

# INTERIM CLIMATE ACTIONS

2021



Rialtas na hÉireann  
Government of Ireland



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## Glossary of Acronyms

AA	Appropriate Assessment
ACA	Agricultural Consultants Association
AD	Anaerobic Digestion
AHI	Animal Health Ireland
AIPP	All Ireland Pollinator Plan
BER	Building Energy Rating
BEREC	Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications
BIM	Bord Iascaigh Mhara
BnM	Bord na Móna
BVD	Bovine Viral Diarrhoea
CAP	Common Agricultural Policy
CAROs	Climate Action Regional Offices
CCAC	Climate Change Advisory Council
CCMA	County and City Management Association
CCS	Carbon Capture and Storage
CE	Circular Economy
CFMCA	Coalition of Finance Ministers for Climate Action
CH <sub>4</sub>	Methane
CICLT	Commercialisation of Irish Cross-Laminated Timber
Climate-KIC	Climate Knowledge and Innovation Community
CNG	Compressed Natural Gas
CO <sub>2</sub>	Carbon Dioxide
CO <sub>2</sub> eq	Carbon Dioxide Equivalent
COFORD	Council for Forest Research and Development
COP 26	UN Climate Change Conference
CRU	Commission for Regulation of Utilities
CSO	Central Statistics Office
D/Taoiseach	Department of the Taoiseach
D/Transport	Department of Transport
DAERA	Department of Agriculture & Rural Development (UK)
DAFM	Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
DART	Dublin Area Rapid Transit
DCEDIY	Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Intergration and Youth
DECC	Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications
DETE	Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment
DFIN	Department of Finance
DHLGH	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage
DoH	Department of Health
DPER	Department of Public Expenditure and Reform
DRCD	Department of Rural and Community Development

## Glossary of Acronyms

DRS	Deposit Return Scheme
DRS	Deposit Return Scheme
DSP	Department of Social Protection
DTCAGSM	Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media
DTIF	Disruptive Technologies Innovation Fund
EEA	European Environment Agency
EEA	European Economic Area
EEAC	European Environment and Sustainable Development Advisory Councils Network
EGFSN	Expert Group of Future Skills Needs
EI	Enterprise Ireland
EIP	European Innovation Partnerships
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ESB	Electricity Supply Board
ESBN	Electricity Supply Board Networks
ESD	Education for Sustainable Development
ETBs	Education and Training Boards
EU	European Union
EVs	Electric Vehicles
EXEED	Excellence in Energy Efficient Design
FPR	Fertiliser Product Regulation
GCOS	Global Climate Observing System
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GENESIS	Genomic Evaluation for the Sustainable Improvement of Sitka Spruce
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GLAS	Green, Low-Carbon, Agri-Environment Scheme
GNI	Gas Networks Ireland
GPP	Green Public Procurement
GSI	Geological Survey Ireland
GW	Gigawatt
ha	Hectare
HDV	Heavy Duty Vehicle
HEA	Higher Education Authority
ICBF	Irish Cattle Breeding Federation
ICOS	Irish Co-Operative Organisation Society
IDA	Industrial Development Agency
IFA	Irish Farmers Association
IJCP	Irish Johne's Control Programme
ITGA	Irish Timber Growers Association
JDIG	Johne's Disease Implementation Group
JTF	Just Transition Fund
km	kilometer

LDA	Land Development Agency
LED	Light Emitting Diode
LEOs	Local Enterprise Offices
LGMA	Local Government Management Agency
LGV	Light Goods Vehicle
LIEN	Large Industry Energy Network
LIFE	L'Instrument Financier pour l'Environnement
LPT	Local Property Tax
LTT	Line to Take
LULUCF	Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry
MACC	Marginal Abatement Cost Curve
MI	Marine Institute
MODCONS	Modular Mass Timber Building for the Circular Economy
MPDM	Marine Planning and Development Management Bill
MRTT	Midlands Regional Transition Team
MW	Megawatt
N <sub>2</sub> O	Nitrous Oxide
NAF	National Adaptation Framework
NASCO	National Agricultural Soil Carbon Observatory
NCCA	National Council for Curriculum and Assessment
NDCA	National Dialogue on Climate Action
NDP	National Development Plan
NESC	National Economic and Social Council
NewERA	New Economy and Recovery Authority
NGOs	Non Governmental Organisations
NIE	Northern Ireland Electricity Networks
NPWS	National Parks and Wildlife Service
NSAI	National Standards Authority of Ireland
NTA	National Transport Authority
NTMA	National Treasury Management Agency
NUIG	National University of Ireland Galway
NZEB	Nearly Zero Energy Building
OPC	Office of the Parliamentary Counsel
OPR	Office of the Planning Regulator
OPW	Office of Public Works
ORE	Offshore Renewable Energy
OREDPA	Offshore Renewable Energy Development Plan
PPAs	Power Purchase Agreements
PPQAS	Poultry Products Quality Assurance Scheme
RD&D	Research, Development and Deployment
RES-E	Renewable Energy Source-Electricity

## Glossary of Acronyms

RESS	Renewable Electricity Support Scheme
RIAI	Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland
RLR	Regional and Local Road
SBCI	Strategic Banking Corporation of Ireland
SBIR	Small Business Innovation Research
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SEAI	Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland
SEQUESTER	Scenarios Quantifying Land Use & Emissions Transitions Towards Equilibrium with Removals
SFI	Science Foundation Ireland
SMEs	Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises
SNSP	System Non-Synchronous Penetration
SOLAS	An tSeirbhís Oideachais Leanúnaigh agus Scileanna
SONI	System Operator for Northern Ireland
SPPAS	Sustainable Poultry Products Assurance Scheme
SPSV	Small Public Service Vehicle
SSRH	Support Scheme for Renewable Heat
SUP	Single-Use Plastics
t	tonnes
TAMs	Targeted Agricultural Modernisation Scheme
TEN-T	Trans-European Transport Network
TII	Transport Infrastructure Ireland
TSG	Tax Strategy Group
TWh	Terawatt hour
UCC	University College Cork
UCD	University College Dublin
UK	United Kingdom
UL	University of Limerick
UN	United Nations
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
VRT	Vehicle Registration Tax
WOW-IE	Weather Observations Website-IE



## Introduction

### The importance of the Climate Action Plan process

Ireland's **Climate Action Plan 2019** laid out our roadmap to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions and tackle the climate crisis. Implementing the Plan is helping us to meet our overall 2030 climate commitments, and putting us on the pathway to achieving net zero emissions by 2050.

The Plan outlined **183 Actions** across all sectors, with responsibilities and clear timelines for delivery mapped out. The Actions were broken down into over 600 measures to achieve the Actions.

At the heart of the Climate Action Plan 2019 was a commitment to the integration of climate considerations into Government business and the development of a deep level of collaboration across Government. The key features of the Plan which are recommitted to here include:

- monitoring of progress from the centre with a Climate Action Delivery Board, jointly chaired by the Secretary General of the Department of the Taoiseach and the Secretary General of the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications, which holds each Department and Public Body accountable for the delivery of actions set out;
- strong accountability to an Oireachtas Climate Action Committee; and
- robust climate action legislation to place the five year carbon budgets and sectoral emissions ceilings on a statutory footing, with an independent Climate Change Advisory Council to recommend the carbon budget and evaluate policy.

### Progress to date

Implementation rates under the Climate Action Plan 2019 have fluctuated on a quarter-by-quarter basis. The overall implementation rate to the end of Q4 2020 stands at 78%, with 391 measures completed out of a total of 500 measures due.

### Interim Climate Actions

The new Programme for Government, published in June 2020, outlined Ireland's commitment to a green post pandemic recovery, including a more ambitious climate target of an average 7% emissions reduction per year to 2030.

Intense planning and analysis is now underway to outline how that step-up in ambition will be met in the Climate Action Plan 2021. In addition, a public consultation is being undertaken to engage with citizens and stakeholders on ideas for collectively addressing the climate crisis

It is expected that the full Plan will be launched in tandem with the renewed National Development Plan this Summer.

The purpose of Interim Climate Actions 2021 is to maintain a whole-of-government focus on implementation, and continue to progress new climate actions while the Plan to reach 7% per annum reductions is developed. It will ensure that planning and implementation go hand in hand.

## Governance

Transparency and accountability are crucial to the delivery of climate action.

The process of centrally driven monitoring and reporting of climate action delivery, established under the Climate Action Plan 2019, will continue to drive implementation of the Interim Climate Actions 2021. This includes maintaining transparency and accountability regarding the Government's implementation of climate actions through the publication of Quarterly Progress Reports and regular updating of [gov.ie/climateaction](https://gov.ie/climateaction).

The Climate Action Delivery Board, co-chaired by the Department of the Taoiseach and the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications, will also play an important role in this process, enhancing coordination and regularly reviewing supports to overcome challenges to implementation across the system.

Further efforts to address implementation challenges and drive delivery will also continue through the Cabinet Committee on the Environment and Climate Change and the related Senior Officials Group, as outlined in this Interim Actions Report.

Other key governance measures to be progressed include:

- establishing the appropriate legislative framework for climate action, through finalisation of the Climate Action (Amendment) Bill, including the process for establishing carbon budgets;
- actions dedicated to reforming our national taxation and spending regimes, further embedding climate considerations in national decision-making and investments;
- the inclusion of climate action considerations in cross-cutting policies, for example, in terms of national planning, rural policy and adaptation research; and
- engagements with Agencies and Local Authorities to deliver climate action at every level of Government activity.

## Mitigation

### Action 1. Publish the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Bill 2021.

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
1a. Publication of Bill.	Legislation	Q1 2021	DECC	All Government departments

### Action 2. Commence the process of forming carbon budgets for 2021 to 2025, 2026 to 2030, and 2031 to 2035 ahead of a new Climate Action (Amendment) Bill being enacted.

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
2a. Propose initial multi-annual carbon budget programme for 2021-2035.	Advice to Minister	Q2 2021	Climate Change Advisory Council	DECC

### Action 3. Prepare Long-term Climate Strategy to meet the requirements of the EU and the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Bill 2021.

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
3a. Publish Long-term Climate Strategy.	Strategy	Q2 2021	DECC	Government Departments

### Action 4. Continue to reform budgetary processes and procedures to provide transparency on the Government's financial commitments to the climate change agenda.

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
4a. Starting with the carbon tax, develop impact metrics for climate expenditures and include these in budgetary publications on an ongoing basis.	Inclusion in Performance Budget Report of climate metrics on an annual basis	Annually - commencing in Q2 2021	DPER	

<b>Action 5. Keep the Public Spending Code under ongoing review in line with international best practice to ensure that it includes tools to evaluate the climate and environmental consequences of any project.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
5a. Revise the shadow price of carbon in light of enhanced climate ambition.	A new shadow price of carbon will be applied to all Government investment appraisal via Circular	Q4 2021	DPER	DECC
<b>Action 6. Publish a revised National Development Plan detailing Government capital expenditures planned over 2021 – 2030.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
6a. Develop a methodology for the analysis of departmental capital investment proposals from a climate perspective.	Agreed methodology for assessing climate aspects capital spending proposals in National Development Plan review	Q1 2021	DPER	
6b. Apply methodology to departmental investment proposals submitted as part of the National Development Plan review.	A high level assessment performed on the compatibility of proposed capital investments with climate and environmental policies and targets	Q2 2021	DPER	
6c. Publish revised National Development Plan.	The publication of a revised National Development Plan	Q2 2021	DPER	

**Action 7. Develop a system that determines how any cost of compliance with EU climate and energy targets should be met. This will be informed by the sectoral allocation of climate targets under the forthcoming carbon budgets.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
7a. Develop a consultation paper on potential methodologies for apportioning any cost of compliance across Government departments.	A consultation paper will be developed for Government departments and agencies to consider	Q3 2021	DPER	DECC

**Action 8. Publication of new Rural Development Policy**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
8a. Finalise and publish a new Rural Development Policy 2021-2025	Publication of a new Rural Development Policy	Q1 2021	DRCD	

## Carbon Pricing and Financial Measures

<b>Action 9. Progress Environmental Tax Reform.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
9a. Monitor and review successive carbon tax increases as announced in Budget 2021.	Tax Strategy Group (TSG) Paper	Every Q3 (TSG Paper) and Q4 (Budget)	DFIN	
9b. Equalise diesel and petrol excise rates over an appropriate period of time.	Tax Strategy Group (TSG) Paper	Every Q3 (TSG Paper) and Q4 (Budget)	DFIN	

<b>Action 10. Progress Vehicle Tax Reform.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
10a. Monitor and review recent vehicle tax reform in light of new emissions testing standards.	Tax Strategy Group (TSG) Paper	Q3 (TSG Paper) and Q4 (Budget)	DFIN	
10b. Consider the introduction of emissions-based taxation for commercial vehicles.	Tax Strategy Group (TSG) Paper	Q3 (TSG Paper) and Q4 (Budget)	DFIN	

<b>Action 11. Mobilisation of climate-related private investment to assist in meeting our climate objectives.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
11a. New Economy and Recovery Authority (NewERA) will work with the commercial State companies, the Ireland Strategic Investment Fund, the Strategic Banking Corporation of Ireland and other public bodies to mobilise private investment towards assisting in meeting our climate objectives.	6 monthly updates to Lead Department to include relevant sustainable finance developments	Ongoing	DFIN	DECC

### Cross-cutting Policies

Many of the actions in Interim Climate Actions 2021 are cross-cutting in nature, with some of the key policy enablers to realise them requiring attention across a range of Government Departments and Bodies. Government policies on taxation, expenditure, sustainable finance, spatial planning, and research and development, provide an important enabling framework for individual, household, community, and company-level climate action.

<b>Action 12. Implement National Planning Framework.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
12a. Take account of LA Climate Action Plans when including objectives for GHG emissions and climate change adaptation.	Amend Section 10(2)n of Planning and Development Act	Q1 2021	DHLGH	
12b. Provide that LAs consider GHG emissions, in the context of LA Climate Action Plan as part of the City/County Development Plan process.	Finalise Section 28 Development Planning Guidelines for Local Authorities which will also provide that climate adaptation and climate action plans should be taken account of in the preparation of County Development Plans	Q1 2021	DHLGH	
12c. Establish a working group to examine implementation of climate actions in the National Planning Framework.	National Planning Framework Climate action support measures	Q2 2021	DHLGH	

<b>Action 13. Develop and include a module on Climate Change into the Guidelines for the development of new Local Economic and Community Plans (LECPs).</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
13a. Begin the process of engagement to support the development of Local Economic and Community Planning guidelines.	Engagement commenced	Q2 2021	DRCD	

13b. Develop and publish LECPs guidelines that will include climate action in collaboration with relevant stakeholders.	Guidelines published	Q4 2021	DRCD	
13c. Establish a working group to examine implementation of climate actions in the National Planning Framework.	National Planning Framework Climate action support measures	Q2 2021	DHLGH	

**Action 14. Strengthen our delivery of public funding for basic and applied research to underpin Government policy, meet our decarbonisation objectives and open up new economic opportunities.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
14a. Develop proposals for mission-oriented funding to address complex and long-term challenges. Such proposals will also consider future research and funding opportunities available under the EU's Framework Programmes for Research & Innovation.	Proposals developed and presented to Research & Innovation stakeholders	Q3 2021	DFHERIS	SFI, research funders
14b. Prioritise public funding for energy, climate action and sustainability, aligned with the refreshed national Research Priority Areas 2018 to 2023.	Publicly funded calls in these areas will align with the prioritised areas	Ongoing	DFHERIS	SFI, research funders
14c. In the context of Innovation 2020 and its successor, a strategic approach to investment in research infrastructure for climate action relevant research will be pursued.	The new strategy will incorporate a research infrastructure component	Ongoing	DFHERIS	SFI, research funders



14d. Work with relevant climate-research stakeholders to identify climate research priorities for the next National Research & Innovation Strategy.	Stakeholders to propose specific research priorities	Ongoing	DFHERIS	SFI, research funders
14e. Examine climate research metrics that could be used in the next National Research & Innovation Strategy and identify data gaps to support the gathering of these metrics which the next strategy could address in its work programme.	Report complete which identifies data gaps in climate research metrics	Q3 2021	DFHERIS	EPA research coordination group
14f. Work to identify how a grand challenge around climate could be developed and tested.	Report to be prepared and presented to Research & Innovation stakeholders	Q3 2021	DFHERIS	SFI
14g. Research potential for Blue Carbon Sequestration.	Report on the potential of blue carbon sequestration in marine environment	Q4 2021	DECC - EPA	
14h. Launch and implement EPA Research 2030 strategy, incorporating Climate & Biodiversity.	Long-term programme of research that will build a knowledge base that we can usefully use to influence policy in this area, and hopefully lead to some contribution to national offset	Ongoing	DECC - EPA	
14i. Delivery of annual climate research report.	Delivery of EPA research strategy to address Ireland's climate research priorities	Q4 2021	DECC - EPA	
14j. Research: 5 Year Assessment Report.	Publish annual climate research report	Q4 2023	DECC - EPA	

## Stakeholder Engagement

<b>Action 15. Advance coordination of climate action research &amp; modelling from the centre of Government, including internal communications.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
15a. Commence research update seminar series to connect research and policy communities.	Communications	Q1 2021	D/ Taoiseach	
15b. Finalise Memorandum of Understanding between the Climate Change Advisory Council and all relevant Government departments and agencies to coordinate access to data, modelling and analysis.	Memorandum of Understanding	Q2 2021	D/ Taoiseach	Climate Change Advisory Council, All Departments

<b>Action 16. Supporting Climate and Biodiversity progress through relevant strategic advice to enhance evidence-based decision-making.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
16a. Provide advice on 'how-to' progress strategic or challenging projects (which may be identified during the current planning, modelling and bottom-up process).	Publish Strategic Reviews	Q1 2022	NESC	D/Taoiseach
16b. Provide advice on natural capital (nature) accounting frameworks.	NESC Report	Q2 2022	NESC	D/Taoiseach

## Public Sector Leading By Example

**Action 17. Continue to work with departments to ensure that the central policies adopted by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform are conducive to the achievement of the Government's climate objectives.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
17a. Develop and implement a Remote Working Framework for Civil Service Organisations.	Publication of the Framework	Q1 2021	DPER	

**Action 18. Implement and monitor the Remote Work Strategy under the aegis of the remote working strategy Interdepartmental Group to ensure that there is cross-departmental alignment to support the wider goals of the State.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
18a. Prepare progress reports on implementation of the actions contained in the National Remote Work Strategy.	Progress reports	Q2 2021 and Q4 2021	DETE	

