



20th July 2018

Dear Mr. Fogarty

I refer to your presentation to An Fóram Uisce's Water Services Standing Committee on the 12th July last (along with Ms. Sinead Egan) and also to a further presentation given by Ms. Angela Ryan at An Fóram's meeting on the 17th July and wish to thank you for your attendance on both occasions.

The presentations referred to Irish Water's Investment Plan 2020-2024 and also the National Water Resources Plan. During the course of both presentations, the Members of An Fóram raised a range of issues of concern which I understand were duly noted by you. However, as promised, I have summarised those concerns below in order to assist you in incorporating the issues into your drafting process.

It was noted that this is part of an on-going consultation process and there will be further opportunities to engage in the context of the CRU's consultation process in the autumn. In relation to the Investment Plan, the following observations were made:

- The importance of balanced regional development and attention to investment requirements in rural towns and villages;
- The importance of ensuring that investment in conservation measures is significantly increased to and maintained at a level which adequately supports a long term, comprehensive and multi-faceted approach to water conservation measures in the context of reducing demand, securing sources and reservoirs, safeguarding treated water, improving water quality and future proofing;
- The necessity to clarify references to conservation measures (both direct and indirect measures) and to identify all investment available for these measures;
- The deployment of new/alternative sources including the use of grey water and rainwater harvesting;
- The development of a network of integrated and sustainable water sources capable of providing sufficient quantities of quality water to support domestic, commercial and agricultural needs ;

- The need for an integrated approach between the water supply side and the waste water treatment side to create for the possibility of water recycling and conservation;
- The importance of the development of more significant reservoir capacities to provide for sufficient storage and thus cater for the impacts of climate change in relation to rainfall;
- The need to bring attention to and focus a work stream on the importance of integrated catchment management and source protection in the context of water quality;
- The importance of setting and adhering to deadlines in the context of delivering on capital infrastructure projects;
- The absolute importance of effective engagement with communities and the importance of using community friendly terminology;
- Providing improved clarity in terms of the investment strands.

We hope that this submission will be of assistance to you in your work and look forward to further engagement during the year as the consultation process progresses.

Yours sincerely,

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