

Civic Offices, Limerick Road
Nenagh, Co. Tipperary



AN FÓRAM UISCE | THE WATER FORUM:

AN INTRODUCTION AND ROLE IN RESEARCH

Dr Alec Rolston
Research Lead



@TugOfWater @AnForamUisce



alec@nationalwaterforum.ie



www.thewaterforum.ie

ESTABLISHMENT OF AN FÓRAM UISCE

- Established in accordance with the Water Services Act 2017.
- The only statutory body representative of all stakeholders with an interest in the quality of Ireland's water bodies.
- 28 members nominated from over 50 organisations.
- Chaired by Prof Tom Collins



ROLE OF THE WATER FORUM

Advise Minister in relation to government policy on water issues including:

- Water conservation
- Rural water services
- The interests of the customers of Irish Water

To make recommendations to Irish Water in relation to:

- The performance by Irish Water of its functions
- Any policy document prepared by Irish Water

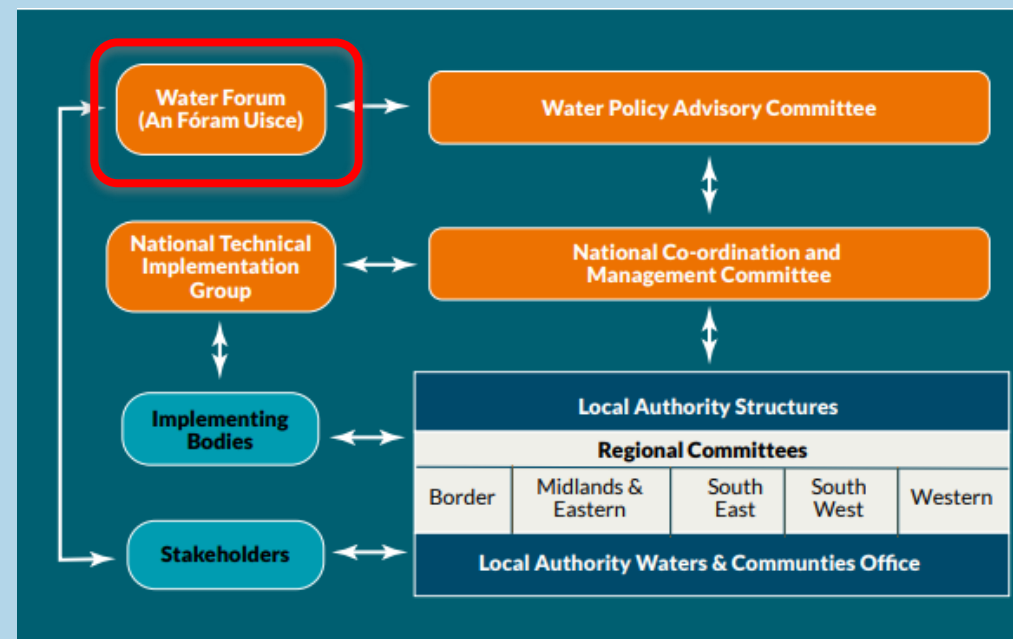
Advise CRU on issues pertaining to Irish Water

ROLE OF THE WATER FORUM

To advise the Water Policy Advisory Committee

- On River Basin Management Planning and implementation
- On matters pertaining to the Water Framework Directive
- On other inland aquatic environment and water resources management matters

Examine other water related matters as the Minister requests



The Forum is the interface between science, citizen/stakeholder engagement and water policy makers.

