



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Appendix 1

Climate Action Plan 2021 Progress Report – Q3 2022



Contents

Overall implementation rates	2
Glossary.....	3
Agriculture	5
Transport.....	15
Electricity.....	29
Land Use, Land Use Change, Forestry, and the Marine	39
Built Environment	49
National Retrofit Plan	56
Enterprise.....	60
Public Sector Leading by Example.....	66
The Circular Economy	70
Carbon Pricing and Cross-Cutting Policies	76
Governance	85
Ensuring a Just Transition to a Climate Neutral Ireland.....	90
Citizen Engagement	91
Ireland's International Action on Climate Breakdown.....	100
Adaptation	101

Overall implementation rates of Climate Action Plan 2021

	Measures Completed in the Quarter	Measures Subsequently Delivered	Total Measures Delivered to date	Measures still delayed	Delivery Rate
Q4 2021	194	22	216	15	94%
Q1 2022	113	38	151	40	79%
Q2 2022	73	28	101	61	62%
Q3 2022	74	N/A	74	50	60%
Total CAP 2021 Delivery to date	454	88	542	166	77%

Glossary

AA	Appropriate Assessment
BER	Building Energy Rating
CAP	Climate Action Plan
CCCC	Climate Communications Coordination Committee
CEP	Clean Export Premium
CPD	Continuing Professional Development
CRU	Commission for Regulation of Utilities
DAFM	Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
DCEDIY	Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth
DECC	Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications
D/Education	Department of Education
DETE	Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment
DFA	Department of Foreign Affairs
DFHERIS	Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science
DFIN	Department of Finance
D/Health	Department of Health
DHLGH	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage
DPER	Department of Public Expenditure and Reform
DRCD	Department of Rural and Community Development
DSP	Department of Social Protection
D/Taoiseach	Department of the Taoiseach
DTCAGSM	Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media
D/Transport	Department of Transport
EI	Enterprise Ireland
EPA	Environmental protection Agency
ESB	Electricity Supply Board
ESBN	Electricity Supply Board Network
EU	European Union
EV	Electric Vehicle
GHG	Greenhouse Gases
IDA	Industrial Development Agency
IPA	Institute of Public Administration
LULUCF	Land Use, Land-use Change and Forestry
NDCA	National Dialogue on Climate Action
NTA	National Transport Authority
NTMA	National Treasury Management Agency
NZEB	Nearly Zero Energy Building
OPW	Office of Public Works
PSO	Public Service Obligation
PV	Photovoltaics
RED	Renewable Energy Directive

RES-E	Renewable Energy Sources – Electricity
RESS	Renewable Electricity Support Scheme
SBCI	Strategic Banking Corporation of Ireland
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SEAI	Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland
SEC	Sectoral Emissions Ceilings
SI	Statutory Instrument
TII	Transport Infrastructure Ireland
YRE	Young Reporters for the Environment

Agriculture

Action 306 Establish National Fertiliser User Register to allow a more resource efficient use of nutrients
Q3 2022 measure: Scope out policy on a national fertiliser register to include legal advice and consultation with a wide variety of stakeholders
Responsible body: DAFM
Status: Delayed
<p>Update: National fertiliser Database is on schedule to being in place by Q1 2023, which is the overall deadline that was set for the project. The legislation must be enacted and is on track. In addition consultation with stakeholders is ongoing.</p> <p>The scope out policy has been completed but consultation with stakeholders is ongoing and the Communication Consultative Committee will continue to meet until the legislation is in place. The legislation will be at the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Agriculture, Food and the Marine on 12th October.</p> <p>Useful information can be found at the following: General Scheme of the Veterinary Medicinal Products, Medicated Feed and Fertilisers Regulation Bill 2022 (www.gov.ie) - https://www.gov.ie/en/collection/98355-national-fertiliser-database/</p>

Action 307 Increase the use of protected urea fertiliser
Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Establish an information Portal on Protected Nitrogen Products
Responsible body: DAFM
Status: Delayed
<p>Update: The portal has been developed and will launch in Q4 2022. This will provide statistical data on the use of protected nitrogen products.</p>

Action 313 Progress the development of feed additives on methane emissions for use during the housing period

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Examine the effects of feed ingredients/ additives (seaweeds, seaweed extracts, oils, and halides) in sheep and cattle

Responsible body: Teagasc

Status: Delayed

Update: The second of three beef cattle trials has just been completed in Teagasc Grange. Data shows following 3 months feeding indoors that linseed (4%) supplementation reduced methane emissions by 20.5%, seaweed extract (2%) lowered methane by 10.5% and a brown seaweed (2%) by 4.5%. Supplementation at these levels had no effect on intake and no negative effect on health and performance. Cattle are currently being acclimatised and entering a co-variate period and the final trial evaluating halides fed at two levels of and rapeseed oil will commence in September. As mentioned in the previous update, these trials were delayed due to delays in delivery of Greenfeed systems (as a result of Covid) and licencing from the Health Products Regulatory Authority (HPRA). All that is now in place but trials were pushed out by 3 months.

Three trials (15 weeks) were conducted in sheep in Teagasc Athenry testing a range of additives, seaweeds (at 2% and 4% inclusion), seaweed extracts (4% inclusion), a variety of halides at different range concentrations, oils and combinations of additives for their methane mitigation potential. In summary, for halides treatments, the best level of reduction was 14.6%, soya oil was 12.4% and combining these gave a 15.3% reduction. Seaweed (brown) and seaweed extract supplementation resulted in a 5% and 11% reduction in enteric methane but the brown seaweed did have some effects on intake towards the end of the trial. Dietary supplementation with the product Mootral resulted in an 8% reduction in methane while Agolin showed no significant reduction in methane. Some of this data was presented at [the Greenhouse Gas and Animal Agriculture](#) meeting in Florida in June 2022.

Action 314 Introduce measures to promote improved efficiency and reduced emissions in livestock via improved animal health and welfare

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Progress Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis (IBR) control/eradication programme to reduce the impact of clinical and subclinical disease in cattle herds in Ireland

Responsible body: Animal Health Ireland

Status: Delayed

Update: The update in Q3 2022 remains unchanged. Decisions on future disease control strategies for IBR are a matter for the IBR implementation Group in Animal Health Ireland. DAFM understands that a proposal should be available by the end of this year which will need to be agreed by all stakeholders involved before it can be progressed and implemented.

Action 315 Reduce the average age of slaughter of prime animals from 27 to 24 months by 2030

Every Q3 measure: Explore pathways to encourage earlier finishing of beef animals

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Delayed

Update: Certain pathways to encourage and facilitate earlier finishing have been identified. A multi-agency (e.g. Teagasc, Irish Cattle Breeding Federation, Meat Industry Ireland, Bord Bia, etc) and other stakeholders collaborative approach will be required to examine and facilitate implementation. Expected delivery date Q1 2023.

Action 317 Build organic farming research capacity

Q3 2022 measure: Investigate technical efficiency differences between intensive and extensive dairy farms

Responsible body: Teagasc

Status: Delayed

Update: A new Teagasc funded peer reviewed research project was submitted for review in July 2022 on organic farming which will provide the data required for a comparison of a range of intensities of Dairy farming including organic systems. Resources have been reserved but the final submission has been delayed in order to get input from the expanded Teagasc organic team currently being recruited, this will however not delay the start of the project.

Action 317 Build organic farming research capacity

Q3 2022 measure: Adopt a systems research approach to identify barriers and opportunities within the Organic Food (Innovation) System

Responsible body: Teagasc

Status: Complete

Update: This peer reviewed research is being provided by Teagasc internal funding and is now underway. The research project will take 4 years to complete with the results published in the final and subsequent year of the project.

