



2023 Annual Report on the National Hazardous Waste Management Plan 2021-2027



THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY PROGRAMME
The Driving Force for Ireland's Move to a Circular Economy



2023 Annual Report on the National Hazardous Waste Management Plan 2021-2027

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Contents

Acronyms	iv
1. Introduction	1
2. Plan Recommendations	2
3. Progress Report on NHWMP Recommendations and Associated Key Actions	3

Acronyms

The following acronyms are utilised in this report:

CoR	Certificate of Registration
DAFM	Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
DECC	Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications
DETE	Department of Enterprise, Trpopsade and Employment
DoH	Department of Health
ECHA	European Chemicals Agency
EEA	European Economic Area
ELV	End-of-Life Vehicle
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
GPP	Green Public Procurement
HSE	Health Service Executive
IWMA	Irish Waste Management Association
LA	Local Authority
LGMA	Local Government Management Agency
MSW	Municipal Solid Waste
NHWMP	National Hazardous Waste Management Plan
NIECE	Network for Ireland's Environmental Compliance and Enforcement
NTFSO	National TFS Office
NWMP	National Waste Management Plan
OGP	Office of Government Procurement
POPs	Persistent Organic Pollutants
REACH	Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals
RoHS	Restriction of Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment
RWMPO	Regional Waste Management Planning Office
SVHC	Substance of Very High Concern
WFP	Waste Facility Permit
WTF	Waste transfer

1. Introduction

In December 2021, the EPA published the **National Hazardous Waste Management Plan 2021-2027** (NHWMP). This is the fourth NHWMP and is made under Section 26 of the Waste Management Act 1996. The purpose of this plan is to protect the environment and human health in Ireland through best-practice management of hazardous wastes through the following objectives:

1. Support and drive priority prevention actions by industry and the public to reduce the generation of hazardous waste;
2. Support the identification of adequate and appropriate collection infrastructure for all hazardous wastes with a view to mitigating environmental and health impacts;
3. Endorse the proximity principle such that hazardous wastes are treated as close to the point of production as possible – including within Ireland, taking into account the need for specialised installations for certain types of waste.
4. Support effective regulation of the movement and management of hazardous wastes in line with national policy priorities;
5. Promotion of safe reuse and recycling pathways in support of the circular economy.

The plan sets out the priorities to be pursued over the term of the plan to improve the prevention and management of hazardous waste. The plan takes account of the progress made since the previous revised plan and the waste policy and legislative changes that have occurred since the previous revised plan was published.

The implementation of the NHWMP is coordinated and driven by the EPA's Circular Economy Regulation team. This team also fulfils a number of other important roles, including the regulation of end-of-waste and by-products, supporting stakeholders achieve circularity through guidance and advice, and influencing legislative improvements to support the transition to a circular economy.

This is the second annual report and presents an update on implementation during the second year of the Plan (2023), as described in more detail below.

2. Plan Recommendations

The plan priorities are set out in 20 recommendations to be actioned within the lifetime of the plan. The recommendations are grouped into the following categories: Policy and Regulation; Prevention; Collection and Treatment; and Implementation. Each recommendation is accompanied by an 'owner' or Lead Organisation and specific key actions required to be implemented. Recommendation 19 of the plan requires the following:

Provide leadership on achievement of NHWMP objectives; with regular progress reports on implementation of the plan recommendations.

The EPA are owners or 'Lead Organisation' for all the key actions of recommendation 19, including 19.2 as follows:

Provide an annual update on progress of plan recommendations.

In response to this key action, Section 3 of this report provides an update on all recommendations and key actions with a timeframe of 2021, 2022, 2023 'ongoing' and 'annually'. It should be noted that many recommendations and key actions required timeframes to be extended to allow for teams and resources to be established following publication of the NHWMP in December 2021. For this reason, a revised timeframe for a number of key actions is also provided in Section 3 of this report.

