



2015 Association Report

We would like to take this opportunity to update you on the work which has been carried out on behalf of Cré Members in 2015.

FOOD WASTE & WASTE POLICY

Launch of brownbin.ie

Minister Alan Kelly kindly launched brownbin.ie at OD Agri's Composting site in Tipperary in October.

The Department of Environment, Community and Local Government (DoEHLG) and Cré co-funded the development of a national household brown bin education programme. The national education programme consists of a website (brownbin.ie), YouTube video on how to use the brown bin, a set of frequently asked questions (FAQs), electronic standardised instruction leaflets on using the brown bin and electronic contamination tag.

Food Waste Regulations Amended (S.I. 430 of 2015)

Cré advocated the alignment of provisions in the Household Food Waste Regulations with existing requirements in the Commercial Food Waste Regulations. It provides for an explicit prohibition on collectors contaminating food waste or disposing of it, obliges producers to source segregate their food waste regardless of whether they are availing of a waste collection service or home-composting or directing the waste to an authorised facility and prohibits the contamination of food waste at authorised facilities.

Food Waste Regulations Enforcement Manual for Local Authorities

DoEHLG has collaborated with Cré and Duncan Laurence Environmental Ltd. to develop a Food Waste Enforcement Manual for local authorities. This is a very welcome development for all parties involved. This manual is designed to be a detailed comprehensible explanation of both the Commercial and Household Food Waste Regulations and to assist local authorities in carrying out their statutory enforcement functions under these Regulations.

Regional Food Waste Regulations Workshop for Local Authorities

Cré promoted the idea of workshops for Local Authority staff to share experience and to learn how to use the new Food Waste Regulations Enforcement Manual. Cré made a short presentation at the workshops.

Department of Environment, Community and Local Government

Cré had several meetings with the DoEHLG to discuss waste policy matters.

City and County Managers Meeting on Brown Bin

In July, Cré had the opportunity along with the Irish Waste Management Association to talk to the Environment Committee of the City and County Managers Association about the collection of brown bin material. It was a productive meeting with much discussion on the topic.

Brown Bin Advisors Meeting

The DoEHLG also organised a meeting of the brown bin interns in Sligo, Wexford, Meath and Cork to discuss their experiences of brown bin education. The feedback will be incorporated into a 'how to' guide, prepared by Cré, on brown bin door to door education

Cré and Irish Waste Management Association Brown Bin Group

Cré and the IWMA established a working committee to discuss brown bin matters.

Stabilised Waste Circular

Cré was successful in getting clarity on the DoEHLG Circular on the definition of stabilised waste.

Animal By-Product Forum

ABP Forum meetings hosted by the Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine (DAFM) were attended three times.

EUROPEAN WORK

Workshop on 'The Role of Biowaste in the Emerging Circular Economy' in Brussels in June

On 24 June 2015, the European Parliament's Intergroup on 'Climate Change, Biodiversity and Sustainable Development' (EP CCBSD) organised a policy debate on 'the role of biowaste in the emerging circular economy', which is a valuable resource for growth and job creation in Europe. The topic was initiated and supported by the European Compost Network and more than 100 participants followed the debate. Percy Foster represented Cré and spoke briefly about the national brown bin awareness pilot in Sligo.

European Compost Network Board Meetings

Percy attended three Board meetings in Berlin, Brussels and Dusseldorf during the year. He also attended the ECN AGM in which he presented updates on the implementation of the Animal by Products Regulations in Ireland.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Growarow.ie

The growarow.ie pilot kindly funded by Dublin City Council and the DoECLG under Agenda 21 is an exciting project. The concept is the donation of compost by our members to community gardens to grow extra vegetables which in turn is donated to Focus Ireland.

Focus Ireland Fundraising

Percy Foster took up the challenge on October 16th to sleep in the grounds of Christ Church Cathedral in the centre of the city to highlight homelessness in Ireland. The event was organised by Shine A Light, which raises funds to support the work of Focus Ireland and end homelessness in the country. Members and stakeholders kindly sponsored Percy to the tune of over €2,000.

ANAEROBIC DIGESTION

IrBEA- Cré – Anaerobic Digestion Policy Group

IrBEA and Cré, while keeping their existing functions, have teamed up and formed a new anaerobic digestion policy working group. "The IrBEA- Cré Anaerobic Digestion Policy Group" will be the new "voice for the industry on anaerobic digestion policy during the consultation period of the draft Bioenergy Strategy".

Cré and IrBEA Meeting

A delegation from Cré and IrBEA had a joint meeting with the Department of Energy, Communication and Natural Resources to discuss the consultation on electricity and the Renewable Heat Incentive.

Biogas Manifesto with Politicians

Cré and IrBEA prepared a biogas manifesto and held a launch with politicians to highlight the opportunities biogas can offer.

EVENTS

- ▶ Industry Awards 2015
- ▶ Certificate in Compost Facility Operation
- ▶ Biogas District Heating Training Course
- ▶ HACCP Training Course
- ▶ R&D Forum with Minister Damien English
- ▶ Growarow.ie gardening talk in Pearse College
- ▶ Annual Members Meeting
- ▶ Cré Annual Conference
- ▶ Launch of Brownbin.ie with Minister Alan Kelly

REPORTS/PUBLICATIONS

- ▶ Cré Newsletters x 4
- ▶ 2015 Guide to Composting and Anaerobic Digestion in Ireland
- ▶ Compost and Anaerobic Digestion 2015 Market Report

SUBMISSIONS

The following submissions were prepared by Cré:

- ▶ Biofuels Obligation Scheme - Consultation on Increasing the Obligation Rate from 2016
- ▶ Consultation on Waste Collection Permit Conditions
- ▶ Consultation on Gas Networks Ireland proposals on Connections Policy
- ▶ Renewable Heat Incentive – Technology Review Consultation
- ▶ Renewable Electricity Support Scheme – Technology Review Consultation
- ▶ EPA Consultation on Better Regulation, Compliance and Enforcement Policy
- ▶ Alternative Fuels Directive- Developing a National Policy Framework for Ireland
- ▶ Consultation on Amendments to the REFIT 3 Terms and Conditions
- ▶ Draft Regional Waste Management Plans

MEMBERSHIP

Cré is an affiliated member of the Small Firms Association. It remains a member of the European Biogas Association and the European Compost Network and is represented on the Board of Directors of the European Compost Network.



Member of
EBA
European Biogas Association



- Top Left: Padraic O'Neill (Irish Bioenergy Association), Damien English T.D. Minister for Skills, Research and Innovation and Percy Foster (Cré) at the Cré- IrBEA R&D Forum
- Bottom Left: Martin Eves, (Chairman of Cré), Alan Kelly T.D. Minister for the Environment and Percy Foster (Cré) at the launch of brownbin.ie
- Right: Lee-jane Eastwood (Cré) and Padraic O'Neill (Irish Bioenergy Association) at the launch of the Cré-IrBEA Biogas Manifesto launch