Action 317 Build organic farming research capacity

Q3 2022 measure: Undertake qualitative research on the drivers of organic and conventional farmers

Responsible body: Teagasc

Status: Complete

Update: This peer reviewed research is being provided by Teagasc internal funding and is now underway. The research project will take 4 years to complete with the results published in the final and subsequent year of the project.

Action 318 Conduct further research into biomass and manure feedstocks for biogas production through Anaerobic Digestion

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Start-up of the Teagasc biomethane anaerobic digestion pilot plant in Grange

Responsible body: Teagasc

Status: Delayed

Update: The main biogas plant is complete but still awaiting delivery of the upgrader, which is now due to arrive in Q4 2022.

Action 321 Produce detailed plans to manage the sustainable environmental footprint of the dairy and the beef sectors

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: As per headline action

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Delayed

Update: The Food Vision Dairy Group was established in late January 2022 and tasked with producing a detailed plan to manage the sustainable environmental footprint of the dairy sector. The [interim report](#) was submitted to Minister McConalogue on 27th May and published on the gov.ie website. The final report is planned to be completed in October 2022 after a final meeting of Group stakeholders.

The Food Vision Beef and Sheep Group was established in June 2022 and is tasked with producing a detailed plan to manage the sustainable environmental footprint of the beef sector. The first meeting took place in June. Five meetings have taken place to date and the Group are working on drafting the interim report in Q3 and a final report in Q4 of 2022.

Action 324	Ensure optimisation of forage production to improve quality and quantity of forage in animal diet to improve enteric fermentation efficiency (reduces methane), through grassland management and inclusion of clover in reseeded swards
Q3 2022 measure: Increase use of clover in reseeded swards (2kgs/ac)	
Responsible body: Teagasc	
Status: Complete	
<p>Update: Teagasc recommend that clover is sown at 2kg/ac in reseeded swards. Early indications are that clover retails sales are increased.</p> <p>Adaptation update - Teagasc have developed both reseeding and oversowing as a method to incorporate clover on farms, both work successful and are extensively recommended. Proposed output - Promotion of higher clover content on farms, recommendation to oversowing clover into swards in late April/early may, Teagasc host 12 Clover farm walks national to raise awareness on this aspect of grazing management.</p> <p>40 Clover Pilot farms were set up in 2021/22 - these farms will be used to show case how clover can be established and managed successfully, the objective will be to reduce N surplus and increase Clover proportion on farms. A number of new additions have been included in PastureBase Ireland to make sure that farms have a better and more informed Nitrogen management.</p>	

Action 324	Ensure optimisation of forage production to improve quality and quantity of forage in animal diet to improve enteric fermentation efficiency (reduces methane), through grassland management and inclusion of clover in reseeded swards
Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Require grass measurement on intensive holdings	
Responsible body: DHLGH	
Status: Complete	
<p>Update: Legislation (SI 393 of 2022) is in place. Derogation farmers must record through appropriate software technology (as accepted by DAFM) the grass produced annually on the farm. However, if new derogation farmers haven't the required skills to undertake this measure, they must complete the required training/upskilling in grassland management by the end of 2022.</p>	

Action 334 Increasing Climate resilience in our Forest Estate

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Include climate change adaptation measures aimed at increasing the resilience of new and existing forests in the new Forest Strategy (2022-2030)

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Delayed

Update: The Draft Forestry Strategy is prepared which is currently be subjected to the SEA/AA process. A detailed Implementation Plan which is currently being finalised will include a range of programme and non-programme measures with a focus on climate change mitigation and adaptation. These measures will include a range of supports aimed at improving species diversity and tree breeding initiatives. It is expected that the SEA/AA process will conclude in Q4-2022.

Action 335 Strengthen adaptative capacity through improving knowledge and awareness building on climate action policy in the food and drinks Industry

Q3 2022 measure: Effective consultation with agri food and drinks sector on Climate Action plan ambition

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Complete

Update: Consulted with DECC regarding a Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy and a Food Waste Prevention Roadmap.

- The Circular Economy and Miscellaneous Provisions Bill 2022 was signed into law July 2022.
- Following the consultation process of the draft Food Waste Prevention Roadmap, this draft is currently being reviewed.

DAFM Member of oversight committee for an EPA funded research project – Food Waste from Farming, Fishing and Aquaculture in Ireland. This [report was published](#) in June 2022

DAFM awareness campaign in March for 'Stop Food Waste' day and in May 2022 for National Recycling week in May 2022.

Under Origin Green:

- The Credits system and Gold membership are examples of on-going initiatives that support businesses in reaching their sustainability targets.
- Farmer feedback reports demonstrate how farm inputs and activities contribute to GHG production and contain advice and feedback on how to mitigate against these emissions and improve production efficiencies.

DAFM (Food Industry Development Division) is a member of the Enterprise Working Group for Climate Action Plan 2023. First meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 29th September.

Food waste awareness communications planned by DAFM for [International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Food Waste](#) 29 September 2022.

Action 336 Improve climate resilience in crop production

Every Q3 measure: Continue with Value for Cultivation and Use (VCU) trials to identify varieties of various crops suitable for Irish Conditions

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Complete

Update: The [Winter Cereals Recommended List](#) was published in September 2022.

Action 339 Identify priority steps towards building resilience from the seafood section of the Agriculture, Forest, and Seafood Climate Change Sectoral Adaptation Plan

Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Review and prioritise the Steps Towards Building Resilience in the seafood case studies

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Complete

Update: Drafting of the report is completed, with a view to formal approval and publication in October 2022.

Action 342 Adopt the new EU Fertiliser Product regulation to allow a more resource efficient use of nutrients, which has the beneficial effect of reducing the number of fertilisers used and hence their environmental impact

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Implement the new Fertiliser Product Regulation (Regulation (EU) No. 2019/1009)

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Delayed

Update: Draft of the Statutory Instrument has been completed and awaits sign-off.

Action 342 Adopt the new EU Fertiliser Product regulation to allow a more resource efficient use of nutrients, which has the beneficial effect of reducing the number of fertilisers used and hence their environmental impact

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Develop inspection procedures and product testing protocols for market surveillance of EU fertilising products

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Complete

Update: Inspection procedures and protocols are in place.

The new EU regulation allows for the use of recycled or organic materials for fertilising purposes which in many cases would previously have been waste and likely landfilled.

It also promotes increased use of recycled nutrients and development of the circular economy to allow a more resource-efficient general use of nutrients, while reducing Union dependency on nutrients from third countries.

Action 344 **Integrate the Cork Institute of Technology/SEAI/Teagasc National Artificial Intelligent Dairy Energy Application (NAIDEA) into Sustainability Dairy Assurance Scheme (SDAS)**

Q3 2022 measure: Integrate required model input data into the SDAS audit procedure

Responsible body: Bord Bia

Status: Complete

Update: The input data points required to generate a Dairy Energy Rating (DER) via the National Artificial Intelligent Dairy Energy Application have been fully integrated into the [Sustainable Dairy Assurance Scheme](#) (SDAS) sustainability survey and is been collected from SDAS members undergoing certification.

The relevant data points will be utilised to generate a DER rating which gives a score from A-E on energy efficiency within the dairy milking parlour, based on the efficiency of energy used for milk harvesting, water heating, milk cooling and storage.

Data quality and validation checks are now being completed on the collected data to ensure the DER calculations are accurate and useful to the SDAS members.

Action 346 **Provide knowledge and expert advice on predicted grass growth**

Q3 2022 measure: Action nitrogen (N) fertiliser targeting

Responsible body: Teagasc

Status: Complete

Update: The MOST (Grass Growth) model predicts grass grown weekly, and this data is disseminated through the [Grass 10 newsletter](#) and Met Eireann. Weekly N management advice is given based on these growth rates.