3. Progress Report on NHWMP Recommendations and Associated Key Actions

No.	Recommendation	Lead Org(s)	Key Action No.	Key Actions	Original Timeframe	Revised Timeframe	Status
	Policy and Regulation	Target objectives: Collection; Proximity; Regulation; Circular Economy.					
1	Ensure a coordinated national approach on hazardous waste in the context of the Circular Economy, with focus on prevention.	DECC/EPA	1.1	Incorporate prevention and management of hazardous waste into the national Circular Economy Programme.	Q1-2022	Complete	Complete: In 2020, the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC) launched a new national waste policy, <i>A Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy</i> . The plan recognises the importance of appropriate management of hazardous wastes and notes the position of the NHWMP within the hierarchy of statutory plans and programmes for the waste area. A new Circular Economy Programme was launched by the EPA in December 2021, which supports the Government’s circular economy policy agenda. It incorporates the previous National Waste Prevention Programme and is the driving force for Ireland’s move to a circular economy by businesses, householders, and the public sector. The implementation of the NHWMP is a part of the EPA’s Circular Economy Programme.
			1.2	Incorporation of relevant NHWMP objectives (including reference to environmental protection objectives and the mitigation from the NHWMP) in national waste management planning.	Q1-2022	Complete	Complete: Relevant objectives of the NHWMP have been incorporated into the National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy 2024-2030 by the RWMPOs. The plan was published in Q1 2024.

No.	Recommendation	Lead Org(s)	Key Action No.	Key Actions	Original Timeframe	Revised Timeframe	Status
			1.3	Support HSA-led implementation of the EU Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability Towards a Toxic-Free Environment as it relates to hazardous waste management.	Ongoing	Ongoing	<p>Ongoing: In December 2023, under the EU Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability, the Commission adopted three legislative proposals to: streamline assessments of chemicals across EU legislation; strengthen the knowledge base on chemicals; and ensure early detection and action on emerging chemical risks. DETE, HSA, DAFM and DECC will input into the negotiation process at Council Working Party during 2024.</p> <p>Collaborative Inter-Departmental/Agency work took place on the REACH restriction on Microplastics and amendments were made under the Chemicals Act to assign the DHLGH as Competent Authority for enforcing the 'Lead in Gunshot' REACH restriction. DECC and EPA have also provided input to the monthly REACH Committee meetings on REACH Authorisation and Restriction proposals.</p> <p>DECC and EPA held regular bilateral meetings on Chemicals in 2023 to discuss implementation of Mercury, POPs and other chemicals issues and the EPA participated at two meetings of the EU's POPs Competent Authority Group.</p> <p>DECC participated at the Triple Conference of the Parties to the Basel (COP 16), Rotterdam (COP 11) and Stockholm (COP 11) Conventions in Geneva in May 2023.</p> <p>DECC and EPA inputted into the EU position in advance at the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties of the Minamata Convention on Mercury (COP-4.2) in November 2023 and the EPA and HSA held an international conference on chemicals in October 2023.</p>

No.	Recommendation	Lead Org(s)	Key Action No.	Key Actions	Original Timeframe	Revised Timeframe	Status
2	Deliver strong and collaborative enforcement of hazardous waste legislation to ensure protection of human health and the environment.	EPA/National Waste Enforcement Committee, Local Authorities, NTFSO	2.1	Agree and implement annual enforcement priorities for the storage, movement and treatment of hazardous waste.	Annual	Annual	<p>Progressed: There are five National Waste Enforcement Priorities established for a 3-yr cycle (2022-2024) as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tackling significant illegal waste activity. • Construction and Demolition Waste. • ELV and the Waste Metal Industry. • Waste collection – Household and Commercial. • Producer Responsibility Initiatives and additional local priorities. <p>Hazardous waste inspections are carried out in a number of sectors including WTF sites, garages, mini-labs, industrial and healthcare. Potential hazardous waste types identified in inspections can include ELVs, asbestos, diesel laundering wastes, catalytic converters, contaminated farm plastics, waste batteries and WEEE.</p> <p>The EPA commenced a programme of audits of local authorities in 2023. These audits focussed on assessing progress against the National Enforcement Priorities and offered advice and support to help improve statutory performance, if required.</p>
			2.2	Initiate an annual regulatory forum on legislative and regulatory developments, sharing best practice and emerging hazardous waste issues.	Q1-2022	Complete	<p>Complete: An annual regulatory forum was initiated at the NIECE Workshop: “Sharing Our Experiences in Waste Enforcement” in March 2024. Feedback was sought from attendees to help inform the structure and format of future forums.</p>