**Action 19. Develop and exploit remote working infrastructure.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
19a. Develop and map a national dataset of remote working hub infrastructure, facilities and services; including funding, estimated uptake/need and ownership models.	ArcGIS (geographic information system) map and data set for use by all appropriate agencies	Q1 2021	DRCD	DETE
19b. Raise awareness of hub facilities and the beneficial network effects of the hub ecosystem to support remote working across Ireland.	Dedicated public relations campaign and engagement with National Development Plan review	Ongoing	DRCD	DETE

<b>Action 20. Embed Green Recovery and reskilling as part of the National Economic Recovery Plan.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
20a. Complete and publish National Economic Recovery Plan. Decarbonisation permeates the Plan, across enterprise and sectors, labour market and skills, regional development, and innovation and knowledge, driving sustainable economic opportunities through clear deliverables.	Strategy	Q3 2021	D/ Taoiseach	

<b>Action 21. Establish existing climate change expertise within the Civil Service and develop a proposal to address any skills gaps identified.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
21a. Convene an Interdepartmental Working Group to explore the skills deficit and existing expertise and training.	Interdepartmental Working Group set up and work programme agreed	Q2 2021	DECC	DPER, D/ Taoiseach, EPA

<b>Action 22. Establish an appropriately resourced Climate Action Unit in every Government Department to ensure Climate considerations are at the core of policy development.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
22a. As per headline action.	Units established	Q2 2021	All Departments	

<b>Action 23. Enhance Cabinet procedures to ensure that all Government Memoranda are considered against their carbon impact and mitigation potential.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
23a. Develop guidance for all departments for preparation of Government Memoranda.	Guidance material	Q2 2021	D/ Taoiseach	DECC
23b. Host upskilling/ Training events for key officials.	Training events	Q2 2021	D/ Taoiseach	DECC

<b>Action 24. Maintain the existing implementation structures including the Cabinet Committee on the Environment and Climate Change, Senior Officials Group and Climate Action Delivery Board, to oversee the implementation of the Interim Actions and the development of the Climate Action Plan 2021.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
24a. Hold quarterly meetings of the Climate Action Delivery Board.	Meetings held	Quarterly	D/ Taoiseach	DECC
24b. Publish progress report each quarter for the Climate Action Plan.	Report	Quarterly	D/ Taoiseach	
24c. Organise detailed cross- Government discussion of key sectors with emission reduction potential at the Cabinet Committee on the Environment and Climate Change.	Analysis on key sectors discussed	Q2 2021	D/ Taoiseach	Relevant Departments as appropriate

<b>Action 25. Extend flagship low-carbon projects to other towns and villages.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
25a. Develop Portlaoise as a low carbon town using suite of initiatives and a range of technologies deployed to serve as demonstrator for other towns.	Circular prepared and workshop with LA's	Q1 2021	DHLGH	
25b. Carry out a mid-project review of the Portlaoise project and identify practical actions for other towns.	Review with recommended actions	Q1 2021	DHLGH	
25c. Each local authority will identify and develop plans for one "Decarbonising Zone".	31 LA Plans	Q2 2021	DHLGH	CAROs, LAs, SEAI

<b>Action 26. Complete the establishment of IDA Ireland's Green Economy Department, which will have responsibility for driving climate action in its client base and in the agency itself, and for winning new green Foreign Direct investment.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
26a. Full department team to be put in place.	Department team in place	Q1 2021	DETE - Industrial Development Agency Ireland	EPA, SEAI

## Adaptation

<b>Action 27. TRANSLATE research call: provide knowledge to support coherent national, sectoral adaptation planning on the basis of standardised national climate projections and information.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
27a. Carry out TRANSLATE research project.	1st year draft report on standardised climate information for adaptation needs	Q4 2021	DHLGH - Met Éireann	

<b>Action 28. Continue to improve Ireland's national climate monitoring capabilities through the delivery of advanced, sustainable and long-term climate and environmental monitoring programmes.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
28a. Modernise the surface climate and weather observation monitoring station network.	Completion of the delivery of 80 automated climate monitoring stations	Q2 2021	DHLGH - Met Éireann	
28b. Promote development of observations in Weather Observations Website-IE (WOW-IE).	Increase in the observations in WOW-IE	Q3 2021	DHLGH - Met Éireann	

<b>Action 29. Continue the coordination of Irish Global Climate Observing System activities to increase national capability in earth, ocean and atmosphere observations.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
29a. Coordination of Irish Global Climate Observing System (GCOS) - Status of Climate of Ireland report.	Status of Climate of Ireland report	Q1 2021	DHLGH - Met Éireann	EPA, Marine Institute
29b. Coordination of Irish Global Climate Observing System (GCOS) - Annual meeting report.	Annual meeting report	Q4 2021	DHLGH - Met Éireann	

## Electricity

Significant progress has been made across the energy sector since the publication of the Climate Action Plan 2019, including regarding the phase-out of fossil fuels and the increased generation capacity of renewables. Interim Climate Actions 2021 furthers this progress with a focus on enhancing grid infrastructure, setting appropriate regulatory frameworks, coordinating planning, facilitating the further deployment of renewables, and exploring new technologies.

Overcoming barriers to implementation, providing enabling supports, enhancing skills, and developing appropriate supply chain infrastructure, are also crucial to meeting our renewable electricity target of 70% as originally laid out in the Climate Action Plan 2019. Interim Climate Actions 2021 serves to progress these elements, laying important further foundations for success in advance of the publication of the Climate Action Plan 2021.

Ensuring security of supply also represents an important consideration in the transition to renewables, with actions dedicated to supporting interconnection being key, as detailed below. Engaging households, businesses and communities in the energy transition brings further economic, social and environmental benefits, and actions are also set out to support micro-generation and public participation in large scale projects.

## Mitigation

Action 30. Ensure that updated planning guidelines for onshore wind are published in 2021.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
30a. Finalise Wind Energy Guidelines.	Technical Guidelines published	Q2 2021	DHLGH	

  

Action 31. Review the policy position on the development of private networks/direct lines with a view to developing the legislative position in the context of the transposition of the Clean Energy Package.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
31a. Develop and submit memorandum on private wires policy options and planning for ministerial approval.	Ministerial approval to proceed with project and plan	Q2 2021	DECC	Consumers, CRU, EirGrid, energy industry, ESBN
31b. Publish consultation paper and complete consultation on focussed policy options.	Public Consultation Paper and consultation completed	Q3 2021	DECC	Consumers, CRU, EirGrid, energy industry, ESBN



31c. Assess/analyse consultation responses and submit decision paper on preferred option(s) for approval, including in case of change to existing policy/legal position implementation plan and revise legislation programme, if necessary.	Ministerial Decision on preferred option	Q4 2021	DECC	Consumers, CRU, EirGrid, energy industry, ESNB
31d. Revise legislation, as appropriate.	Legislation	Q4 2022	DECC	

**Action 32. Review the existing electricity transmission and distribution network tariff structures to assess what changes may be necessary to deliver equitable, cost reflective and transparent charges that facilitate investment in our low carbon transition and the new ways in which the network will be used in the future.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
32a. Publish a Call to Evidence Paper setting out the proposed objectives and principles of the Review, and seek information from network users as to what might change the pattern of network usage in the future.	Published Call to Evidence Paper	Q2 2021	CRU	ESB networks and EirGrid; Industry and consumers
32b. Evaluate and consult on potential structural changes to the network tariffs and issue a decision.	Published Consultation Paper Published Decision Paper	2022	CRU	

**Action 33. Transposition of Internal Market for Electricity Directive (EU) 2019/944.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
33a. Provide information to stakeholders and industry regarding the national approach to transposition.	Information sharing sessions with stakeholders; information notice on Department website; Commission for Regulation of Utilities decisions and publications	Q2 2021	DECC and CRU	Commission, Electricity Industry, Industry representative bodies
33b. Develop Statutory Instruments transposing remaining articles in Directive.	One or more Statutory Instruments signed by the Minister	Q3 2021	DECC	Commission, CRU, Electricity Industry, Industry representative bodies, OPC
33c. Submit completed correlation table and notify transposition measures to the European Commission.	Notification of table and measures to the European Commission	Q4 2021	DECC	Commission, CRU, Electricity Industry, Industry representative bodies, OPC

**Action 34. Assess the network development required to integrate higher levels of RES-E and develop a high-level network development plan to (and beyond) 2030.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
34a. Launch public consultation on 'Shaping our Electricity Future'.	Launch of public consultation	Q1 2021	EirGrid	Various
34b. Publish final 'Shaping our Electricity Future'.	Final report launched	Q3 2021	EirGrid	Various

34c. North South Interconnector: 1. Landowner engagement to progress access for surveys 2. Carry out surveys 3. Landowner engagement to progress land access for construction 4. Progress project procurement activities	Landowner engagement, survey completion, project procurement activities progressed	Q4 2021	EirGrid	Various
34d. Complete planning application for the Celtic Interconnector.	Landowner engagement to progress land access for construction	2025	EirGrid	CRU, In partnership with Réseau de Transport d'Électricité (Electricity Transmission Network, France)
34e. Celtic Interconnector: Progress project procurement activities for a new interconnector connecting the electricity grid of Ireland and France as a project of common interest, allowing for a significant increase in the levels of renewables which can be deployed on the grid.	Progress Report	Q4 2021	EirGrid	In partnership with Réseau de Transport d'Électricité
34f. Completion of the North South Interconnector: a new interconnector connecting the electricity grids of Ireland and Northern Ireland.	Completion of the new interconnector	Q4 2025	EirGrid	ESBN, (working with SONI, NIE)

<b>Action 35. Deliver further Onshore Renewable Energy Support Scheme auctions.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
35a. Publish timetable for Renewable Energy Support Scheme 2 Auction.	Timetable published	Q2 2021	DECC	CRU, EirGrid

<b>Action 36. Oversight of RESS Community Benefit Funds and community enabling framework.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
36a. Publication of draft Good Practice Principles guidebook for consultation.	Guidebook launched for public consultation	Q1 2021	DECC	SEAI
36b. Final Good Practice Principles guidebook published.	Publication of guidebook	Q2 2021	DECC	SEAI
36c. Establishment of Community Benefit Fund Register.	Launch of website/register	Q2 2021	SEAI	DECC

<b>Action 37. Ensure that 15% of electricity demand is met by renewable sources contracted under Corporate Power Purchase Agreements.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
37a. Publish Consultation Paper on Renewable Electricity Power Purchase Agreements.	Public consultation launched	Q1 2021	SEAI	CRU, DECC, DETE, DPER
37b. Analysis of consultation responses completed.	Interim Analysis Report (internal)	Q2 2021	SEAI	CRU, DECC, DETE, DPER
37c. Publish High Level Roadmap for incentivising further uptake of Corporate Power Purchase Agreements based on Consultation.	Publish roadmap	Q4 2021	DECC	CRU, DETE, DPER, SEAI

<b>Action 38. Facilitate very high penetration of variable renewable electricity by 2030 (both System Non-Synchronous Penetration and average) through system services and market arrangements.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
38a. Complete the remaining deliverables under the DS3 Programme to enable 75% of the demand on the system to be met from variable renewable generation.	Changes to operational practices	Q2 2021	EirGrid	CRU, DECC
38b. Decision on high level design of enduring framework for competitive procurement of system services that support 2030 RES-E targets.	Publish decision	Q2 2021	CRU	DECC, EirGrid
38c. Detailed design of new market arrangements for the evolution of System Services to enable renewable electricity targets for 2030.	Publication for consultation on detailed design of new system services arrangements	Q1 2022	CRU	CRU, DECC
38d. Implementation of new DS3 System Services market design.	Launch of new system services arrangements	Q3 2023	EirGrid	CRU, DECC

<b>Action 39. Conclude the review of the current planning exemptions relating to solar panels, to ensure that households, schools, and communities can be strong champions of climate action.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
39a. Introduce revised regulations for interim solar rooftop planning exemptions, with defined exclusion zones around airports and aerodromes for solar installations.	Exemptions prepared	Q1 2021	DHLGH	DECC, IAA

39b. Develop necessary aviation safeguarding maps in conjunction with external consultants in order to avoid threat to aviation safety in vicinity of airports.	Maps produced	Q3 2021	DHLGH	vendor
39c. Complete legislative process and implement the revised exemptions through Regulations.	Legislation in the form of revised exempted development regulations	Q4 2021	DHLGH	

**Action 40. Develop an enabling framework for micro-generation which tackles existing barriers and establishes suitable supports within relevant market segments.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
40a. Launch public consultation on call for evidence on support mechanisms for microgeneration.	Public consultation launched	Q1 2021	DECC	CRU, ESNB, SEAI
40b. Analysis of consultation responses completed.	Consultation responses analysed	Q2 2021	DECC	CRU, ESNB, SEAI
40c. Functionality to enable smart services in place, subject to initial review. This will facilitate microgeneration.	Smart services enabled	Q2 2021	CRU	
40d. Finalisation of detailed high level design of microgeneration support scheme.	High level design published	Q3 2021	DECC	CRU, ESNB, SEAI
40e. Launch finalised policy and pricing support regime for micro-generation.	Support scheme launched	Q3 2021	DECC	CRU, SEAI

<b>Action 41. Ensure Offshore Renewable Energy requirements are delivered in the Marine Planning and Development Management Bill.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
41a. Complete the pre legislative scrutiny phase in the Oireachtas.	Pre -legislative report published	Q2 2021	DHLGH	DECC
41b. Marine Planning and Development Management Bill enacted, which provides a comprehensive regulatory basis for development of offshore renewable energy.	Marine Planning and Development Management Bill enacted	Q2 2021	DHLGH	DECC

<b>Action 42. Facilitate the development of offshore wind, including the connection of at least 5GW of offshore wind, based on competitive auctions, to the grid by 2030.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
42a. Establish an Offshore Renewable Energy (ORE) top team to identify supporting infrastructure development and supply chain opportunities as the offshore wind industry is established.	ORE Top Team established	Q2 2021	DECC	DETE, DFHERIS D/Transport, Enterprise Ireland
42b. Completion of the National Marine Planning Framework in a manner to give priority to key national policies such as the overall decarbonisation of the economy and Ireland's renewable energy ambitions.	National Marine Planning Framework established	Q1 2021	DHLGH	DECC

42c. Development of a digital portal which allows the public and planners to interrogate the marine planning map of Ireland and the relevant policies on a sectoral basis.	National Marine Planning Framework Digital Portal launched	Q2 2021	DHLGH	DECC, MI, SEAI
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#### Action 43. Development of ports and associated infrastructure to support offshore renewable energy targets.

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
43a. Ensure alignment of the National Marine Planning Framework with the National Development Plan so that ports and associated infrastructure can develop and invest accordingly.	Coordinating text in both National Marine Planning Framework and National Development Plan	Q2 2021	DHLGH	D/Transport

#### Action 44. Develop a new consenting system for offshore renewable energy post Marine Planning and Development Management Bill enactment.

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
44a. Finalise secondary legislation and Regulations within 4 months of the MPDM Bill being enacted.	Secondary legislation and regulations	Q4 2021	DECC	DHLGH

#### Action 45. Develop a clear Offshore Energy Grid and Regulatory Policy.

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
45a. Secure Government decision on new offshore transmission grid policy.	Government decision	Q1 2021	DECC	EirGrid, ESBN



45b. Develop interim Regulatory Policy for Offshore Energy projects following Government decision on grid policy.	CRU interim offshore regulatory policy published	Q3 2021	CRU	DECC, EirGrid, ESBN
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**Action 46. Finalise design and rollout of dedicated offshore RESS auction.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
46a. Develop terms and conditions for dedicated offshore RESS auction.	Finalised auction terms and conditions	Q3 2021	DECC	CRU, EirGrid
46b. Commence dedicated offshore RESS auction.	RESS auction process commenced	Q4 2021	DECC	CRU, EirGrid

**Action 47. Develop a new Offshore Renewable Energy Development Plan (ORED II).**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
47a. Establish an OREDP steering group, agree structure and terms and conditions of the project.	Steering group established, terms and conditions and work programme signed off	Q2 2021	DECC	DHLGH, SEAI
47b. OREDP work programme commenced, with consultants in place and stakeholder engagement in progress.	Project commenced	Q3 2021	DECC	DHLGH, SEAI
47c. OREDP II and associated SEA completed and published.	Reports published	Q4 2022	DECC	DHLGH, SEAI

**Action 48. Develop a Research, Development and Deployment Programme for the offshore renewable energy sector.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
48a. Set up a steering group to develop and co-ordinate R,D&D programme for the offshore renewable energy sector.	Group established and first meeting held	Q2 2021	DECC	DETE, CRU, SEAI, University sector
48b. Updated R,D&D programme developed and launched.	R,D&D programme launched	Q4 2021	DECC	DETE, CRU, SEAI, University sector

**Action 49. Examine and oversee the feasibility of the utilisation of Carbon Capture and Storage in Ireland.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
49a. Establish a framework for analysis of the potential for CCS deployment for Ireland, including assessment of the environmental, technical and financial factors.	A framework for analysis of CCS potential for Ireland	Q4 2022	DECC	EPA, SEAI

**Action 50. Launch of Renewable Energy joint venture between Coillte and ESB.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
50a. Submit proposal to DAFM and DECC for the approval of a new joint venture between Coillte and ESB to develop 1,000 MW of onshore windfarms by 2030. This is enough to power 500,000 homes.	Proposal submitted to DAFM and DECC	Q1 2021	Coillte	DAFM, DECC, ESB
50b. Approval of the joint venture.	Joint venture formally approved	Q2 2021	DAFM, DECC	DPER, ESB, NewERA

Action 51. Expand the SEAI Sustainable Energy Communities Programme from 256 members to 500 by 2025 and 1,500 by 2030.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
51a. Establish a National (and Regional) Sustainable Energy Communities Forum and National Steering Group with membership from the Network, SEAI, DECC and Relevant Supporting Departments and Organisations with the mandate to take learnings and ideas from the Network and recommend local and national actions that will assist in accelerating their rollout.	Forum and work programme established	Q1 2021	SEAI	DECC

## Enterprise

Irish enterprises have an important role to play in the transition to a climate neutral economy. This includes reducing emissions from their own facilities, developing and promoting greener products and services, leveraging climate action funding, and re-orientating business and work practices.

Small, medium and large enterprises are also at the forefront of research, development and innovation in climate action products, services and solutions, holding the potential to both decarbonise other sectors while also presenting new business and supply chain opportunities. The development of supporting evidence, funding schemes, communications tools, standards and legislation to progress such opportunities is essential.