Adaptation update; MOST model has become extremely useful in the recommendation of N fertiliser usage, during the drought period of 2022, the MOST model predictions were used to recommend low and no N applications during the periods of low growth. This has had a major effect of improved N management.

Action 351 Improve knowledge and awareness building in climate resilience among farmers

Q3 2022 measure: Highlight lessons of recent floods/droughts to advise farmers e.g., forage budgeting and grass measuring. Zero requirement for future fodder schemes because of on-farm reserves

Responsible body: Teagasc

Status: Complete

Update: Teagasc conducted two feed and fodder surveys (preliminary in Q2 and final in Q3). Approx. 520 client farms participated; these were balanced for location, enterprise and scale. The survey reported an average position of 119% of winter feed requirements in stock nationally; this corresponds to a relatively low risk of feed shortage for winter 2022-23. However, the mean balance in the eastern/south eastern regions was more marginal (99 to 105%), indicating greater risk of winter feed shortages regionally. This has been compounded by a period of drought conditions in these regions since completion of survey. Teagasc dairy Knowledge Transfer specialists are preparing farm feed and fodder management documents for advisers, to be rolled out to clients in higher risk regions during September.

Action 362 Train farm advisors to support farmers in the implementation of climate mitigation practices at farm level

Q4 2021 Delayed measure: 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

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Complete

Update: Following two procurement processes, contracts were signed with an online training platform provider and a training content provider. The CPD Programme was launched in September 2022, with the roll out of the first two training modules on climate change mitigation and adaptation and farm health and safety. Further modules will be released October 2022. This training is compulsory and is a requirement for at least 900 public and private agricultural advisors.

Action 363	Support Regional Assemblies to identify areas of potential growth in the bioeconomy
Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Identify sustainable value chains based on available bioresources in each regional area through the ABC Economy research project	
Responsible body: DAFM	
Status: Complete	
<p>Update: Innovation Blueprint for the assessment of regional bioeconomy value chains based on examining this matter in two Counties Tipperary & Monaghan is complete and will be available on the www.abceconomy.ie project website by 14th October 2022, in advance of Bioeconomy Ireland Week (17th-23rd October). Social media posts for the innovation blueprint are being prepared for Bioeconomy Ireland Week.</p> <p>The project team have contacted the directors of each of the regional assemblies and the president of the Association of Irish Local Government (AILG) and have requested that they distribute the Innovation Blueprint, following official publication.</p> <p>The project team are also in contact with the Local Government Management Agency (LGMA) with regards to distributing the Innovation Blueprint to the relevant contacts in the Local Authorities. The ABC Economy project will end on the 11th November 2022.</p>	

Action 363	Support Regional Assemblies to identify areas of potential growth in the bioeconomy
Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Complete Fast Track to Policy Circular Bioeconomy Outlook Study	
Responsible body: DAFM	
Status: Delayed	
<p>Update: The project report will be presented to the Bioeconomy Policy Implementation Group on October 3rd and the Final Policy Report will be published later in October or November once cleared by the EPA.</p>	

Transport

Action 231 Continue the improvement and expansion of the Active Travel and Greenway Network	
Q3 2022 measure: Develop Cycle Network Plans for each Local Authority	
Responsible body: NTA	
Status: Complete	
<p>Update: Proposals for 'CycleConnects', Ireland's Cycle Network in key cities, towns and villages across 22 counties (excl. cycling plans already developed for the Greater Dublin Area) in addition to connections between larger towns, villages and settlements, are included in the CycleConnects plan. This was published on NTA's consultation platform at https://consult.nationaltransport.ie/en/consultation/cycleconnects on 30th September 2022. The plan incorporates existing and planned cycle routes such as greenways and blueways. The proposals are draft and will evolve over time to create an overall comprehensive cycle network for Ireland.</p>	

Action 231 Continue the improvement and expansion of the Active Travel and Greenway Network	
Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Develop the National Cycling Manual	
Responsible body: NTA	
Status: Delayed	
<p>Update: Revised manual in preparation. The overall process took longer than initially expected. Expected publication in October 2022. Note: On-site works are not delayed as they are being designed to current guidelines.</p>	

Action 231 Continue the improvement and expansion of the Active Travel and Greenway Network	
Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Development of TII technical standards for Greenway development and Active Travel	
Responsible body: TII	
Status: Complete	
<p>Update: Published in August 2022 - available from: https://www.tiipublications.ie/library/DN-GEO-03047-03.pdf</p>	

Action 234 Encourage an increased level of modal shift towards Active Travel (walking and cycling) and away from private car use

Q4 2021 Delayed measure: Publish the NTA's 5-Year Walking and Cycling Delivery Plan

Responsible body: NTA

Status: Delayed

Update: Following the public consultation on CycleConnects and the publication of the revised Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network, a revised strategy will be published in Q1 2023.

Action 237 Enable use of e-scooters and e-bikes

Q4 2021 Delayed measure: Legislative provisions for Powered Personal Transporters (PPTs) included in Road Traffic Miscellaneous Provisions Bill

Responsible body: D/Transport

Status: Delayed

Update: Completion of this action is dependent on the passage of the bill through the Oireachtas. Dáil Report Stage concluded on 21 September and will now commence before the Seanad with a view to enactment before end Q4 2022. This will give the Minister power to make Regulations for the safe use of e-scooters and the appropriate minimum technical standards.

Action 240 Commence delivery of BusConnects Network Redesign in Cork, Galway, Limerick & Waterford

Q3 2022 measure: Carry out public consultation in Galway

Responsible body: NTA

Status: Delayed

Update: Delayed due to issues around resource availability. Design team has commenced redesign process. Public consultation on the draft new bus network will be undertaken in Q1 2023.

Action 240 Commence delivery of BusConnects Network Redesign in Cork, Galway, Limerick & Waterford

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Complete the public consultation for bus network redesign in Cork

Responsible body: NTA

Status: Complete

Update: A first Consultation on the sustainable transport corridors completed in December 2021. A second consultation was completed in September 2022.

Action 243	Commence delivery of BusConnects in Limerick (Core Bus Corridor Infrastructure Works)
Q3 2022 measure: Appoint design teams to undertake preliminary planning for Core Bus Corridor in Limerick	
Responsible body: NTA	
Status: Delayed	
Update: Awaiting finalisation of Limerick Shannon Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy and the progression of the bus network redesign work before commencement. In addition, the level of work on BusConnects Cork and BusConnects Dublin has impacted on resource availability to commence this activity.	

Action 244	Commence delivery of BusConnects in Galway (Core Bus Corridor Infrastructure Works)
Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Submit planning consent application for Cross City Link, a central part of BusConnects Galway	
Responsible body: Galway City Council	
Status: Complete	
Update: Application submitted on 16 September 2022.	

Action 245	Implement an enhanced rural transport system through delivery of Connecting Ireland Rural Mobility Plan
Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Complete the preliminary business case supporting Connecting Ireland	
Responsible body: NTA	
Status: Delayed	
Update: Preliminary Business Case prepared by NTA in Q4 2021, undergoing departmental review, and expected approval in Q4 2022.	

Action 246	Commence delivery of DART+ Programme and continue heavy rail fleet investment
Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Seek Railway Order for DART + West	
Responsible body: Iarnród Éireann	
Status: Complete	
Update: The Railway Order application was submitted on 29 July.	

Action 247 Commence delivery of MetroLink

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Submit railway order application for MetroLink

Responsible body: TII

Status: Complete

Update: [Railway Order application](#) submitted to An Bord Pleanála on 30 September 2022.

Action 248 Introduce National Youth Travel Card on a phased basis

Q3 2022 measure: As per headline action

Responsible body: DCEDIY

Status: complete

Update: With the support of DCEDIY and the Department of Transport, this proposal was accepted and announced by Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform, Michael McGrath, during the budget announcement in October 2021. The [card](#) was launched in 2022.