No.	Recommendation	Lead Org(s)	Key Action No.	Key Actions	Original Timeframe	Revised Timeframe	Status
			2.3	Determine annual market surveillance priorities to prevent unauthorised use of hazardous chemicals in mixtures and products.	Annual	Annual	Ongoing: The EPA Office of Radiation Protection and Environmental Monitoring continued its participation in the EU integrated REACH REF-10 Project in collaboration with the Health and Safety Authority (HSA) and the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission. In early 2023 the EPA submitted three REF-10 cases files to the HSA for enforcement as potential risks to human health. The project was closed out in 2023 and the final report is now published on the ECHA website. In 2023, one of the important projects on market surveillance of chemicals in products centred around follow up on EU Safety Gate Alerts. During this project campaign, 100 distributors/retailers were inspected and 135 products that were alerted via Safety Gate were looked for to determine whether these products were available to consumers. These products had been notified for non-compliances under RoHS Directive, Persistent Organic Pollutants Regulation and REACH Regulation. None of the products were observed to be stocked or have been distributed by the inspected operators.
3	Provide for all-island approaches on hazardous waste issues.	DECC	3	Establish a working group with Northern Ireland authorities to maximise opportunities for co-ordinated management and enforcement of hazardous waste activities.	Q2-2022	To be determined	To be Progressed: DECC will seek to engage with their counterparts in the Northern Ireland executive to establish if they can support the creation of such a working group.

No.	Recommendation	Lead Org(s)	Key Action No.	Key Actions	Original Timeframe	Revised Timeframe	Status
4	Strengthen systemic resilience for management of hazardous waste.	EPA, RWMPO, NTFSO	4.1	Commission a review of hazardous waste management during the COVID-19 pandemic.	Q1-2022	Complete	Complete: The Interim Report on the Performance of the Waste Sector in Ireland during the Covid-19 pandemic confirmed that essential services were maintained during the period and that the sector proved robust, reliable and resilient. The report identified a number of critical success factors which underpinned this outcome, including early decision making, the designation of a lead coordinating body and an emphasis on business continuity. The report also highlighted a number of vulnerabilities, mostly around waste treatment capacity and illegal activities. The report also identified ways to build on the success factors identified during the period, including ongoing collaboration reinforcing existing structures, adopting a risk based approach to issues and continuing to work towards greater self-sufficiency for hazardous and non-hazardous waste. The National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy sets out a range of key deliverables to ensure that the sector remains fit for purpose and is prepared for potential market shocks in the future.
			4.2	Conduct a business continuity assessment for Ireland's hazardous waste management system to identify at-risk waste streams and associated infrastructure.	Q3-2022	Q4-2024	Progressed: Technical assistance was procured by the EPA and a contract commenced in Q4 2023 to assist with the completion of this Key Action in conjunction with Key Action 9.1.

No.	Recommendation	Lead Org(s)	Key Action No.	Key Actions	Original Timeframe	Revised Timeframe	Status
	Prevention	Target objectives: Prevention; Circular Economy.					
5	Promote reduced consumption of hazardous substances in household settings.	RWMPOs	5.1	Conduct awareness raising campaigns to highlight best-practices and alternatives, with initial focus on paints, cleaning products and gardening chemicals.	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing: The Greener Cleaning, Greener D.I.Y and Greener Gardening Guides were promoted at a wide variety of events in 2023, including national events such as Bloom.
			5.2	Develop new coherent information on household hazardous waste and guidance on disposal of hazardous waste; and disseminate via targeted and national campaigns; and through the EPA website, www.mywaste.ie and waste operators.	Q3-2022	Q4-2024	To be Progressed: In 2024, the greener living guides will be updated and will be accompanied by a special guide on preventing and handling hazardous waste at home, following the completion of the information supplied by the survey (Key action 5.3).
			5.3	Conduct national survey on householder awareness and behaviours regarding hazardous substances to inform prevention initiatives and measures.	Q2-2022	Q2-2024	Progressed: A brief for the survey on householder awareness & behaviours regarding hazardous substances to inform prevention initiatives and measures was prepared in Q4 2023. Grant aid funding has been secured to complete the project from DECC and it will run in Q2 2024, with a final report available in Q3 2024.
			5.4	Examine potential of product and in-store labelling of hazardous substances to inform consumer purchasing and waste management decisions.	Q4-2022	Q4-2024	To be Progressed: The focus in 2024 will be to look at the options for differentiating the messaging around hazardous products from all other messaging in store.
6	Prevent hazardous waste in industrial sectors and support a safe circular economy.	EPA/DECC	6.1	Utilise the regulatory regime to encourage usage of 'non-/less-toxic' alternatives in production and processing steps.	Ongoing	Ongoing	Progressed: The EPA is currently working to identify toxic substances being utilised and the options to encourage the usage of 'non-/less-toxic' alternatives, taking into account legislation relating to chemicals, SVHC and waste. A review of mechanisms available through the EPA licensing regime will also be considered in relation to this key action.

