



Comhairle Cathrach  
Bhaile Átha Cliath  
Dublin City Council

## Overview of the SuDS based activities currently being progressed by the PWBO

Presentation to Central Area Committee - Montpelier Hill

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Head of the Protection of Water Bodies Office  
February 2023

Stoneybatter  
Greening Strategy

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Parks, Landscape & Biodiversity Services

# Protection of Water Bodies Office



Bull Island and the Bull Walls – Dublin Bay

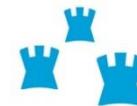
## Brief overview:

PWBO was established in Q4 2021.

Legislative remit:

- EU Water Framework Directive 2000
- Water Pollution Act 1997
- Bathing Water Regulations 2008
- Water Services Act 2014 (Irish Water SLA)

A Team of 33 staff including Technicians, Engineers, Project Managers, Students, support staff and site staff.



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# Protection of Water Bodies Office



Bull Island and the Bull Walls – Dublin Bay

## Key areas of activity:

Management of bathing waters (6 No.)

WFD projects (7 DCC Waterbodies identified in the RBMP, namely, Mayne, Santry, Tolka, Liffey, Camac, Poddle, Dodder).

Community engagement (incl. schools)

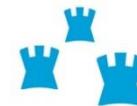
Surface Water Management – SuDS trial

Pollution incident investigations/response.

Water quality monitoring (rivers, coastal waters et al).

Discharge licensing

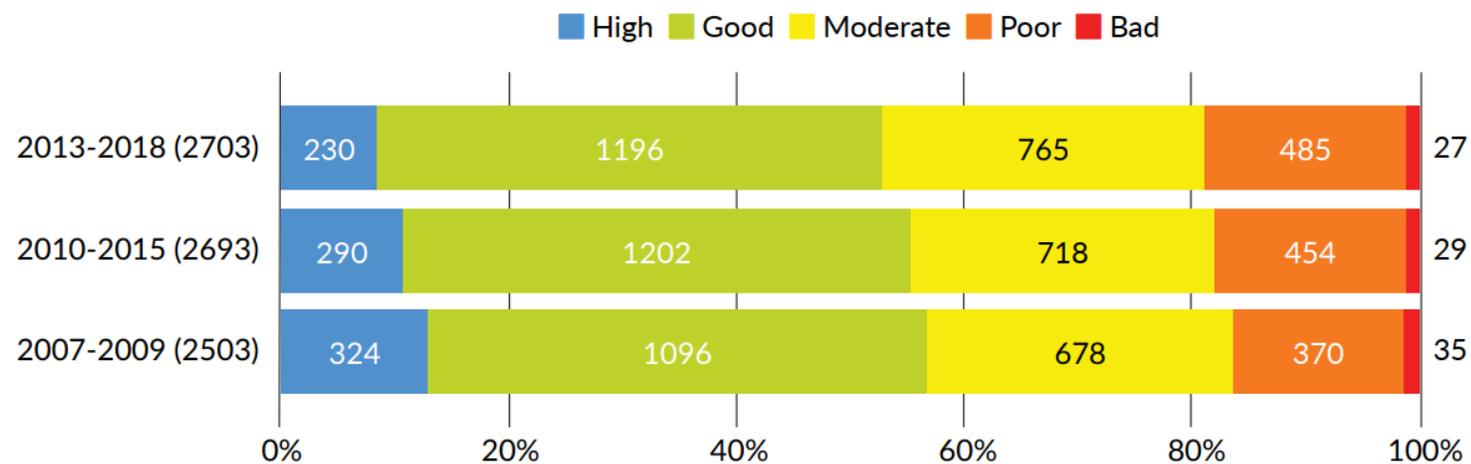
GIS database and asset management platform



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# Condition of our waters, nationally and locally