Action 252 Continue rollout of variable speed limits/dynamic traffic management infrastructure on the M50 Motorway to increase safety and reduce congestion

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: High-level scoping for potential introduction on other motorways / national roads

Responsible body: D/Transport

Status: Delayed

Update: Report publication has been delayed due to the limited availability of assigned resources to complete the task. Additional resources are now being assigned to ensure completion and delivery is expected in Q4 2022.

Action 252 Continue rollout of variable speed limits/dynamic traffic management infrastructure on the M50 Motorway to increase safety and reduce congestion

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Legislate to allow TII to set enforceable speed limits

Responsible body: D/Transport

Status: Delayed

Update: Legislative text published and formally incorporated into the Road Traffic and Roads Bill 2021. Legislation expected to be enacted in Q4 2022.

Action 254 **Require all cities with a population exceeding 75,000 to produce a sustainable transport plan for review by National Transport Authority and D/Transport**

Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Finalise and publish sustainable transport plan for Limerick

Responsible body: Local Authorities

Status: Delayed

Update: Additional work was required following public consultation to demonstrate compliance with CAP21. The final transport strategy is expected to be published in Q4 2022.

Action 255 **Balance better movement priorities within urban areas to transition the built environment and public domain from one that is “vehicle centred” to being “people centred” to align with the goal of net zero by 2050**

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Develop section 28 Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Sustainable and Compact Settlement Guidance, including guidance on connectivity and ease of movement for sustainable modes and place making

Responsible body: DHLGH

Status: Delayed

Update: The revised draft guidelines will undergo Appropriate Assessment screening and subsequently a full Strategic Environmental Assessment. Following the completion of both, a period of public consultation will commence, targeted for Q4 2022. Submissions made during the public consultation will be reviewed. Following the period of review and with any subsequent changes made, the guidelines will be submitted to the Minister for approval to publish. It is expected that the guidelines will be submitted to the Minister in Q2 of 2023.

Action 256 **Ensure all metropolitan transport strategies reflect Climate Action Plan sectoral emission reduction targets**

Q3 2022 measure: Develop Waterford Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy

Responsible body: NTA

Status: Complete

Update: Final [Strategy](#) formally adopted by NTA after approval by NTA Board in September 2022. Publication to follow in Q4 2022.

Action 256 **Ensure all metropolitan transport strategies reflect Climate Action Plan sectoral emission reduction targets**

Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Review Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area

Responsible body: NTA

Status: Delayed

Update: Updated Greater Dublin Area Transport Strategy provided to Minister for Transport in Q2 2022 for his determination. However, significant additional work was required to demonstrate compliance with CAP21. The Department is working closely with the NTA to ensure these changes are made as expediently as possible to allow for Ministerial approval.

Action 256 **Ensure all metropolitan transport strategies reflect Climate Action Plan sectoral emission reduction targets**

Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Develop Limerick Shannon Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy

Responsible body: NTA

Status: Delayed

Update: As with 254a, additional work was required to demonstrate compliance with CAP21. The final transport strategy is expected to be published in Q4 2022.

Action 262 **Deliver sustainable bus priority measures on the National Road Network**

Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Update design standards to facilitate Bus priority measures with associated dynamic traffic management on the national road network

Responsible body: TII

Status: Complete

Update: TII published document in July 2022 - available from:
<https://www.tiipublications.ie/library/DN-GEO-03087-01.pdf>

Action 264 **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**

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Complete a retrofit of the remaining public lighting network 202,000 lights to energy efficient light-emitting diode (LED) lights

Responsible body: County and City Management Association (CCMA)

Status: Complete

Update:

- Region One (Southwest Region) contract awarded Dec 2021; planned completion in 2024.
- Region Two (Eastern) tender published Q3 2021; contract awarded in July 2022.
- Region Three (Northwest) tender published in July 2022.
- Government support from Climate Action Fund to be finalised.

Action 266	Examine options for the equalisation of diesel and petrol excise rates over an appropriate period
Q3 2022 measure: As per headline action	
Responsible body: DFIN	
Status: Complete	
<p>Update: Options were presented in the Budget 23 Tax Strategy Group (TSG) paper. Issue is also under consideration as part of the ongoing negotiations on the revised Energy Tax Directive. TSG link: https://www.gov.ie/en/collection/d5b41-budget-2023-tax-strategy-group-papers/</p> <p>Multiple year diesel-petrol excise equalisation tables were set out in previous tax strategy group papers (https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/fdd38-budget-2021-tsg-papers/). This remains a valid option for a gradual removal of the diesel excise gap.</p>	

Action 266	Examine options for the equalisation of diesel and petrol excise rates over an appropriate period
Every Q3 measure: Ongoing Monitoring and review	
Responsible body: DFIN	
Status: Complete	
<p>Update: Options were presented in the Budget 23 Tax Strategy Group (TSG) paper. Issue is also under consideration as part of the ongoing negotiations on the revised Energy Tax Directive. TSG link: https://www.gov.ie/en/collection/d5b41-budget-2023-tax-strategy-group-papers/</p> <p>Multiple year diesel-petrol excise equalisation tables were set out in previous tax strategy group papers (https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/fdd38-budget-2021-tsg-papers/). This remains a valid option for a gradual removal of the diesel excise gap.</p>	

Action 267	Ensure our regulatory regime for buildings requires the installation of EV charging infrastructure
Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Provide for EV Charging Infrastructure in dwellings with parking spaces within curtilage	
Responsible body: DHLGH	
Status: Delayed	
Update: Regulation will be published in October 2022	

Action 268 Transition Dublin Metropolitan PSO bus services to low/zero emission bus fleet

Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Introduce hybrid buses into full service

Responsible body: NTA

Status: Complete

Update: All buses are now in service.

Action 270 Transition PSO town bus services to low-emission bus fleet

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Award framework for the purchase of single deck midi and short length buses and place first order

Responsible body: NTA

Status: Delayed

Update: Tender process in progress. Pre-qualification stage has taken longer to conclude than was expected. Order to be made in Q1 2023.

Action 271 Transition PSO Local Link bus services to low-/zero- emission bus fleets

Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Deploy two electric vehicle buses on the Dingle peninsula, Co. Kerry

Responsible body: NTA

Status: Delayed

Update: There were delays with ESB providing the appropriate power supply to the depot which have now been resolved and the charging infrastructure is currently being commissioned. Vehicles awaiting delivery to Dingle and aiming for deployment in October.

Action 272 Develop a policy pathway to drive a significant ramp-up in passenger EVs and electric van sales and/or disincentivise fossil-fuelled passenger vehicles and vans

Every Q3 measure: Monitor and review recent vehicle tax reform in light of new emissions testing standards

Responsible body: DFIN

Status: Complete

Update: Options were presented in the Budget 23 Tax Strategy Group paper:
<https://assets.gov.ie/231224/4d31b697-1bfb-4177-bb96-a744bbdfba99.pdf>

Action 272	Develop a policy pathway to drive a significant ramp-up in passenger EVs and electric van sales and/or disincentivise fossil-fuelled passenger vehicles and vans
Q3 2022 measure: Review zero-rate Benefit-In-Kind (BIK) for electric vehicles	
Responsible body: DFIN	
Status: Complete	
Update: Options were presented in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Budget 23 Tax Strategy Group paper https://assets.gov.ie/231224/4d31b697-1bfb-4177-bb96-a744bbdfba99.pdf Budget 22 Tax Strategy Group Paper https://assets.gov.ie/198270/61142180-955c-458e-a7fb-695768ddd8e4.pdf New Benefit-In-Kind regime commencing from 1 January 2023: https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2019/act/45/section/6/enacted/en/html#sec6 Benefit-In-Kind deduction for EVs extended for 4 years, with a tapering mechanism, in the 2021 Finance act: https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2021/act/45/section/9/enacted/en/html#sec9 	

Action 275	Develop and launch an extensive communication and engagement campaign, whole of Government in coverage, to drive the availability and understanding of key information regarding EVs, tailored to household, business, and public sector consumers
Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Roll out a communication and engagement strategy to drive EV uptake	
Responsible body: D/Transport	
Status: Delayed	
Update: Decision made to delay the communications campaign due to availability constraints of EVs on the market. Preparations are ongoing for a campaign to be deployed once market availability returns. This will likely be early 2023.	

