

Query no	Date	Description of Query	Answer Details
2018-1	05/01/2018	Concerns about closure of the L6047 road and its consequences for the environment	The Liffey is not under our jurisdiction. Need to contact the EPA and Irish Water about the water quality concerns.
2018-2	08/01/2018	access to environmental information request log past 2014 on the website (Query sent through Strategy and Policy)	2015, 2016 and 2017 logs provided (Answer sent through Strategy and Policy). Links were then added on https://www.waterwaysireland.org/freedom-of-information .
2018-3	09/01/2018	Concerned about the overgrown nature of the Longford Branch	Longford Branch is not navigable. Was subject to a Feasibility Study which identified a number of issues which would first need to be addressed prior to any future reopening. Species and habitats present are of ecological value. Offered to forward habitat maps and species info for the route of her proposed walk.
2018-4	10/01/2018	Possibility of funding through the Heritage Grant for a Walk way around the Lough Lea	No eligible. Gave the details of the biodiversity officer in the county as she might know of other available grant schemes.
2018-5	12/01/2018	Possibility of funding through the Heritage Grant for a possible signage project?	Discussed the eligibility criteria for the Heritage grant 2018
2018-6	12/01/2018	Flooding concerns about erosion & overspill problem at Knapton, Abbeyleix	Try to resolve the situation through proposing a solution and asking local TDs to progress it with the relevant agencies i.e. Office of Public Works, National Parks and Wildlife Service, Inland Fisheries Ireland and the county council.
2018-7	12/01/2018	Query about lights for navigation on River Suir	Waterways Ireland do not encourage night time navigation and consequently we do not place lights on any of our navigation marks. Waterford Harbour Commissioners might know more about the River Suir.
2018-8	15/01/2018	On going collaboration on video project	Sent details of voluntary group doing clean ups on canal.
2018-9	15/01/2018	Scool Talk at the end of February, looking at the natural environment and preserving it	Agreed to do a talk.
2018-10	16/01/2018	Possibility of funding through the Heritage Grant	Discussed the eligibility criteria for the Heritage grant 2018
2018-11	16/01/2018	Rubbish on the canal	Waterways tries to collect rubbish along the canals but for for health and safety reasons it is limited to the hedge, towpath and riparian fringe. Currently working on developping an educational video about littering in the canal to raise awareness.
2018-12	16/01/2018	Would like to include an article (1000 words, together with photographs) on the history of that stretch of the canal for commercial, pleasure, industry, leisure and ecology, also info on the locks and hotels.	Sent article to be included in the next edition.
2018-13	16/01/2018	Check that all the contact details and information for your organisation on HeritageMaps.ie are correct	Query forwarded to archives section
2018-14	18/01/2018	Possibility of funding project through the Heritage Grant	Discussed the eligibility criteria for the Heritage grant 2018
2018-15	18/01/2018	Possibility of funding project through the Heritage Grant	Project similar to 2017 project, on a different waterway would be considered. Confirmed that Barrow Line is the Grand Canal Barrow Line and does not include the Barrow Navigation between Athy and St Mullins.
2018-16	22/01/2018	Update on previous query about the Grand Canal Blueway / greenway and its funding	There are still plans to progress these but the lead authorities (in terms of development) are the local councils and NTA. Waterways Ireland are of course involved but in a support capacity as we are the land owners.
2018-17	23/01/2018	Trying to gauge the level of support within the region for postgraduate courses.	Waterways Ireland would be of the provision of postgraduate research degree courses in Heritage Studies by GMIT, Potential future research collaboration would be: Historical Research, Innovative Ways of Showcasing Heritage, Digital Media, Showcasing existing datasets in a user friendly manner, community engagement projects, heritage product development.
2018-18	23/01/2018	groups who might be willing to work with LAWCO to develop projects to raise awareness of water management issues and catchment functioning	Lots of community groups around the Erne, such as the Lough Erne Landscape Partnership. Also the Biodiversity Office in FODC might be able to help. There is also 'Source to Tap', a cross-border project with alot of similarities to LAWCO. Waterways Ireland would also be happy to partner on relevant projects that tie in with our Heritage Plan.
2018-19	30/01/2018	School projects for home schooled children	Forwarded the query to the Waterways Ireland Education Officer
2018-20	31/01/2018	Concerns about works near the Grand Canal	Works mentioned are part of our scheduled winter dredging programme which has been ongoing over the past number of years on the Barrow Line. The canals are artificial waterbodies and dredging is an integral component of ensuring their continued ecological health as well as recreational use. Failure to dredge would, in time, lead to continued encroachment by reeds as a result of rising sediment levels. With regard to the gravelled section of embankment alongside the bridge. This was necessary to allow safe access for the larger plant and machinery including refuelling using bowsers. It will also improve safe access into the future for Waterways Ireland vehicles. Following completion of the works a skim of soil will be applied to allow this area to revegetate.