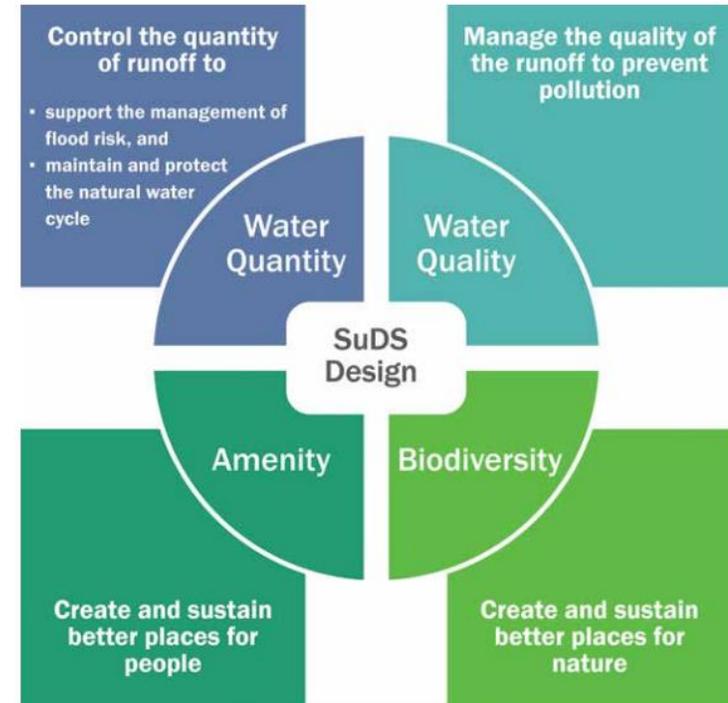
Nationally - Just over half (53%) of surface waters are in good or high ecological status.



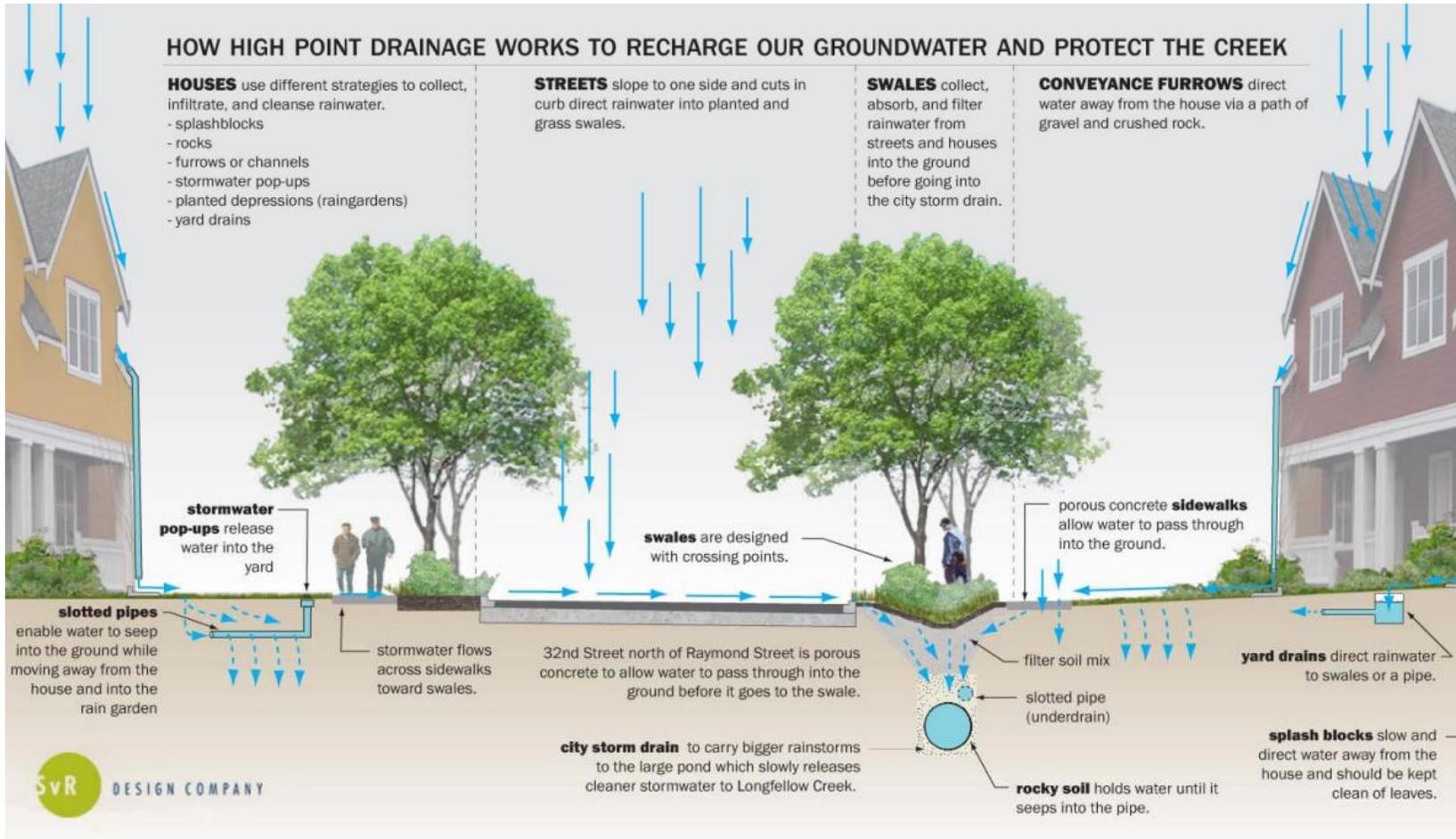
| Waterbody Type | No. of Waterbodies |
|----------------|--------------------|
| River          | 3192               |
| Canal          | 16                 |
| Lake           | 812                |
| Coastal        | 112                |
| Transitional   | 196                |
| Groundwater    | 514                |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>4,842</b>       |