Action 278	Launch a Destination Charger Scheme to install publicly accessible EV charging infrastructure
Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Develop and launch the scheme	
Responsible body: D/Transport	
Status: Delayed	
Update: Department engaging with Pobal and are getting legal advice on the Scheme. Expected launch now pushed to 2023 to align with concurrent development of expanded suite of EV schemes to be launched through Zero Emissions Vehicles Ireland (ZEVI).	

Action 279 Amend the Home Charger Grant Scheme to include apartments

Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Develop a pilot scheme to model the benefits of installing EV infrastructure to agencies/housing associations

Responsible body: D/Transport

Status: Complete

Update: The home charger grant scheme was [expanded](#) upon the launch of [Zero Emissions Vehicles Ireland](#) (ZEVI) on 21 July 2022 to include multi-unit dwellings. The apartment charger grant assists residents and owners of apartments and other multi-unit developments who want to install a home charger for their EVs and which are not covered by the pre-existing grants. The grant is designed for bulk installation of chargers at a single location, and supports cabling, infrastructure, labour, and construction costs. Owners' management companies, housing bodies, local authorities, commercial and private landlords can apply.

Action 280 Support the transition to electric vehicles in Gaeltacht communities through investment in EV infrastructure

Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Establish fund to support the installation of electric car charging points at existing sports and recreational facilities across the Gaeltacht

Responsible body: DTCAGSM

Status: Delayed

Update: Following engagement with D/Transport and Zero Emission Vehicles Ireland, proposals to align this action with the national Electric Vehicle strategy and implementation plan are being progressed. Their Destination Charging Grant for Sports Clubs scheme will provide funding to install a network of publicly accessible chargers in communities nationwide through their local sports clubs including in the Gaeltacht. Expected Delivery Date: Q4 2022

Action 281 Identify measures to support the shift to 95,000 electric vans

Q3 2022 measure: Identify measures to support the transition to EV Light Goods Vehicles

Responsible body: D/Transport

Status: Complete

Update: Zero Emissions Vehicles Ireland made a submission to the Minister on measures to support the transition to EV Light Goods Vehicles. The report identifies measures to support the uptake of e-vans, which included a new scheme for large panel vans and also an increase to the grant cap for vans. The minister has approved a new van incentive scheme.

Action 281 Identify measures to support the shift to 95,000 electric vans

Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Establish an industry forum to encourage the uptake of electric vehicles as a form of communication / outreach to industry

Responsible body: D/Transport

Status: Delayed

Update: This forum is yet to be established. [Zero Emissions Vehicles Ireland](#) commissioned a report on the van industry, which is due to be delivered shortly, and which will inform the membership of the forum (to be decided in November). The forum will be composed of original equipment manufacturers and dealerships.

Action 282 Set a roadmap for more Low Emissions vehicles (LEVs) in Public Sector Fleets

Q4 2021 Delayed measure: Issue circular to all Local Authorities and Public Sector Bodies calling for the cessation of internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicle procurement in the car and van fleets – with exceptions for certain vehicle categories

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Complete

Update: Action 282a is now complete. The [Public Sector Mandate](#) approved by Government on 4 July included the requirement to purchase only zero-emission vehicles where available and operationally feasible. A Ministerial letter issued to all Departments and to all DECC agencies on 14 July. Departments were asked to make their agencies aware of the Mandate. The Public Sector Strategy (due Q3 2022) will provide further guidance and DECC will also consult with DPER, Local Authorities etc. on this. Local Authorities are working towards delivering on emission reduction targets for their fleet in line with both [EU Clean Vehicle Directive](#), and 2030 Targets. They have established a Local Authority Re-Imagining Transport working group under the County and City Management Association which is working through considerations for decarbonising the fleet. Through the decarbonisation roadmap and the Local Authority CAPs they will detail key actions for fleet decarbonisation to deliver on targets.

Action 283 Set out the planned level of biofuel use for the period to 2030

Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Transpose the biofuel elements of the Renewable Energy Directive

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Complete

Update: [SI 350 of 2022](#) transposed the biofuel elements of the RED II in July 2022.

Action 288 Publish the 10-year Haulage Strategy for Heavy Goods Vehicles

Q3 2022 measure: Consider climate recommendations from the Strategy

Responsible body: D/Transport

Status: Delayed

Update: Expected in Q4 2022 in line with new date for the publication of the Road Haulage Strategy.

Action 288 Publish the 10-year Haulage Strategy for Heavy Goods Vehicles

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Publish the 10-year Strategy for the Haulage Sector

Responsible body: D/Transport

Status: Delayed

Update: A period of significant staff turnover in late 2021 and early 2022 led to delays in the drafting process for the haulage strategy. Furthermore, work priority to matters arising from the Ukraine crisis, in particular, the announcement and implementation of the Licensed Haulage Emergency Support Scheme in March 2022 diverted resources away from the Strategy, which caused an additional delay. However, a summary of the public consultation on the strategy was published in July and work on a draft strategy text is ongoing. It is currently envisioned that the final Strategy will be published before the end of 2022.

Action 289 Support the transition to alternatively fuelled and zero-emission vehicles by removing the vehicle weight barrier

Q3 2022 measure: Review the Road Traffic (Construction and Use of Vehicles) Regulations 2003 (SI No 5 of 2003) to assess the impact of an increased in the maximum permissible weight for laden alternative fuel vehicles and zero-emission vehicles and amend if positive

Responsible body: D/Transport

Status: Delayed

Update: Secondary legislation is being settled with the Parliamentary Council and is at an advanced stage, with a view to submission once the Road Traffic and Roads Bill has been finalised. Completion of this action is dependent on the passage of the bill through the Oireachtas. Dáil Report Stage concluded on 21 September and will now commence before the Seanad with a view to enactment before end-Q4 2022. This legislation will be pushed through as priority file subsequently with the Office of the Parliamentary Counsel to the Government (OPC). Potential risk of further delay to Q1 2023 if the Bill is signed too late to allow for these Regulations to be settled before end-Q4.

Action 292 **Assess options to ensure commercial State ports are positioned to facilitate the development of offshore renewable energy**

Q3 2022 measure: Complete Roadmap

Responsible body: D/Transport

Status: Complete

Update: The Roadmap was discussed and adopted at the meeting of Ports Co-Ordination Group on 5 October 2022. The roadmap remains a working document that will serve as an important source of information for ports and for interaction with DECC and DHLGH and it will remain subject to adaptation as required, depending on progress being made on related workstreams, including those under the remit of other Departments/agencies.

Action 294 **Carry out a review of the supply of renewable transport fuels in Ireland, such as biofuels, advanced biofuels, e-fuels, synthetic fuels, green hydrogen, and biogas**

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Progress a study reviewing the profile, sustainability, and supply of renewable transport fuels in Ireland, such as biofuels, advanced biofuels, e-fuels, synthetic fuels, biogas, and green hydrogen

Responsible body: D/Transport

Status: Delayed

Update: Finalised report has been received, undergoing departmental review, and publication due in Q4 2022.

