

Galway County Council, Galway City Council & HSE West update

Update 27th March, 2007

The HSE West, Galway City Council & Galway County Council Incident Response Team is continuing to work closely together. The Team includes people with expertise in environmental and water services, veterinary science, microbiology, public health and environmental health, with advice from the Environmental Protection Agency and Health Protection Surveillance Centre.

The number of cases of cryptosporidiosis continues to increase; the laboratory confirmed number of cases is now 112

Galway City Council and Galway County Council are continuing to carry out sampling of the water supplies.

Galway County Council has been examining the possibility of finding an alternative water supply to replace the existing supply in the Headford area. Galway County Council is liaising with the Environmental Protection Agency and the HSE in relation to this issue. With the co-operation and assistance of the Caherlistrane/Kilcoona Group Scheme, it may be possible to provide an alternative supply to the Headford area pending the necessary preparatory works which are underway and should be completed shortly. Other works will have to be carried out and a series of water tests will have to be carried out to ensure the network is safe and clear of cryptosporidium. Before any decision is made to lift the water boil notice, Galway County Council will work closely with the EPA and the HSE to agree criteria.

Galway City Council is currently liaising with expert consultants in order to identify the most appropriate solution for the current water contamination problem in Galway City.

HSE West, Galway County Council & Galway City Council once again reiterate that it is essential that people in the affected areas continue to boil water intended for drinking or food preparation. If you are unsure of the source of your water supply, it is advised to boil your water as a precautionary measure.

The three agencies will continue to expend every effort in order to resolve the situation.

Information is available and updated regularly on www.galwaycity.ie www.galwayie.ie.
www.hse.ie