

Site Visit Report

Under the *European Union (Drinking Water) Regulations 2023*, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is the supervisory authority in relation to Uisce Éireann and its role in the provision of public drinking water supplies. This audit was carried out to assess the performance of Uisce Éireann in providing clean and wholesome water to the public water supply named below.

The audit process is a sample of the performance of a water treatment plant and public water supply on a given date.

Water Supply Zone	
Name of Installation	Kilmagnier
Organisation	Uisce Éireann
Scheme Code	0500PUB1210
County	Cork
Site Visit Reference No.	SV34815

Report Detail	
Issue Date	19/03/2026
Prepared By	David O'Malley

Site Visit Detail			
Date Of Inspection	25/02/2026	Announced	Yes
Time In	10:30	Time Out	12:00
EPA Inspector(s)	David O'Malley Maeve McHugh		
Additional Visitors			
Company Personnel	Uisce Éireann: Sharon O'Dwyer, Claire Hurley, Denis Hayes and Tommy Murphy.		

> Summary of Key Findings

1. There were two turbidity exceedances of greater than 1 NTU at the Kilmagnier water treatment plant in samples taken of the final water on 20/10/2025 and 19/11/2025. Following consultation with the HSE a Boil Water Notice was put in place on the 05/12/2025. The Boil Water Notice is currently in place.
2. There is no turbidity monitor with alarms and inhibits in operation at the treatment plant in order to prevent inadequately treated water entering the supply.

Uisce Éireann should submit a report to the EPA on or before 20/04/2026 detailing the actions taken and planned, with timescales, to close out the four recommendations in this audit report.

> Introduction

The Kilmagnier Public Water Supply (PWS) supplies an average of 133 m³/day of water, serving a population of 287. Raw water is sourced from two boreholes which is pumped to the water treatment plant (WTP). Treatment consists of chlorination. Treated water is pumped and stored in an on-site reservoir.

> Supply Zones Areas Inspected

The audit consisted of a review of the incident response to the turbidity exceedances at the water treatment plant.



1. Incident Management

1.1

	Answer
Was the incident suitably alerted to the plant operators, escalated and managed in order to maintain water quality and protect public health?	Yes
Comment	
Incident Investigation:	
<p>1. The EPA was notified on 05/12/2025 of two turbidity exceedances of > 1 NTU in the final water samples at Kilmagnier WTP: (6.03 NTU) on 20/10/2025 and 14.7 NTU on 19/11/2025. Uisce Éireann received a Group B turbidity sample result of 6.03 NTU taken on 20/10/2025 from the tap at the WTP. Uisce Éireann requested a resample as there had not been a history of elevated turbidity at the WTP. At present the WTP does not have an online turbidity monitor installed and relies on samples taken 5 times per year and analysed by Cork County Council laboratory.</p> <p>2. Uisce Éireann contacted the HSE and following consultation a Boil Water Notice (BWN) was put in place on the 05/12/2025 affecting a population of 287. Further investigations and sampling by Uisce Éireann have indicated that there is elevated turbidity in the Ballytrasna section of the network. The HSE advised that the BWN is to remain in place until the turbidity issue has been rectified and an online turbidity monitor installed at the WTP. The Boil Water Notice is currently in place.</p>	
Recommendations:	
<p>1. Install a turbidity monitor with appropriate plant alarms and shutdowns to prevent inadequately treated water entering the supply.</p> <p>2. Provide an action programme with timescales to remediate the turbidity issue in the network.</p> <p>3. Advise the EPA when the BWN is rescinded.</p>	



2. Source Protection

	Answer
2.1 Is the abstraction source(s) adequately protected against contamination?	No
Comment	
<p>1. The borehole located adjacent to the WTP is within a concrete structure and locked. The area surrounding the dip tube in the borehole was not adequately sealed.</p>	
Recommendation:	
<p>4. Uisce Éireann should ensure that all boreholes are lined and sealed in accordance with EPA Advice Note No. 14: Wellhead Protection and Borehole Construction.</p>	

Recommendations

Actions required by Uisce Éireann

During the audit, Uisce Éireann representatives were advised of the audit findings and that action must be taken by Uisce Éireann to address the issues raised.

Uisce Éireann is responsible for ensuring a clean and wholesome supply of drinking water and should implement the recommendations raised in this report without delay.

Response to Audit Report

Uisce Éireann should submit a report to the EPA on or before the date specified in the Summary of Key Findings detailing the actions taken and planned, with timescales, to close out the recommendations in this audit report.

The EPA advises that the findings and recommendations from this report should, where relevant, be addressed at other public water supplies.

Publication of Reports

Audit reports are published to the EPA's website, www.epa.ie, typically 1 month after the audit report is issued to Uisce Éireann.