2018-21	31/01/2018	Concerns about works near the Canal	These are necessary bank reprofiling and relining of an embanked section

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2018-22	05/02/2018	Queries about railings / bins and signage following the development of the Greenway	The issue of railings is still under discussion. The bins are managed by either Kildare County Council or the local FAS Scheme. Re the signage, it is too late to apply for our Heritage Grants Scheme, however there may be scope to undertake a joint initiative with the Tidy Towns, RCAG, Kildare County Council and Waterways Ireland. Local Agenda 21 Grant Aid would also support this and is usually announced during the Summer.
2018-23	06/02/2018	Death of a swan on the canal	Following notification of the dead swan at Harold's Cross, Waterways Ireland Environment & Heritage Section contacted the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine to ascertain the current status of Avian flu protocol initiated a number of years back. The Department advised that due to recent confirmed cases of Avian Flu (HPAI H5N6) in the UK the protocol was still in effect. Waterways Ireland Operations staff liaised with the Department Vet and assisted with the safe removal of the carcass which will now be subject to further testing to ascertain the cause of death.
2018-24	08/02/2018	Query about kids worksheet developed by waterways Ireland	Sent link to the Pollinator worksheet, as well as the Waterway worksheets.
2018-25	09/02/2018	Third party contacted DSCPA asking to remove the kayak step as he felt it was impacting swans.	This is not the case, as supported by the IMRG. DSCPA representative accepted our reply. Also contacted the third party to let him know that we would not be relocating the kayak step.
2018-26	14/02/2018	Consultation for the Option Selection phase for the N2 Slane Bypass	Waterways Ireland has no comment in relation to the N2 Slane Bypass as the project is outside its jurisdiction.
2018-27	19/02/2018	Looking for a work experience/placement for a day or so, on behalf of her son	Called to discuss in more details the work experience/placement required
2018-28	21/02/2018	Looking for GIS data for the Ecological survey of part of the Royal Canal done by BEC Consultants in 2013	As Waterways Ireland currently does not have a GIS person, Waterways Ireland's standardised GIS ecological layers was emailed with disclaimer (specific data could not be extracted).
2018-29	21/02/2018	Projects on the Erne and related env reports / planning?	Gave a list of all projects completed or on going on the Erne
2018-30	21/02/2018	Waterways Ireland Projects on the Erne 2017 and 2018	Completed environmental reports and construction methodology emailed
2018-31	27/02/2018	More details in relation to Query 2018-28	Confirmed locations. Report requested is not finalised. Gave estimated timeframes ref Erne projects
2018-32	27/02/2018	Timeframe on projects mentioned ref query 2018-28	Confirmed locations. Report requested is not finalised.
2018-33	28/02/2018	Advice on Tidy Town Special Awards competition	Use the wildlife and biodiversity information Waterways Ireland collected along the entire Royal Canal to increase awareness about the canal heritage. And use the Royal 200 Waterways Ireland temporary signage to talk to local schools. This would tick the Wildlife and Natural Amenities category as well as the community Engagement section.
2018-34	03/03/2018	Interested in getting involved in the #Take5 initiative?	Interested. Would like to discuss it on the phone to see what involvement Waterways Ireland could have.
2018-35	05/03/2018	Report of brown scum with disgusting smell on the Royal Canal near Baltrasna and foam, looking like effluent.	Re the brown scum - this is an annual occurrence but it isn't slurry. Essentially the algal matting on the bottom of the canal begins to decompose and the release of gases lifts the entire mat to the surface and it has a striking resemblance to a slurry scum. The smell could perhaps be spreading of slurry on adjacent lands. The foam is also a natural occurrence. In faster flowing streams, or indeed at the base of lock gates where there is overflow of the breast gate, this agitation activates what is called surfactants in the water. Surfactants are also in soap and cause them to foam. A natural form of surfactant is present in plant matter (e.g. leaves) and when they begin to decompose the surfactant is released into the water column and activated by water turbulence.
2018-36	15/03/2018	Info on Near Field Communication tags	Forwarded a link explaining what is Near Field Communication. Also indicated that these tags are now used on the Royal Canal between Dublin and Maynooth.