# Sustainable Drainage Systems

- Definition SuDS Manual:  
Sustainable Drainage or SuDS is a way of managing rainfall that **minimises** the **negative** impacts on the **quantity** and **quality** of runoff... whilst **maximising** the benefits of **amenity** and **biodiversity** for people and the environment.
- SuDS & Nature Based Solutions are key solutions to addressing how we manage our surface water run-off.
- Reducing SW runoff to our combined sewer system directly reduces the engagement of our CSO's discharging foul waters to our waterbodies. Attaining the WFD objectives is highly unlikely to be achieved with delivering SW management infrastructure as part of the solution.



# Learning Outcomes



## Key Performance Indicators over time

Hydraulics:

Flow in v flow out (volume and rate)

WFD:

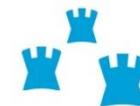
Water quality before & after

Biodiversity:

Plant/tree suitability, flora and fauna monitoring.

Amenity:

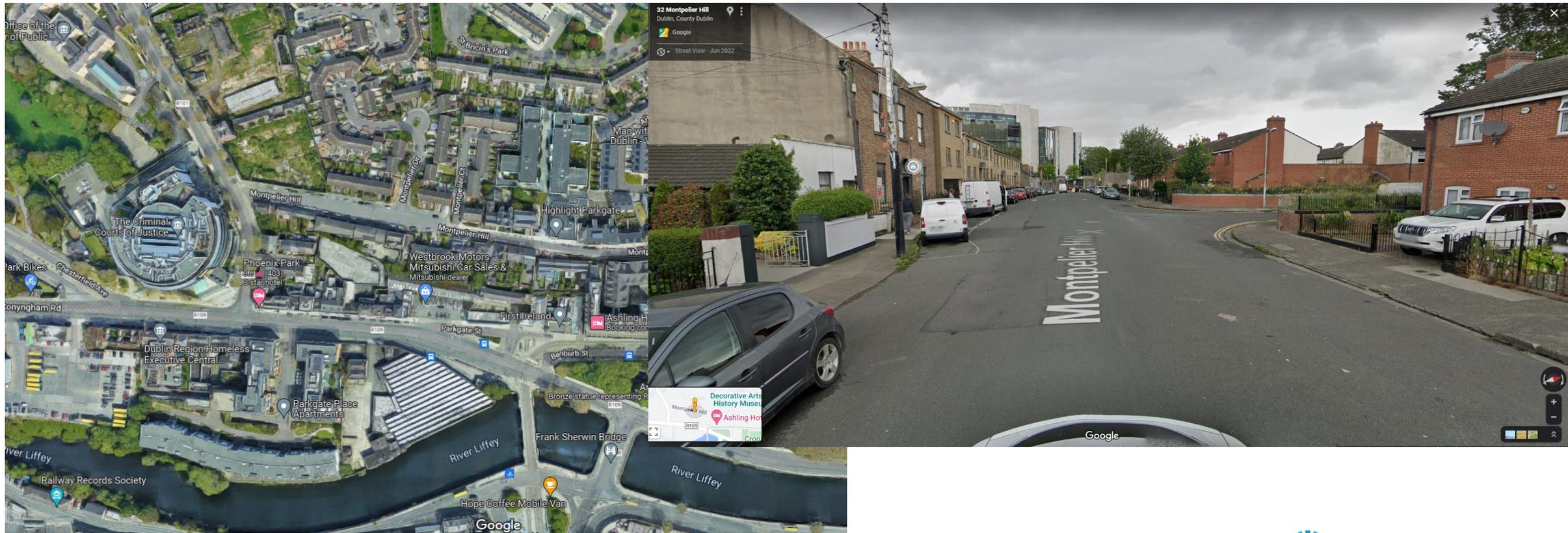
Qualitative surveys, customer/public feedback.



