

# The Greater Dublin Drainage Project

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Ag obair i gcomhpháirtíocht Working in partnership



**Greater Dublin Drainage (GDD) is the development of a new regional wastewater treatment facility and associated infrastructure to serve the population of Dublin and parts of the surrounding counties of Kildare and Meath.**

**GDD is a once-in-a-generation project. It represents the next major step in the development of our wastewater infrastructure for Dublin and the surrounding counties. Once operational from 2025, the GDD project will have the capacity to provide wastewater treatment for the equivalent of half a million people.**

**The GDD project is a key part of Irish Water's investment in new wastewater infrastructure in greater Dublin and will protect public health, safeguard our environment and facilitate growth to 2050 and beyond.**

## Why do we need the GDD Project?

Census 2016 recorded that Dublin and the commuter belt counties of Meath and Kildare are among the fastest growing counties in the country.

As our population and economy grow, so too does the volume of wastewater. The amount of wastewater generated in greater Dublin is projected to increase by over 50% in the period to 2050. We must collect and treat this wastewater so that the treated water can be safely returned to the environment.

Irish Water is working to upgrade our existing wastewater treatment facilities in greater Dublin and to invest in new infrastructure where necessary in order to meet this increased demand.

The GDD project will help ensure that the wastewater generated every day in our homes, schools and workplaces will continue to be treated properly and safely. The project will provide the additional treatment capacity needed once the country's largest wastewater facility at Ringsend reaches its upgraded maximum capacity by the mid-2020s.

Irish Water intends to make a planning application for the GDD project to the independent planning authority, An Bord Pleanála, in 2018.



## The Greater Dublin Drainage Project will:

- Safeguard public health
- Improve and protect the environment
- Facilitate development, social progress and economic growth in the wider Dublin region



Greater Dublin Drainage Project Solution

## What is the GDD Project?

A sites assessment process was undertaken between 2011 and 2013 to identify a suitable solution for a new regional wastewater treatment facility and associated infrastructure to meet the longer term needs of the population in Dublin and parts of Meath and Kildare. This process, which included four phases of public consultation, identified a preferred site for the new regional wastewater plant at Clonshagh (Clonshaugh), an orbital sewer, and a marine outfall to the Irish Sea as the optimum solution to meet the future wastewater treatment needs of greater Dublin.

GDD includes a Regional Biosolids Storage Facility. This facility will store biosolids produced during the wastewater treatment process at the GDD and Ringsend facilities before they are used in agriculture and forestry as fertiliser.

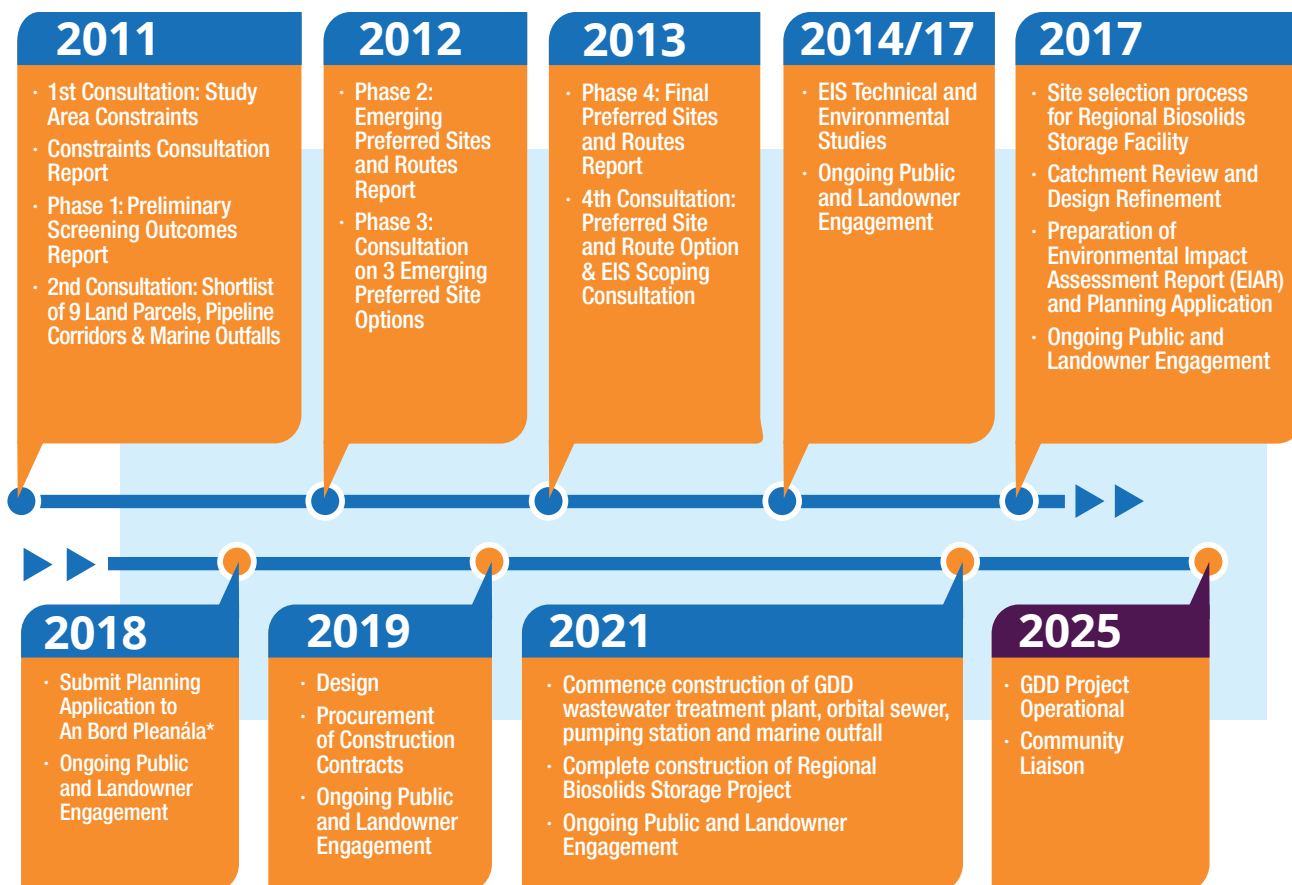
A preferred site for the biosolids storage facility has been identified at Newtown/Kilshane, Dublin 11.