2018-37	15/03/2018	Waterways Ireland's policies to deal with litter pollution on the Canals?	Answered sent through to the Visitor Centre. Highlighted all of Waterways Ireland's efforts to clean up along various sections of the navigations. In terms of any other specific policies on pollution Waterways Ireland holds up to date Waste Collection Permits for the safe carrying of any collected wastes to approved waste facilities. All our own depots of offices operate standard recycling practices, such as packaging waste recycling using green/blue bins, recycling of Electrical, Electronic goods, batteries, waste oils. All our operations sections continue to reuse and recycle all materials where feasible between job sites and depots.
2018-38	15/03/2018	Any comments on the working draft of the Westmeath County Draft Heritage Plan before public consultation?	Comments sent.
2018-39	28/03/2018	Is there any Pine Marten genetic research, possibly via scat analysis, to map the spread of this species?	Forwarded contact details of a PhD student in Queen's as well as a lecturer in Waterford IT
2018-40	29/03/2018	Comments in relation to a project to develop a biodiversity area with information signage in Leighlinbridge	Observations / comments to help the project

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2018-41	06/04/2018	Concern about swans during proposed zorbing event in Maynooth	Email sent to Waterways Ireland Inspectorate suggesting suggest that the the Zorbs should be located as close to the bridges to the east as possible in order not to interfere with the swans.
2018-42	09/04/2018	Complained about the litter / rubbish on the banks of the Shannon	Query forwarded to Ops section. Litter management is a task of the local authorities. Waterways Ireland have neither the responsibility nor the resources to manage litter, and have a 'leave no trace' policy.
2018-43	09/04/2018	Swans at Portobello	Swans have decreased significantly in numbers at this location and this is totally normal and happens every year. The reason for this is it is the start of breeding season for swans. During this time they become very territorial and a small number of pairs chase off other (largely single) swans to limit any competition for resources.
2018-44	10/04/2018	Report of Water Quality Deterioration on the Royal Canal at Castleknock	WFD historical water quality data (2013-2017) at the nearest sampling point to Castleknock shows that the results for E. coli which could indicate faecal contamination are all well within the agreed thresholds.
2018-45	15/04/2018	Query about the Heritage Grant	Under Wi's Heritage Grant Scheme, the project has to be related to one of our seven waterways. Offered other potential options of funding available.
2018-46	17/04/2018	Query on whether Waterways Ireland has a Biodiversity Action Plan	Emailed answer to Waterways Ireland's CEO office. Waterways Ireland does not have a separate Biodiversity Plan (as agreed with Northern Ireland Biodiversity Secretariat) but Biodiversity protection is an integrated element and objective of Waterways Ireland's Heritage Plan 2016-2020
2018-47	18/04/2018	Outcomes of the heritage grants given out last year in the Fermanagh area	Emailed details of projects received Waterways Ireland's Heritage Grant on Co. Fermanagh in 2017 (completed) and 2018 (in progress)
2018-48	18/04/2018	Tree planting request	Waterways Ireland cannot accommodate the request for a second tree to be planted along the canal as there is relatively limited space for new planting.
2018-49	23/04/2018	Scariff Tourist Office not included on list of smart card vendor	Query forwarded to Waterways Ireland's Marketing Department. Publications have been printed. Online Voyages and Visits will be amended to include the Scariff Tourist Office.
2018-50	24/04/2018	Copy of the Waterways Ireland Biodiversity Booklet	Biodiversity booklet sent by post
2018-51	27/04/2018	Sent photos showing pollution reported in 2018-42	Will investigate with site visit. Next sampling is planned the end of the month.
2018-52	10/05/2018	ROD Ecological Report	Report emailed as requested.
2018-53	14/05/2018	Copy of the Waterways Ireland Biodiversity Booklet	Biodiversity booklet sent by post
2018-54	16/05/2018	Looking for any environmental information with respect to fish, fauna, fringe, management etc in the Tullamore area	Extracted the information from the Ecological survey of the Grand Canal (Tobin, 2015) around Tullamore and emailed to to Waterways Ireland's Ops Section whom received the query
2018-55	17/05/2018	Reasons for crayfish numbers decreasing	Reasons for number going down: Report of illegal crayfish trapping at Ard Clough only last week, which was reported to National Parks and Wildlife Service / Number of cases of Crayfish plague around the country in the last few years which kills off all crayfish. National Parks would be happy to issue a license for the propose of educating the kids as to the importance of crayfish as a protected species.