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# Green Infrastructure Pilot Sites

## Parks Collaborations – Montpelier Hill







Untitled Map

Google Earth



## 9.0 - PWBO Website

Address - <https://www.dublincity.ie/residential/environment/protection-water-bodies>

The screenshot shows the Dublin City Council website page for 'Protection of Water Bodies'. The page has a blue header with the council's name in Irish and English, and navigation links for 'Residential', 'Business', and 'Your Council'. The main content area is titled 'Protection of Water Bodies' and includes a breadcrumb trail 'Home > Residential > Environment'. Below the title, there is a 'Residential' section with five content cards. The first card, 'Water Pollution Control', lists links for 'About Water Pollution Control', 'Report a Water Pollution Incident', 'Discharge Licences', 'River Quality', and 'Water Pollution Control Reports', with a 'View All Water Pollution...' link at the bottom. The second card, 'Beaches and Bathing Water Quality', has a link for 'Beaches and Bathing Water Quality FAQs'. The third card, 'Public Participation in the Identification of New Bathing Waters', contains a paragraph: 'Each year, members of the public are invited to participate in a public participation process.' The fourth card, 'EU Water Framework Directive', has a paragraph: 'Legislation to improve water quality of rivers, lakes, coastal waters and groundwaters'. The fifth card, 'Green Infrastructure', lists links for 'Householder's Resources for Green Infrastructure', 'River Santry and River Dodder Rainscapes', and 'Santry River Restoration and Greenway Project'. The page footer features the Dublin City Council logo and name in both Irish and English.

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[Residential](#) [Business](#) [Your Council](#)

Home > Residential > Environment Gaeilge

## Protection of Water Bodies

### Residential

#### Water Pollution Control

- > [About Water Pollution Control](#)
- > [Report a Water Pollution Incident](#)
- > [Discharge Licences](#)
- > [River Quality](#)
- > [Water Pollution Control Reports](#)

[View All Water Pollution...](#) >

#### Beaches and Bathing Water Quality

- > [Beaches and Bathing Water Quality FAQs](#)

#### Public Participation in the Identification of New Bathing Waters

Each year, members of the public are invited to participate in a public participation process.

#### EU Water Framework Directive

Legislation to improve water quality of rivers, lakes, coastal waters and groundwaters

#### Green Infrastructure

- > [Householder's Resources for Green Infrastructure](#)
- > [River Santry and River Dodder Rainscapes](#)
- > [Santry River Restoration and Greenway Project](#)

  
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PWBO Water Framework Directive section @ [wfd@dublincity.ie](mailto:wfd@dublincity.ie)

PWBO Water Pollution Control section @ [waterpollution@dublincity.ie](mailto:waterpollution@dublincity.ie)

Thank you

Roy O'Connor - Head of the Protection of Water Bodies Office