Enhancing efficiencies in manufacturing and buildings presents further opportunities for the enterprise sector, with potential for simultaneous economic gain in the medium to longer term, while delivering essential emissions reductions. Re-orientating business development agencies and advisory services represents a key part of the enabling framework to realise these opportunities.

Working and engaging extensively with industry is fundamental to the required transition. Extensive engagement with high emissions industries has already taken place as a result of the Climate Action Plan 2019. Actions in Interim Climate Actions 2021 aim to progress this collaboration further, as well as extend the reach of industry engagement and support.

More generally, shifts to remote working have become increasingly normal as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, with actions below aimed at continuing to harness the co-benefits for climate action that can result from such new approaches to working. Skills development across sectors will also be necessary to support the transition to a climate natural economy, presenting new employment opportunities in a post-COVID recovery context.

## Mitigation

<b>Action 52. Develop a clear understanding of the enterprise sector CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and develop a clear decarbonisation pathway for the enterprise sector to meet current and potential future targets.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
52a. Complete full analysis of enterprise emissions and development of interactive model.	Summary of final findings	Q1 2021	DETE	
52b. Undertake analysis of potential abatement opportunities – identifying key sectors and opportunities for carbon abatement.	Sectoral analysis outlining potential areas of abatement	Q1 2021	DETE	EI, IDA
52c. Develop key actions that emerge from the analysis that can be included in Climate Action Plan 2021.	Key actions included in the Climate Action Plan 2021	Q1 2021	DETE	EI, IDA

**Action 53. Develop an online climate action portal for enterprises with relevant tools and content (to include a carbon calculator, template action plan, signposting to relevant agency supports).**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
53a. Appoint digital design contractor for development of an online climate action portal for businesses- following engagement with stakeholders on key features.	Contractor appointed	Q1 2021	DETE, DECC	Chambers Ireland, EI, IBEC, IDA
53b. Development of the portal, including user testing and roll out of the final online tools.	Online tool prototype developed and tested with sample users	Q2 2021	DETE, DECC	Chambers Ireland, EI, IBEC, IDA, SEAI
53c. Launch climate action portal and deliver communications campaign to advertise the launch of the Climate Action Hub for businesses.	Q1 2021	DETE, DECC	Chambers Ireland, EI, IBEC, IDA	D/ Taoiseach, Chambers Ireland, EI, IBEC, IDA, SEAI

**Action 54. Decarbonise the Natural Gas Grid.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
54a. Assess the potential for energy system integration between the electricity and gas networks including the production, storage and use of green hydrogen.	Assessment of the potential for electricity and gas system integration published	Q3 2022	DECC	CRU, EirGrid, GNI, SEAI
54b. Develop a policy/ regulatory roadmap for green hydrogen use in the natural gas grid.	Publish a policy/ regulatory roadmap for green hydrogen use in the natural gas grid	Q4 2022	DECC	CRU, GNI

54c. Test the feasibility of technically and safely injecting green hydrogen blends in the gas grid.	Completed assessment of the impacts on network operation, integrity and end users' appliances	Q4 2022	GNI	CRU, DECC
54d. Develop biomethane grid injection infrastructure (subject to suitable policies and measures being put in place to support renewable gas production and use).	Commence operation of Ireland's first transmission-scale biomethane injection facility	Q4 2022	GNI	
54e. Review the indicative target set for the level of biomethane in the gas grid by 2030.	Updated target included in the draft update of Ireland's National Energy & Climate Plan submitted to the European Commission	Q2 2023	DECC	CRU, GNI

**Action 55. Regulatory actions to facilitate decarbonisation of the Natural Gas Grid.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
55a. Ensure investment in the gas grid is in keeping with Ireland's target for net zero emissions by 2050.	Strategy paper published for GNI's price control (2022-2027) setting out the approach to the future role of net-zero gas and how GNI can deliver on it	Q2 2021	CRU	GNI
55b. Establish an official certification scheme for renewable gas in the gas grid.	Secondary legislation establishing GNI's renewable gas registration scheme as the official certification scheme for renewable gas in the gas network	Q4 2021	Decc	CRU, GNI

<b>Action 56. Retrofit Non-Residential Buildings.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
56a. Develop the SEAI's commercial sector supports programme to focus on engaging and educating businesses.	Updated programme of engagement with business in place through development of SEAI's LIEN and SME programmes and continued rollout of the SEAI Energy Academy	Q4 2021	SEAI	DECC
56b. Develop an approach to retrofit the commercial building stock in line with the Government target that one-third of commercial buildings should be a Building Energy Rating (BER) level of at least B by 2030.	Research completed that will inform the approach to deliver the targeted level of commercial building retrofit	Q1 2022	DECC	SEAI

<b>Action 57. Decarbonise the Heat Sector (with a focus on Enterprise).</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
57a. Develop the Support Scheme for Renewable Heat (SSRH) with an increased focus on large energy users.	Review of SSRH completed and any recommended revisions to supports implemented	Q3 2021	DECC	SEAI
57b. Consider introducing a renewable energy obligation in the heat sector.	Published decision on whether an obligation should be introduced along with the planned timeframe and scope	Q4 2021	DECC	DETE, CRU, SEAI
57c. Implement the revised Excellence in Energy Efficiency Design (EXEED) programme to focus on emission reduction.	Expanded public sector capital support programme delivered	Q4 2021	SEAI	DECC

<b>Action 58. Engage with the cement sector to identify measures to support the achievement of identified potential abatement in the sector.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
58a. Agree detailed action plan for the cement sector with key stakeholders identified in the Climate Action Plan 2019, based on the review of issues and policy implications prepared by DETE.	Agreed Inter-Departmental Action Plan outlining the barriers to the utilisation of Solid Recovered Fuels in the Cement Sector	Q1 2021	DETE	DECC
58b. Undertake consultation with key stakeholders to determine lead actors in implementation of the policy and sectoral recommendations.	Lead Stakeholders identified in the delivery of the actions outlined in the Cement Sector Action Plan	Q1 2021	DETE	DECC, DHLGH, EPA, Cement Manufacturers Ireland, OPW
58c. Support implementation of actions in a Cement Sector Action Plan, agreed across key stakeholders.	DETE to monitor implementation of key actions agreed, supporting engagement between policy makers and Cement Sector as appropriate	Q3 2021	DETE	DECC, DHLGH, EPA, Cement Manufacturers Ireland, OPW



<b>Action 59. Include sustainability (including climate action) as a criterion in the Disruptive Technologies Innovation Fund open call selection criteria.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
59a. Incorporate the agreed sustainability criterion in ongoing and future Disruptive Technologies Innovation Fund calls.	Revised criterion in calls	Q1 2021	DETE - EI	

<b>Action 60. Continue development of the National Standards Authority of Ireland programme to support climate action policy, expanding supports where possible across sectors.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
60a. Complete review of National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI) Climate Action Programme 2019-2020 and use findings to inform the development of the next NSAI Climate Action Programme.	Summary of contributions and other findings which will inform the next NSAI Climate Action standards programme	Q1 2021	DETE/NSAI	
60b. Undertake gap analysis of current standardisation activities around mitigation and adaptation, and in line with Government policy and the Programme for Government 2020.	Summary of opportunities within the remit of NSAI	Q2 2021	DETE/NSAI	
60c. Facilitate consultation with key stakeholders to identify where deliverables or inputs to support government climate policy are possible and of value.	Consultations held with recommendations established for NSAI Climate Action Plan 2021 Programme	Q2 2021	DETE/NSAI	

<b>Action 61. Complete update of Eco-design Regulations which will introduce limits on the energy consumption of new products or increase the limits in place for products already covered by Regulations.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
61a. Update Eco-design legislation to enable the enforcement of European Regulations on Eco-design.	Statutory Instrument(s) that enable the enforcement of new European Regulations	Q1 2021	DETE	
<b>Action 62. Undertake analysis to determine the demand for, and nature of, the skills required to deliver on key elements of Ireland's Climate Action Plan to Tackle Climate Breakdown over the years to 2030.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
62a. Undertake and complete the analysis.	Detailed report	Q2 2021	EGFSN	DETE
62b. Develop a suite of recommendations that can be drawn upon to ensure that these future skills needs are fully addressed.	Suite of recommendations published	Q2 2021	EGFSN	DETE
<b>Action 63. Development and launch Enterprise Ireland's new €10 million fund to support client companies in the low-carbon transition.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
63a. Deliver the €10 million fund.	New fund launched	Q1 2021	Enterprise Ireland	
63b. Intensify communications and marketing initiatives to put a spotlight on clients with solutions that address carbon reduction and sustainability and highlight the business case for investing in CO <sub>2</sub> abatement.	Communications campaign surrounding the launch underway to track increase in companies cognisant of their carbon footprint and increasing emphasis on emissions reduction	Q1 2021	Enterprise Ireland	

<b>Action 64. Continue to develop and support the offshore wind industry cluster, which comprises over 50 Irish supply chain companies.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
64a. Hold the Enterprise Ireland Offshore Wind Showcase Forum in September 2021.	Convene delegates from across the Irish and UK offshore wind industry	Q3 2021	Enterprise Ireland	
64b. Promote the strengths of the Irish supply chain with a focus on major offshore wind developers, tier one industry contractors, Original Equipment Manufacturer, trade associations, government agencies and ports through a programme of events throughout 2021.	Programme of events for 2021	Q4 2021	Enterprise Ireland	

<b>Action 65. Enterprise Ireland, through its Powering the Regions strategy, will support enterprise centres to recover from the Covid-19 pandemic and harness their potential to enable remote working, peer to peer learning and low-carbon solutions for businesses embedded in regional communities.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
65a. Put in place a dedicated team to deliver 10,000 co-working/incubation spaces and promote climate action to businesses in the enterprise centres, including awareness of the Enterprise emissions Hub.	Staff in place	Q2 2021	Enterprise Ireland	

**Action 66. Develop marketing material on Industrial Development Authority Ireland's sustainability and green economy value proposition.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
66a. Marketing development plan to be completed.	Foreign Direct Investment specific climate action information, such as online content, videos and case studies, will be available	Q2 2021	IDA Ireland	

**Action 67. Develop, roll out and launch the National Green for Micro initiative to support micro-enterprises incorporate sustainable practices into the day-to-day running of their businesses and to assist them to transition to a Low Carbon Economy.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
67a. Finalise the National Green for Micro initiative.	Launch of national Green for Micro initiative	Q2 2021	Enterprise Ireland, LEOs	

## Public Sector Leading By Example

### Action 68. Enterprise Ireland to develop and publish their new corporate strategy 2022-2025, including a focus on climate action and sustainability.

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
68a. Establish a new Climate Action department in Enterprise Ireland .	Dedicated department driving implementation of Enterprise Ireland Climate Action Strategy	Q2 2021	Enterprise Ireland	
68b. Set out actions to embed sustainability and climate action as a fundamental part of its approach to company development and engagement with client companies.	Strategy including relevant targets for Climate Action	Q4 2021	Enterprise Ireland	

### Action 69. Complete the establishment of Industrial Development Authority Ireland's Green Economy Department, which will have responsibility for driving climate action in its client base and in the agency itself, and for winning new green Foreign Direct Investments.

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
69a. Full department team to be put in place.	Full new team in situ	Q1 2021	IDA Ireland	

### Action 70. Publish Industrial Development Authority Ireland's 2021-2024 strategy, which will include a sustainability/climate action pillar.

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
70a. Finalise preparations for publication of the strategy.	IDA Ireland strategy published including relevant targets for climate action	Q1 2021	IDA Ireland	

<b>Action 71. Expand the Small Business Innovation Research programme to build momentum in driving adoption of new and more sustainable technologies and business models across the public sector.</b>				
<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Proposed Output</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Key Stakeholders</b>
71a. Launch calls for applications to identify public sector bodies with innovation challenges including greenhouse gas emissions reductions and support client companies to undertake a technical feasibility study to solve the problem and develop a prototype.	Calls launched to FastTrack public sector innovation including those with a focus on reducing CO <sub>2</sub> emissions	Q1 2021	Enterprise Ireland	Government departments and all public sector bodies
71b. Report on projects including a focus on greenhouse gas emissions.	Report on the number of feasibility studies undertaken as a result of support received	Q4 2021	Enterprise Ireland	Government departments and all public sector bodies

## Built Environment

Reducing emissions from our buildings can contribute significantly to achieving national emissions reduction targets and meeting our international obligations. Climate action in this area can also bring significant co-benefits. For example, retrofitting buildings to become more energy efficient, or building new homes to Nearly Zero Energy Building (NZEB) standards, leads to warmer and more comfortable homes, bringing health benefits to those that inhabit them as well as reduced energy bills.

Interim Climate Actions 2021 builds on commitments outlined in the Climate Action Plan 2019 to further ambition, policy coordination, awareness raising and funding in this space. Headline actions committed to include the publication of a National Retrofit Plan to chart sustainable retrofitting pathways, as well as the development of legislation to support cross-sectoral ambitions for electric vehicle charging in residential and non-residential parking locations.

Shifting buildings from fossil fuel boilers also remains a priority in keeping with the Climate Action Plan 2019, with a number of targeted actions in the Interim Climate Actions 2021 aimed at progressing the uptake of heat pumps. The development of district heating also holds promise in terms of further decarbonising the heat sector, with the Interim Actions Report containing actions to progress research and policy in this space.

Access to finance remains a critical barrier to retrofit uptake, with a number of enhanced grant schemes, private finance options and engagement campaigns contained in the actions below to help address some of these challenges. Progression of a one-stop-shop model should also help to simplify this process for citizens and communities.

Commitments and investment to retrofit social housing to improved BER ratings, and build new social housing to NZEB performance requirements, are also contained below, in keeping with a Just Transition approach to protect the most vulnerable in society. The development of construction skills to support the progression of actions, as well as climate action capacity and expertise in Local Authority development planning, represent further critical enabling actions for reaching our ambitious built environment targets.

## Mitigation

Action 72. Publish the National Retrofit Plan.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
72a. Engage in National Development Plan review process in relation to retrofit.	Financial allocations in National Development Plan	Q2 2021	DECC	DPER, SEAI
72b. Publish National Retrofit Plan (post-National Development Plan review).	Plan published within 4 months of National Development Plan	Q4 2021	DECC	CCMA, DHLGH, DFHERIS, DFIN, DSP, DPER, NTMA, SEAI

Action 73. Develop and implement Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland schemes and initiatives to support the achievement of our national retrofit targets.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
73a. Commence a targeted campaign to install heat pumps in homes that are already suitable for the technology.	Campaign	Q1 2021	SEAI	DECC
73b. Develop a marketing campaign aimed at educating the public on the multiple benefits of residential retrofit and associated technologies and encouraging uptake.	Campaign	Q2 2021	SEAI	DECC
73c. Undertake a retrofit market sentiment survey, to assist streamlining application process for public funding.	Survey report	Q2 2021	SEAI	DECC
73d. Develop and launch a new Community Activation Scheme.	New scheme	Q2 2021	SEAI	DECC
73e. Develop and launch a new National Retrofit Scheme focused on achieving B2 retrofits.	New scheme	Q2 2021	SEAI	DECC
73f. Design and develop the initial One Stop Shop model system of registration.	New system of registration for One Stop Shops	Q4 2021	SEAI	DECC
73g. Oversee roll-out of the private homes aspect of the Midlands Retrofit Scheme.	Private homes retrofitted	Q4 2021	DECC	SEAI
73h. Help address the split incentive issue in the private residential rental market by implementing retrofit support scheme enhancements.	Enhanced support for private rented residential retrofit	Q4 2021	SEAI	DECC



<b>Action 74. Introduce changes to improve how the Warmer Homes Scheme targets those in energy poverty.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
74a. Implement changes to improve how the Warmer Homes Scheme targets those in energy poverty.	Improve scheme	Q2 2021	DECC	SEAI
74b. Complete evaluation of the Warmth and Wellbeing Scheme.	Evaluation report received	Q4 2021	DECC	DoH, HSE, SEAI

<b>Action 75. Ensure that appropriate structures are in place to drive delivery of our national retrofit targets.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
75a. Develop and resource the National Retrofit Delivery Office within the SEAI.	Resource update	Q2 2021	DECC	SEAI

<b>Action 76. Increase the number of homes with Building Energy Ratings.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
76a. Explore the introduction of pre-Building Energy Ratings (BERs) and post-BERs in further SEAI home retrofit programmes.	Opportunities explored	Q4 2021	SEAI	DECC

<b>Action 77. Ensure the effective operation of the Energy Efficiency Obligation Scheme.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
77a. Launch public consultation on the re-designed Energy Efficiency Obligation Scheme.	Public consultation	Q1 2021	DECC	SEAI
77b. Manage and oversee the operation of the 2021 Energy Efficiency Obligation Scheme.	Transitional scheme operating effectively	Q4 2021	DECC	SEAI
77c. Launch re-designed Energy Efficiency Obligation Scheme.	New scheme	Q1 2022	DECC	SEAI

<b>Action 78. Develop and introduce financing/funding options to support residential retrofit.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
78a. Undertake research to better understand the retrofit financing needs of the market.	Research report	Q2 2021	DECC	SBCI, SEAI
78b. Form group to oversee development of a new financing/funding measure.	Group formed	Q1 2022	DECC	SBCI, SEAI
78c. Implement new financing/funding measure.	New financing measure	Q1 2022	DECC	DECC, DFIN, SBCI

<b>Action 79. Decarbonise the Heat Sector (with a focus on Built Environment).</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
79a. Develop an updated comprehensive assessment of the potential for an efficient heating and cooling sector in Ireland in the context of achieving net zero emissions by 2050.	Assessment completed and published	Q3 2021	SEAI	DECC
79b. Develop a District Heating Policy Framework.	Policy Framework published	Q2 2021	DECC	DHLGH, SEAI

<b>Action 80. Support the delivery of district heating projects under the Climate Action Fund.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
80a. Commence the Dublin District Heating System project, supported by the Climate Action Fund, which will provide low carbon heat to businesses and homes in Dublin city.	Business Case submitted to DECC	Q2 2021	Dublin City Council	DECC
80b. Continue to support delivery of the Tallaght District Heating Scheme, which is supported by the Climate Action Fund, and aimed at using waste heat from a Data Centre to heat surrounding buildings.	Commence civil works to the pipeline	Q2 2021	South Dublin County Council	DECC

