



To celebrate International Women's Day and recognise leading experts, Irish Water presents Lough Talt case study to Letterkenny staff and students

In celebration of International Women's Day and female achievements in the North West Region, Irish Water in partnership with Coffey Construction were delighted to collaborate with Letterkenny Institute of Technology during Engineers Week. This year an all-female line up of leading experts provided students and staff with an overview of the typical life cycle of an engineering project with a focus on the recently completed drinking water infrastructural upgrade at Lough Talt, Sligo.

Presentations on all aspects of the infrastructural upgrade was provided to staff and students with specific interest in water, science and engineering. The presentations provided an overview of a typical life cycle of a project including programme management, the highly complex planning process, construction phase activities, operational management and communications throughout the project. Presentations from leading experts were provided by Diane Carroll, Olwyn James, Georgina O'Reilly and Toni Bourke from Irish Water and Anne Marie Quirke from Coffey Group. The all-female line up also celebrated women's achievements in engineering as well as showcasing the industry as a prospective employer to young students.

The presentation also focused on the recent upgrade to the drinking water plant at Lough Talt which saw a long standing boil water notice lifted in November 2020. Two boil water notices had been in place at the drinking water plant since February 2018. Completion of these works also enabled the Environmental Protection Agency to remove Lough Talt from its Remedial Action List (RAL). The RAL is a list of at-risk schemes, and customers supplied by Lough Talt are now enjoying drinking water compliant with EU Drinking Water Regulations.

Speaking about the event Toni Bourke, Business Stakeholder and Communications Manager for Irish Water said: *“Irish Water is delighted to continue work with third level educational institutions to provide expert advice in the area of water and waste water management and encourage students to consider working in the industry and with Irish Water in the future.”*

Noreen Durning, Chartered Engineer and Lecturer in the Department of Civil Engineering and Construction at Letterkenny Institute of Technology added: *“At LYIT we are always looking at providing practical real industry training and presentations to our science and engineering students. We were delighted to collaborate again this year with Irish Water during Engineers Week and showcase the work being done in the area of water management. We are also happy to shine a light on the equal opportunities for both men and women in the field of engineering.”*

For further information about water and waste water projects in your area visit www.water.ie.

For further information about Letterkenny Institute of Technology visit <https://www.lyit.ie/>.

For further information about Civil Engineering, Environmental and Building contractors Coffey group visit www.coffeygroup.com/.