

**LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**JULY MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF ADARE-RATHKEALE**  
**MEETING TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2020**

At c. 16:00 on Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2020, a tanker conveying c. 28,000 litres of **heated (63 C)**, heavy fuel oil overturned on a bend on the N69 at Glenameade, c. 3km west of Kildimo village. The tanker was en-route from Foynes Port to Clones, Co. Monaghan.

As a result, there was a significant discharge of the oil onto the carriageway surface.

The driver immediately raised the alarm, contacting his employers and the emergency services. His employers in turn, immediately contacted ENVA Environmental Services in Portlaoise who mobilised staff and equipment, subsequently arriving on site from c. 19:00.

ENVA also arranged for an Environmental Consultant from Verdé to attend on site from the following morning.

Staff from Rathkeale Area Office and Fire Stations in Foynes and Rathkeale were also mobilised and started arriving within a short time.

Staff from the Council's Planning & Environmental Services Department arrived on site c. 17:15.

It was noted immediately that despite the quantity of oil spilled, much of it had become very viscous and slow moving from rapid cooling on impact with the carriageway surface. This aided the containment efforts immensely.

Over the following four weeks, ENVA under the supervision of the consultant from Verdé undertook a comprehensive clean-up of the site, which stretched for a distance of c. 250m along the carriageway alignment. There was an almost daily attendance by staff from the Planning & Environmental Services Department who met with the contractors and consultant regularly.

Among the works undertaken were the removal of solidified heavy fuel oil, contaminated storm water in surface drains and contaminated soil and vegetation on grass verges and some of the properties.

Surfaces were washed with (environmentally-friendly) detergent and steam-cleaned. Extensive traffic management was put in place.

Some re-instatement was also undertaken of grass verges and possibly some of the carriageway surface.

At the request of the Planning & Environmental Services Department, an assessment was also undertaken of storm drains and attenuation pools down-gradient of the site and these were found to be substantially unaffected, again, possibly because the heated oil had become very viscous on coming into contact with the colder carriageway surface.

Whilst we are satisfied that a comprehensive clean-up was undertaken, we have nonetheless requested a final report from the environmental contractors and we await its arrival.

Regards,

**Signed: Paul O'Grady,  
Executive Engineer,  
Air, Noise, Water & Public Health Team,  
Planning & Environmental Services Department.**

**Dated: 26<sup>th</sup> June, 2020.**