<b>Action 81. Rollout of Social Housing National Retrofitting Programme with retrofitted properties required to reach BER B2 or equivalent.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
81a. Develop roadmaps for Local Authority social housing stock as part of retrofit works to achieve cost optimal performance by 2030, subject to funding.	Roadmap for Local authority social housing to be included in National Retrofit Plan	Q4 2021	DHLGH	DECC, LAs, SEAI
81b. As per headline action.	Approximately 2,400 Local Authority Homes Retrofitted in 2021	Q4 2021	DHLGH	

<b>Action 82. Complete new build social housing to Nearly Zero Energy Building performance requirements in line with transition arrangements.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
82a. Delivery of new build social housing to Nearly Zero Energy Building (NZEB) performance requirements in line with transition arrangements.	New build NZEB social housing units	Q4 2021	DHLGH	
<b>Action 83. Review Nearly Zero Energy Building and major renovation performance requirements.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
83a. Commence 2023 Cost Optimal Calculations.	Cost Optimal Report	Q4 2021	DHLGH	
83b. Set regulatory performance requirements in Building Regulations based on Cost Optimal study every 5 years.	Regulatory performance requirements established	Q1 2023	DHLGH	
83c. Subject to completion of the above actions and results of 2023 cost optimal study, review the building regulations requirements for new dwellings and major renovations and advance requirements as appropriate.	Advanced building regulations subject to the cost optimal study	Q4 2025	DHLGH	

<b>Action 84. Publish a Standard Recommendation for the design, installation, commissioning and maintenance of heat pump systems in dwellings to support the phase out of conventional home heating systems.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
84a. Complete drafting stage of the standard recommendation following resolution of comments received during the public consultation phase.	Collation of comments received during the consultation phase, and subsequent review and incorporation of relevant comments into final deliverable	Q1 2021	DETE/NSAI	DECC, DHLGH, Industry Stakeholders, SEAI
84b. Finalise and publish the standard recommendation.	Standard Recommendation (S.R.) 50-4: Heat pump systems in dwellings	Q1 2021	DETE/NSAI	DES, DHLGH, ETBs, SEAI, SOLAS
84c. Promotion of document.	Public relations campaign	Q2 2021	DETE/NSAI	DES, DHLGH, ETBs, Industry Stakeholders, SEAI, SOLAS

<b>Action 85. Ensure our regulatory regime for buildings requires the installation of Electric Vehicle charging infrastructure.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
85a. For non-residential buildings with more than 20 car spaces – lay down requirements for installation of minimum number of recharging points.	Legislation	Q1 2025	DHLGH	

<b>Action 86. Develop and implement planning rules and guidelines across residential and non-residential parking locations for Electric Vehicle charging infrastructure.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
86a. Review planning guidelines with a view to increasing the obligation: public consultation.	Public consultation	Q1 2021	DHLGH	
86b. Review planning guidelines with a view to increasing the obligation: issue guidance to Local Authorities.	Guidance issued to Local Authorities	Q3 2021	DHLGH	

<b>Action 87. Skill-up current contractors/other industry players in deep retrofit, Nearly Zero Energy Building and new technology installations.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
87a. Bring total number of centres of excellence to support the national expansion of retrofit and Nearly Zero Energy Building (NZEB) courses for new and existing construction workers to 5 during 2021.	5 centres of excellence in place	Q2 2021	DFHERIS	ETBs
87b. Roll out NZEB and Deep Retrofit contractor courses nationwide (specification developed with Waterford and Wexford Education Training Board).	Courses being provided in Education and Training Boards (ETBs) nationwide	Q4 2021	DFHERIS	ETBs
87c. Develop Retrofit Standard/Guidance for traditionally built buildings (i.e. generally pre-1940 construction): launch public consultation.	Public consultation launched	Q2 2021	DHLGH	DECC, SEAI

87d. Develop Retrofit Standard/Guidance for traditionally built buildings (i.e. generally pre-1940 construction): final publication.	Published Guidance	Q4 2021	DHLGH	
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**Action 88. Work with industry stakeholders to increase the use of low carbon materials, taking into account international best practice.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
88a. Examine life cycle analysis and embedded energy in buildings to compare the use of sustainable materials.	Life Cycle Analysis report	Q1 2022	SEAI	DECC

## Public Sector Leading By Example

<b>Action 89. Enhance communications on Climate Agenda in schools sector with a particular focus on pilot deep energy retrofit projects delivered under Pathfinder Programme in partnership with the SEAI.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
89a. Individual areas of work/projects identified and showcased in national media.	Work showcased in national media	End of each Q	DES	DTCAGS

  

<b>Action 90. Set a trajectory for commencing and implementing a deep energy retrofit programme for the higher and further education sectors.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
90a. Undertake an updated space survey of the higher education sector, to fully ascertain the baseline with regard to energy efficiency and inform future capital investment.	Space Survey report complete	Q3 2021	DFHERIS	HEA, HEIs
90b. Map the technical and administrative capacity required to design, deliver and oversee a deep energy retrofit programme for the higher and further education sectors.	Report setting out capacity requirements complete	Q3 2021	DFHERIS	ETBs, HEA, HEIs SOLAS
90c. Progress implementation of the Energy Efficiency and Decarbonisation Pathfinder Programme.	Projects selected in 2020 proceed to site. Lesson-sharing process implemented. Pathfinder extended to include new projects	Q4 2021	DFHERIS	HEA, HEIs, SEAI



<b>Action 91. Local Authority development planning to drive the adoption of stronger climate action policies in relation to the patterns and forms of future development.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
91a. Launch public consultation on updated statutory guidelines (Section 28 of the Planning Act) on Local Authority Development Plans setting out the appropriate requirements for integration of climate-action considerations in the preparation of the Development Plans.	Public consultation launched	Q1 2021	DHLGH	
91b. Publish updated statutory guidelines (Section 28 of the Planning Act) on Local Authority Development Plans.	Statutory Guidelines published	Q3 2021	DHLGH	

<b>Action 92. Mandate the establishment of climate action Strategic Policy Committees in each local authority.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
92a. Conduct a review of Strategic Policy Committees (SPCs) commencing in 2021.	Stakeholder group to commence review	Q3 2021	DHLGH	
92b. Changes to SPCs to be implemented after Local Elections in 2024.	Commence Implementation of changes to SPCs	Q4 2024	DHLGH	

Action 93. Ensure that development of sustainable communities is the core objective of the Land Development Agency.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
93a. As per headline action.	Inclusion of references relating to the delivery of sustainable, climate resilient, low-carbon housing through the development of sustainable communities in Land Development Agency Act	Q1 2021	DHLGH	

## Adaptation

Action 94. Review challenges associated with the availability of property (home and business) insurance, and possible responses to this issue.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
94a. Outline of possible response associated with the availability of home and business insurance.	Identification of recommendations	Q2 2021	DFIN	

## Transport

Avoiding unnecessary travel, encouraging shifts from private cars to public transport, walking and cycling, and improving vehicle efficiencies, including through electrification, are central to achieving emissions reductions in Irish transport. In this regard, the actions below maintain and build on the commitments identified in the 2019 Climate Action Plan.

We will continue to progress Electric Vehicle (EV) uptake and associated charging infrastructure, undertake a high speed rail review, expand and decarbonise public transport, drive policy for sustainable mobility, increase the use of biofuels, ensure that the public sector leads by example, and increase investment in walking and cycling.

Actions are also included to decarbonise the haulage sector, expand climate considerations to regional airports, and embed sustainability considerations in shipping fleets. Development of new supporting infrastructure also represents a focus, including regarding speed limits, Park and Share facilities, E-Mobility, Local Link services, MetroLink, and expanding BusConnects to new cities. Actions aimed at enhancing the resilience of the transport sector to adapt to climate change also feature in this Interim Climate Actions 2021.

The transport actions proposed below also encompass a number of supporting interventions for enhancing sustainable mobility, including across finance, legislation, infrastructure, policy coordination, public engagement, and innovation.

## Mitigation

Action 95. Develop a new Sustainable Mobility Policy.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
95a. Publish the new sustainable mobility policy.	Published policy document	Q4 2021	D/ Transport	

  

Action 96. Conduct all-island strategic rail review.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
96a. Agree terms of reference with Department for Infrastructure (Northern Ireland).	Terms of reference agreed	Q1 2021	D/ Transport	
96b. Award contract.	Contract awarded	Q2 2021	D/ Transport	

<b>Action 97. Develop a 10-year strategy for the road haulage sector.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
97a. Complete public consultation.	Public Consultation	Q1 2021	D/ Transport	
97b. Publish strategy focused on improving efficiencies, standards, and helping the sector move to a low-carbon future.	Published Strategy	Q4 2021	D/ Transport	

<b>Action 98. Develop a policy pathway or roadmap to drive significant ramp-up in passenger EVs and electric van sales from very early in the next decade.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
98a. Complete work of group, bring proposals to the Minister and seek Government approval.	Policy document approved by Government	Q2 2021	D/ Transport	

<b>Action 99. Launch a new grant scheme to assist in the purchase of alternatively fuelled heavy duty vehicles.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
99a. Launch scheme.	New grant scheme	Q1 2021	D/ Transport	TII
99b. Invite applications for the grant.	Published notice online	Q2 2021	D/ Transport	

<b>Action 100. Support the transition to alternatively fuelled and zero-emission vehicles by removing the vehicle weight barrier.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
100a. Amend the Road Traffic (Construction and Use of Vehicles) Regulations 2003 (S.I. No. 5 of 2003) to increase the maximum permissible weight for laden alternative fuel vehicles and zero-emission vehicles.	Amended legislation	Q2 2021	D/ Transport	

**Action 101. Examine the role of demand management measures in Irish cities, including low emission zones and parking pricing policies.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
101a.Publish findings of the Demand Management study.	Published report	Q3 2021	D/ Transport	
101b.Based on findings of study identify regulatory barriers to Demand Management measures and develop proposals to address them.	Publication of high level document	Q3 2021	D/ Transport	

**Action 102. Publish the impact of speed and speed limits on greenhouse gas emissions and pollutants.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
102a.Commission study.	Study commissioned	Q1 2021	D/ Transport	
102b.Publish results.	Published report	Q4 2021	D/ Transport	
102c.Based on findings of study identify regulatory barriers and develop proposals to address them.	Publication of high level document	Q1 2022	D/ Transport	

**Action 103. Introduction of Park and Share site for the M1.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
103a.As per headline action.	Park and Share site for M1	Q4 2021	D/ Transport	TII

**Action 104. Award a contract to support the replacement of 78,000 lights in the southwest region as part of the national public lighting energy efficiency project and progress remaining 202,000.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
104a. Complete the tender process and award contract.	Contract awarded	Q2 2021	D/ Transport	TII
104b. Complete a retrofit of the remaining public lighting network 202,000 lights to energy efficient LED lights.	Tenders issued	Q1 2022	CCMA	DHLGH, DTTAS, HFA, Local Authorities/ RMO, SEAI

**Action 105. Introduction of variable speed limiting on M50.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
105a. Roll out infrastructure to provide for variable speed limits on the M50.	Variable speed limits infrastructure in place on the M50	Q2 2021	D/ Transport	TII
105b. Legislate to provide for enforcement by TII.	Legislation enacted	Q4 2021	D/ Transport	TII
105c. High-level scoping for potential introduction on other motorways / national roads.	Scoping Map	Q4 2021	D/ Transport	TII

<b>Action 106. Deliver a network of safe, segregated cycling facilities.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
106a. Develop a delivery plan for implementation of 1,000 km of new/ upgraded cycling infrastructure.	Publish Five Year Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Delivery Plan	Q1 2021	D/ Transport	NTA
106b. Implement increased personnel resourcing arrangements for implementation delivery.	Commence recruitment process in all local authorities for additional personnel	Q2 2021	D/ Transport	NTA
106c. First phase of infrastructure design of overall Five Year Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Delivery Plan.	First 200 km of new/ upgraded cycling infrastructure in design/planning process	Q4 2021	D/ Transport	NTA
106d. First phase of infrastructure construction of overall Five Year Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Delivery Plan.	First 100 km of new/ upgraded cycling infrastructure either constructed or in construction	Q4 2021	D/ Transport	NTA

<b>Action 107. Support the transition to E-mobility.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
107a. Legislative provisions for Powered Personal Transporters (PPTs) included in Road Traffic Miscellaneous Provisions Bill.	Legislation	Q4 2021	D/ Transport	RSD

<b>Action 108. Enter into service 250 diesel-electric double deck buses with 2 to 3 kms continuous zero-emissions running capability.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
108a. As per headline action.	Vehicles in service	Q4 2021	D/ Transport	NTA



**Action 109. Award framework contract and place first order for: full electric single deck bus fleet; and full electric double deck bus fleet as part of transition of urban bus services to zero emissions.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
109a.Execution of Framework Contract and Placement of first order - full electric single deck buses.	Order placed for Full electric single deck buses	Q2 2021	D/ Transport	NTA
109b.Execution of Framework Contract and Placement of first order - full electric double deck buses.	Order placed for Full electric double deck buses	Q4 2021	D/ Transport	NTA

**Action 110. Deliver first implementation phase of the new bus network of BusConnects Dublin.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
110a.As per headline action.	Phase 1 completion	Q2 2021	D/ Transport	NTA

**Action 111. Submit planning applications to An Bord Pleanála for Core Bus Corridor projects under BusConnects Dublin; the Cross City Link in Galway; the MetroLink Project; and the DART+ West Project.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
111a.Core Bus Corridor projects under BusConnects Dublin. Completion of required statutory documentation.	Submitted planning applications	Q2 2021	D/ Transport	NTA
111b.Cross City Link in Galway. Completion of required statutory documentation.	Submitted planning applications	Q2 2021	D/ Transport	NTA
111c.MetroLink Project. Completion of required statutory documentation.	Submitted planning applications	Q3 2021	D/ Transport	NTA
111d.DART+ West Project. Completion of required statutory documentation.	Submitted planning applications	Q4 2021	D/ Transport	NTA

Action 112. Develop BusConnects Cork.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
112a.Appoint team to undertake review of the bus services network in Cork City.	Review team appointed	Q1 2021	D/ Transport	NTA
112b.Appoint design teams to undertake options assessment stage for thirteen corridors to be developed with bus lanes or other forms of bus priority.	Design teams appointed for thirteen corridors	Q1 2021	D/ Transport	NTA
112c.Publish Network Strategy options report for public consultation.	Report published	Q3 2021	D/ Transport	NTA
112d.Develop draft revised network of bus services for public review and input.	Commencement of public consultation for revised bus network for Cork City	Q1 2022	D/ Transport	NTA
112e.Develop final revised network of bus services.	Publish revised bus network for Cork City	Q3 2022	D/ Transport	NTA
112f. Develop outline corridor proposals for public review and input.	Commencement of public consultation for outline corridor proposals	Q4 2021	D/ Transport	NTA

Action 113. Deploy electric vehicles for the delivery of Local Link services.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
113a.Deploy two Electric Vehicle buses on the Dingle peninsula, Co. Kerry.	Vehicles deployed	Q3 2021	D/ Transport	NTA
113b.Scope potential to roll out to other Local Link services.	Scoping Report / Map	Q4 2021	D/ Transport	

<b>Action 114. Publish new Regional Airports Programme, incorporating climate mitigation measures set out in the business plans of regional airports.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
114a. Publish Programme.	Programme to include climate mitigation measures	Q1 2021	D/ Transport	

<b>Action 115. Assessment of options to ensure commercial State ports are positioned to facilitate the development of offshore renewable energy.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
115a. Conduct assessment in consultation with relevant Offshore Wind Energy stakeholders.	Internal project report	Q3 2021	D/ Transport	
115b. Pursuant to completion of Department of Environment, Climate and Communications roadmap, commence preparation of roadmap for implementing the results of the assessment.	Commence Roadmap for implementation	Q4 2021	D/ Transport	

<b>Action 116. Assess the environmental impact of the internationally trading Irish fleet.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
116a. Publish an analysis of the environmental impact of the current Irish (internationally trading) fleet, to include benchmarking the Irish standard based on an assessment of other flags.	Internal report	Q4 2021	D/ Transport	

<b>Action 117. Increase public bus network capacity and usage through implementation of the BusConnects Dublin Area Bus Network.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
117a.Implement new network in phases supported by localised travel planning/ information/ communications programme.	Rollout of new network in phases	Q2 2021 – Q1 2024	D/ Transport	NTA

<b>Action 118. Add additional capacity to Luas network.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
118a.Completion of delivery of the overall order of 26 tram extensions.	26 tram extensions delivered	Q2 2021	D/ Transport	
118b.Delivery of additional 8 high capacity trams.	8 high capacity trams delivered	Q2 2021	D/ Transport	

<b>Action 119. Expand the electrified commuter rail network in the Dublin area.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
119a.Seek planning approval for the upgrade of the Maynooth Line to electrified commuter rail service.	Publication of DART+ West Railway Order (application for planning consent)	Q4 2021	D/ Transport	NTA
119b.Develop Emerging Preferred Option Report for the extension of the Northern Line electrified commuter rail service for public review and input.	Commencement of public consultation for DART+ Coastal Emerging Preferred Option Report	Q1 2022	D/ Transport	NTA
119c.Seek planning approval for the upgrade of the Kildare Line to electrified commuter rail service.	Publication of DART+ South West Railway Order	Q2 2022	D/ Transport	NTA

119d. Commence construction of the expanded commuter rail network.	Construction commenced under DART+ West project	Q4 2022	D/ Transport	NTA
119e. Seek planning approval for the extension/upgrade of the Northern and South Eastern Lines for expanded electrified commuter rail service to Drogheda and Greystones.	Publication of DART+ Coastal Railway Order (application for planning consent)	Q2 2023	D/ Transport	NTA

#### Action 120. Increase Train Fleet Capacity.

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
120a. Award Framework Contract for new electric and battery-electric train fleet.	Award of Framework Contract and award of first order of additional electric trains plus battery-electric trains	Q2 2021	D/ Transport	NTA
120b. Introduce additional 41 Inter City Rail Cars.	Delivery and entry into service of all 41 vehicles	Q4 2022	D/ Transport	NTA
120c. Introduce new electric and battery-electric train fleet.	Delivery of first vehicles in first order	Q4 2024	D/ Transport	NTA

#### Action 121. Set out the planned level of biofuel use for the period 2021 to 2030.

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
121a. Publish updated Biofuels Policy Statement setting out the planned level of biofuel use from the end of 2021 to 2030.	Policy document	Q2 2021	D/ Transport	