Action 300 **Commission research on adaptation in the Transport sector to fill existing knowledge gaps**

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Scope out a design for a concise comparative study between output of the EPA ClviC project and other resources such as the National Catchment-based Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) Programme and Irish Coastal Protection Strategy Study (IPCSS) maps to create a climate services resource for transport operators

Responsible body: D/Transport

Status: Delayed

Update: The project design is complete and TII is working with the TRANSLATE team to prove the concept by year-end.

Action 302 Review further linkages between accessibility and climate action
Q3 2022 measure: As per headline action

Responsible body: DCEDIY

Status: Delayed

Update: Transport Working Group will consider climate action and accessibility more broadly in the context of the final report to complete Action 104 of the National Disability Inclusion Strategy containing proposals for enhancements to Government-funded transport and mobility supports for people with disabilities. Date for consideration of the report is Q4.

Electricity

Action 99	Review the policy context for Large Energy Users (including Data Centres), ensuring alignment of enterprise policy and wider regulatory environment with electricity emission targets and security of supply
Q2 2022 Delayed measure:	Review the Government Statement on the role of Data Centres in Enterprise Policy, ensuring alignment with revised renewable electricity targets and sectoral emissions ceilings
Responsible body:	DETE
Status:	Complete
Update:	Government Statement on the role of Data Centres in Enterprise Policy has been finalised by Government and published.

Action 99	Review the policy context for Large Energy Users (including Data Centres), ensuring alignment of enterprise policy and wider regulatory environment with electricity emission targets and security of supply
Q3 2022 measure:	Consider further regulatory levers to manage demand from large energy users in the context of emissions, future network needs and evolving national climate and enterprise policies
Responsible body:	CRU
Status:	Complete
Update:	CRU has carried out this work as part of the ongoing urgent work on Security of supply. A range of actions are being considered and a new tariff regime has been announced. In addition new policy statement on data centres published by DETE in July 2022.

Action 100	Publish and implement a new Demand Side Strategy
Q3 2022 measure:	Publish a consultation on a 2030 Electricity Demand Side Strategy
Responsible body:	CRU
Status:	Delayed
Update:	CRU have been advancing demand side measures as part of urgent work on security of supply. Consultation paper will be delayed or CRU may proceed directly to 100b.

Action 101 Enable and incentivise demand side flexibility

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Develop 'flexibility dashboards' delivery plan for local, regional and community-specific information including renewables and electricity carbon intensity

Responsible body: ESNB

Status: Complete

Update: Delivery plan completed and with CRU

Action 102 Ensure supportive spatial planning framework for onshore renewable electricity generation development

Q3 2022 measure: Review and publish a revised Methodology for Local Authority Renewable Energy Strategies

Responsible body: SEAI

Status: Delayed

Update: A scoping report for the revised methodology has been completed and agreed by the Steering Group. A Request for Quotation (RFQ) has recently been undertaken for consultants to progress the revision and associated training courses. The contract has been awarded and completion is expected in Q1 2023.

Action 102 Ensure supportive spatial planning framework for onshore renewable electricity generation development

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Designate a single contact point to guide applicants through and facilitate the entire permit granting process for renewable electricity installations

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Complete

Update: SEAI appointed under Section 23 of S.I. No. 350/22 on the 15 July 2022
<https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/pdf/2022/en.si.2022.0350.pdf>

Action 103 Transpose Internal Market for Electricity Directive (EU) 2019/944

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Develop Statutory Instruments transposing remaining articles in Directive

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Complete

Update: Statutory Instruments transposing remaining articles in directive completed, including those for implementation by CRU. The following SIs were notified this year: [SI 20/2022](#), [SI 37/2022](#), [SI 76/2022](#), [SI 227/2022](#) and [SI 366/2022](#).

On foot of Office of the Attorney General advices, primary legislation was required to facilitate completion of the remaining elements of transposition. Part IIIA of the Electricity Regulation Act contains the registration framework for new market participants in the Directive.

Action 103 Transpose Internal Market for Electricity Directive (EU) 2019/944

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Submit completed correlation table and notify transposition measures to the European Commission

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Complete

Update: Correlation table submitted and transposition measures notified to the European Commission, including the final [Phase 3 SI, SI 366 of 2022 and](#) Part IIIA of the Electricity Regulation Act 1999. A letter of formal notice was received for partial transposition on 19 May 2022. The Department responded to this letter on 19 July 2022, following signature of the above SI by the Minister on 18 July 2022. The Directive has now been transposed and notified to the Commission, with five further SIs transposed and notified this year.

Action 105 Deliver a Microgeneration Policy Framework

Q3 2022 measure: Consult on an Implementation Plan for a support tariff for new micro-generators between 6 kW and 50 kW

Responsible body: CRU

Status: Delayed

Update: DECC is working with the CRU to ensure alignment between the Final Scheme Design policy with regard to the Clean Export Premium (CEP) and the CEP implementation plan to be delivered by CRU under response 28 of the National Energy Security Framework. The CRU has significant resource gaps and are currently recruiting to staff up this area.

Action 105 Deliver a Microgeneration Policy Framework

Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Publish the final High-Level Design for a Microgeneration Support Scheme (MSS)

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Delayed

Update: DECC is working with the CRU to finalise the Final Scheme Design document to ensure alignment with the Clean Export Premium Feed-in-Tariff implementation plan to be delivered under response 28 of the National Energy Security Framework. Whilst CRU has provided substantial input to date, they have significant resource gaps and are currently recruiting to staff up this area. DECC expect to publish the Final Scheme Design in early Q4, setting out the policy approach for the CEP, for CRU to implement in 2023.

Action 106 Ensure communities benefit from renewable energy projects in RESS – benefit funds and ownership

Quarterly measure: Progress reporting on status of Community Enabling Framework

Responsible body: SEAI

Status: Complete

Update: SEAI presented at the last meeting of the RESS Communities Steering Board held in June. This was attended by Minister. Communities Steering Board held on 22nd September. This was attended by Minister.

Action 107 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

Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Introduce interim regulations amending solar panel planning exemptions, with defined exclusion zones around airports and aerodromes for solar installations

Responsible body: DHLGH

Status: Complete

Update: The Planning and Development Act 2000 (Exempted Development) (No. 3) Regulations 2022 and the supporting [Planning and Development \(Solar Safeguarding Zone\) Regulations 2022](#) have come into effect.

The regulations combine to provide updated provisions regarding planning exemptions for rooftop solar installations. They set out the various classes of exemptions and the conditions and limitations which apply to these classes. The classes of exemptions are:

- houses
- industrial
- light industrial and business premises
- agricultural
- apartments
- educational building, health centre or hospital, recreational or sports facility, place of worship, community facility or centre, library and certain statutory undertaker sites.

The Planning and Development (Solar Safeguarding Zone) Regulations 2022 set out 43 Solar Safeguarding Zones (SSZs). A SSZ is an area around an airport, aerodrome or helipad in which there is a potential for glint or glare from solar panels to impact aviation safety. A square metre limit on rooftop solar panels applies within these zones.

There is no rooftop limit on houses, regardless of whether the house is located within or outside of an SSZ. Houses and developments located outside of an SSZ are able to erect unlimited rooftop solar panels.

Action 107 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

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Develop necessary aviation safeguarding maps in conjunction with external consultants and introduce final regulations concerning solar panel planning exemptions, incorporating said maps

Responsible body: DHLGH

Status: Complete

Update: A Request for Information was issued to seek information about the feasibility of mapping areas which would give rise to glint and glare. This exercise identified the difficulty in doing a generic assessment in the absence of specific information regarding the proposed development and as such, in light of the need to advance regulations, a set of draft regulations was prepared adopting a more simplistic radial approach as agreed with the aviation safety stakeholders.

