal and scheduled monitoring and reporting of progress in respect of the implementation of the RBMP will be put in place.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Engagement with EPA and implementation bodies	New monitoring and reporting arrangements for inclusion in the third RBMP. This will be assisted with the implementation of 46 catchments work plans as sub-plans to the national Plan. These will provide a basis against which to assess implementation of measures	Q3 2024	DHLGH (WAU)	EPA / LAWPRO / NCMC / Regional Committees	
Action 6.6		National Oversight and Audit Commission (NOAC) will include appropriate water quality metrics in Key Performance Indicators for local authorities during the next review of indicators.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Engagement with NOAC on the inclusion of Key Performance Indicators on water quality for local authorities	Agreement on inclusion of Key Performance Indicators	Q4 2023	DHLGH (WAU)	NOAC	
Action 6.7		Provide a continued emphasis on the full range of the regulatory mix, from awareness and education, through to norms and enforcement, with a review undertaken to ensure there is an appropriate balance in the third-cycle to ensure a greater emphasis on compliance assurance activity.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Coordinated delivery of measures through WPAC and participation in various interdepartmental / interagency working groups and committees	Implementation of measures to benefit water quality	Ongoing	DHLGH (WAU)	Other relevant Government Departments	
WPAC, NCMC and Regional Management Committees to continually review the progress in the implementation of measures	Progress Reports on Implementation	Ongoing	DHLGH (WAU)	EPA / LAWPRO / WPAC / NCMC / Regional Committees	
Mid cycle review of compliance assurance activity with particular emphasis on developments in water quality	Recommendations for improved compliance assurance activity	Q1 2025	DHLGH (WAU)	WPAC / NTIG / EPA	

Action 6.8		Specific capacity building programmes of work to be put in place to encourage the transfer of learning and knowledge.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Review training programme necessary for the LA natural water sector	Competency framework of training courses for LA environment section staff	Q4 2023	LAWPRO	LASNTG	Adequate resources for LAWPRO. CCMA Business case review report
Roll out of LASNTG training programme	Delivery of training to all implementing body staff	Ongoing	LASNTG	LAWPRO / NIECE WG / Implementing Bodies	Adequate resources for LAWPRO and LASNTG. Sustainable funding available for training programmes
Knowledge transfer from local initiatives and projects through the different governance tiers	Learnings from development and implementation of local initiatives and projects circulated through NTIG/ NCMC/WPAC meetings	Ongoing	LAWPRO	DHLGH (WAU)	
Action 6.9		Ensure further activation, development, and support of local level initiatives (rivers trusts, catchment partnerships) in support of the delivery of the RBMP.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Consideration of Resilience Project review report findings	Recommendations on developments and supports required to inform the pilot community fora	Q1 2023	LAWPRO	DHLGH	Adequate resources in place for LAWPRO
Workshops as part of the framework for the delivery of the Catchment Community Fora in 5 pilot catchments	Recommendations on developments and supports required	Q4 2023	LAWPRO	Community Fora	Adequate resources in place for LAWPRO. Meaningful engagement by stakeholders
Review of Funding models and supports to groups	Recommendations on new Funding model Framework for community engagement	Q4 2023	LAWPRO	DHLGH / Catchment partnerships / Rivers Trusts / Department of Rural and Community Development e.g. LEADER Programme	Adequate resources in place for LAWPRO. Meaningful engagement by stakeholders. Synergies and match funding including with industry

Action 6.10		The Water Forum to identify and advise the Water Policy Advisory Committee (WPAC) and Minister on the optimum level of engagement with the implementation bodies, agencies and structures for the WFD to support implementation of the third-cycle, in accordance with its functions under Article 26 of the 2017 Water Services Act (Number 29).			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Invitation of the Chairperson An Fóram Uisce to WPAC	Inclusion of Chairperson An Fóram Uisce in WPAC meetings	Q4 2023	DHLGH (WAU)		
Development of Memorandum of Understanding between An Fóram Uisce and DHLGH/WPAC	Memorandum of Understanding agreed	Q1 2024	DHLGH (WAU)	WPAC	
An Fóram Uisce to engage with Regional Structures through the Regional Management Committees	Engagement between An Fóram Uisce and Regional Structures	Ongoing	LAWPRO	Regional Management Committees / An Fóram Uisce	
Report from WPAC to An Fóram Uisce on implementation of measures	Progress Reports on Implementation	Ongoing	DHLGH (WAU)	An Fóram Uisce	
Action 6.11		Building on the excellent work already undertaken by the EPA, LAWPRO and various other bodies, DHLGH will provide further supports for the development of a National Water focused Citizen Science Strategy for the monitoring of water quality.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Development of a National Water focused Citizen Science Strategy	A 5-year strategy for the 3 rd Cycle RBMP	Q4 2023	Citizen Science Coordination Committee / LAWPRO	DHLGH / EPA / IFI / National Biodiversity Data Centre / second & third level institutes / other stakeholders / Education bodies	Adequate LAWPRO resources for rollout and animation. Continuous support from citizen science coordination committee. Engagement by relevant stakeholder bodies. Recommendations of National Freshwater Macroinvertebrate Citizen science working group
Rollout of the national macroinvertebrate citizen science process developed in Cycle 2	Finalisation of records database repository and IT requirements (app). Animation of the scheme. Training. Supports for community groups	Ongoing	LAWPRO	National Biodiversity Data Centre / EPA / Education bodies / Leader Programme / DRCD	Adequate LAWPRO resources for rollout and animation. Funding for animation. Engagement by community groups.