To meet the needs of our growing population, the GDD project solution is:

- a new regional wastewater treatment facility and sludge hub centre on a 30 hectare site at Clonshagh (Clonshaugh);
- an underground orbital sewer from Blanchardstown to Clonshagh (Clonshaugh) including a new pumping station at Abbotstown;
- a sewer to divert part of the North Fringe Sewer to the new treatment facility;
- an outfall pipe from the wastewater treatment facility discharging the treated water to the Irish Sea; and
- a regional biosolids storage facility located at Newtown/Kilshane, Dublin 11.

The GDD project will treat wastewater arising in Fingal (areas from Blanchardstown to Clonshagh (Clonshaugh) including from the Dublin Airport Zone), from northern parts of Dublin City, from south-east Meath and from north-east Kildare. GDD is a once-in-a-generation project that will protect public health, safeguard our environment and facilitate growth to 2050 and beyond.

## Project timeline



\* The indicative project timeline is subject to planning permission.

## What is happening now and next?

Prior to submitting a planning application, we are undertaking a public information campaign for the Greater Dublin Drainage project. We are providing information and holding public information events on the development of this vital regional project which will serve the equivalent of half a million people into the future.

As a next step, Irish Water intends to submit a strategic infrastructure planning application for the Greater Dublin Drainage project to An Bord Pleanála in 2018.

Following the submission of the planning application, there will be a period of statutory public consultation.

Construction of the GDD wastewater treatment plant and the associated orbital sewer, pumping station and marine outfall will take approximately three years and will begin, subject to planning permission, in 2021. It is intended that the GDD project will become operational from 2025 and will protect public health, safeguard the environment and facilitate the development of our communities and businesses to 2050 and beyond.

We will liaise closely with local communities throughout construction and all works will be undertaken in a safe and environmentally responsible manner.

### Public Information Events

Irish Water is holding three public information events for GDD as follows:

- Tuesday 21st November 2017 – Portmarnock Hotel and Golf Links – 2pm – 8pm
- Monday 27th November 2017 – National Sports Campus Conference Centre, Abbotstown – 2pm – 8pm
- Wednesday 29th November 2017 – Hilton Hotel, Northern Cross – 2pm – 8pm

You are welcome to come along and find out more about the Greater Dublin Drainage Project.



## Protecting the environment

GDD is being developed to safeguard public health and to protect and improve the environment.

An Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) is being prepared for the GDD project.

A range of environmental studies and assessments have been conducted including both land-based and marine-based surveys. The EIAR, which includes the findings of the environmental studies and assessments, will be submitted to An Bord Pleanála as part of the planning application.

The GDD project will be designed, built and operated to the highest standards. This will ensure that our wastewater can be collected, treated and safely returned to the environment, which will protect public health and safeguard our environment to 2050 and beyond.



Indicative layout for the new GDD wastewater treatment facility at Clonshaugh (Clonshaugh). The 30 hectare campus-style facility will be landscaped and screened.



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## Get In Touch

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**We welcome questions on the GDD project and are available to provide further information:**

**By telephone:** 1890 44 55 67  
(Mon-Fri 9am-1pm & 2pm-5pm)

**By email:** [info@greaterdublindrainage.ie](mailto:info@greaterdublindrainage.ie)

**By Post:** Greater Dublin Drainage,  
Irish Water,  
Colvill House,  
24-26 Talbot Street,  
Dublin 1, Ireland

**Web:** [www.greaterdublindrainage.ie](http://www.greaterdublindrainage.ie)

Más mian leat cóip den leabhrán seo a fháil as Gaeilge, déan teagmháil linn ar an uimhir thuasluaite.