121b.Draft and implement legislation to transpose relevant Renewable Energy Directive (RED) II provisions.	Implementing S.I	Q2 2021	D/ Transport	
121c.Review updated policy to take account of any relevant legislative changes at EU level.	Policy document	Q4 2021	D/ Transport	
121d.Deliver on any required changes to the Biofuels Obligation Scheme to support implementation.	Legislation	Q4 2021	D/ Transport	

**Action 122. Develop and publish a charging infrastructure strategy which stays ahead of demand and assists in enabling the transition to zero emission vehicles.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
122a.Work with Local Government to ensure policy coherence between the strategy and the guidance being developed by local authorities for Electric Vehicle infrastructure.	Internal document	Q1-Q3 2021	D/ Transport	
122b.Government approval to publish.	Document to Government	Q3 2021	D/ Transport	

**Action 123. Rollout planned refuelling infrastructure and administer the renewable gas registry to support certification requirements for grid-injected renewable gases in the transport sector.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
123a.Commission three compressed natural gas (CNG) stations and further the progress of the remaining stations.	A network of CNG stations, both private and public, across the Trans-European Transport Network network in Ireland to serve primarily the Heavy Duty Vehicle sector.	Q4 2021	GNI and D/ Transport	

**Action 124. Phase out the registration of new fossil-fuelled cars and light vehicles from 2030 onwards; phase out diesel and petrol cars from Irish cities from 2030 onwards.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
124a. Engagement to influence the direction of EU regulation regarding Internal Combustion Engine vehicles sales and CO <sub>2</sub> emission performance standards.	Campaign with aligned Member States calling for a regulatory approach to the phasing out of new fossil-fuelled cars and light vehicle sales in line with the objective of climate neutrality by 2050 as well as strengthened emission performance standards	On-going	D/ Transport	

**Action 125. Develop a pilot initiative on alternative mode of transport scheme for those on low incomes via the Community Services Programme.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
125a. Scope, develop and launch pilot initiative.	€3 million programme aid assigned Pilot Launched Repair and re-sale of upcycled bicycles for low income individuals groups	Q1 2021	DRCD	D/Transport

**Action 126. Conduct review of Community Car Scheme.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
126a. Undertake review.	Report to Minister	Q1 2022	D/ Transport	NTA
126b. Consider expansion of the scheme.	Report to Minister	Q1 2022	D/ Transport	NTA

**Action 127. Conduct two pilot projects in Kerry and Leitrim to deliver non-emergency health transport services.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
127a. Identify the potential for integration of non-emergency health transport services with the Local Link services managed by the NTA. (funding required)	Internal Project Report	Q4 2021	D/ Transport	NTA
127b. Complete two pilots.	Pilots completed	Q2 2022	D/ Transport	NTA

**Action 128. Undertake public consultation on proposals for an enhanced rural transport system under the Connecting Ireland Programme.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
128a. Input to Sustainable Rural Mobility policy and other relevant climate policy such as the Climate Action Plan 2021.	Input to policies	Q2 2021	D/ Transport	
128b. Complete public consultation.	Analysis of public consultation complete	Q3 2021	D/ Transport	
128c. Completion of draft proposals.	Draft proposals	Q4 2021	D/ Transport	



**Action 129. Undertake public consultations for the new Greater Dublin Area Transport Strategy; the Limerick/Shannon Transport Strategy; and the Waterford Transport Strategy.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
129a. New Greater Dublin Area Transport Strategy - Preparation of draft Greater Dublin Area strategy document and completion of public consultation stage.	Initial and second consultation complete	Q4 2021	D/Transport	NTA
129b. Limerick/Shannon Transport Strategy - Completion of public consultation stage.	Consultation complete	Q4 2021	D/Transport	NTA
129c. Waterford Transport Strategy - Completion of public consultation stage.	Consultation complete	Q4 2021	D/Transport	NTA

**Action 130. All cities with a population exceeding 75,000 to produce a sustainable transport plan by no later than June 2021 for review by the National Transport Authority and D/Transport.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
130a. Finalise and publish sustainable transport plan for Limerick.	Transport plan published	Q2 2021	LAs	D/Transport, NTA

**Action 131. Review further linkages between accessibility and climate action.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
131a. As per headline action.	Review by Transport Working Group	Q2 2021	DCEDIY	D/Transport

## Public Sector Leading By Example

Action 132. Set mandatory alternatively fuelled vehicle procurement targets for public sector bodies.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
132a.Draft and implement legislation to transpose the EU Clean Vehicles Directive.	Implementing Statutory Instrument	Q3 2021	D/ Transport	

## Adaption

### Action 133. Survey and identify possible climate adaptation measures on the Regional and Local Road network.

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
133a. Climate Action Regional Office Climate Adaptation Working Group to conduct scoping exercise.	Scoping exercise completed with publication of report	Q2 2021	DECC	

### Action 134. As part of the Sectoral Plan for Transport Climate Adaptation, commission a comprehensive study on how to assess the criticality of transport infrastructure and the dependencies and interdependencies of various sectoral infrastructure within a geographic region.

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
134a. Agree scope of the study with the cross-governmental Climate Adaptation Critical Infrastructure Working Group and commission study.	Guidance material for owners and operators of critical infrastructure and local authorities. An assessment of the criticality of transport infrastructure	Q2 2021	D/ Transport	

### Action 135. Through the Core Transport Adaptation Team, review the climate adaptation activities currently ongoing and identify opportunities for future implementation of relevant policy.

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
135a. Draft Terms of Reference for the revitalised Core Transport Adaptation Team.	A review of adaptation initiatives the Department is involved in, both in transport and across the sectors, and identifying the resources the Department has committed to climate adaptation nationally	Q4 2021	D/ Transport	

Action 136. Identify opportunities for collaborative research in the area of climate adaptation.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
136a. Discuss with key stakeholders how D/Transport can contribute to collaborative research.	A framework agreement with relevant partners for climate adaptation research	Q4 2021	D/ Transport	EPA, Met Éireann, OPW

## Agriculture

The approach to reducing emissions in agriculture is grounded in reducing absolute emissions, enhancing sustainable land management, and contributing to sustainable energy. Providing meaningful supports, training, financial incentives, legislation and coherent policy across these areas is important to ensure clear market signals, in terms of production orientation and decarbonisation, to farmers, producers, foresters and landowners alike.

Interim Climate Actions 2021 complements AgClimatise, the national climate and air roadmap for the agriculture sector, which was published in Q4 2020 under the Climate Action Plan 2019. Recognising that a significant step-up in ambition will be required for the 2021 Climate Action Plan, important further foundations are laid out for the agriculture sector in the actions listed below. They aim to build evidence bases, pilot applications, advance communication tools, and enhance training to support the transition to a climate neutral agricultural sector. Further efforts to progress the bioeconomy are also included, with the potential to deliver both economic and environmental benefits.

The actions set out range in scope from local to international. At a local level, supporting change on-farm is crucial. This includes improving efficiencies, promoting the adoption of technologies, establishing appropriate financial supports, and increasing knowledge, training and skilled advisory services. Many of these actions build on important work carried out under the Climate Action Plan 2019, with a view to furthering ambition, reach and uptake.

At the other end of the spectrum, participating in European negotiations, including in relation to the Common Agricultural Policy, is important for Ireland and continues to remain a focus of actions in keeping with the international approach adopted in the Climate Action Plan 2019. Ireland will need to press for the next Common Agricultural Policy to provide income streams and investment incentives for farmers that are consistent with enhanced climate ambition.

## Mitigation

Action 137. Implementation of the AgClimatise Roadmap.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
137a. Establish a number of expert consultative groups, as an initial step, to drive the implementation of the AgClimatise Roadmap.	Monitoring & Evaluation	Q2 2021	DAFM	Bord Bia, Industry, Teagasc

Action 138. Complete a review of the Teagasc Marginal Abatement Cost Curve, including an update.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
138a. As per headline action.	Roadmap	Q2 2021	DAFM	

**Action 139. Support the maximum possible environment and climate ambition in the post-2020 Common Agricultural Policy.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
139a.Public consultation on the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the draft Common Agricultural Policy Strategic Plan.	Public consultation concluded	Q4 2021 subject to adoption of EU legislation in June 2021	DAFM	DECC
139b.Submit draft Common Agricultural Policy Strategic Plan to the European Commission.	Strategic Plan submitted to the European Commission	Q1 2022 subject to adoption of EU legislation in June 2021	DAFM	

**Action 140. Publication of the 2030 Agri-Food Strategy.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
140a.Finalise the work of the Agri-Food 2030 Committee.	Final meeting held	Q2 2021	DAFM	
140b.Complete the associated Strategic Environmental Assessment process.	Consultation	Q2 2021	DAFM	
140c.Publish the final Agri-Food 2030 Strategy.	Strategy	Q2 2021	DAFM	

**Action 141. Re-opening of a new Environment focused Targeted Agricultural Modernisation Scheme.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
141a.Reopening of Targeted Agricultural Modernisation Scheme 2021 to drive environmental gain.	Scheme	Q1 2021	DAFM	

**Action 142. Launch a pilot scheme on results-based agri-environment measures.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
142a. Launch a pilot scheme that will trial a results-based scoring and payment system with suitable measures at farm level with a view to identifying upscaling potential for use at a national level.	Pilot	Q2 2021	DAFM	

**Action 143. Launch a pilot scheme on carbon sequestration in tillage soils.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
143a. Introduce a Straw Chopping pilot scheme for farmers to chop straw from eligible crops, spread evenly and incorporate into soil as soon as possible post-harvest.	Pilot	Q2 2021	DAFM	

**Action 144. Re-opening of the Organic Farming Scheme in 2021 enhancing sustainability at farm level.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
144a. Organic Farming Scheme to be reopened following approval of relevant Rural Development Programme amendment in 2021.	Scheme	Q1 2021	DAFM	

**Action 145. Contribute to developing the capability of an Anaerobic Digestion industry in Ireland.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
145a.Startup of the Teagasc biomethane anaerobic digestion pilot plant in Grange.	Pilot Plant established	Q3 2021	Teagasc	
145b.Consider options to avail of Anaerobic Digestion infrastructure to manage animal manure production.	Options reported	Q4 2021	DAFM	EPA, Teagasc

**Action 146. Implement suite of measures to improve nitrogen use efficiency.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
146a.Complete research in respect of potential food residues arising from certain fertiliser formulations (e.g. protected urea), which will allow industry to have confidence in the widespread use of these products which lower N <sub>2</sub> O emissions.	Communications	Q4 2021	Teagasc	DAFM

**Action 147. Introduce measures to promote improved efficiency in livestock.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
147a.Undertake a feasibility study around management options for non-breeding calves coming from dairy herd i.e. sexed semen.	Demonstration	Q4 2022	DAFM	



Action 148. Improve on-farm slurry management.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
148a. Communicate the terms and conditions of the Nitrates Derogation and 2019 Nitrates Derogation Review to farmers regarding efficiency of manure and fertiliser use, with the support of Teagasc and Industry.	Communications	Q4 2021	DAFM	
148b. Adopt a pilot scheme for slurry additives in external stores to examine the effect of slurry additives on ammonia emissions.	Pilot	Q4 2021	DAFM	

Action 149. Conclude review of the Nitrates Action Programme.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
149a. Evaluation of submissions received during first consultation as part of the review of the Nitrates Action Programme.	Review	Q1 2021	DHLGH	DAFM
149b. Launch a subsequent consultation following analysis of the submissions and further development of proposed measures.	Consultation	Q2 2021	DHLGH	DAFM
149c. Negotiations with the EU Commission on the Nitrates Action Programme.	Consultation	Q4 2021	DHLGH	DAFM
149d. Conclude the review and introduce legislation.	Legislation	Q4 2021	DHLGH	DAFM

**Action 150. Review the authorisation of new animal feed additives which reduce the production of biogenic methane.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
150a. Attend and report on Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed (Animal Nutrition) - 6 meetings expected in 2021.	Meetings held	Q4 2021	DAFM	Feed industry
150b. Meet with industry body (Irish Grain and Feed Association) and individual companies as required to discuss new feed additives - estimate 4 meetings in 2021.	Consultation	Q4 2021	DAFM	Feed industry
150c. Draft legislation if there are applications for approval of specific types of feed additives.	Legislation	Q4 2021	DAFM	

**Action 151. Adopt the new EU Fertiliser Product regulation to allow a more resource efficient use of nutrients, which has the beneficial effect of reducing the amount of fertilisers used and hence their environmental impact.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
151a. Put in place the necessary procedure for conformity assessment requirements, including procedures to be developed for the appointment, notification and monitoring of a notified body.	Procedures for conformity assessment body in place, published and the EU Commission informed	Q2 2021	DAFM	
151b. Give effect to the new Fertiliser Product Regulation (Regulation (EU) No. 2019/1009).	Legislation	Q4 2021	DAFM	Fertiliser Industry

151c. Collaborate with legal services on the preparation of a Statutory Instrument to give effect to the Fertiliser Product Regulation (FPR).	Statutory Instrument	Q1 2022	DAFM	
151d. Put in place plans for additional testing of products to ensure compliance with limits on contaminants.	Roadmap for testing	Q1 2022	DAFM	
151e. Consult with the fertiliser industry to ensure the smooth transition to the new regulatory regime in July 2022.	Consultation between DAFM and Industry	Q1 2022	DAFM	
151f. Develop inspection procedures and product testing protocols for market surveillance of EU fertilising products.	Procedures and protocols in place	Q2 2022	DAFM	

**Action 152. Work with industry stakeholders to increase the use of low carbon materials, taking into account international best practice.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
152a. Collaborate with industry to develop a promotional campaign to encourage the increased use of timber in the economy.	Promotional campaign developed	Q1 2021	DAFM	Building specifiers, EI, Forest Industries Ireland, RIAI
152b. Develop a roadmap to promote greater use of lower-carbon building material alternatives in construction.	Roadmap	Q3 2021	OPW	DAFM, Building specifiers, EI, Forest Industries Ireland, RIAI, SEAI
152c. Consider opportunities to locate and build an exemplar public building using best available sustainable materials and in particular using wood.	Scoping Report and recommendation	Q4 2021	OPW	DAFM, Building specifiers, EI, Forest Industries Ireland, RIAI, SEAI

<b>Action 153. Mandatory Emission Targets for Origin Green Members above €50m in revenue/turnover.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
153a.Re-develop Origin Green Charter to incorporate emission reduction targets for manufacturing.	Revised Origin Green charter	Q1 2021	Bord Bia	
153b.Develop an emissions reductions guidance document and arrange a webinar workshop with companies on how best to integrate emissions targets within their current Origin Green sustainability plans.	Guidance document published	Q1 2021	Bord Bia	

<b>Action 154. Commencement of audits against the Sustainable Poultry Products Assurance Scheme, replacing the Poultry Products Quality Assurance Scheme.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
154a.Complete Sustainable Poultry Products Assurance Scheme audits on 75% of Poultry Breeding Farms.	Monitoring & Evaluation	Q2 2021	Bord Bia	

<b>Action 155. Develop and implement Bioeconomy work programme in support of the use of sustainable, renewable biological resources to displace fossil fuels for chemical, material and energy purposes.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
155a.Appoint Chair, confirm work programme and invite members for National Bioeconomy Forum.	Work Programme finalised	Q2 2021	DAFM/ DECC	
155b.Invest in research in the agri-food sector, prioritising data, agri-digitalisation and the circular bioeconomy under DAFM's Research Call 2021.	Funding Call launched with focus on these elements	Q3 2021	DAFM	DAERA, EPA, SEAI

<b>Action 156. Invest in research in the agri-food sector, prioritising investment in areas such as climate and the sustainable bioeconomy.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
156a. Develop and launch a mission-orientated research call prioritising the key investment areas of climate, environment and the circular bio-economy.	National Thematic Call 2021 launched	Q3 2021	DAFM	DAERA, EPA, SEAI
156b. Partner nationally / internationally in strategically relevant research calls, to encourage collaborative and multi disciplinary approaches to innovation by relevant research actors.	# of successful partnerships	Q4 2021	DAFM	

<b>Action 157. Continuity of Agri-Environment Supports in Rural Development Programme for 2021.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
157a. Contract extensions for 2021 notified and agreed with farmers.	Scheme support and outreach communications	Q1 2021	DAFM	Farm bodies, farming media, public and private advisory services
157b. Amendment to the Rural Development Programme (RDP) to allow for ongoing support for agri-environment schemes in the RDP in 2021 including Green, Low-Carbon, Agri-Environment Scheme, Organic Farming Scheme, Beef Data & Genomics Programme, Burren Programme and Areas of Natural Constraints and investments.	Scheme Support	Q2 2021	DAFM	Farm bodies, farming media, public and private advisory services

**Action 158. Establish exemplar network of SignPost Farms to demonstrate best climate practice.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
158a. Establish Teagasc/ Bord Bia co-operation agreement on collaboration and corresponding communications to support the reduction of agricultural emissions.	Co-operation agreement	Q1 2021	Teagasc	Bord Bia
158b. Identify suitable demonstration farmers as exemplars for all Irish Farmers.	Farmers identified	Q2 2021	Teagasc	Industry, milk processors, meat processors
158c. Launch SignPost website as a key tool in disseminating the SignPost farms messages.	Communications website launched	Q3 2021	Teagasc	
158d. Co-design training modules which highlight measures to reduce emissions and enhance carbon sequestration, with relevant stakeholders including farmers, advisers, curriculum development and teachers.	Training modules developed	Q4 2021	Teagasc	ACA agricultural consultants association

**Action 159. Train farm advisors to support farmers in the implementation of climate mitigation practices at farm level.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
159a. Develop and roll-out a Training of Farm Advisors Programme to 400 public and private advisors in 2021 to upskill in key areas such as climate change, health and safety, biodiversity, and soil and water challenges.	Training programme and uptake by at least 400 advisors	Q2 2021	DAFM	Agricultural advisor bodies and farm bodies

Action 160. Roll-out of advisory and education services to farmers.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
160a.Support farmers operating within the Nitrates Derogation with Nutrient Management Planning and Water Quality measures, to avoid overuse of N fertiliser resulting in greenhouse gas emissions.	Communications	Q1 2021	Teagasc	DAFM, Private Consultants
160b.Promote efficiency technologies related to Climate Action through the ongoing education and promotion of farm technologies and practice change for farmers and rural professionals utilising Teagasc ConnectEd.	Communications	Q2 2021	Teagasc	
160c.Report on number of farmer feedback reports dispatched to DAFM.	Monitoring & Evaluation	Q4 2021	Bord Bia	
160d.Generate Carbon Footprint Reports to members of the Sustainable Beef and Dairy Assurance Schemes.	Report	Q4 2021	Bord Bia	
160e.Develop and enhance knowledge transfer groups for forestry to reach new audiences.	Communications	Q4 2021	DAFM	Agricultural consultants, registered foresters, Teagasc

**Action 161. Introduce enhanced knowledge transfer programme through Teagasc advisory service on farm diversification.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
161a. Review effectiveness of Teagasc options programme which covers promotion of organics and farm income diversification options, towards increasing the uptake at farm level of low input organic systems to achieve government targets.	Communications	Q3 2021	Teagasc	DAFM
161b. Implement recommendations for enhanced knowledge transfer programme.	Revised programme	Q4 2021	Teagasc	DAFM

**Action 162. Implement the Bovine Viral Diarrhoea education programme.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
162a. Implementation of the Bovine Viral Diarrhoea (BVD) eradication programme to develop a long term approach to BVD, which is recognised as a significant contributor to the loss of production in cattle.	Programme implemented	Achieve BVD freedom by 2023	AHI guided by the BVD	DAFM, farming organisations, Glanbia, ICBF, ICOS, Teagasc, UCD, Vet Ireland



Action 163. Upskill farmers and foresters to ensure they have the knowledge and tools to implement climate mitigation practices.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
163a. Launch a tender to develop Continuing Professional Development (CPD) training for advisors.	Funding	Q1 2021	DAFM	
163b. Develop and deliver CPD training for advisors which will include a specific focus on climate change as an identified priority area.	Training Modules	Q4 2021	DAFM	Agricultural Advisors, Farm Bodies

## Adaptation

Action 164. Implement the Irish Johne's Control Programme.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
164a. Implementation of the Irish Johne's Control Programme (IJCP) to develop a long term approach to Johne's Disease, which is recognised as a significant contributor to the loss of production in cattle.	Monitoring & Evaluation	Long-term	AHI guided by the Johne's Disease	DAFM, farming organisations, ICBF, ICOS, Meat Industry Ireland, Milk Processors, Teagasc, Vet Ireland

## Forestry, Peatlands and Land Use

A number of forestry actions are set out below, signalling the importance of this sector for both climate mitigation and adaptation. Increasing tree cover in sustainable ways allows for carbon sequestration, flood risk management, biodiversity enrichment, community recreation, and the displacement of fossil-intensive materials in the construction and energy industries.