Development and production of training and citizen science support materials	Compilation of training programmes and materials including, community focused CSSI, SSIS, macroalgal citizen science handbooks and other materials	Q2 2024	LAWPRO	National Biodiversity Data Centre / EPA / Education bodies / Leader Programme / DRCD	Adequate LAWPRO resources for rollout and animation. Funding for animation.
Action 6.12		LAWPRO to evaluate the outcome of the Resilience Project for Rivers Trusts to inform future community engagement initiatives, including on citizen science.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Undertake a review of the effectiveness of the resilience pilot project	Report on the outcomes of the pilot project	Q1 2023	LAWPRO	Rivers Trusts	
Consideration of the Project review report	Recommendation(s) on the level of future support to be provided to River Trust Organisations	Q2 2023	DHLGH (WAU)	LAWPRO	
Action 6.13		LAWPRO to examine ways in which further support can be provided for the formation and capacity building of local forums to help identify and implement measures.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Establish a committee to design the format of a Community Forum based on Stakeholder feedback and Pilot findings	Proposed framework for establishment of Community Fora	Q2 2024	LAWPRO	DHLGH (WAU) / Programme Delivery Office / An Fóram Uisce	Adequate resources in place for LAWPRO. Appropriate delivery mechanism available. Meaningful engagement by stakeholders

Scoping exercise for the development of a framework on how to establish the Catchment Community Fora in five pilot catchments	Workshops to inform recommendations for pilot CCF in 2024: CCF Terms of Reference Supports required Delivery mechanism Relationship with existing and proposed local government, community development and public participation structures How CCF could influence the CMWP Proposals for a framework for future rollout of CCF	Q1 2024	LAWPRO	An Fóram Uisce / Rivers Trusts / Leader / PPNs / Others	Adequate resources in place for LAWPRO. Appropriate delivery mechanism available. Meaningful engagement by stakeholders
Trial different engagement methodologies in 5 pilot catchments	Evaluation of the different engagement methodologies Recommendations for the establishment of CCF during the lifetime of the third-cycle.	Q1 - Q3 2024	LAWPRO / An Fóram Uisce		
Action 6.14	LAWPRO and DHLGH to review the operation of the Community Water Development Fund with a view to strengthening it.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Continue to review the operation and effectiveness of the current programme to identify learnings from the second cycle and areas for improvement	Recommendations of review implemented, including additional funding if required	Ongoing	DHLGH (WAU)	LAWPRO	
Action 6.15	LAWPRO will facilitate public participation in the development of the Catchment Management Work Plans through workshops for the 5 pilot catchments. This will inform the development and implementation of a national approach to public participation to deliver outcomes for water, climate and nature.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Scoping workshops in 5 pilot catchments	Report on the findings and recommendations of the 5 pilot consultation workshops	Q2 2024	LAWPRO	All implementing bodies / AFU / Local Authorities	Meaningful engagement by stakeholders

