

CORRESPONDENCE

**MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT
OF ADARE-RATHKEALE**

17TH OCTOBER, 2023

- Email received on 10th October, 2023 from Ciara McCaughley, Regional Communications Specialist, Uisce Éireann in reply to request from Councillor Sheahan to have the sewerage holding tank in Askeaton emptied more frequently and an alarm fitted due to the holding tank overflowing and sludge being blow up the rive through the town recently.

From: Ciara McCaughley <ciara.mccaughley@water.ie>
Sent: Tuesday, October 10, 2023 4:33:32 PM
To: Butler, Karen <karen.butler@limerick.ie>
Subject: [EXTERNAL]UÉ repsonse - Askeaton

Hi Karen,
Please see our response to the query raised by Cllr Sheahan.
Kind regards,
Ciara

Askeaton WWTP is being incorrectly referred to in this instance as a 'Sewage Holding Tank'. Primary treatment at Askeaton WWTP involves an Imhoff tank which settles primary solids in the tank by retention times. This tank is a primary settlement tank and emptying the tank more frequently will not allow this settlement to take place. It is not possible to put an alarm on the tank as the tank is designed to continuously discharge.

Uisce Éireann is progressing the design and development of a preferred wastewater treatment solution for Askeaton town. The first phase of this work is underway and involves significant data gathering, estuary water quality surveying and modelling, as well as population and loading projections. These are critical and time-consuming components of any upgrade works and will inform a list of treatment design options that will be finalised in the coming months.

The final design that will be brought forward will then progress through the necessary statutory processes up to and including all licencing requirements and planning permission, along with site and route selection for the proposed works.

The project upgrade is making optimum progress at this time. It is expected that the current phase of options evaluation and selection is due to be completed early next year. Following this, the project will proceed to detailed design, planning permission, and through the other statutory processes required.

Ciara McCaughley
Regional Communications Specialist

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