Actions dedicated to enhancing emissions reductions and removals from land use change are also included below, with a particular focus on peatlands and organic soils. Supporting landowners to re-wet such land holds significant sequestration and biodiversity benefits.

The commencement of the first phase of a Land Use Review, committed to in the Programme for Government, is also indicated.

### Mitigation

#### Action 165. Commence Land Use Review: complete Phase 1 Evidential Review, in line with the Programme for Government 2020.

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
165a. Establish Steering Group to define objectives and scope of the review as well as the work programme - to be co-chaired by DECC and DAFM.	Steering Group established	Q2 2021	DECC / DAFM	EPA
165b. Carry out work programme agreed by Steering Group to prepare evidential review.	Evidential Review	Q4 2021	EPA	DAFM, DECC, , NPWS, Teagasc

#### Action 166. Roll-out the European Innovation Partnerships Initiative on rewetting of farmed peatlands.

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
166a. Contracts with successful applicant European Innovation Partnerships (EIP) groups to be negotiated and awarded following open call in 2020.	Contracts in place	Q1 2021	DAFM	
166b. EIP initiatives to be established and monitored.	Pilot Scheme	Q2 2021	DAFM	

Action 167. Promotion of forestry activity.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
167a.Continuation of the Teagasc forestry promotion campaign to encourage farmers to plant forestry on their farms, to develop economically sustainable forests which deliver biodiversity and carbon sequestration benefits.	Communications	Q1 2021	Teagasc	
167b.Develop a call for proposals for 2021-2022 to promote the socio, economic and environmental benefits of forestry.	Call launched	Q2 2021	DAFM	
167c.Establishment of agroforestry research and demonstration sites to improve adoption of forestry and integration of animal and forestry agriculture, subject to planting approval.	Demonstration	Q4 2021	Teagasc	Teagasc

Action 168. Research and development in forestry.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
168a.Build consortium to explore opportunities in circularity of forestry processes and inputs.	Establish consortium	Q1 2021	Coillte	Beauparc, DAFM, DIT, Enva, SeaMeGrow, UCD
168b.Develop scope and trials for testing products.	Trials established	Q1 2021	Coillte	Beauparc, DAFM, DIT, Enva, SeaMeGrow, UCD

168c.Undertake trials with consortium.	Review	Q2 2021	Coillte	Beauparc, DAFM, DIT, Enva, SeaMeGrow, UCD
168d.Facilitate a timber promotion campaign.	Communications	Q4 2021	DAFM	Building specifiers, EI, Forest Industries Ireland, RIAI
168e.Research investigation into the use of genomics to increase productivity of Sitka spruce e.g. DAFM funded project on Genomic Evaluation for the Sustainable Improvement of Sitka Spruce.	Report	Q4 2022	DAFM	Teagasc, third levels
168f. Monitoring existing research projects related to construction materials e.g. Exploitation and Realisation of Thinnings from Hardwood, Commercialisation of Irish Cross-Laminated Timber, Modular Mass Timber Building for the Circular Economy.	Report	Q4 2023	DAFM	

**Action 169. Improve and refine the national soil mapping information.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
169a.Initiate a research project titled “A Modern Resurvey of Mapped Irish Peatlands to Refine Assessment of Land Use Change and Progress Greenhouse Gas Removal and Emissions Inventories” to investigate historic peatland maps to provide accurate information.	Funding allocated	Q2 2021	DAFM	EPA, NPWS

**Action 170. Develop and implement the new All-Ireland Pollinator Plan for 2021-2025.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
170a. Funding of a Farmland Pollinator Officer for the next All-Ireland Pollinator Plan.	Office established	Q1 2021	DAFM/ NPWS	AIPP
170b. Publish All-Ireland Pollinator Plan.	Strategy published	Q3 2021	DAFM/ NPWS	
170c. Implement All-Ireland Pollinator Plan.	Progress Report	Q4 2021	DAFM/ NPWS	

**Action 171. Prepare a new forestry strategy.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
171a. Establish a working group to prepare a new forest strategy for the period 2021-2050 and Forestry Programme for the period 2021-2027.	Group established	Q2 2021	DAFM	Forestry stakeholders, NGOs, public

**Action 172. Implement Forestry Programme 2014-2022 (includes 2 year extension).**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
172a. Increase output of forestry licences to meet demand.	Monitoring & Evaluation	Q1 2021	DAFM	
172b. Implement measures to establish 8000 ha of afforestation per year. Measures will be targeted at sequestration, increasing carbon stocks and stores.	Communications	Q4 2021	DAFM	Forestry stakeholders, NGOs, public
172c. Construct 125 km / new forest roads per year to mobilise biomass.	Monitoring & Evaluation	Q4 2021	DAFM	
172d. Increase participation of existing schemes and measures.	Monitoring & Evaluation	Q4 2021	DAFM	

Action 173. Prepare the next forestry programme post 2014-2020 for publication in 2023.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
173a. Establish a working group to contribute to the formation of the next forestry programme (post 2020) for publication in 2023. Programme to be developed in line with the new forest strategy.	Group established	Q4 2021	DAFM	Forestry stakeholders, NGOs, public

Action 174. Assess the impact of forest carbon stocks, sinks and stores within the Land Use, Land-use Change and Forestry sector and model impacts of different forest management and afforestation scenarios.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
174a. Model carbon balances based on a range of afforestation scenarios.	Report	Q2 2021	DAFM	Teagasc
174b. Model impact of different management scenarios.	Review	Q2 2021	DAFM	Teagasc
174c. Create and develop tools to support decisions impacting on carbon stocks and sinks.	Communications	Q4 2021	DAFM	
174d. Research investigation into land use change pathways towards carbon neutrality e.g. DAFM/ EPA funded SeQUEsTER project - Scenarios Quantifying Land Use & Emissions Transitions Towards Equilibrium with Removals.	Report	Q4 2021	EPA	DAFM

<b>Action 175. Deliver the full Land Use, Land-use Change and Forestry flexibility available to Ireland in the context of the 2030 greenhouse gas emissions targets.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
175a. Engage with Bord na Móna and National Parks and Wildlife Service to explore synergies in the implementation of rewetting peat soils.	Collaboration established	Q2 2021	DAFM	BnM, NPWS
175b. Provide funding to the LIFE IP Peatlands and People - Ireland's Climate Action Catalyst.	Funding	Q2 2021	DAFM	DECC/NPWS/ BnM/D/ Heritage/EPA
175c. Implementation of a pilot scheme on reduced management intensity to serve as "proof of concept" as a viable mitigation option.	Pilot Scheme	Q4 2021	DAFM	Teagasc
175d. Explore options under the new Climate Action Plan for wider roll-out of the pilot, subject to the results of the pilot scheme.	Roll-out of pilot subject to results	Q4 2022	DAFM	

<b>Action 176. Assess the potential opportunities and demand for developing advanced bio-products development (bio-fuels and chemicals) from lignocellulose in Ireland.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
176a. Develop consortium and funding proposal.	Consortium and funding proposal established	Q1 2021	Coillte	EI, NUIG, UL
176b. Prepare and publish white paper.	White paper published	Q2 2021	Coillte	EI, NUIG, UL



Action 177. Explore and identify opportunities to increase afforestation.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
177a. Explore opportunities for increasing afforestation and identify funding opportunities.	Review	Q1 2021	Coillte	DPER, NewERA
177b. Submit consent for phase 1(a) of the native woodland planting on the Bord na Móna cut over bogs.	Submit consent	Q2 2021	Coillte	BnM, DAFM
177c. Commence planting new forests linked to new funding opportunity.	Planting commenced	Q4 2021	Coillte	
177d. Assessment of Afforestation Licence Application by DAFM.	Assessment	Q4 2021	DAFM	
177e. Start the of planting 1,500 ha of native woodland on the Bord na Móna cut-over bogs as part of an integrated land use plan which includes rewetting and habitat restoration, subject to licence approval.	Demonstration	Q4 2021	Coillte	BnM, DAFM

Action 178. Support biodiversity data collection.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
178a. Continue funding the National Biodiversity Data Centre.	New contract in place	Q1 2021	DHLGH	
178b. Collate data on status of protected habitats and species, ecosystem services, natural capital accounts, land use, landcover.	EPA status report (and other various reporting mechanisms - ongoing)	Q1 2021	DHLGH	

**Action 179. Continue to implement the third National Biodiversity Action Plan 2017-2021 and build on the commitments made at the first National Biodiversity Conference.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
179a.Implementation of conservation measures to maintain and restore protected habitats and species.	Procurement process for enhanced monitoring and data gathering	Q3 2021	DHLGH	
179b.Development of post-production peatlands rehabilitation plans.	Rehabilitation plans	Q3 2021	DHLGH	
179c.Restoration of raised bogs.	Restoration plans implemented	Q3 2021	DHLGH	

**Action 180. Assess and implement mitigation options on post-production peat extraction sites.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
180a.Complete spatial land-use mapping project to ensure robust National Inventory Systems are in place to report and account LULUCF emissions and removals.	Spatial mapping project complete	Q4 2022	EPA	DAFM, DECC, Teagasc
180b.Assess the status and mitigation potential for other commercial and private peat extraction across Ireland.	Research	Ongoing	EPA	DECC

**Action 181. Coordinate the actions in the Programme for Government 2020 regarding peatlands to maximise the benefits for biodiversity and water quality.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
181a.The Peatlands Strategy Implementation Group will report on progress on the implementation of actions regarding peatlands additional to those set out in the National Peatlands Strategy 2015.	Appendix to 2020 progress report on the implementation of the National Peatlands Strategy and to future progress reports	Q3 2021	DHLGH	BnM, Coillte, DAFM, DECC, EPA, OPW.

<b>Action 182. Further support for new/enhanced European Innovation Partnership measures.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
182a. Build on successful European Innovation Partnership measures to support additional tasks and extend to directly fund small-scale community and farmer engagement and biodiversity initiatives.	Scheme	Q2 2021	DAFM/ Agency	

<b>Action 183. Continue to raise awareness of biodiversity through initiatives like the Annual Biodiversity Awards Scheme.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
183a. Facilitate grant schemes to Local Authorities, Farming groups, Community groups, Environmental Non-governmental Organizations, Green schools, Heritage in Schools.	Grantee submissions, workshops, social media	Varies depending on scheme	DHLGH	
183b. Invite applications to the Local Authority Biodiversity Action Fund (€1million).	Invite for applications for fund	Q1 2021	DHLGH	
183c. Provision of funding to support peatland community initiatives.	Grants awarded	Q1 2021	DHLGH	

## Public Sector Leading By Example

Action 184. Improve the monitoring, verification and reporting of CO <sub>2</sub> emissions and removals of Ireland's soils.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
184a. Provide funding to purchase equipment to establish a 'National Agricultural Soil Carbon Observatory' to measure greenhouse gas fluxes from soils under agricultural management.	Funding provided	Q1 2021	DAFM	Teagasc
184b. Provide funding to purchase equipment to Develop a National Soil Moisture Monitoring network.	Funding provided	Q1 2021	DAFM	Agmet, Met Éireann, Teagasc, UCD

  

Action 185. Establishment of the National Agricultural Soil Carbon Observatory in association with the SignPost Farm Programme.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
185a. Identify sites and install carbon towers and other infrastructure for establishing the measurement of carbon in Irish soils, quantifying carbon sequestration in Irish soils and understanding how it is affected by changes in management practice.	Infrastructure established	Q2 2021	Teagasc	DAFM
185b. Complete the first year of field work to evaluate the carbon sequestration potential of hedgerows and small farm woodlands and to identify measures to further enhance this carbon sink.	Monitoring & Evaluation Report	Q2 2021	Teagasc	

185c. Commence international collaboration on soil carbon sequestration through the European Joint Programme Soils projects.	Collaboration established	Q2 2021	Teagasc	
185d. Commence a new study measuring the effects of re-wetting and seasonal water table management on greenhouse gas (CO <sub>2</sub> , CH <sub>4</sub> and N <sub>2</sub> O) emissions from peat soils.	Study commenced	Q2 2021	Teagasc	
185e. Update the 2013 Teagasc Land Drainage and Soil Management Handbook.	Report updated	Q4 2021	Teagasc	

## Adaptation

Action 186. Protect and monitor the forest estate for pest and disease in order to maintain carbon stocks and stores.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
186a. Annual monitoring of the existing forest estate.	Monitoring & Evaluation	Q1 2021	DAFM	Forest owners
186b. Implementation of risk based monitoring and inspection regime on plant and wood imports/ exports.	Monitoring & Evaluation	Q2 2021	DAFM	Forest owners, foresters
186c. Research investigation on a gene conservation network of native forest trees in Ireland e.g. DAFM funded GENENET project.	Report	Q4 2022	DAFM	
186d. Review recommendations and implementation of the Council for Forest Research and Development Sustainable Development and Conservation of Forest Genetic Resources 2020 - 2030.	Monitoring & Evaluation	Q4 2022	DAFM	

<b>Action 187. Develop and support forests and forest owners in the sustainable management of woodland and the importance of climate mitigation and adaptation.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
187a. Review existing knowledge transfer groups and determine impact on climate change mitigation and adaptation.	Review	Q4 2021	DAFM	Forestry stakeholders, Foresters, IFA, ITGA
187b. Develop management tools with an emphasis on climate mitigation and adaptation.	Management tools developed	Q4 2021	DAFM	Foresters
187c. Assess the training needs of foresters and review the DAFM scheme for the continuous professional development of registered foresters.	Review	Q4 2021	DAFM	Foresters, Society of Irish foresters
187d. Investigate the engagement of forest owners in sustainable forest management e.g. DAFM funded FOROWN project.	Report	Q4 2021	DAFM	Teagasc, Third levels

## Marine

Our coastal communities and marine economy have significant potential from a climate action perspective. This includes opportunities for carbon sequestration, renewable electricity deployment, biodiversity protection, and the displacement of fossil fuels through outputs of the seafood industry participating in an active bioeconomy.

Key actions to be progressed include commitments to enhancing efficiencies in our seafood processing industries, advancing UNESCO site designations, and developing legislation to further protect biodiversity in marine areas.

Managing the impacts of a changing climate on coastal communities and those vulnerable to flooding is a further important part of a coherent response to climate breakdown, with adaptation actions aimed at enhancing both evidence bases and responsiveness to locked-in climate risks.

### Action 188. Conduct a baseline study to monitor the essential variables of climate importance in Irish Waters.

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
188a. Conduct a baseline study of essential ocean variable monitoring in Irish waters, current measurement programmes and data quality.	Report	Q2 2021	DAFM/ Marine Institute	EPA

### Action 189. Develop fluvial (river) flooding capability in the context of increased flooding risk related to climate change.

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
189a. Develop a network of contactpoints in the event of flood risk.	CCMA and CARO contact points	Q1 2021	DHLGH	
189b. Develop a national and catchment fluvial model for Ireland.	River model for each of Ireland's 36 river catchments	Q2 2021	DHLGH	



<b>Action 190. Develop a demonstration natural capital accounts model for the Seafood Sector.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
190a.External consultant and Bord Iascaigh Mhara (BIM) will engage in stakeholder and steering board consultation in support of account design.	Consultation	Q2 2021	DAFM / BIM	CSO, DHLGH, EPA, IFA Aquaculture, MI, Seafood Industry
190b.External Consultant will compile supporting dataset for account preparation.	Demonstration	Q2 2021	DAFM / BIM	CSO, DHLGH, EPA, IFA Aquaculture, MI, Seafood Industry
190c.Preparation of the demonstration Natural Capital Account.	Communications	Q4 2021	DAFM / BIM	CSO, DHLGH, EPA, IFA Aquaculture, MI, Seafood Industry

<b>Action 191. Develop online tools for resource use efficiency by Seafood Processors.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
191a.Development of online tools (packaging assessment tool, waste optimisation tool, rainwater harvesting prediction model) and case studies on resource efficiency.	Pilot	Q2 2021	DAFM / BIM	Seafood Industry
191b.Initiation of quarterly newsletters to support engagement.	Communications	Q2 2021	DAFM / BIM	Seafood Industry

## Public Sector Leading By Example

Action 192. Build on the success of the UNESCO Dublin Bay Biosphere and achieve further UNESCO designations for Irish sites, including the Lough Ree region.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
192a. Proposals (developed by relevant local authorities in conjunction with NPWS and other stakeholders) advanced and submitted to UNESCO.	1 additional Biosphere proposal submitted in time for UNESCO's Sept 2021 Deadline	Q4 2020	DHLGH	
Action 193. Develop comprehensive legislation for the identification, designation, and management of Marine Protected Areas in Irish marine waters.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
193a. Publication of Expert Advisory Report followed by public consultation.	Public Consultation Complete	Q3 2021	DHLGH	
193b. Commence work on legislation.	Commence Legislative Process	Q3 2021	DHLGH	
193c. Enact legislation.	Enact Legislation	Q3 2022	DHLGH	

## Waste and the Circular Economy

Decreasing the amount of waste generated reduces national greenhouse gas emissions. Limiting the amount of municipal solid waste going to landfill remains an important priority in keeping with the Climate Action Plan 2019, including priority reductions in both the proportion of organic waste (e.g. food and garden waste) and paper products ending up in landfill.

