



Oifig um Sholáthar Rialtais
Office of Government Procurement

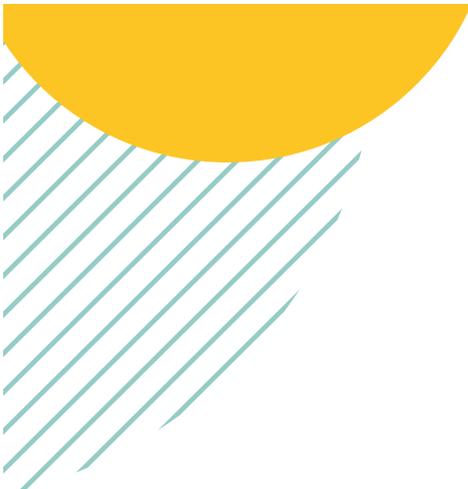
Green Measures in OGP Offices



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gov.ie



An Roinn Caiteachais
Phoiblí agus Athchóirithe
Department of Public
Expenditure and Reform



CONTEXT

As the need to urgently react to the Climate Crisis becomes apparent, government bodies must take unprecedented environmental action. The Office of Government Procurement (OGP) is committed to leading the public sector in tackling climate change through public procurement.

On an organisational level, we're undertaking a number of measures in our offices to limit our environmental impact.

The OGP has five office locations in Cork, Dublin, Limerick, Sligo and Trim. Environmental efforts have to go beyond lip service - we have to put the hard work in too. That's why we are making efforts in all of our OGP offices to ensure that we choose the sustainable option where possible. We are committed to changing the status quo to make the environmentally-friendly option, our go-to.

"In the context of the global climate crisis, we need to continue to increasingly explore how government can lead from the front and push the boundaries on enabling environmental sustainability."

Paul Quinn,
CEO of the OGP

GREEN MEASURES

The OGP has five office locations across Ireland, in Cork, Dublin, Limerick, Sligo and Trim. We have limited our environmental impact through a number of different measures in all of our offices:

Lighting



We have taken a number of practical steps to make lighting our offices more environmentally friendly. In our Dublin and Trim offices, all floors are equipped with motion-sensor LED lighting that switches itself on when movement is detected, and off when no motion has been detected for a period. This is a practical way to reduce energy waste, particularly when we have so few people working in our offices due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Over 50% of our Sligo office is equipped with LED lighting and a project to install full LED lighting in the Sligo, Limerick and Cork offices will be undertaken in 2022.

Office Paper



The OGP uses our own Managed Print Services Framework to reduce the amount of paper that we use in our offices. We only use recycled paper in all of our printers.

Confidential Waste



All confidential waste is shredded onsite, certified and then sent for recycling. In 2019, which was the last full year where our offices were occupied, approximately 5,000 kg of confidential waste was shredded and recycled from OGP offices. This is the equivalent of 75 fully-grown trees!

Furniture in OGP Offices

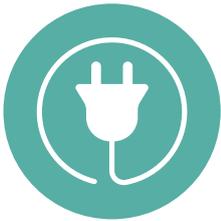


All wooden furniture supplied to OGP offices comes from Farrell Furniture, through the OPW Furniture Division. Farrell uses only FSC certified wood, chipboard and medium-density fibreboard. Any wood waste and offcuts are burned to generate heat for the Farrell factory and offices.



Refuse

All of our offices use waste disposal services that prioritise waste prevention and recycling. Every effort is made by the service providers to ensure that as little as possible ends up in landfill through methods such as waste segregation and using waste streams that cannot be recycled as a fuel source to generate electricity and heat.



Energy

All of our OGP offices use our Energy Framework Agreement suppliers for electricity. Currently, at least 42.5% of electricity supply on this Framework is from renewable resources. Our Headquarters in Dublin uses 100% renewable electricity.



End-of-Life IT Equipment

All of the OGP's end-of-life IT equipment is collected, certified and sent for recycling. In 2021, 700 kg of used IT and WEEE was sent for recycling from the OGP - this is heavier than a grand piano!

Sustainable Travel

All OGP employees are encouraged to take public transport wherever possible, whether attending a meeting or travelling across the country.

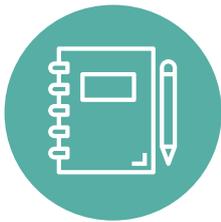


To offset the greenhouse gas emissions associated with official air travel, the OGP makes a yearly payment to the Climate Action Fund at the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications. This payment is equivalent to the estimated emissions impact of the our air travel over the preceding year. This amounted to €80 to cover official air travel in 2020. The OGP had no air travel in 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, meaning that no payment was due for 2021.

The OGP manages the supplier listing for the Cycle to Work scheme, which encourages the use of bicycles to travel to and from work.

FUTURE FACING

We have made great progress on our sustainability journey, and the OGP is committed to continuing to better ourselves. Outlined below are some of our plans for green measures going forward.



Green Comms

The OGP's Comms Team is focused on rolling out a series of communications that highlight the green measures that employees can take to reduce their carbon footprint. These have already appeared in our weekly newsletter, but an increased campaign will be rolled out throughout 2022.



Green Team

A 'Green Team' will be set up in the OGP, made up of representatives from different Business Units. The Green Team will meet regularly and discuss ways to promote sustainability and environmentally-friendly habits to employees across the organisation. They will speak at internal OGP events and promote the role that we can all play in tackling the Climate Crisis.



Reducing Resources

We have benchmarked the OGP's energy use and our goal is to drive it down further. We will take this approach with all of our resources to limit the OGP's impact on the environment, led by the Green Team.



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