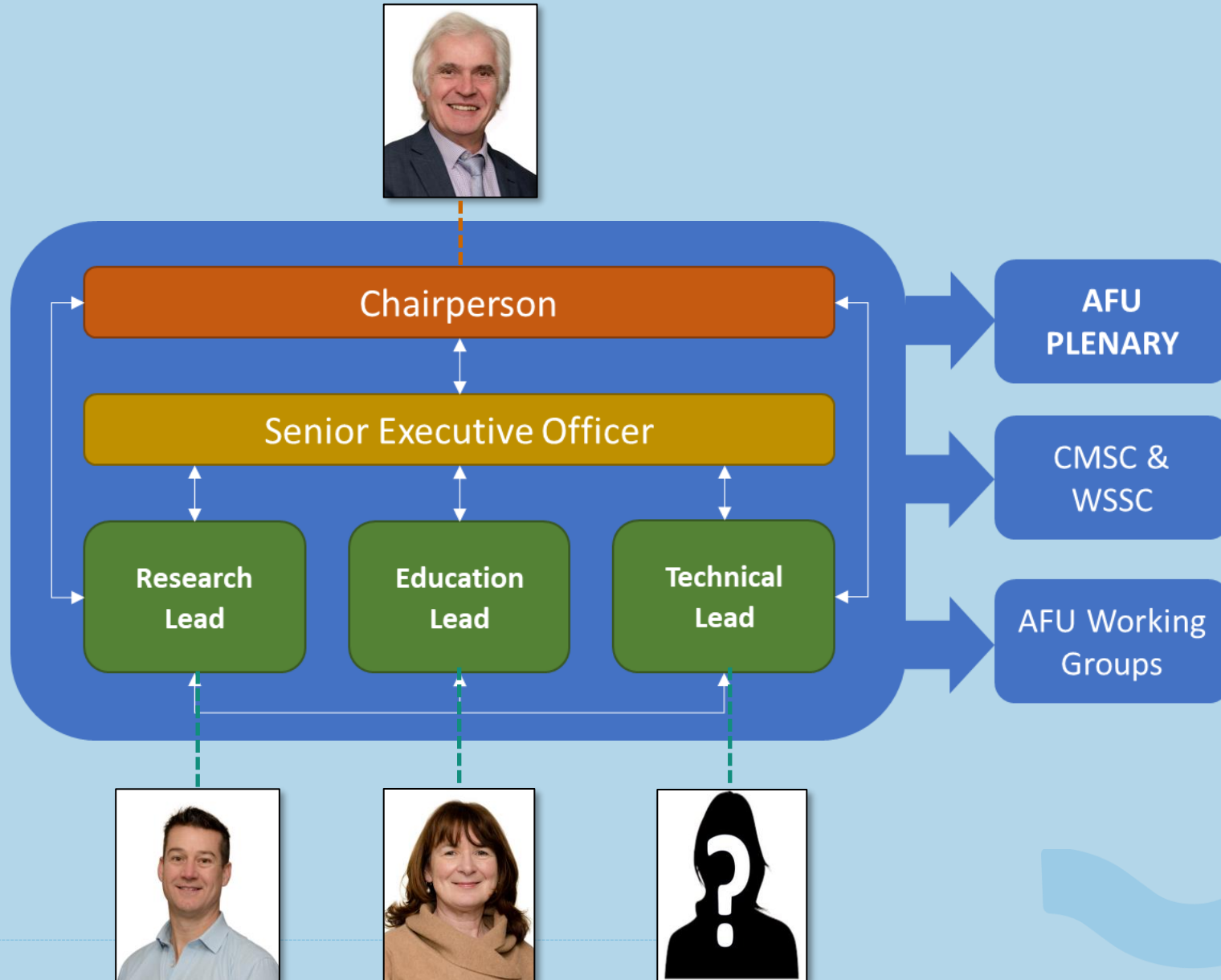
SEVEN STRATEGIC THEMES



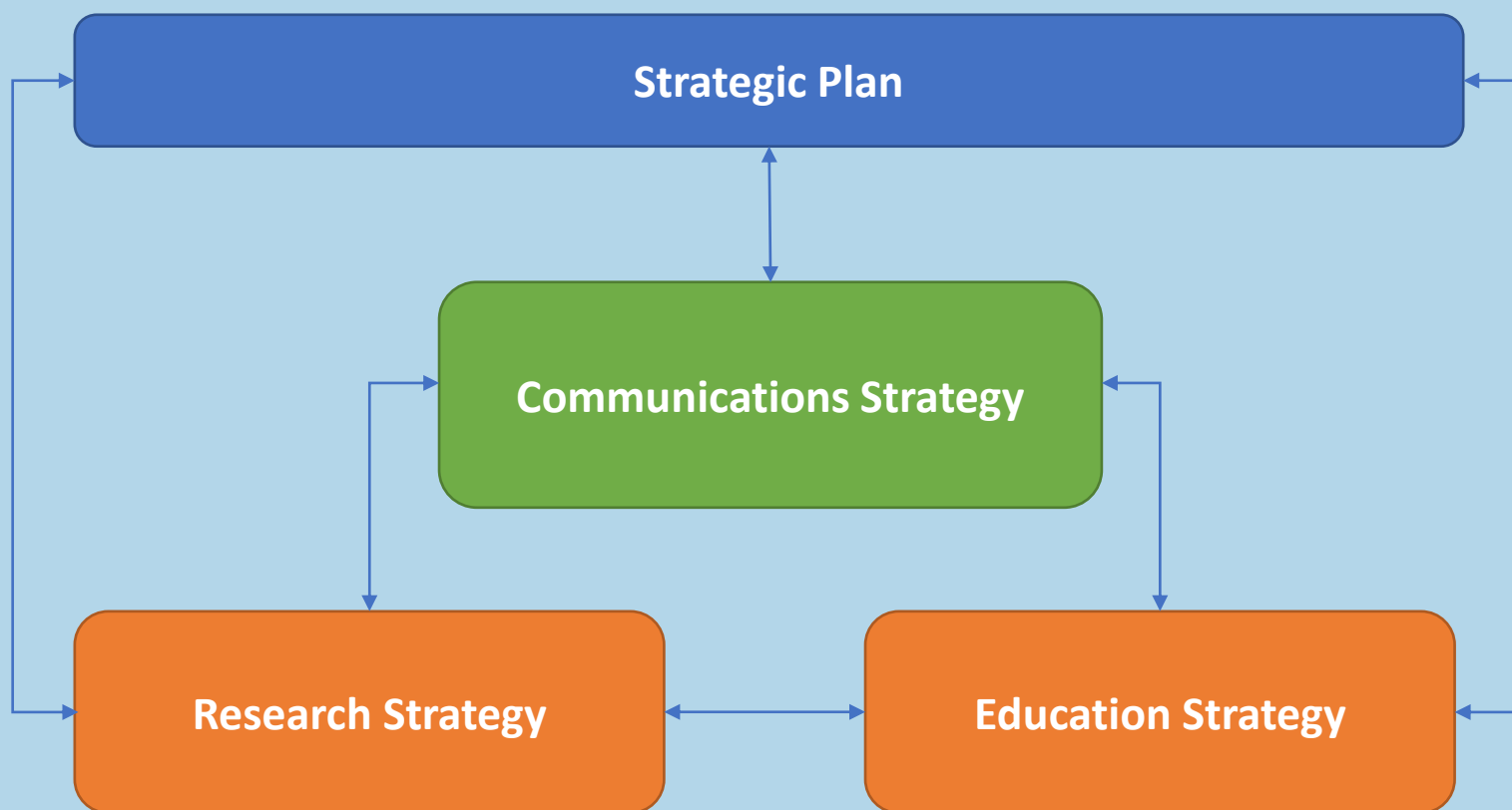
Looking after Ireland's water resources

1. Leading the debate on water in Ireland
2. Promote water conservation and resilience
3. Review and advise on policy implementation
4. Provide recommendations on the performance of Irish water
5. Support and monitor rural water services
6. Lead public awareness and education
7. Support and promote public consultation

GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE



GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE



RESEARCH STRATEGY

- Outlines The Forum's role in water-related research
- Details the thematic areas of priority to The Forum
- Highlights aspects of research of importance to The Forum outside of the thematic areas
- Identifies the timeframes and primary actions for implementing the Research Strategy