No.	Recommendation	Lead Org(s)	Key Action No.	Key Actions	Original Timeframe	Revised Timeframe	Status
			6.2	Review the environmental regulatory framework as a means to promote circularity in industrial processes and reduce industrial waste generation.	Ongoing	Ongoing	Progressed: By-products play an important role in achieving a circular economy by avoiding unnecessary waste generation and allowing the beneficial use of materials as a resource. The concept of a by-product was transposed into Irish law through Regulation 27 of the European Communities (Waste Directive) Regulations 2011-2020. Throughout 2021, 2022 and 2023, a number of materials were determined by the EPA to satisfy the by-product requirements. This means that the production residue in question has been determined as a by-product and not a waste and can therefore be utilised further as a raw material. In late 2023, the EPA published national by-product criteria that allows for the reuse of site-won asphalt (road planings) as a by-product and a national end-of-waste criteria for the reuse of recycled aggregates. The by-product register can be viewed to see all by-product determinations and an end-of-waste register has also been developed where producers can register activity in accordance with the national end-of-waste criteria.
7	Support applied research to inform policy and industry on hazardous waste prevention.	EPA	7.1	Provide research funding focussed on reducing use of hazardous substances in commercial operations.	Ongoing	Ongoing	Progressed: Nine Green and Circular Economy research projects were awarded funding under the 2023 EPA Research Call, to the value of €3.3 million. In relation to hazardous materials, an award was granted to National University of Ireland Galway (NUIG) to investigate the levels of natural radioactivity in building materials in Ireland. This study will not only address knowledge gaps related to natural radioactive materials in building materials, but will also contribute to recommendations on how to develop an appropriately scaled and targeted monitoring programme.

No.	Recommendation	Lead Org(s)	Key Action No.	Key Actions	Original Timeframe	Revised Timeframe	Status
			7.2	Support research and surveys to develop behavioural insights regarding public attitudes and actions on hazardous waste.	Ongoing	Ongoing	Progressed: In 2022, waste characterisation studies were carried out on household and non-household bins, as well as municipal skip waste, the results of which were published in September 2023. These characterisation studies provide data on the waste disposed of by households and businesses and provide important behavioural insights into how waste is managed from these sources. The report on municipal skip waste shows that hazardous waste was found in non-household MSW skips (WEEE, paint and aerosol cans) and accounted for 10% in total. Also, under Key Action 5.3, a national survey on householder awareness and behaviours regarding hazardous substances will be conducted in 2024.
8	Use Green Public Procurement (GPP) to specify products and services that reduce the use of hazardous substances and generation of associated hazardous wastes.	OGP/EPA	8.1	Implementation of GPP criteria and practices.	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing: EPA hosted an in-person GPP in Practice event in November 2023, attended by 140 people representing 72 public sector organisations. The second report on GPP activity in Government Departments was published Resources Environmental Protection Agency (epa.ie) . Work commenced on the update of the EPA's GPP guidance document and ten criteria sets (originally published in 2021). This work will be completed in 2024. Work also commenced on the development of a new criteria set on Furniture, which will also be published in 2024.
			8.2	Establish supports for the transition to greener purchasing through guidance, and training for purchasers and suppliers.	Q4-2021	Complete	Complete: In 2021 the EPA published the Green Public Procurement Guidance and 10 accompanying criteria which aim to support the inclusion of sustainable and green procurement practices into public sector procurement procedures. The guide and criteria may also be utilised by private companies in responding to tenders or applying green criteria in their own procurement. Training was also carried out for the public sector in relation to the guide and criteria.

No.	Recommendation	Lead Org(s)	Key Action No.	Key Actions	Original Timeframe	Revised Timeframe	Status
	Collection and Treatment	Target objectives: Collection; Proximity; Regulation; Circular Economy.					
9	Strengthen knowledge of national hazardous waste capacity to inform infrastructure development and contingency planning, in accordance with application of the proximity principle.	EPA, DECC	9.1	Update and maintain inventory of national capacity for storage, treatment and disposal of hazardous wastes. An economic study/cost-benefit analysis should be considered as part of this review process to examine the economic viability of managing various waste streams in Ireland. Emerging issues should be included to inform any capacity/ infrastructure needs, e.g. trends in healthcare risk waste generation and management, the growing uptake in EVs and recycling needs for lithium batteries etc.	Q2-2022	Q4-2024	Progressed: Technical assistance was procured by the EPA and a contract commenced in Q4 2023 to assist with the completion of this Key Action in conjunction with Key Action 4.2.
			9.2	Examine legislation and procedures for development of waste management infrastructure, as stated in the Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy.	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing: Progress on this action will accelerate in 2024 following the publication of the NWMP for a Circular Economy by the local authority sector, which highlights critical infrastructure deficiencies that need to be addressed.

