

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	Sow Regional
Organisation	Uisce Éireann
Scheme Code	3300PUB1641
County	Wexford
Site Visit Reference No.	SV32619

Report Detail	
Issue Date	20/06/2025
Prepared By	Sean O'Leary

Site Visit Detail			
Date Of Inspection	20/05/2025	Announced	Yes
Time In	12:15	Time Out	13:00
EPA Inspector(s)	Sean O'Leary		
Additional Visitors			
Company Personnel	Uisce Éireann: Denis McGrath, Edward Doyle and Ken Jones		

> Summary of Key Findings

1. The audit found that the Ballinellard Water Treatment Plant is well managed and was producing satisfactory water on the day of the audit.
2. There is no documented site specific alarm response procedure in place at the treatment plant.
3. A leak was identified on the outflow pipeline leaving the pumphouse and into the network.

> Introduction

The Ballinellard Water Treatment Plant is the smaller of two water treatment plants that supply the Sow Regional public water supply (PWS). The Sow Regional Public Water Supply supplies an average of 488 m³/day of water, serving a population of 11, 485 (EDEN 2024). Killmallock Bridge WTP, although not connected via the network also serves the Sow Regional PWS.

The source for the supply is one onsite borehole. Treatment consists of 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 water treatment plant.

> Supply Zones Areas Inspected

The onsite borehole, chlorination dosing system and pumps at the water treatment plant were inspected.



1. Alarms, Inhibits & Oversight Audits 2025

1.1

Is there a documented procedure for responding to specific alarms?

Answer

No

Comment

1. Uisce Éireann confirmed there was no specific alarm response procedure.



2. Site Specific Issues

2.1

Has the protozoal compliance log treatment requirement been identified for the water treatment plant?

Answer

No

Comment

1. Uisce Éireann indicated that the the Ballinellard WTP has a 3 log treatment requirement subject to completion of a source and sanitary survey

2.2

Is all pipework suitably maintained to avoid leakage at the treatment plant?

Answer

No

Comment

1. During the audit a leak was noted originating from the outflow pipework leaving the pumphouse towards the network. Significant levels of water were present in a water sump where the pipework was located.

Recommendations

Subject	Audit recommendations	Due Date	20/07/2025
Action Text	<p>Uisce Éireann is responsible for ensuring a clean and wholesome supply of drinking water and should implement the following recommendations without delay.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Carry out works to address the leak noted on the outflow pipeline between the pumphouse and the network.2. Complete (i) a Source and Sanitary Survey to confirm the log treatment requirement for the Ballinellard WTP; (ii) provide a timeframe to address any treatment log deficit that exists.3. Ensure that: (i) a formal site specific alarm response procedure is in place at the treatment plant and (ii) provide training to relevant staff (including relief and temporary staff) on the requirements of the alarm response procedure. <p>Actions required by Uisce Éireann</p> <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 20/07/2025 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>		