

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	Baile an Fheirtéaraigh PWS 011D
Organisation	Uisce Éireann
Scheme Code	1300PUB1031
County	Kerry
Site Visit Reference No.	SV34865

Report Detail	
Issue Date	08/07/2026
Prepared By	Regina Campbell

Site Visit Detail			
Date Of Inspection	12/05/2026	Announced	Yes
Time In	11:20	Time Out	13:50
EPA Inspector(s)	Regina Campbell		
Additional Visitors			
Company Personnel	Uisce Eireann: Flan Real, Shabila Perveen Kerry County Council (working in partnership with Uisce Éireann): Pdraig Quinn (An Riasc WTP), Maurice Begley (Tobair Breandáin)		

> Summary of Key Findings

1. Both An Riasc Water Treatment Plant and Tobair Bhreandain Water Treatment Plant were operating satisfactorily on the day of the audit.

Uisce Éireann should submit a report to the EPA on or before 08/08/2026 detailing the actions taken and planned, with timescales, to close out the eight recommendations in this audit report.

> Introduction

Baile An Fheirtéaraigh Public Water Supply (PWS) supplies an average of 60m³/day and serves a population of 649 (EDEN figures).

The supply is served by two separate water treatment plants (WTP): An Riasc WTP and Tobair Bhreandain WTP which supply separate parts of the network. Both water treatment plants were audited and findings are combined in this audit report.

An Riasc WTP is served by a borehole and produces about 4m³ per hour. The water is pumped through 2 no. mixed media pressure filters and treated by UV (ultraviolet) for primary disinfection and chlorination for secondary disinfection in the network. The reservoir at this plant is supplemented with water from Laetaoibh WTP which was not visited as part of this audit.

Tobair Bhreandain WTP is located a couple of kilometres from An Riasc WTP. It is sourced from 4 no. boreholes. The groundwater is blended in a header tank, followed by UV for primary disinfection and chlorination for secondary disinfection in the network.

> Supply Zones Areas Inspected

The UV and chlorination treatment systems, monitors and trends were inspected at An Riasc WTP and Tobair Bhreandain WTP.



1.1

Is there a documented alarm response procedure?

Answer

No

Comment

There is no site specified documented alarm response procedure available for either An Riasc WTP or Tobair Bhreandain WTP. There is a one page incident escalation flowchart available at each plant.

Recommendation:

1. Ensure that (i) a formal documented site-specific alarm response procedure is in place at each treatment plant and (ii) provide training to relevant staff (including relief and temporary staff) on the requirements of the alarm response procedure

1.2

Are suitable plant shutdowns/inhibits in place to prevent the entry of inadequately treated water entering the distribution network?

Answer

No

Comment**An Riasc WTP:**

There is shutdown in place on the UV disinfection unit only.

There are high and low chlorine alarms and a high turbidity alarm in place. There are no shutdowns on high or low chlorine levels or on high turbidity in the final water.

Tobair Bhreandain WTP:

Shutdowns are in place on the UV disinfection unit.

Shutdowns are in place on high turbidity and on high and low chlorine levels in the final water.

Recommendations:

2. Install shutdown based on high and low chlorine levels in the final water at An Riasc WTP.

3. Install shutdown based on high turbidity (>1 NTU) in the final water at an Riasc WTP.

1.3

Are suitable controls in place to prevent accidental or unauthorised changes to alarm or inhibit settings?

Answer

No

Comment

Suitable controls are not in place to prevent accidental or unauthorised changes to alarm or inhibit settings at either An Riasc WTP or Tobair Bhreandáin WTP.

Recommendation:

4. Ensure that there is a system in place so that alarm and inhibit settings cannot be made locally without prior authorisation.

1.4

		Answer
Are online monitors operational?		No
Comment		
An Riasc WTP:		
The UVT monitor was reading incorrectly.		
The dual validation chlorine monitors for the final water were not reading correctly. One displayed 0.73 mg/l and the other displayed 0.81 mg/l.		
<u>Recommendation:</u>		
5. Confirm that the UVT monitors and dual validation chlorine monitors at An Riasc WTP have been serviced and are operating correctly.		

1.5

		Answer
Are instrument calibrations within date?		No
Comment		
An Tobair Brheandain WTP		
The UV2 unit requires servicing. The calibration sticker indicates servicing is required after 9,000 hours. The UV2 unit was displaying 9,174 hours since last serviced.		
<u>Recommendation:</u>		
6. Confirm that the UV2 disinfection unit at Tobair Bhreandain WTP has been serviced.		

1.6

		Answer
Are plant performance trends accessible remotely?		No
Comment		

Supervisory staff have access to trends remotely for both plants.

The site operators for An Riasc WTP and Tobair Bhreandain do not have access to trends remotely.

Recommendation:

7. Ensure that the plant operators for both plants have remote access to plant performance trends.



2. Site Specific Issues

2.1

Are Eden details correct?

Answer

No

Comment

The treatment types and sources of water for both An Riasc WTP and Tobair Bhreandain WTP are incorrect on EDEN.

Recommendation:

8. Update EDEN for the correct treatment types and sources for both An Riasc WTP and Tobair Bhreandain WTP.

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.