Irish Water

Set up in July 2013, Irish Water brought the water and wastewater services of the 34 Local Authorities together under one company.

Irish Water gradually took over the duties from the Local Authorities from January 2014.

It took five years for Irish Water to be fully up and running, now it is in charge of public water services. This means it will manage water, keep the system up to date, fix leaks and make sure everyone has good drinking water.

Irish Water will be watched over by The Energy Regulator and The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

The Energy Regulator will set the price of water and the EPA will make sure Irish Water does not harm the environment.

Many people were unhappy with having to pay for water. There were a number of reasons for this:

* People never had to pay for water before.
* The price being charged was high
* People were being asked to fill out forms and give personal details.
* Even people who do not have much money were being asked to pay.
* People were asked to pay for a broken system which has lots of leaks.

There were a lot of protests against water charges with big marches in Dublin and around the country.

Water Charges were abolished in 2017.

Questions:

1. When was Irish Water set up? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. It replaced how many Local Authorities? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. What year did Irish Water take over the Local Authorities duties? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. Who will watch over Irish Water?

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. What is your opinion about paying for water?

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