No.	Recommendation	Lead Org(s)	Key Action No.	Key Actions	Original Timeframe	Revised Timeframe	Status
10	Prepare for separate collection of hazardous waste fractions produced by households.	DECC, NTFSO	10.1	Carry out a review of relevant legislation to facilitate take-back, transport and temporary storage of certain hazardous wastes from small sources.	Q2-2022	Q4-2024	Progressed: The legislative review has progressed, with the main focus being around temporary storage regarding the WFP/CoR Regulations. Work conducted by the NTFSO regarding key action 10.2 ¹ will also guide the legislative review.
11	Establish nationwide collection and transfer of farm hazardous wastes, including unused veterinary products.	DECC/DAFM	11.1	Develop and agree a plan for a suitable national collection scheme, having regard to findings from the 2013-2017 pilot scheme.	Q2-2022	Q3 2024	Progressed: A proposed way forward has been agreed by DAFM/DECC and stakeholder engagement will be carried out to develop the details of the plan and progress implementation which will include consideration of an EPR (Extended Producer Responsibility) Scheme.
			11.3	Establish a national cross-agency forum to focus on the appropriate management of spent sheep dip to prevent environmental pollution.	Q1-2022	Q2-2024	Progressed: Further bilateral discussion took place between relevant agencies and a cross-agency forum will be formally established in 2024.
12	By 2023 establish national collection of surplus and out-of-date medicines from household waste stream.	DECC/Dept of Health	12.1	Develop a proposal with options, building on experience with DUMP project; EPA characterisation report; and stakeholder input.	Q2-2022	Q3-2024	Progressed: A subgroup has been established to progress this action, with the aim of developing a comprehensive policy options paper by Q3 2024.
			12.2	Implement a nationwide collection system.	Q2-2023	Q1-2025	Progressed: Implementation of this key action requires comprehensive consideration of the underlying policy, which the outputs of key action 12.1 will provide.

¹ Key action 10.2; "Establish collection of household and small-scale hazardous waste through civic amenity sites and/or via special collections ", has a timeframe for completion of Q4 2024, this report only covers key actions with a timeframe of 2021, 2022, 2023 'ongoing' and 'annually'.

No.	Recommendation	Lead Org(s)	Key Action No.	Key Actions	Original Timeframe	Revised Timeframe	Status
13	By 2023, establish collection platforms for surplus paint from household and commercial sources.	RWMPOs/ DECC	13	Build on current initiatives to initiate nationwide, large-scale collection(s), in collaboration with local authorities and industry.	Q2-2023	Q4-2024	Progressed: There are now 25 donation points nationwide for collecting surplus paint and nine social enterprises involved, with paint sales (including those distributing paints free of charge) increasing by 65% in 2023, when compared to 2022.
14	Promote best practice in the management of commercial hazardous wastes streams.	EPA	14.1	Publish Smart Garage guide and promote responsible management of waste oils and other wastes from vehicle maintenance operations.	Q1-2022	Complete	Complete: The Smart Garage Guide was published in 2022 and has been promoted through auto trade publications and through the Local Authority network who carry out enforcement inspections within the sector. The guide is available from the EPA website at the following link Smart Garage Guide .
			14.2	Prepare and publish guidelines for the safe storage of Lithium-ion batteries at waste handling facilities.	Q4-2022	Complete	Complete: Guidelines for the safe storage of Lithium-ion batteries at waste handling facilities was published in Q1 2024.
			14.3	Develop training to promote awareness on identification and proper management of hazardous fractions in C&D waste.	Q4-2022	Q4-2024	Progressed: Guidelines for the identification and proper management of hazardous fractions in construction and demolition waste was published in Q1 2024. Support and training will be rolled out in 2024.
15	Promote best practice in the management of asbestos contaminated waste	EPA, DECC, RWMPOs and Local Authorities	15.1	Produce best-practice guide for handling asbestos waste; and identify options for collection of asbestos and asbestos contaminated wastes.	Q2-2022	Complete	Complete: The final guidance "Best Practice Guidance For Handling Asbestos" was published in 2023 and is available on mywaste.ie , build360.ie and epa.ie . The guide was advertised on social media and relevant representative publications.
			15.2	Develop a network of asbestos collection points.	Q2-2023	Complete	Complete: List of locations for asbestos disposal is included in the guidance: "Best Practice Guidance For Handling Asbestos".