RESEARCH AREAS

THEMATIC AREAS

- Drinking water source protection
- High status water bodies
- Invasive species
- Physical modifications to water bodies
- Nutrient pollution

ADDITIONAL RESEARCH AREAS

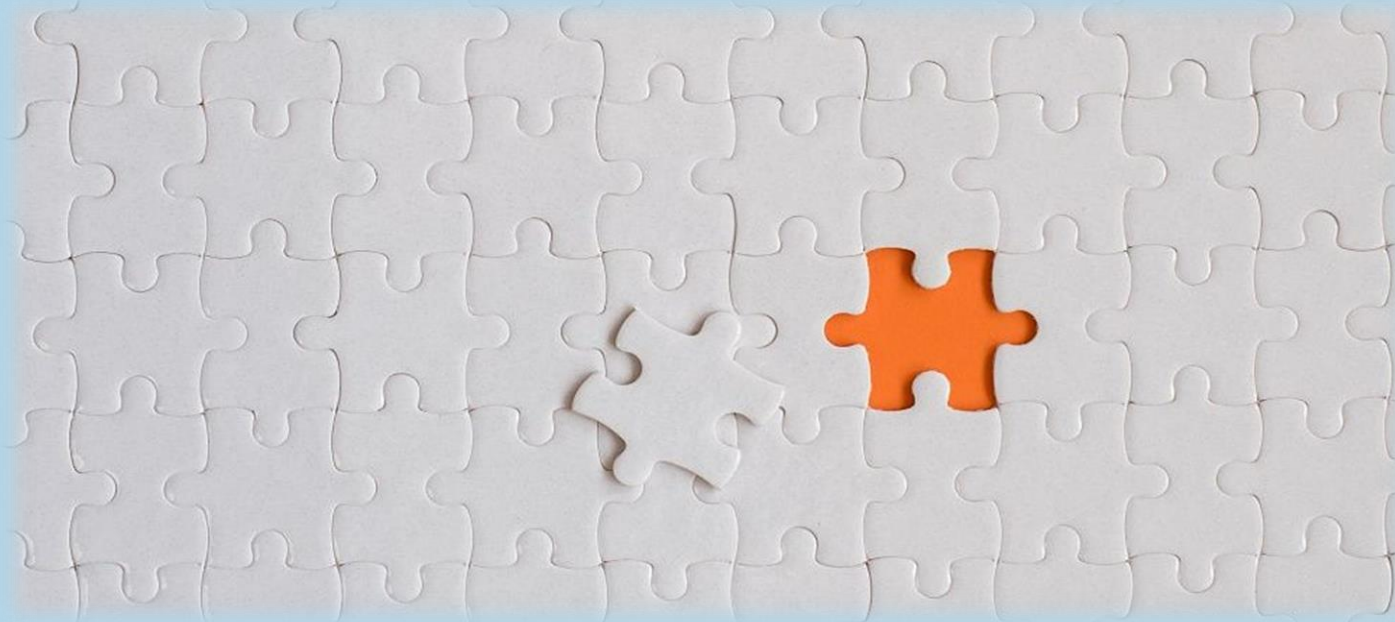
- Water and wastewater services
- Water conservation
- Socio-economic factors
- Climate change impacts on water resources and management

The Forum is happy to provide letters of support to funding applications which are aligned to our Research Strategy/Strategic Plan. Or be a participatory stakeholder as appropriate

DHPLG SUPPORT FOR 2020

- Water quality returns from the reform of the CAP
- Developing an alternative vision for Ireland's peatlands
- Early Career Researcher bursaries for policy-relevant research

MOVING FORWARD COLLABORATIVELY



Filling the gaps:

What are the gaps in the science-policy interface?

What knowledge gaps exist within water-related research?

Are there gaps (or issues) within water governance in Ireland?