2018-56	21/05/2018	Report of swan not able to access their nest due to low water levels	Waterways Ireland IS investigating the cause of the falling water levels as well as doing their utmost to help the swans access their nest or re-nest
2018-57	24/05/2018	Bins collection along the Irish waterways	On the canals there are no bins in very rural areas whereas in urban areas such as Dublin City some bins are managed by the city council. In other navigations such as the Shannon a decision was made to remove all bins from Waterways Ireland owned facilities.
2018-58	30/05/2018	Acres lakes ecological reports	Emailed Acres lakes ecological reports to North Shannon Ops Section for Drumshanbo tidy towns
2018-59	07/06/2018	Average temperatures in Ireland's waters - especially fresh water lakes and rivers	Waterways Ireland only do water testing and monitoring on the canals. Re rivers and lakes, Office of Public Works Hydrometric Section or the EPA http://gis.epa.ie/SeeMaps might be able to help.
2018-60	14/06/2018	Japanese knotweed growing along the canal opposite Parnell road, Dublin 12.	Waterways Ireland is currently looking to address this with a hope to commence its control this summer.
2018-61	20/06/2018	Concern about sawns at Grand Canal Basin	The water levels in Grand Canal Dock have lowered significantly due to recent weather conditions and lack of rain. Waterways Ireland is doing its utmost to keep water levels up. Waterways Ireland worked closely with the Irish Midlands Ringing Group and they confirmed that swans are very adept at climbing and scrambling to reach nests. A member of their group will go and inspect.
2018-62	22/06/2018	Waterways Ireland interested in a litter collection craft	Forwarded the query to Ops section
2018-63	24/06/2018	Authorisation to include Waterways Ireland's assets on www.refill.ie	Attached the Voyages and Visits publication for your information and ease to see where our jetties and services are installed, at each of these locations there are potable water taps. Waterways Ireland would be happy to have this information shared on your website. Any further information you find useful on our website can be used.

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2018-64	24/06/2018	Invasive species report on Grand Canal in Kildare	Could be a Yellow Bellied Slider. These are not native to Ireland but are not invasive so don't pose any immediate concern to the canal environment. There are a couple throughout the Royal and Grand.
2018-65	26/06/2018	Info about Japanese Knotweed	Japanese Knotweed factsheet sent
2018-66	27/06/2018	Info about Lamprey	Called to know more about the query. Answered all the questions
2018-67	27/06/2018	Grand Canal Basin Swans	Answer sent to Marketing and Ops section for review before forwarding
2018-68	29/06/2018	Weed management on the Canal	The Ops Weed Management Plan will address the excessive weed growth.
2018-69	10/07/2018	list of locations that sell smartcards	Emailed list of locations that sell smartcards
2018-70	10/07/2018	When will the Pier Head be open again?	Forwarded query to South Shannon Ops
2018-71	10/07/2018	Weed on the Canals	Weed growth is a common seasonal occurrence along the inland waterways and Canals
2018-72	12/07/2018	Possibility of additional amenities along the canal (bins, benches, Informative panels)	Waterways Ireland do accommodate benches along the canal on a case by case basis. Litter Bins on the Dublin City stretch are actually managed by Dublin City Council. Re the sign a local group who want to place one between Herberton Bridge and Suir Bridge in Dolphins Barn.
2018-73	17/07/2018	GIS Data Request	IT Department emailed relevant GIS files
2018-74	19/07/2018	Volunteering at GCB	Forwarded query to the WATERWAYS Ireland Dublin docklands team to organise.
2018-75	25/07/2018	Report of dead swan at Phibsborough	Waterways Ireland staff are not permitted to remove carcasses without the presence of the a representative from the Dept.
2018-76	25/07/2018	Ref: AIE25072018Waterways IrelandCorrected Copies of all documentation - for the period 01/01/2015 until 16/07/2018 - on details regarding the planning and developments of any destruction of vegetation on the property at the address Lecarrow or Strandhill , Drumkeeran, County Leitrim in the Townland of Lecarrow or Strandhill, Co. Leitrim	Waterways Ireland has no documentation in relation to the AIE request
2018-77	27/07/2018	Information on Invasives recorded on the navigation	Information requested was either sent by post or by email
2018-78	30/07/2018	Biosecurity Info	Biosecurity Info emailed
2018-79	02/08/2018	Report of Litter	Forwarded query to Ops Section
2018-80	02/08/2018	Water Pollution from sunken boat at Mountshannon	Forwarded query to Waterways Ireland's Inspectorate Section to check the sunken boat and Clare County council's water services in relation to the potential water pollution
2018-81	07/08/2018	Looking to buy Ruth Delaneys Grand Canal book	Showing as out of stock on the Waterways Ireland website but after checking with Marketing Section, payment was processed and the book was posted
2018-82	08/08/2018	Project in Arklow to promote awareness of the river and the wildlife	Not Waterways Ireland's jurisdiction. Worth trying to contact the your local Arts and Heritage Officer
2018-83	09/08/2018	Results of water quality analysis on the Royal Canal at castleknock	Consultants out undertaking WFD sampling noted the water was very clear at their most recent sampling. In addition, consultants out undertaking Ecological Surveys did not notice anything at this location.