Action 6.16		The public participation pilots will provide learnings (which will then be implemented) on how agencies, local authorities, communities and landowners can work together to support action planning and project co-creation for a combined top-down bottom-up approach to the development and implementation of the 46 Catchment Management Work Plans.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Pilots to include learnings and recommendations on the public participation aspects in the development of the CMWPs	Pilot findings and recommendation report	Q3 2024	LAWPRO	DHLGH / AFU	Successful rollout of the pilots. Engagement by stakeholders. Adequate resources in place for LAWPRO
Establish a committee to design the format of a Community Forum based on Stakeholder feedback and Pilot findings	Proposed framework for public participation	Q4 2024	LAWPRO	DHLGH (WAU) / Project Delivery Office / An Fóram Uisce	Adequate resources in place for LAWPRO. Appropriate delivery mechanism available. Meaningful engagement by stakeholders
Action 6.17		A review of the wider local authority structures will be progressed to inform future needs in the water area and to identify the appropriate level of resources and involvement required from the sector to meet WFD objectives.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Establish steering and oversight group	Project Board appointed	Q4 2021	CCMA	DHLGH (WAU)	
Appoint resources to carry out review	Project Team appointed	Q1 2022	CCMA	DHLGH (WAU)	Funding provided by DHLGH
Devise and agree work plan with stakeholders	Agreed work programme and timelines for review	Q1 2022	CCMA	DHLGH / EPA / Local Authorities	
Carry out quantitative and qualitative appraisal of existing local authority resources	Publish report	Q3 2022	CCMA	Local Authorities	
Carry out initial phase of the review and estimate resources required	Report to DHLGH	Q1 2023	CCMA	DHLGH / EPA / Local Authorities	Intermediate approval of Public Service Reform and Oversight Group required
Complete review and agree resources required	Report to DHLGH	Q4 2023	CCMA	DHLGH / EPA / Local Authorities	Intermediate approval of Public Service Reform and Oversight Group required

Action 6.18		The Research Programme on Water will be continued into the third-cycle with an emphasis on water governance, economics and behavioural aspects of water protection.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Establish research steering group with relevant stakeholders	Stakeholders identified and research steering group established	Q1 2025	DHLGH (WAU)	LAWPRO / EPA	
Terms of Reference established and initial projects areas identified	Terms of Reference agreed and research programme established	Q2 2025	DHLGH (WAU)	LAWPRO / EPA	
Research programme launched	Publication of research papers and material	Ongoing	DHLGH (WAU)	LAWPRO / EPA	
Action 6.19		Review to be undertaken of the Local Authority Waters Programme to identify necessary resources for the third-cycle and beyond to deliver the commitments under the WFD and future RBMPs.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Efficiency and Effectiveness Review to be carried out by LAWPRO	Recommendations for required staffing levels	Q3 2021	LAWPRO		
Action 6.20		Review the outcomes of the IPA Governance Research programme on Ireland's water governance arrangements and implement their recommendations where appropriate.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Consider recommendations	Recommendations included in the final River Basin Management Plan	Q3 2022	DHLGH (WAU)		
Review of Terms of Reference of WPAC, NCMC and NTIG	Terms of Reference reviewed and updated if required	Q3 2024	DHLGH (WAU)	WPAC / NCMC / NTIG / EPA	
Review of role and functions of NCMC in relation to WPAC	Clarification on the relationship between WPAC and NCMC	Q3 2024	DHLGH (WAU)	WPAC / NCMC	
Establishment of Project Delivery Office	Project delivery team structure and functions established	Q3 2024	DHLGH (WAU)		
Development of Memorandum of Understanding between An Fóram Uisce and DHLGH/WPAC	Memorandum of Understanding agreed	Q3 2024	DHLGH (WAU)	WPAC / An Fóram Uisce	
Knowledge transfer from local initiatives and projects through the different governance tiers	Learnings from development and implementation of local initiatives and projects circulated through NTIG/ NCMC/WPAC meetings	Ongoing	LAWPRO	DHLGH (WAU)	

Action 6.21		Implement the recommendations of the External Expert assessment of the Agricultural Sustainability Support and Advisory Programme (ASSAP) during the third-cycle.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Agree Terms of Reference for the review with stakeholders	Creation of an Expert review Panel	Completed in Q3 2021	Teagasc	DHLGH / LAWPRO / DSI / DAFM / Farming Organisations	
Carry out the review	Report and Recommendations	Completed in Q4 2021	Teagasc	DHLGH / LAWPRO / DSI / DAFM / Farming Organisations	
Implement review recommendations	Action on each of the recommendations	Ongoing	Teagasc	DHLGH / LAWPRO / DSI / DAFM / Farming Organisations	
Action 6.22		Water protection provisions in relevant sectoral policies will be strengthened, where necessary. These include; water services policy, spatial planning policy, agricultural policy and aquaculture policy.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Continued engagement across departmental and interdepartmental fora	Strengthened water protection provisions included in relevant policies	Ongoing	DHLGH (WAU)	Other relevant Government Departments	
Action 6.23		Measures that will deliver multiple policy objectives (e.g. water, biodiversity and climate adaptation/mitigation) will be identified and embedded into sectoral policies.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Coordinated delivery through the WPAC and participation in various interdepartmental / interagency working groups and committees	Inclusion of measures to benefit water quality and services into other sectoral policies	Ongoing	DHLGH (WAU)	Other relevant Government Departments	

