



The proposed sale of Bord na Móna Recycling to any private entity - removing a direct state involvement in the circular economy - is a backwards step for our nation. It is bad for customers, the environment and particularly bad for workers. The best way any incoming government can ensure a Just Transition for Bord na Móna workers, is to keep Bord na Móna Recycling in state ownership.

There has been huge consolidation within the domestic waste collection sector in recent years. In the 10 years from 2012 to 2022 the number of providers reduced from 82 to 51, a 38% decrease. **A single provider is currently estimated to have 25% of the total market share.** It is impossible to see how our nation's best interests can be served by the total abandonment of this service to increasingly monopolistic private interests.

In fact, it's directly incompatible with the conclusions of two recent reports:

- The Joint Oireachtas Committee on Environment and Climate Change's Report on the Circular Economy.
- The Dublin City Taskforce

Both reports recommended moving towards the re-municipalisation of waste collection within Dublin city. **Selling Bord na Móna Recycling out of state ownership is not compatible with this recommendation.**

Bord na Mona Recycling workers and their union, SIPTU, are vociferously opposed to the sale on several grounds:

- Union recognition - No other company in the waste sector currently recognises a trade union for the purposes of collective bargaining. Our members believe selling Bord na Móna Recycling will lead to a diminution in terms and conditions of employment of the workers over time. Our experience in relation to the operation of TUPE (Transfer of Undertakings) regulations, is that they provide no protection against this trend.
- Ireland is the only EU member that operates 'side-by-side' competition in the domestic waste collection industry in municipal areas. This leads to huge downward pressure on wages and conditions of employment, increases carbon emissions and adds greatly to traffic congestion and poorer living conditions in urban areas.
- The most effective way to give effect to a Just Transition and support the EU Directive on Adequate Minimum Wages and Collective Bargaining is to **support, expand and maintain decently paid jobs through ensuring the current workforce remains within the employ of Bord na Mona.**

**We are asking you,
and **your Party** to
support retaining
**Bord na Móna Recycling
in State ownership****

