

**Question for written answer E-005610/2021  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Grace O'Sullivan** (Verts/ALE)

**Subject:** Revision of the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive

The EU's Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (UWWTD) lays out clear standards for the treatment of waste water in Member States, yet there are many countries and specific cases that fall outside the scope of this Directive.

According to the Water Information System for Europe (WISE-Freshwater), which is a partnership between the Commission's Directorate-General for Environment and the European Economic Area (EEA), in Ireland only 44 % of sewage is treated in line with EU legislation.

1. What steps does the Commission intend to take to ensure all Member States fully comply with the UWWTD?
2. Following the impact assessment due to take place in 2022, when does the Commission plan to publish its revision of the Directive and when will it come into effect?
3. Will the Commission ensure that pollution from smaller agglomerations is covered in the revision of the Directive? An example of this on the ground is Bunmahon, Ireland, a beautiful seaside town, popular with tourists, swimmers and surfers, where untreated wastewater is being released into the river Mahon beside swimming spots. This is not covered under the UWWTD as the tank in question is intended to cater for only 120 population equivalent (p.e), with the Directive covering only tanks bigger than 2 000 p.e.