

# 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	
<b>Name of Installation</b>	Ballyroan PWS
<b>Organisation</b>	Uisce Éireann
<b>Scheme Code</b>	1600PUB1074
<b>County</b>	Laois
<b>Site Visit Reference No.</b>	SV32011

Report Detail	
<b>Issue Date</b>	04/06/2025
<b>Prepared By</b>	Lisa Noone

Site Visit Detail			
<b>Date Of Inspection</b>	08/05/2025	<b>Announced</b>	Yes
<b>Time In</b>	10:30	<b>Time Out</b>	12:00
<b>EPA Inspector(s)</b>	Lisa Noone		
<b>Additional Visitors</b>			
<b>Company Personnel</b>	Uisce Éireann: Edward Haythornthwaite, Maria Lloyd Laois County Council (working in partnership with Uisce Éireann): Seamus Fitzgerald, Tom O'Carroll, Larry Gittens, Michael Fitzgerald		

## > Summary of Key Findings

1. The audit found that Ballyroan Water Treatment Plant was operating and performing well in providing clean and wholesome water to the public supply.
2. The UVI sensor was not operating correctly and requires repair or replacement.

## > Introduction

Ballyroan Public Water Supply (PWS) produces circa. 600 m<sup>3</sup>/day of water serving a population of approximately 1,278 people. Raw water is abstracted from a spring source (Ballyroan Spring) and a borehole source (Cross of Newtown). Treatment consists of primary disinfection via duty/standby UV units and secondary disinfection by chlorination.

The audit was undertaken to assess Uisce Éireann's performance in producing clean and wholesome water with a focus on the alarms and inhibits in place at the WTP and the procedures in place to ensure appropriate oversight of treatment processes.

## > Supply Zones Areas Inspected

Treatment processes at the water treatment plant were inspected as part of the audit.



## 1. Alarms, Inhibits & Oversight Audits 2025

		Answer
1.1	Is there a documented site specific incident response and incident escalation process?	Yes
<b>Comment</b>		
1. The Uisce Éireann incident escalation flowchart was displayed at the WTP. However, the site specific trigger levels for the UVT and UVI were not recorded on the flowchart.		
		Answer
1.2	Were online monitors operational?	No
<b>Comment</b>		
1. Issues with the Trojan SWIFT UV unit 1 were identified in the audit, wherein the UVI sensor was not providing accurate readings. Uisce Éireann confirmed at the audit that the appropriate UV dose was being delivered to achieve primary disinfection.		
		Answer
1.3	Are there appropriate procedures covering verification of alarms and inhibits status following maintenance or other work on site?	No

## Recommendations

Subject	Ballyroan PWS Audit Recommendations	Due Date	07/07/2025
Action Text	<p><b>Uisce Éireann is responsible for ensuring a clean and wholesome supply of drinking water and should implement the following recommendations without delay.</b></p> <p><b>Actions required by Uisce Éireann</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Repair or replace the UVI sensor and ensure it is appropriately maintained in order to provide accurate readings.</li><li>2. Ensure that the Uisce Éireann Incident Communication Response Guidance Form displayed at the WTP contains site specific trigger levels for UVT and UVI to protect critical processes at the WTP.</li><li>3. Develop a procedure and deliver appropriate training covering the verification of alarms/shutdowns status following maintenance or other works completed at the treatment plant.</li></ol> <p>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.</p> <p>Uisce Éireann should submit a report to the EPA on or before the above due date detailing the actions taken and planned, with timescales, to close out the above recommendations.</p> <p>The EPA advises that the findings and recommendations from this audit report should, where relevant, be addressed at other public water supplies.</p>		