The actions below aim to reduce waste in the first place and thereafter enhance re-use and recycling in keeping with the principles of the circular economy. This includes actions across levies, research, policy coordination, and outreach, to promote sustainable behavioural changes. Dealing with food waste, and single use items, packaging and plastics, is prioritised.

Embedding circular principles across all sectors of the economy is a central aim of Government. In the energy sector, for example, this includes enhancing opportunities for geothermal energy in Ireland as well as meeting Programme for Government commitments related to fossil fuel exploration and licencing.

From an industry perspective, working with enterprises to enhance efficiencies in their processing systems and packaging, forms the basis of many actions below, including legislative changes, incentives and innovation. Such actions bring both climate and economic benefits.

### Mitigation

Action 194. Enterprise Ireland will continue to drive the rollout of CirculEire; the national circular economy platform.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
194a. Collaborate with the Irish Research Manufacturing Technology Centre team to maximise the impact of Circuleire.	Increase in companies adopting circular principles	Q4 2021	EI	DETE, Irish Research Manufacturing Technology Centre

**Action 195. Develop a policy statement on mineral exploration and mining that supports the sustainable supply of minerals required to transition to a climate neutral economy, particularly for renewable energy, energy storage (batteries), the move to a digital economy and electrifying the transport system.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
195a.Undertake Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)/ Appropriate Assessment (AA) screening.	Decision on whether SEA/ AA required	Q1 2021	DECC	
195b.Undertake SEA/ AA (if required).	SEA/ AA	Q2 2021	DECC	
195c.Publish policy statement on mineral exploration and mining for public consultation.	Public consultation, gathering views of stakeholders	Q2 2021	DECC	
195d.Support policy development through targeted research into Ireland's mineral potential and current use and value of Irish mineral production.	Research Reports on Irish Mineral Potential and Irish Mineral Production and Use	Q4 2021	DECC - GSI	
195e.Finalise policy statement.	Policy Statement informed by consultation. Policy finalised, subject to Government approval	Q4 2021	DECC	

<b>Action 196. Develop a policy and regulatory framework for geothermal energy to support its use as a secure, environmentally sustainable and cost-effective source of renewable energy.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
196a.Undertake SEA/ AA screening.	Decision on whether SEA/ AA required	Q2 2021	DECC	
196b.Undertake SEA/ AA (if required).	SEA/ AA if required	Q2 2021	DECC	
196c.Prepare a draft policy statement on geothermal energy.	Draft document for consultation prepared	Q3 2021	DECC	
196d.Support policy development through targeted research into Ireland's geothermal energy potential.	National Geothermal Energy Database	Q3 2021	DECC (GSI)	
196e.Undertake public consultation on draft policy statement for geothermal energy.	Launch public consultation, gathering views of stakeholders	Q4 2021	DECC	
196f. Finalise policy statement.	Policy Statement informed by consultation. Policy finalised, subject to Government approval	Q2 2022	DECC	
196g.Prepare supporting legislation.	Subject to Government and Oireachtas approval, legislation in place	Q4 2023	DECC	

<b>Action 197. Amend the policy statement on petroleum, exploration and production and amend legislation to copper fasten the Programme for Government 2020 commitment on petroleum and gas exploration and extraction.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
197a.Prepare supporting legislation to give effect to Programme for Government 2020 commitment.	Subject to Government and Oireachtas approval, legislation in place	Q2 2021	DECC	
197b.Finalise policy statement on petroleum and gas exploration and production activities as part of Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Economy.	Policy finalised, subject to Government approval	Q2 2021	DECC	

<b>Action 198. Strengthen the regulatory and enforcement frameworks for the waste collection and management system, to maximise circular economy principles.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
198a.Establish a working group to develop national end-of-waste applications for identified priority waste streams.	Working Group established	Q2 2021	DECC	
198b.Revise the national standardised list of items accepted in the mixed dry recycling bin to capture more recyclable material.	New national recycling list introduced	Q4 2021	DECC	
198c.Complete revision of 2006 Best Practice Guidelines on the Preparation of Waste Management Plans for construction and demolition projects.	Revised guidelines published by the EPA	Q4 2021	EPA	DECC

**Action 199. Establish a Circular Economy Innovation Scheme, focusing on providing funding for a limited number of regional and/or national scale circular economy projects with the capacity to significantly raise awareness of circular economy and/or improve consumption patterns in relation to specific product categories or within specific sectors.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
199a. Launch a call for a new Circular Economy Innovation Scheme.	Design and launch of scheme	Q1 2021	DECC	
199b. Award funding to 3-5 projects.	Funding provided for 3-5 projects in 2021/2022	Q4 2021	DECC	

**Action 200. Publish a whole-of-Government Circular Economy Strategy and promote the Circular Economy including focus on awareness raising, Green Public Procurement and international partnerships.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
200a. Publish a whole-of-Government Circular Economy Strategy setting out overall national policy in relation to circular economy.	Strategy Published	Q1 2021	DECC	
200b. Work will commence to establish a national Circular Economy Platform.	Scoping document for Platform	Q2 2021	DECC	
200c. Platform established.	Platform launched	Q2 2022	DECC	
200d. Identify Opportunities for international cooperation on Green Public Procurement projects.	Report on seeking partnerships	Q4 2021	DECC	
200e. Deliver a €4.5m public-private partnership employing systems thinking to co-create circular solutions to real-world industry challenges through capacity building, working groups and an Innovation Fund.	CIRCULEIRE project completed and new circular manufacturing opportunities identified	Q4 2022	EPA/DECC	Climate KIC

<b>Action 201. Develop a Food Waste Prevention Roadmap that sets out a series of actions to deliver the reductions necessary to halve our food waste by 2030 and promote our transition to a circular economy.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
201a.Draft a Food Waste Prevention Roadmap for stakeholder review that will help put Ireland on the right trajectory to meeting its Sustainable Development Goal of halving food waste by 2030.	Draft document for stakeholder review	Q2 2021	DECC	
201b.Consult with stakeholders.	Details of consultation and engagement undertaken	Q3 2021	DECC	
201c.Publish Roadmap.	Final roadmap published	Q4 2021	DECC	
201d.Commitment of resources to the EPA to undertake national food waste prevention activities, including campaigns and supports leading to measured reduction in food waste in households and diverse business sectors.	Resources committed	Q4 2021	DECC	

<b>Action 202. Enhance food waste segregation, collection and treatment (anaerobic digestion and composting).</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
202a.Work with key stakeholders to support and implement further roll out of segregation and collection of commercial and household food waste, and engage in education and awareness, and enforcement activities.	Awareness and enforcement campaign launched	Q4 2021	DECC	



<b>Action 203. Develop and implement new Regional Waste Management Plans that will guide our transition to a circular economy.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
203a.Publish Regional Waste Management Plans.	New Plans published	Q1 2022	DECC	

<b>Action 204. New and expanded environmental levies to encourage reduced resource consumption and incentivise higher levels of re-use and recycling.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
204a.Expansion of the plastic bag levy to medium weight plastic bags and increase to 25c.	Levy expanded	Q2 2021	DECC	
204b.Introduction of a new waste recovery levy.	Waste Recovery levy in place	Q3 2021	DECC	
204c.Transposition of the Single Use Plastics Directive.	Directive transposed (transposition date of 3 July 2021)	Q3 2021	DECC	
204d.Extension of Extended Producer Responsibility schemes and modulation of fees charged by schemes based on recyclability of products.	Producer Responsibility scheme extended, and appropriate fees in place	Q4 2021	Repak / DECC	
204e.Introduction of a new levy on disposable coffee cups.	Disposable coffee cup levy in place	Q1 2022	DECC	
204f. Introduction of a Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) for plastic drinks bottles and aluminium cans.	DRS scheme launched	Q3 2022	DECC	
204g.Additional categories of products suitable for levies will be identified.	New suitable product levies in place	Q1 2023	DECC	
204h.Banning of a range of Single Use Plastic (SUP) items including non-medical wet wipes, containers for hotel toiletries and condiment items, disposable drinks cups.	Ban in place	Q2 2023	DECC	

## Ireland's International Action on Climate Breakdown

Ireland has an important role to play in promoting climate action internationally, including in advocacy, finance and adaptation. While we are a small nation, our global reach is significant in advancing climate justice for those in the least developed countries who have not caused the climate crisis but experience its worst impacts.

Interim Climate Actions 2021 presents a number of ambitious actions to advance Ireland's international role, including climate advocacy at EU and international levels, extending of our climate resourcing and capacity across our Embassy networks, and playing a leading role in the UN Security Council and COP 26 negotiations. Assistance to least developed countries and small island states remains an important focus in keeping with the Climate Action Plan 2019.

The development of a Climate Finance Strategy this year aims to better coordinate financial contributions and targeting of resources internationally.

### Mitigation

Action 205. Place climate action, especially for Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States, at the heart of all development cooperation and policy partnerships, as well as our engagement in multilateral processes.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
205a.Ensure climate action, especially for Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States, is reflected in the new Climate Strategy.	DFA Climate Strategy	Q3 2021	DFA	DAFM, DECC, DFIN, D/Taoiseach
205b.Ensure climate action, especially for Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States, is reflected in the funding by DFA's Climate Unit.	Provide financial and diplomatic support for the establishment of the new LIFE-AR initiative in four front runner countries (Ethiopia, Uganda, Malawi and Tanzania); Determine further support for risk insurance in the Caribbean in line with the Small Island Developing States Strategy	Q3 2021	DFA	DECC

<b>Action 206. Develop and implement approaches to climate-proof all Official development assistance, and continue to include climate as a core theme in all new Irish Aid Country Strategies.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
206a. Develop and implement methodology for climate proofing Official development assistance.	Methodology finalised and implementation support and training planned	Q4 2021	DFA	
206b. Provide technical support to HQ Units and Missions to ensure climate action is included in their strategic and business planning.	Outreach/training provided	Q4 2021	DFA	

<b>Action 207. Promote the development of the sustainable finance sector internationally.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
207a. Engagement on the sustainable finance agenda at EU and international level, including through the work programme of the Coalition of Finance Ministers for Climate Action (CFMCA).	Participation in Member State Expert Group on sustainable finance	Q2 2021	DFIN	
207b. Monitoring of and reporting on sustainable finance measures within the 2021 Ireland for Finance Action Plan.	Progress Report	Q1 2022	DFIN	

## Public Sector Leading by Example

Action 208. Strengthen Climate Diplomacy across HQ units and our embassy network.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
208a.Strengthen capacity and coordination to ensure common and systematic messaging on climate action across DFA, including HQ units and embassy network.	Establish a network of climate focal points across HQ units and embassy networks	Q1 2021	DFA	DFA

  

Action 209. Play a leadership role on climate and security on the UN Security Council.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
209a.Co-chair the Informal Experts Group on Climate and Security for 2021, including drafting the work programme and identifying experts for briefings.	Internal Position Paper on Climate and Security and schedule of meetings for the Informal Experts Group on Climate and Security	Q1 2021	DFA	
209b.Co-chair the Informal Experts Group on Climate and Security for 2021 and via this role and through our contribution at the Security Council strengthen the integration of climate considerations into discussions of and resolutions on peace and security.	Ensure that the mandates and resolutions of the UN Security Council include language on climate change where appropriate	Q4 2021	DFA	

Action 210. Enhance Ireland's engagement at UNFCCC, in preparation of COP26.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
210a.Strengthen coordination through National Climate Delegation to enhance Ireland's input to EU preparations for and engagement at COP26.	No. of Delegation meetings to COP26; IE representation at EU expert meetings; IE Line to take for EU and COP26	Q3 2021	DECC	DAFM, DFA, DFIN, D/ Taoiseach, EPA, Met Éireann, SEAI

## Adaptation

Action 211. Seek to at least double the percentage of Official development assistance spending on climate finance by 2030, and report on our expenditure each year.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
211a.Climate Finance Roadmap developed in collaboration with other departments.	Climate Finance Roadmap	Q3 2021	DFA/DFIN	DAFM, DECC, DFIN
211b.Annual reports produced on Official development assistance expenditure on climate.	Official development assistance report	Annually in Q4	DFA	DAFM, DECC, DFIN

## Just Transition

The transition to climate neutrality offers many benefits to Irish citizens, including the potential for warmer homes, cleaner air, secure energy, green jobs, new business opportunities, better transport, more recreational spaces and healthier lifestyles. The shift will, however, require significant changes for many, and may affect citizens differently according to where they live, work, and travel.

Preparing for the new opportunities that will arise, reducing negative impacts and protecting the most vulnerable in society are crucial to a Just Transition. The actions contained in Interim Climate Actions 2021 work to support these aims, including through a focus on upskilling for new employment opportunities, investment to retrofit social housing, and maximising European funding to support the transition to a just and fair climate neutral economy and society.

The preparation of a Territorial Just Transition Plan represents an important governance tool to coordinate such efforts and access funding, along with the continued development and provision of strategic advice to inform Irish policymaking in this area. The work of the Just Commissioner will also continue building on successes achieved to date, including the roll-out of the Just Transition Fund to successful local and regional projects.

<b>Action 212. Assess the economic and employment implications of the transition to a low-carbon economy.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
212a. Conclude Phase 2 of the assessment of the implications of climate mitigation options on socio-economic value of agricultural production and the rural economy.	Report concluded	Q2 2021	DAFM	Teagasc

<b>Action 213. Prepare a Territorial Just Transition Plan for Ireland for the EU Just Transition Fund, to be approved by European Commission.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
213a. Prepare analysis to support investment priorities for the Territorial Just Transition Plan, supported by the EU Structural Reform Support Programme.	Analysis prepared	Q3 2021	DECC	DFHERIS, DPER, European Commission, Regional Assemblies
213b. Prepare and finalise the Territorial Just Transition Plan for Ireland and submit to European Commission for approval.	Plan prepared and submitted to EC	Q3 2021	DECC	DFHERIS, DPER, European Commission, Regional Assemblies
213c. Contribute to the preparation of the Partnership Agreement for the European Structural and Investment Funds for 2021-2027 in respect of the EU Just Transition Fund (JTF).	Partnership Agreement prepared	Q3 2021	DECC	DFHERIS, DPER, European Commission, Regional Assemblies
213d. Develop an Operational Programme for the EU JTF, ensuring effective arrangements for EU shared management funds.	Operational Programme prepared	Q4 2021	DECC	DFHERIS, DPER, European Commission, Regional Assemblies



<b>Action 214. Complete the evaluation process and contractual arrangements for successful projects under the 2020 Just Transition Fund call.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
214a. Issue funding agreements to successful projects which meet fund requirements.	Funding Agreements in place	Q2 2021	DECC	
214b. Finalise administrative arrangements for delegated management of the 2020 Just Transition Fund (JTF) call.	Administrative arrangements agreed	Q2 2021	DECC	Offaly County Council
214c. Provide capacity building, through Midlands Regional Transition Team (MRTT) working groups, for project development within wider Midlands region.	Projects assisted	Ongoing	MRTT	MRTT sub-group members as appropriate
214d. Carry out an evaluation of the JTF call to inform future just transition support activities.	JTF evaluation completed	Q4 2021	DECC	MRTT

<b>Action 215. Support the work of the Just Transition Commissioner.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
215a. Provide policy support to the work of Just Transition Commissioner.	Policy support provided to Just Transition Commissioner	Ongoing	DECC	
215b. Publish Implementation Plan in response to the Just Transition Commissioner's recommendations.	Wider Midlands Implementation Plan published	Q2 2021	DECC	MRTT

Action 216. Implement enhanced coordination arrangements in the Midlands Region to address the specific challenges posed by the transition to a low-carbon economy.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
216a. Coordinate Local Authorities, State Agencies and other relevant stakeholders in the wider Midlands region to ensure an integrated approach.	Regional stakeholders provide integrated approach and quarterly updates to DECC	Ongoing	MRTT	DECC, MRTT Members
216b. Represent the Wider Midlands Region in the EU Just Transition Platform.	Region represented in the EU Just Transition Platform	Ongoing	MRTT	DECC

Action 217. Support strategic advice and research on just transition in Ireland, including future priorities and spatial and sectoral impacts.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
217a. Agree an annual programme of research with National Economic and Social Council (NESC) and establish appropriate delivery structures.	Annual research programme agreed	Q1 2021	DECC	NESC
217b. Publish Strategic Advice on a Just Transition.	Council Report: <i>Grounding the Recovery in Sustainable Development: A Statement by the Council</i>	Q1 2021	NESC	DECC, D/ Taoiseach
217c. Engage Irish and European stakeholders on a Just Transition.	Conference Report 'Just Transition: Insights from Policy and Practice' from the 28th EEAC 'Delivering a Just Transition for All' Conference	Q1 2021	NESC	D/ Taoiseach

217d. Identify opportunities for climate-related research to support the future development of just transition policy, including resulting from the Just Transition Territorial Plan.	Other research opportunities identified	Ongoing	DECC	
217e. Explore rural resilience and a Just Transition.	(a) Roundtable on Resilience and a Just Transition;  (b) Council Report on Shared Island Research (Climate and Biodiversity Challenges and Opportunities)	Q1 2021 (a)  Q3 2021 (b)	NESC	DECC, DRCD, D/ Taoiseach

**Action 218. Support, through the education system, the required initiatives to support the development of a climate neutral economy.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
218a. Highlight the importance of skills required to support the low-carbon economy in the Call for Proposals for courses under Springboard+ 2021.	Call for proposals	Q1 2021	DFHERIS	HEA, public and private HEIs
218b. Include courses on skills to support the low-carbon economy and to support the aims of the Climate Action Plan in Springboard+ 2021.	Courses included in the list of programmes selected for support in Springboard+ 2021	Q2 2021	DFHERIS	HEA, public and private HEIs
218c. Roll-out courses on skills to support the low-carbon economy and to support the aims of the Climate Action Plan in Springboard+ 2021.	Courses rolled out in Springboard+ 2021	Q3 2021	DFHERIS	HEA, public and private HEIs

218d.Continue to implement 'Skills to Advance' and 'Upskilling Pathways', which build skills to support the low-carbon economy.	Continued provision of existing programmes	Ongoing	DFHERIS	ETBs, RSFs
218e.Following the success of the pilot DigiEco programme in Q4 2020, roll out the DigiEco Programme in 2021.	DigiEco pilot programme commenced	Q3 2021	DFHERIS	ETBs, RSFs

**Action 219. Deliver the Bord na Móna large-scale peatlands restoration project to bring significant benefits and contribute to Ireland's target of being carbon-neutral by 2050.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
219a.As per headline action.	Peatlands restoration project delivered	Ongoing in 2021	BnM	DECC, NPWS

**Action 220. Assess the potential for a renewable energy hub in the Midlands using the existing infrastructure in place.**

Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
220a.Complete feasibility studies on the future uses of West Offaly and Lough Ree Power Station sites to assess the best use of the sites over the long-term, taking account of their location, infrastructure and the future requirements of the electricity market.	Feasibility studies completed	Q2 2021	ESB	DECC, Longford County Council, Offaly County Council

## Public Sector Lead

To demonstrate leadership, inspire innovation, stimulate supply chains, and showcase practical applications, it is essential that the public sector leads by example in the transition to a climate neutral economy and society.