2018-84	13/08/2018	Looking for historical information on the use of the Shannon for transporting goods in the 1920's	Gave a list of resources available on the subject
2018-85	29/08/2018	Information for leaving cert project on canal lock	Forwarded query to Ops section
2018-86	04/09/2018	Kilbeggan Branch Ecological Survey	Both report and GIS files for the Kilbeggan Branch Ecological Survey emailed
2018-87	25/09/2018	Concerns about quality of repair works at Emmet Bridge	This bridge is not managed by Waterways Ireland and Waterways Ireland is not currently doing any repair works
2018-88	01/10/2018	Where to buy Barrow Line Mooring posts?	These mooring posts are purchased from a sawmill near Tullamore. They cut and shape the wood and Waterways Ireland paint them. The recycled plastic alternative can be purchased from Murray's Recycled Plastic
2018-89	01/10/2018	Complaint about works near Corbally Harbour	Explained why these works were necessary but to offset the consequences several solutions such as planting biodiversity seedmix and native tree species (e.g. whitethorn, holly, etc.) were offered
2018-90	02/10/2018	Distributor selling environmentally friendly Marine Algae Cleaning product, suitable for fresh and sea water access points - slipways, steps, walkways and pontoons. The product is non-biocide, non-hazardous and non-toxic.	Asked for more information on the product
2018-91	04/10/2018	Heritage Grant Scheme	Explained the eligibility criteria for the Heritage grant 2018 and offered other funding options
2018-92	05/10/2018	Update on query	Next sampling is planned the end of the month.
2018-93	12/10/2018	Invited member of the Environmental Section of Waterways Ireland to meet in relation to planting a native Irish forest in Kildare as part of a larger environmental project near the Milltown feeder	Not available on that date. Asked to be updated on the progress
2018-94	17/10/2018	Enquiry about works going on or about to commence at Urlaur Lake	Directed the query to Inland Fisheries Ireland and the local County Council
2018-95	25/10/2018	Help ID plant in Pollagh Bog	Species called Cladonia
2018-96	25/10/2018	Historical photographs or drawings of the Clondra Lockhouse	Checked with the archive Section and no drawing of this lockhouse were found.

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2018-97	12/11/2018	invasive species training	Outlined some of the training and courses available in relation to invasive species
2018-98	17/11/2018	Newry - Portadown Canal included in Waterways Ireland Heritage Grant Scheme?	Projects on the Newry - Portadown Canal are not eligible for the heritage Grant
2018-99	22/11/2018	Report of sack of refuse left by Canal at Clonsilla train station	Forwarded the email to Ops to organise collection
2018-100	29/11/2018	GIS Data from the EclA of the Grand Canal Blueway 2016	Emailed the information again
2018-101	10/12/2018	Fuel leakage at the marina opp Landmark hotel Carrick	Forwarded report to Ops
2018-102	10/12/2018	Motor bike in the canal leaking petrol	Forwarded report to Ops
2018-103	10/12/2018	Kilbeggan branch GIS data	Emailed the information
2018-104	14/12/2018	Planting of tree along the canal in someone's memory	Not usually done but possible location found. Suggestion also made to Ops about the species to plant.
2018-105	17/12/2018	Enquiry about Limerick Navigation Act	No further information found
2018-106	08/10/2019	Large plastic bags of apparently refuse, are caught in tree branches in the Liffey river just below the Leinster Aqueduct, near Sallins County Kildare.	River Liffey is not under our remit. However, this should be reported to the County Council. Gace the contact details for the council as well as for the National Environmental Complaints Line.
2018-107	00/01/1900	Suggestions on how to tackle problem of bird fouling on the jetties	Acknowledge receipt of suggestions and explained what is currently done to tackle the issue
2018-108	04/06/2018	All records concerning works carried out on the towpath, banks and back drains of the Barrow Line of the Grand Canal and of the Barrow Navigation for the past 6 years as well as environmental reports	Answered by CEO Office