7. Public and Stakeholder Engagement

Action 7.1		Create opportunities for young people to engage, upskill and use their voice for sustainable development, through youth-led and youth-focused groups, organisations and networks.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Support citizen science initiatives to address the climate crisis, including protecting biodiversity and the environment	Citizen science initiatives launched	Ongoing	DHLGH / DFHERIS / DECC	EPA / An Taisce	
Develop an initiative to promote biodiversity across primary, post primary, and third-level sectors and ensure that these institutions play an active role in providing areas to promote biodiversity	Biodiversity initiatives launched	Ongoing	DHLGH	NPWS	
Support the engagement of local communities systematically and on a larger scale through environmental restoration projects and environmental awareness programmes	Environmental restoration projects and environmental awareness programmes launched	Ongoing	DHLGH / DRCD DECC / Local Government	NPWS / NGOs / Local communities	
Support actions for biodiversity in local areas (for example via the Local Authority Biodiversity Action Fund and joint Environment and Nature Fund)	Funding provided to locally-lead projects	Ongoing	NPWS / Community Foundation for Ireland	DHLGH	

8. Economic Analysis

Econ 1		The DHLGH to undertake an evaluation including a stakeholder consultation of the appropriateness of water reuse for agricultural purposes within Ireland and report findings in the next River Basin Management Plan.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Prepare an evaluation of the appropriateness of water reuse for agricultural purposes within Ireland and report findings in the next River Basin Management Plan	Report for consultation	2025	DHLGH (WAU)	Relevant public bodies	
Undertake a stakeholder consultation	Report on the consultation feedback	2025/2026	DHLGH (WAU)	Relevant public bodies	
Report findings in the next River Basin Management Plan	Incorporation of the findings in the 4 th RBMP	2026/2027	DHLGH (WAU)	Relevant public bodies	
Econ 2		The cost effectiveness of new supplementary measures, such as the Water EIP and Barriers Mitigation Programme, will be analysed as soon as possible after they have been commenced and once there is sufficient progress made. The programmes will be modified, if and where necessary, to ensure that they are delivering value for money to the State.			
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Interim review	Assessment and Recommendations	End of 2025	DHLGH (WAU)	All relevant public bodies responsible for implementing	Capacity to undertake the review and support from outside public bodies
Final review at the end of cycle 3 which will inform measures design for cycle 4	Assessment of cycle 3 and Recommendations for cycle 4	End of 2027	DHLGH (WAU)	All relevant public bodies responsible for implementing	Capacity to undertake the review and support from outside public bodies

Econ 3					
The economic regulator of water services (the CRU) will continue to assess and approve Uisce Éireann's costs and investment plans. This will include an assessment of Uisce Éireann's investment decisions to ensure effectiveness, efficiency and value-for-money in Uisce Éireann's expenditure. The CRU will continue to monitor and report annually on Uisce Éireann's delivery and performance in that context.					
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Conduct revenue control process to review Uisce Éireann's submission and proposals, benchmark its proposed costs against comparator companies and complete a public consultation process to set revenue allowances for next revenue control period	Set appropriate revenue allowances for operating costs, capital costs and other items for the next revenue control period	The current Uisce Éireann revenue control period RC3 ends at the end of 2024. In 2023, the CRU will commence engagement with UÉ for the Revenue Control period RC4, which will run from 2025- 2029	CRU	DHLGH / EPA / UÉ	
Monitor Uisce Éireann's expenditure and delivery of outputs and outcomes through its annual Capital Expenditure Monitoring Programme and metrics through the annual Performance Assessment Framework	Publication of annual CRU Capital Monitoring Reports and Performance Assessment Framework reports	Annual assessments and publication of reports	CRU	UÉ	
Monitor customer service and policy initiatives through regular regulatory reporting	Publication of CRU's Energy and Water Monitoring report comprising data from UÉ's regular Customer Handbook, Capex Monitoring, Connection Charging, First Fix, Domestic and Non-Domestic usage data reports	Published every 6 months. Annual Energy and Water Monitoring report usually in August. Half yearly usually in December	CRU	UÉ	