No.	Recommendation	Lead Org(s)	Key Action No.	Key Actions	Original Timeframe	Revised Timeframe	Status
16	Put in place arrangements for temporary storage of orphan radioactive sources.	DECC	16	Identify options for the temporary safe and secure storage of orphan radioactive wastes, pending disposal.	Q2-2022	Q4-2024	Progressed: Arrangements for temporary storage of orphan radioactive sources are kept under review to ensure their continued appropriateness. This was an area covered in Ireland's 2021 ARTEMIS peer review on radioactive waste management. Work is ongoing on follow up actions from this Mission. This area will also be looked at again in future peer review Missions to Ireland. The Minister maintains a contingency fund to deal with orphan radioactive sources provided for by statute, S.I. 30 of 2019. Options for re-use and recycling of sources are kept under review, including exploring new avenues in the field, e.g., a project on States collaborating on Radium. Disposal options are also under consideration. The availability of easily accessible re-use, recycling and disposal routes will inform the likely future storage requirements in the event of an orphan radioactive source arising in the future.
17	Remediate identified legacy waste disposal sites containing hazardous waste.	Local Authorities	17	Continued remediation of sites, in line with EPA Code of Practice and appropriate authorisations.	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing: Five closed landfills have been identified as hazardous following a full risk assessment under the EPA Code of Practice. All five have submitted applications to the EPA for Certificates of Authorisations of which, two have been granted.

No.	Recommendation	Lead Org(s)	Key Action No.	Key Actions	Original Timeframe	Revised Timeframe	Status
	Implementation	Target objectives: Prevention; Collection; Proximity; Regulation; Circular Economy.					
18	Report annually on hazardous waste generation and treatment in Ireland, with a breakdown by category/sector.	EPA	18.1	Expand reporting protocols to provide more detailed data to inform measures and policy options for best practice on hazardous waste management.	Annually	Annually	<p>Progressed: The Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy, recognises that ‘Efficiencies in waste data can be improved by national authorities continuing to work closely together and improving alignment/integration between organisations’ IT systems and databases and the associated validation work carried out by different organisations’.</p> <p>The NTFSO’s Waste Transfer Management Portal (WTMP) went live in October 2023. There are three modules: Waste Transfer Forms (internal transfer of hazardous waste within Ireland), Green List Waste (exports/imports of single stream, non-hazardous wastes), TFS (exports/imports of mixed/hazardous wastes). The NWCPO provides data regarding waste collection permit holders, waste facility permit holders and EPA licenced sites (waste licence, IED, IPC) based on the Group IDs which are incorporated into the three modules of WTMP. This will ensure the consistent use of NWCPO data throughout WTMP. Access will be provided to WTMP to LA staff to assist with their annual return validation work. This will apply for the validation of the 2024 data onwards.</p>
			18.2	Conduct hazardous waste characterisation studies from household and commercial bins.	Q2-2022	Complete	<p>Complete: Hazardous waste characterisation studies were carried out in 2022 as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Household municipal waste including spring and autumn sampling. Non-household municipal waste with sampling and profiling completed by Dec 2022. <p>Both final reports were published in Q3 2023. Hazardous waste categories included: paints and associated products, batteries and accumulators, electronic equipment, fluorescent tubes and other mercury containing wastes, medicines and drugs and detergents.</p>

No.	Recommendation	Lead Org(s)	Key Action No.	Key Actions	Original Timeframe	Revised Timeframe	Status
19	Provide leadership on achievement of NHWMP objectives; with regular progress reports on implementation of the plan recommendations.	EPA	19.1	Establish a working group to support implementation of plan recommendations.	Q1-2022	Complete	Complete: The Working Group was established in 2022 and is currently made up of representatives from the EPA, DECC, DAFM, DoH, OGP, NTFSO, RWMPOs, LAs, LGMA, IBEC, HSE and the IWMA. Terms of Reference have been established and the Working Group met in person in February and October. Working Group meetings are chaired by the EPA and will continue on a bi-annual basis.
			19.2	Provide an annual update on progress of plan recommendations.	Annually	Annually	Complete: This report is produced in relation to this key action.
			19.4	Identify key performance indicators to measure and track trends in hazardous waste management	Q4-2023	Q4-2024	Progressed: The EPA is currently working to identify suitable indicators to track trends in hazardous waste management in Ireland. This work will be further informed by the outputs of Key Actions 4.2 and 9.1.