This includes practical emissions reduction, by retrofitting public buildings and electrifying public sector fleets, as well as embedding climate considerations in all public sector decision-making, particularly in relation to investment.

Important governance mechanisms from the Climate Action Plan 2019 will be maintained in keeping with these ambitions, including the commitment to publish a public sector decarbonisation strategy, issue climate mandates to all public bodies and enhance green public procurement.

## Mitigation

Action 221. Retrofitting the Public Building Stock.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
221a. Develop an approach to retrofit the public sector building stock in line with the Government target that all public sector buildings should have a Building Energy Rating (BER) level of at least B by 2030.	Approach developed based on completed research including establishing the role of energy performance contracting	Q4 2021	DECC	DPER, SEAI, OPW
221b. Develop public sector capital supports to focus on greenhouse gas emissions reduction and the achievement of a BER level of at least B.	Expanded EXCEED capital support programme delivered	Q4 2021	SEAI	DECC
221c. Develop the public sector energy efficiency programme and associated monitoring and reporting system to incorporate greenhouse gas emissions reduction.	Updated monitoring and reporting system including emissions recording and compliance monitoring	Q1 2022	SEAI	DECC

<b>Action 222. Examine how and when fossil-fuel heating systems could be phased-out of public buildings, including disallowing the installation of any new fossil-fuel heating systems.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
222a.As per headline action.	Identification of recommendations	Q3 2021	OPW	DECC, DHLGH, DPER, SEAI

<b>Action 223. Develop a strategy to achieve at least a 50% reduction in CO<sub>2</sub>eq. emissions by 2030.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
223a.Confirm methodology for measuring, accounting, reporting and recording greenhouse gas emissions reductions.	Technical methodology confirmed and agreed	Q1 2021	DECC	SEAI, EPA
223b.Seek Government decision on target, methodology and roll-out of 50% decarbonisation, including communications strategy.	Government decision	Q2 2021	DECC	SEAI, EPA
223c.Communicate measurement and systems to all public sector bodies.	Communications roll-out	Q2 2021	DECC	SEAI
223d.Seek Government approval and publish new Public Sector Strategy for delivery.	Public Sector Strategy	Q1 2022	DECC	SEAI

<b>Action 224. Introduce Climate Action Mandate for every public body.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
224a. Consult with public sector across range of channels on content of mandate.	Report and findings from cross-system feedback and input	Q2 2021	DECC	D/ Taoiseach, SEAI
224b. Develop framework for commercial semi-state sector to address climate action objectives.	Framework completed	Q2 2021	DECC	DPER, NewERA
224c. Seek Government approval for public sector mandate requirements for all non-commercial public bodies.	Mandate content	Q3 2021	DECC	DPER, D/ Taoiseach, SEAI
224d. Issue a policy direction or equivalent to all public bodies requiring a public body to adopt mandate and notify Climate Action Delivery Board.	Direction and communication	Q4 2021	DECC	DPER, D/ Taoiseach, SEAI

<b>Action 225. Mandate the inclusion of green criteria in all procurements using public funds, introducing requirements on a phases basis and provide support to procurers as required.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
225a. Government departments to report on Green Public Procurement activity during 2020 to EPA by end of Q1 2021.	EPA to produce report on Government Green Public Procurement	Q2 2021	DECC - EPA	
225b. Upskill programme for suppliers.	Training and guidance to enable suppliers to respond to green criteria within public procurement	Q4 2021	DECC - EPA	
225c. Upskill programme for procurers and specifiers. Training programme developed and delivered by the EPA for public sector procurement staff in 2020 will continue in 2021. EPA will launch revised Green Public Procurement guidance following public consultation completed in 2020.	Green public procurement guidance	Q4 2021	DECC - EPA	

<b>Action 226. Understand the potential role that regulators of electronic communications sectors can play in decarbonisation.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
226a. Examine the impact of operator and public authorities' decisions on the environmental impact of the telecommunications sector, through a BEREC published study, with a view to final report in Q2 2022.	Draft report for consultation	Q4 2021	DECC - ComReg	



## Adaptation

Action 227. Understand the effects of climate change on telecoms networks.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
227a. Conduct a study on the impact of climate change and adaptation on telecom networks in Ireland.	Report	Q4 2021	DECC - ComReg	

## Citizen Engagement

Citizens must be at the heart of the transition to a climate neutral future. They must be supported, engaged and empowered to participate in policy-making, as well as to take climate action within their own households and communities.

A key element of the actions is extensive public consultation to inform the development of the Climate Action Plan 2021, as well as the development of enduring structures for National Dialogue on Climate Action.

Other actions focus on bringing financial, participatory, educational and advisory supports to local and community climate action, including the progression of low carbon towns and leveraging existing community structures such as Tidy Towns, Public Participation Networks, Sustainable Energy Communities and Creative Ireland. The important role for schools and the education system is also highlighted below, along with the development of Local Authority expertise and leadership for further community engagement in climate action.

Action 228. Build a new, localised citizen engagement model through the National Dialogue on Climate Action.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
228a. Establish a Youth Climate Council as part of the new National Dialogue on Climate Action (NDCA) engagement model and annual Climate Action Plan consultations, to help support future dialogue with young people.	Engagement activity	Q1 2021	DCEDIY	DECC, Comhairle na nÓg, EPA
228b. Engage with Public Participation Networks to better understand local climate action initiatives and to explore barriers and enablers for community activation.	Engagement activity	Q1 2021	DECC	DRCD, EPA, Local Authorities
228c. Launch a Community Call under the Climate Action Fund to support activation at local and community level.	Community call	Q2 2021	DECC	Local Authorities, Pobal

228d. Develop an enduring structure for a new localised citizen engagement model as part of ongoing dialogue on climate action.	Published paper	Q3 2021	DECC	DCEDIY, D/Taoiseach, EPA, Local Authorities
228e. Hold a national stakeholder engagement forum to provide feedback from annual Climate Action Plan consultation, and discuss and showcase local engagement opportunities which will lead to mobilisation.	Stakeholder event	Q3 2021	DECC	DRCD, EPA, Local Authorities
228f. Establish an Interdepartmental Working Group to explore critical barriers and/or enablers that will support a new NDCA engagement model and annual Climate Action Plan consultations.	Working Group established	Q4 2021	DECC	DCEDIY, DRCD, D/Taoiseach, DTCAGSM, EPA, Local Authorities, SEAI
228g. Conduct a national baseline study on Irish behaviours and attitudes around climate change awareness, engagement and activation of public.	National baseline study on " <i>Climate Change in the Irish Mind</i> "	Q4 2021	EPA, DECC	

Action 229. Continue to support the delivery of projects approved for funding as part of the first round of support from the Climate Action Fund.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
229a.Continue to support the delivery of the <i>Driving HGV Efficiency into Brexit Project</i> .	Roll-out to two truck fleets	Q2 2021	3 Counties Energy Agency	DECC
229b.Continue to support the delivery of the <i>GRAZE (Green Renewable Agricultural Zero Emissions Gas) Project</i> .	Approve project to delivery stage	Q3 2021	GNI	DECC
229c.Continue to support the delivery of the <i>Local Authority Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project</i> .	Award contract for southwestern region	Q3 2021	RMO	DECC
229d.Continue to support the delivery of the <i>Irish Rail Hybrid Drive for Inter City Railcar Project</i> .	Commerce engine trial	Q4 2021	Irish Rail	DECC
229e.Continue to support the delivery of the <i>ESB Electric Vehicle High Power Charging Infrastructure Development Project</i> .	Work continuing on installations	Ongoing during 2021	ESB	DECC

Action 230. Ensure all of society have an opportunity to contribute and input to each annual iteration of the Climate Action Plan.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
230a. Consult with stakeholders to ensure content and questions included in the public consultation are consistent with their policies in the Climate Action Plan 2021.	Stakeholder event	Q1 2021	DECC	DCEDIY, DRCD, D/Taoiseach, DTCAGSM, EPA, Local Authorities, SEAI
230b. Design a call for evidence to seek expert views from organisations and citizens to feed into the Climate Action Plan 2021.	Call for evidence drafted	Q1 2021	DECC	DAFM, DECC, DHLGH, DTCAGSM, D/Transport
230c. Launch public consultation seeking citizen and expert views to inform the design of policies, measures and actions as part of the Climate Action Plan 2021.	Engagement activity	Q1 2021	DECC	DCEDIY, DRCD, D/Taoiseach, DTCAGSM, EPA, Local Authorities, SEAI
230d. Engage with relevant sectors to ensure citizen feedback is incorporated as part of Climate Action Plan development.	Engagement activity	Q2 2021	DECC	D/Taoiseach, EPA, SEAI
230e. Publish report outlining citizen views and submissions received as part of the Climate Action Plan 2021 consultation demonstrating how the consultation shaped the Plan.	Published report	Q3 2021	DECC	EPA

<b>Action 231. Develop a comprehensive well-being framework for Ireland to create a well-rounded, holistic view of how our society is faring, including from social and environmental standpoints.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
231a. Establish Steering Group to guide the work.	Working Group	Q1 2021	D/ Taoiseach	
231b. Engage in external consultation.	Consultation	Q2 2021	D/ Taoiseach, NESC	
231c. Publish initial report on draft framework.	Report	Q3 2021	D/ Taoiseach NESC	

<b>Action 232. Progress the establishment of a Citizens' Assembly on Biodiversity.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
232a. Engage Government departments on scope of Assembly.	Consultation	Q1 2021	D/ Taoiseach	
232b. Commence stakeholder engagement on scope of Assembly.	Report	Q2 2021	D/ Taoiseach	
232c. Conclude and analyse stakeholder engagement on scope of Assembly.	Review	Q3 2021	D/ Taoiseach	
232d. Scope Terms of Reference for Citizens' Assembly incorporating results of consultation.	Terms of Reference	Q4 2021	D/ Taoiseach	

Action 233. Advance coordinated climate action communications from the centre of Government.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
233a. Finalise and publish Jargon Buster developed in collaboration with Comhairle na nÓg to increase accessibility of climate terminology.	Communications	Q1 2021	D/ Taoiseach (with DCEDIY, CnÓg)	
233b. Maintain and update <a href="https://gov.ie/climateaction">gov.ie/climateaction</a> .	Communications	Quarterly	D/ Taoiseach	

Action 234. Deliver a citizen engagement event regarding Climate Action for Rural Communities.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
234a. As part of a new Rural Ideas Forum, organise a Stakeholder Engagement Event for discussion and information sharing on the topic of climate action and its impact on rural communities.	Stakeholder Engagement event	Q3 2021	DRCD	

Action 235. Increase awareness of Sustainable Development Goals through Tidy Towns Competition.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
235a. Align categories in the 2021 Tidy Towns Competition to the Sustainable Development Goals, including those related to climate action.	Categories aligned	Q2 2021	DRCD	DECC

Action 236. Continue support for Public Participation Networks including Environmental Pillar.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
236a.As per headline action.	Support provided	Ongoing	DRCD	

  

Action 237. Support the provision of training and capacity building in relation to climate change to community development and local development organisations.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
237a.Determine the scope for supporting capacity building in communities under the forthcoming Community Climate Action Programme under the Climate Action Fund.	Scope for support determined	Q2 2021	DRCD, DECC	

  

Action 238. Enhance the effectiveness of climate-related communications, network building and deliberative capacity within and through the National Dialogue on Climate Action including implementation of enhanced Green Schools National Climate Change Action and Awareness Programme.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
238a.Comhairle na nÓg to work with the EPA to bring the voice and views of young people to the forthcoming Climate Action Plan.	Communications	Q2 2021	DCEDIY	CnÓg, EPA

  

Action 239. Hold a public consultation on a National Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development to 2030 to inform a new Strategy and Action Plan.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
239a.Publish a consultation paper and survey inviting completion and/or option to provide detailed submission to inform the development of a National Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development to 2030.	Consultation paper published	Q1 2021	D/ Education	



<b>Action 240. Implement an enhanced approach to energy performance and renewable energy capability in school buildings.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
240a. Encourage schools to have an “energy champion” within their distributed leadership team.	Guidance on energy champions issued to schools	Q3 2021	D/ Education	

<b>Action 241. Support Creative Ireland in its engagement with the public on climate change through the creative and cultural sectors initiative.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
241a. Resource innovative and sustainable initiatives in partnership with the cultural and creative sectors to deliver individual and community awareness of the need for climate-related behavioural change.	Programme of cultural and creative initiatives	2021-2022	DECC	

<b>Action 242. Support, through the education system, the required initiatives to raise awareness of climate action.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
242a. Develop a new short course on climate action for Junior Cycle.	Course developed	Q3 2021	SEAI	DECC

Action 243. Progress EPA climate conference and lecture series.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
243a. Organise a climate lecture series and a climate conference to bring together policy makers, academics, practitioners and NGOs to discuss key issues relating to climate action.	Climate Conference and two climate lectures	Q4 2021	EPA, DECC	

Action 244. Provide support for the development of relevant media content, including in the independent production sector.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
244a. Increase public awareness, engagement and activation.	Relevant media content	Ongoing	EPA, DECC	

Action 245. Expand the SEAI Sustainable Energy Communities Programme from 256 members to 500 by 2025, and 1,500 by 2030.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
245a. Develop a proposal to use Citizens Information Centre network to offer climate information to citizens and communities.	Proposal finalised	Q2 2021	DECC	Citizens' Information Board, EPA

## Adaptation

As well as taking measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, Ireland must continue to adapt to certain climate change impacts that are already locked in and will continue and evolve for the foreseeable future. Many of the observed changes have occurred at a rate that is unprecedented, taking place over decades rather than millennia. The atmosphere and oceans have warmed, the amounts of snow and ice have diminished, and sea levels have risen.

The need for adaptation to address the current and future risks posed by a changing climate is, therefore, both urgent and essential to successfully transition to a climate resilient economy and society by 2050. Effective climate adaptation can minimise risks and costs, and also protect lives and property by building resilience into existing systems. This can ultimately help minimise the emergency response that is necessary to severe weather events.

Ireland's main policy to address these challenges is set out in our statutory National Adaptation Framework (NAF), which was prepared under the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015, and published in January 2018.

Under the NAF, twelve key sectors, under the remit of seven Government Ministers, developed sectoral adaptation plans which were approved by Government in September 2019. Interim Climate Actions 2021 focuses on the continued implementation of these plans.

In 2019, Local Authorities also prepared 31 individual adaptation strategies which are being implemented with the support of the Climate Action Regional Offices (CAROs). The ongoing implementation of these strategies is also included in Interim Climate Actions 2021.

The provision of accurate and authoritative information and expertise is a crucial element in ensuring that Government, Local Authorities, communities and the private sector can plan ahead and respond effectively to the challenges of climate change. Ireland's Climate Information Platform, 'Climate Ireland' ([www.climateireland.ie](http://www.climateireland.ie)), was developed by the MaREI Centre, University College Cork, under the EPA Research Programme, to provide a central source of climate data for Ireland, combining authoritative information from a variety of sources such as Met Éireann, the OPW, the EPA, the European Environmental Agency, and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, to assist stakeholders in planning ahead for the likely impacts of climate change. Interim Climate Actions 2021 includes measures to help ensure that Climate Ireland is developed to its full potential as a permanent platform.

<b>Action 246. Build sectoral resilience to the impacts of climate change through delivery of sectoral plans as required under the National Adaptation Framework.</b>				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
246a. As per headline action.	Report on implementation of sectoral plans	Q3 2021	DECC	Sectors

Action 247. Put in place arrangements to ensure that Climate Ireland is developed to its full potential as an operational support for climate adaptation and climate action in Ireland.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
247a. Develop a new governance and delivery model for Climate Ireland within the ownership of the EPA.	Formal governance structure	Q2 2021	EPA	DECC, Local Authorities, Sectors
247b. Provide support (such as provision of information/data, decision tools and capacity building) to sectors and Local Authorities tasked with developing and implementing adaptation strategies.	Published relevant and up to date data on website	Ongoing	EPA	DECC, Local Authorities, Sectors

  

Action 248. Report on climate change adaptation.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
248a. Submit report on climate change adaptation as required under the EU Climate and Energy Governance Regulation to the European Environment Agency.	Accurate information reported on EU reporting system	Q1 2021	DECC	Climate Ireland, EPA

  

Action 249. Develop research on climate adaptation.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
249a. Publish research analysis " <i>Policy Coherence in Adaptation Studies: Selecting and Using Indicators of Climate Resilience</i> ".	Published research findings	Q2 2021	EPA	DECC, Line Departments, Local Authorities, Sectors

Action 250. Build local and regional resilience to the impacts of climate change through delivery of Local Authority Adaptation Strategies as required under the National Adaptation Framework.				
Steps Necessary for Delivery	Proposed Output	Timeline	Lead	Key Stakeholders
250a. Implement Local Authority Adaptation Strategies prepared under National Adaptation Framework.	Report on progress in implementing actions across 31 Local Authority Strategies	Ongoing	CARO	DECC, Local Authorities





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Climate and Communications



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