Continued harmonisation of Uisce Éireann's charging structures. Following on from the establishment of a harmonised suite of connection charges and non-domestic tariffs. Similar work is being progressed by the CRU and Uisce Éireann for trade effluent charges. The regime will continue to be based on ensuring full cost recovery from non-domestic water and wastewater users	Establish an interim trade effluent charging framework in 2023 following public consultation	2023	CRU	UÉ	Data constraints
Econ 4	Uisce Éireann to implement the National Water Resources Plan and associated regional plans and to maintain national water and wastewater capacity registers to ensure security of supply and sufficient capacity in drinking and wastewater networks to inform decisions on balanced regional development in line with the National Planning Framework.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Publication of four Regional Water Resources Plans	Adoption of the four Regional Water Resource Plans	2023	Uisce Éireann		
Review and update of register inputs	Wastewater treatment capacity register. Water supply capacity register	Completed, to be updated annually	Uisce Éireann		
Econ 5	When approved, Uisce Éireann to implement domestic excess use and non-domestic charging.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Regulations associated with 'Additional Household Allowances' and 'Medical Exemptions' enacted	Relevant Regulations enacted	TBD	DHLGH		
Mobilise project implementation team	Plan and timeframe for delivery of Household Water Conservation completed	TBD	Uisce Éireann	DHLGH / CRU	
Complete Design of the Customer Journey and systems solution	End-to-end customer journey and systems and processes solutions designed and agreed	TBD	Uisce Éireann	DHLGH / CRU	
Implement the solution designed, commence the customer journey and operationalise the required processes	Full solution delivered, relevant systems and processes updated, and new Customer Management Capability operational	TBD	Uisce Éireann	DHLGH / CRU	

Continue to operate the Non Domestic Tariff Framework for Non-Domestic customers	Bills issued to Non Domestic Customers as part of business as usual activities	Ongoing	Uisce Éireann		
Econ 6					
The Minister will publish a report based on an economic assessment on the potential for a natural capital / freshwater ecosystem services approach to protecting water resources, including the need for new economic instruments and protection of freshwater and marine ecosystem services.					
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
The Minister will arrange for the preparation and publication of a report based on an economic assessment on the potential for a natural capital / freshwater ecosystem services approach to protecting water resources, including the need for new economic instruments and protection of freshwater and marine ecosystem services	Published report	End of 2027	DHLGH (WAU)	Relevant public bodies	This will likely be outsourced. Risks relate to the capacity and competence to deliver the output
Econ 7					
The Minister will maintain a funding stream to upgrade and take in charge towns and villages without wastewater networks to improve the wastewater needs of rural villages that are outside of the current Uisce Éireann collection network.					
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Maintain a funding stream to upgrade and take in charge towns and villages without wastewater networks to improve the wastewater needs of rural villages that are outside of the current Uisce Éireann collection network	Delivered upgrades in rural towns and villages and the number taken in charge	Ongoing	DHLGH (Rural Water)	Local authorities and Uisce Éireann	Available resources
Econ 8					
Uisce Éireann will update the current Water Services Strategic Plan to cover the 25 year period of water services management up to 2050.					
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Review of current Plan with input from key stakeholders	Water Services Strategic Plan Review document	Completed October 2020	Uisce Éireann	DHLGH	
Preparation of updated WSSP based on recommendations	Water Services Strategic Plan submitted to DHLGH for approval by the Minister	Q2 2024	Uisce Éireann	DHLGH / CRU / EPA / each Local Authority / each Regional Assembly	

Econ 9	Finalise the review of rural water services and produce a rural water services strategic plan including a national rural water resources plan for the rural water sector.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Finalise the review of the wider resources and investment needs of the Rural Water Sector	Rural Water Working Group to make recommendations to the Minister	Q3 2024	DHLGH (Rural Water)	Rural Water Working Group / Local Authorities / NFGWS	
Econ 10	Implement the policy as set out in “Irish Water – Towards a national, publicly-owned, regulated, water services utility” so that Uisce Éireann has integrated the day to day operation and delivery of water services into its own organisational structure, in place of the current Service Level Agreements, on a phased basis.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Implement the policy as set on in “Irish Water – Towards a national, publicly-owned, regulated, water services utility”	Integration of the day to day operation and delivery of water services into Uisce Éireann’s organisational structure	Ongoing	Uisce Éireann	Local Authorities	
Econ 11	Where additional targeted measures are identified as necessary to address gaps in WFD environmental objectives for cycle 3, as part of the mid-term progress review of the Programme of Measures in 2025, DHLGH will oversee the preparation of project proposals for funding under the new Infrastructure, Climate and Nature Fund.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead Org	Stakeholder Support	Resources/Risks/Dependencies
Mid-term review of Programme of Measures	Assessment and Recommendations	End of 2025	DHLGH (WAU)	All relevant public bodies responsible for implementing	Capacity to undertake the review and support from outside public bodies
Identification of project proposals for funding	Approval of projects under Infrastructure, Climate and Nature Fund	Q1 2026	DHLGH (WAU)	All relevant public bodies responsible for implementing	

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