Following the public consultation and having regard to this sub-action, the Department further engaged with the IAA and was able to get agreement on increasing the rooftop threshold in SSZs rather than amending the SSZ areas themselves. A significantly increased 300sqm rooftop threshold in Solar Safeguarding Zones (SSZs) was agreed subject to the exemptions being supplemented with a safeguarding condition in relation to glint and glare requiring any offending panels to be removed or covered until the issue has been resolved. Further, the use of a safeguarding condition allows us to push the exemption further than any generic assessment of the possibility of glint and glare could given the many unknown variables e.g. installation height of the PV panels, roof angles, fixed v sun tracking panels, reflection coefficient of the PV panels (normal panels / coated panels), tilt angle/ range of the panels, scale of the installation, location of the development, different receptors etc. The increase from 60sqm to 300sqm on rooftops in SSZs should greatly assist with the rollout of solar within the SSZs and is considered a better approach to addressing glint and glare in and around airports, aerodromes and helipads. The thresholds will be kept under ongoing review and the Regulations now include a notification provision for exempted solar developments in SSZs to assist with any such review.

Action 108 Deliver a Solar and Small-Scale Generation Policy Framework

Q3 2022 measure: Develop and trial a streamlined grid connection pathway for export connections for renewables self consumers from 51kW to 200kW

Responsible body: CRU

Status: Complete

Update: ESBN launched a trial streamlined grid connection pathway for export connections for renewables self-consumers from 51kW to 200kW on 30th September 2022.

Action 108 Deliver a Solar and Small-Scale Generation Policy Framework

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Publish a draft Small-Scale Generation (SSG) scheme for consultation to support the deployment of rooftop and ground mounted solar PV in cohorts that are not as suited to measures such as the Microgeneration Support Scheme and RESS

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Complete

Update: Consultation published, open until 29th September 2022. See: <https://www.gov.ie/en/consultation/353f2-consultation-on-a-small-scale-generation-support-scheme-ssg-in-ireland/>

Action 113 Facilitate very high penetration of variable renewable electricity through system services and market arrangements

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Detailed design of new market arrangements for the evolution of System Services to enable renewable electricity targets and zero carbon system services

Responsible body: CRU

Status: Delayed

Update: Following public consultation the high-level design decision for System Services Future Arrangements (SSFA) was published by the Single Electricity Market Committee (SEMC) committee on 14 April, 2022. In July 2022, CRU published a letter which was sent from SEMC to EirGrid and SONI setting out the commencement of the detailed design of the project. Engagement with the Transmission System Operators (TSOs) has been ongoing in this regard, and the CRU will be looking to engage jointly with industry in Q4 2022 through workshops. The consultation is expected to be published in Q4

Action 114 Develop the onshore electricity grid to support renewable energy targets

Q3 2022 measure: Continue to deliver regular rounds of grid connection offers in line with RES-E targets (from ESNB and Eirgrid)

Responsible body: EirGrid

Status: Complete

Update: Enduring connections programme in operation. Window for applications opened in Q3. The current [Enduring Connection Policy Stage 2 \(ECP-2\)](#) policy will be complete with the closing of the 2.3 window on the 30th September. The CRU are working with stakeholders on the next iteration of the generator connection policy. The aim will be to continue to provide regular opportunities for generators to apply for grid connection. Regarding the number of offers made the CRU have advised that the number of available generator connection offers per batch under ECP-2 each calendar year is 115 in total between categories A-C. The number of offers issued each year can vary depending on the progress of the system operators. Also, to note, in addition to the 115 connection offers available under the ECP-2 process, the CRU have also approved a new trial for small scale minigen (11-50kW) and there is over 500 offers available. They have also just approved a further trial for small scale generation (51-200kW) with the provision for 100 offers.

Action 115 Review the policy position on the development of private networks/direct lines

Q3 2022 measure: Assess/analyse consultation responses and submit decision paper on preferred option(s) to Minister

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Delayed

Update: Consultation paper delayed from Q1 to Q4 (see Action 115a). Policy now planned for Q2 2023.

Action 115 Review the policy position on the development of private networks/direct lines

Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Draft and publish consultation paper on policy options on Private Wires

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Delayed

Update: Delayed from Q1 as resources were not available to consider comments on draft consultation paper by ESNB and EirGrid, resources secured and expect to publish in Q4.

Action 117 Facilitate the development of offshore wind, including the connection of at least 5 GW of offshore wind, based on competitive auctions, to the grid by 2030

Quarterly measure: Continued analysis of onshore transmission system capacity to integrate 5 Gigawatt (GW) of offshore wind, including any necessary reinforcements

Responsible body: EirGrid

Status: Delayed

Update: Ongoing updates provided by EirGrid to DECC on update to ['Shaping our Electricity Future'](#) transmission system strategy. Strategy update to be completed by EirGrid by year-end.

Action 122 Finalise design and rollout of dedicated offshore RESS auction

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Develop terms and conditions for dedicated offshore RESS auction

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Delayed

Update: Offshore RESS 1 is not on the critical path for offshore wind project deployment. (All projects require planning before reaching Financial Close - not expected until 2024) Therefore the finalisation of the Terms and Conditions was deferred by agreement of the Project Board to facilitate further development of the scheme in the current high-inflation and high-curtailment context, with the intention of reducing the external risk to participating projects, with the ultimate intention reduce the lifetime real costs borne by electricity consumers, while also maintaining Auction launch in Q4 2022. Final Terms and Condition planned for publication on 24th October, pending Government approval.

Action 124 Develop a storage policy framework that supports the achievement of electricity emissions targets

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Consult on a policy framework for electricity based on electricity system needs

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Delayed

Update: Draft consultation paper is with Minister for approval, Consultation paper expected to be published in October.

Action 125 Facilitate the connection of hybrid technologies that minimise grid reinforcement

Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Determine contractual framework approach to accommodate Multiple Legal Entities behind a single connection point

Responsible body: CRU

Status: Delayed

Update: CRU waiting for proposals from EirgridCRU waiting for proposals on charging from Eirgrid. Once these proposals are received and approved by CRU decision can be made.

Action 125 Facilitate the connection of hybrid technologies that minimise grid reinforcement

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Issue System Operators recommendations to CRU on proposed changes to Over Install policy (ESBN and Eirgrid)

Responsible body: EirGrid

Status: Complete

Update: EirGrid and ESB Networks approved a Joint Scoping document for “Technical Assessment of Options for Sharing of maximum export capacity behind a Single Connection Point” on schedule in March 2022. EirGrid and ESBN developing proposals on charging for these hybrid connections. These proposals need to be submitted to CRU, and approved by CRU before a decision on hybrid connections can be finalised. These proposals have been delayed.

Land Use, Land Use Change, Forestry, and the Marine

Action 364	Project Woodland to develop a shared national approach for trees, woods, and forest
Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Carry out a SEA in preparation of the Forest Strategy and the Forestry Programme (post- 2022)	
Responsible body: DAFM	
Status: Delayed	
Update: The SEA/AA process is currently underway and will conclude by Q4-2022 as previously indicated. In parallel with the SEA/AA process the draft Forest Strategy will be subject to public consultation in October 2022 with expected publishing date in Q4-2022.	

Action 364	Project Woodland to develop a shared national approach for trees, woods, and forest
Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Launch the new Forest Strategy	
Responsible body: DAFM	
Status: Delayed	
Update: The new Forest Strategy is currently on schedule to be published in Q4-2022 following completion of the SEA/AA process currently taking place. The Forestry Vision to 2050 has now been finalised and a detailed summary of all consultations that have taken place have been published in September 2022 and are available on the DAFM website.	

