

2016 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 2016.

FOOD WASTE AND WASTE POLICY

- ▶ Cré has had **several meetings with the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government** to discuss waste policy matters in addition to **attending the National Waste Forum**.
- ▶ Cré has met with a **Special Advisor to the Minister and Assistant Secretary** of Department of Communications, Energy and the Environment to discuss anaerobic digestion and waste policy
- ▶ Cré has met with the **National Economic Social Council (NESC)** on a compost site. NESC is working on case studies on the circular economy and the visit provided an opportunity to explain our sector.
- ▶ Cré advocated for the **'pay by weight'** legislation, Waste Management (Collection Permit) (Amendment) Regulations S.I. 24/2016.
- ▶ Based on the experiences from National Brown Bin Awareness Pilot was in Sligo, a best practice guide for door to door education of householders on how to use a brown bin collection service was developed. The guide ***Best Practice Guide for Door to Door Brown Bin Education*** is available on www.cre.ie

ANIMAL BY PRODUCT REGULATIONS

- ▶ **ABP Forum meetings** hosted by the Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine (DAFM) were attended twice.
- ▶ Cré was kindly invited by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine to give two presentations during a compost/biogas **internal training courses for the district veterinary officers** in Kilkenny. David McDonnell (Green Gas AD) and Percy Foster gave presentations on biogas and composting. The course was well attended by over 30 vets.
- ▶ **EU ABP Regulations:** Under the draft Fertiliser Regulations, it is proposed that the 'end point' be defined when the Animal By-Product regulations do not apply. This has been a key thing Cré has been promoting in Brussels and attended two meeting with the Directorate General for Health and Consumers (SANCO) over the last few years promoting this concept.

ANAEROBIC DIGESTION

- ▶ A delegation from **Cré and Irish Bioenergy Association (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.
- ▶ Cré (David McDonnell, Morgan Burke and Percy Foster) provided **Cré's Planning for an AD Plant course to seven staff at the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI)**.
- ▶ **Members of the Cré's Anaerobic Digestion (AD) committee met with the IrBEA twice.** The two Associations hired an EU expert to prepare a short report on the potential of anaerobic digestion in Ireland. The committee met up and worked on through the submission to SEAI's Ricardo Consultants.
- ▶ Billy Costello of Green Generation kindly allowed Cré to **show a working biogas plant to some key stakeholders** in the Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine's climate change unit, the SEAI and the National Treasury Management Agency (NTMA).

OTHER WORK

- ▶ Cré attended the **European Compost Network Board meeting in Dublin**
- ▶ Cré has played an active role in the ECN strategy on **lobbying the Circular Economy discussion**
- ▶ The **Cré Board of Directors** met in January, March, May, and September.
- ▶ **The Technical committee** met up to prepare the draft submission on the EU Fertiliser Regulations. In addition some suggestions to improve the National Compost Standard IS441 were discussed.
- ▶ **Cré has raised nearly €1,000 for Focus Ireland.**
- ▶ Cré took part in a discussion panel at **Bloom Flower Festival** on food waste and the brown bin.

Cré Forms Partnership with GIY Ireland

GIY and Cré have drafted a three-year partnership plan in which GIY will incorporate brownbin.ie educational tools into the GIY school programmes and doing promotional campaigns to their members.

EVENTS

- ▶ Cré hosted the **HACCP training course** for compost and biogas plants in August.
- ▶ Cré organised a visit for members to a **small scale biogas plant pilot**.
- ▶ The **Cré general meeting** took place on 8 March at the Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.



GORC
Global Organic Resources Congress
3 – 4 May 2016 Dublin, Ireland

GORC brought together delegates from 23 countries to discuss the latest developments, challenges and future circular bioeconomy opportunities for the organics recycling sector. The congress concluded with a visit to the Bord na Móna composting plant.

The event had high profile speakers:

- ▶ Video address from Mairead McGuinness MEP, Vice- President of the European Commission
- ▶ Video address from Phil Hogan, EU Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development
- ▶ Eric Liégeois, European Commission on EU Fertiliser Regulations

PUBLICATIONS

- ▶ 2017 Cré Diary
- ▶ Anaerobic Digestion Industry Potential Contribution to CO₂ Mitigation in Ireland
- ▶ Best Practice Guide for Door to Door Brown Bin Education
- ▶ Cré Newsletters x 3
- ▶ Evaluation of The Benefits of CO₂ Abatement Delivered from Anaerobic Digestion in Ireland
- ▶ GORC Proceedings
- ▶ The Potential Size of the Anaerobic Digestion Industry in Ireland by the Year 2030

SUBMISSIONS

The following submissions were prepared by Cré:

- ▶ Draft EU Fertiliser Regulations
- ▶ Draft European Union (Household Food Waste and Bio-waste) (Amendment) Regulations 2016
- ▶ Draft National Wastewater Sludge Management Plan
- ▶ EU Waste Bref Document
- ▶ Exporting a Resource Opportunity? Measures to Maximize Resource Efficiency and Jobs in Ireland
- ▶ Submission to Element Energy who carried out the economic review of Renewable Heat Incentive
- ▶ Submission to Ricardo Energy who carried out the Economic Assessment of Biogas and Biomethane
- ▶ Single Electricity Market Committee Decision Removing Negative Capacity Charges From De Minimis

MEMBERSHIP

It is a member of the Small Firms Association, European Biogas Association and the European Compost Network and is represented on the Board of Directors of the European Compost Network.