Action 366	Implement Forestry Programme 2014-2022 (includes 2-year extension)
Q4 2021 Delayed measure: Increase participation of existing schemes and measures	
Responsible body: DAFM	
Status: Delayed	
<p>Update: DAFM continue to the monitor participation across all schemes and publish a weekly detailed dashboard of licences issued and published information on scheme participation. The next Forestry Programme 2023-2027 will include a range of measures to increase incentivisation across all schemes.</p> <p>Levels of afforestation have been falling steadily in recent years due to a range of factors including the lack of land available for planting, competing interests from other farming enterprises and the reluctance of landowners to a commit to a permanent land use change to forestry. The proposed new forestry programmes will seek to increase participation in schemes and measures, following the extensive consultation process which has been carried out to inform the development of a new Forest Strategy and the next Forestry Programme. It is expected that participation across all schemes will increase with the launch of the new programme in 2023.</p> <p>Link to dashboard on Forestry statistics: 2022 Forestry Weekly Dashboard</p>	

Action 367 Increase the level of afforestation to meet targets

Q4 2021 Delayed measure: Start the planting of 1,500ha of native woodland on Bord na Mona cut-over bogs as part of an integrated land use plan which includes rewetting and habitat restoration

Responsible body: Coillte

Status: Delayed

Update: Afforestation consent not yet received. Request for further information received in mid August. Request includes ecology reports which cannot be produced this year (seasonal dependence). Earliest planting possibility is now November 2023.

Action 371 Encourage the planting of small woodlands as part of DAFM agrienvironment and afforestation schemes

Q3 2022 measure: Design an agri-environment scheme that incorporates the afforestation of small areas of native tree species

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Complete

Update: DAFM have prepared a draft of new scheme which will incentivise the establishment of small native trees areas up to 1 ha in size without the requirement for a licence when planted as part of a DAFM scheme. The Forestry Programme, including this new measure, will be subject to the SEA/AA process which is currently taking place. A number of tree planting measures have also been included in the new Agri-Climate Rural Environment Scheme (ACRES) scheme: [Agri-Climate Rural Environment Scheme](#)

Action 372 Minimise the impact of deforestation on GHG emissions, while supporting wider government policies

Q3 2022 measure: Analyse the impact of deforestation on GHG emissions on different forest types

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Complete

Update: DAFM is currently assessing a number of different forest management options, which includes deforestation on GHG projections. This work will help inform discussions on the setting of targets in the LULUCF sector which have been deferred by Government for 18 months. This assessment will not be published at this stage as this work is helping to inform the next Climate Action Plan 2023 and discussions on the LULUCF targets over the next 18 months.

Action 373 Develop and support forests and forest owners in the sustainable management of woodland and the importance of climate mitigation and adaptation

Q4 2021 Delayed measure: Assess the training needs of foresters and review the DAFM scheme for the continuous professional development of registered foresters

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Complete

Update: A training needs analysis has been carried out and a final report containing recommendations has been received by DAFM.

Action 374 Conduct research into species selection to increase resilience to climate change

Q3 2022 measure: Model impact of climate change on bud burst on key forest species in Ireland

Responsible body: Teagasc

Status: Complete

Update: Maynooth University have developed phenological models as part of the [FitForest](#) project funded by DAFM and coordinated by Teagasc. The phenological models were executed for six tree species (Sitka spruce, Norway spruce, Oak, Larch, Ash and Beech). All of the models predominantly indicated progressively earlier budburst as the century progressed owing to warmer temperatures. The outputs of the research include phenological models across Representative Concentration Pathways for the 2050's in Ireland displaying the change in days of budburst for Ireland as well as European maps of the same indicator.

Action 374 Conduct research into species selection to increase resilience to climate change

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Assess Adaptation/Appropriate species selection for climate change

Responsible body: Teagasc

Status: Delayed

Update: Recruitment delays and resignations of staff have delayed this action. A research officer is in the process of being recruited for the FitForest project with an October 3rd 2022 start date and one of the PhD position remains unfilled. Some species trials have been assessed and measured including Oak, Beech, Sitka spruce, silver fir and red cedar provenance trials. For other species, work will continue into 2023 in collaboration with the Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute in Northern Ireland and with PhD students. Further information will be available in 2023.

Action 376 Encourage increased use of alternative forest management systems

Q3 2022 measure: Engagement with forest owners and foresters through knowledge transfer to develop skills in Continuous Cover Forestry across the forestry sector to facilitate wider adoption of alternative silvicultural options and potential to extend forest rotations where site conditions allow

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Complete

Update: DAFM have facilitated a number of knowledge transfer days aimed at increasing awareness of [Continuous Cover Forestry](#). Work is currently underway in enhancing the Continuous Cover Forestry options available in the current Forestry Programme with a view increasing uptake in the future.

Action 388 Establish and Refine underlying soil data to measure the nutrient and soil carbon in our soils

Q3 2022 measure: Establish a National Baseline for Soil Health including Nutrient and Soil Carbon

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Delayed

Update: Programme was rolled out in late 2021, and the Service Provider is delivering this action and it is intended it will be complete by Q4 2022.

On-farm sampling is now again operational following suspension in May 2022 due to non-availability of suitable land. This arose due to nutrient application to land by farmers in Spring to facilitate normal crop growth.

As per above, sampling has commenced again. Significant progress is being made at present however it is envisaged the project will be extended to Q4 2022 to completion.

Action 389 Establish a national soil moisture monitoring network

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Establish the national soil moisture monitoring network

Responsible body: Teagasc

Status: Complete

Update: The final site was installed on 24/8/22.

Action 391 Further refine hedgerow carbon sequestration

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Publication of a review paper on hedgerow carbon sequestration

Responsible body: Teagasc

Status: Delayed

Update: Still awaiting publication of the paper. The first version of the paper was not accepted in the peer review process it has now been revised based on the reviews and is being resubmitted. Time for completion is unknown as the publication process is highly variable.

Action 393 Complete Phase 1 Evidential Review of the Land Use Review in line with the Programme for Government 2020

Q3 2022 measure: Carry out work programme agreed by Steering Group to prepare evidential review

Responsible body: EPA

Status: Delayed

Update: The Phase 1 evidential review for the land use review was scheduled for completion in September 2022. There have been minor delays agreeing and delivering the final texts, all of which are currently being addressed. It is now scheduled for delivery in October 2022.

Action 394 Promotion of forestry activity

Q4 2021 Delayed measure: Establish agroforestry research and demonstration sites to improve adoption of forestry and integration of animal and forestry agriculture, subject to planting approval

Responsible body: Teagasc

Status: Delayed

Update: Agroforestry demonstration/research trial being established and early management taking place, pasture reseeded, and tree planting will take place in winter 2022/2023.

Action 397 Assess the potential opportunities and demand for developing advanced bio-products development (biofuels and chemicals) from lignocellulose in Ireland

Q3 2022 measure: Prepare and publish white paper

Responsible body: Coillte

Status: Complete

Update: On drafting this action it was envisaged that this work would take place through public funding in a collaboration with University of Limerick. That did not happen and therefore, a white paper will not be published.

Instead Coillte completed the work internally with support from external consultants. The review paper is complete and has been circulated internally and is being used to inform strategy decisions going forward.

The review has highlighted the potential for bio-fuels and the scope of work is now focused on this area. We are now working with the market on the potential to develop a bio-fuel from wood. The review was cognisant of the cascading use of wood, so looked at using wood residues only from the Irish forest and forest products industry, not primary wood for construction products. The review looked at the thermochemical processes available to process wood into bio-products and their degree of commercialisation across Europe. The review paper identified bio-fuels as the entry product to allow development and investment in these technologies in wood. Once a bio-refiner is established and producing bio-fuels, it can then look at further development and valorisation towards bio-chemicals. There are technologies such as gasification that can go straight to bio-chemicals, but this requires very high capex and large volumes of wood that would not appear to be sustainable or achievable in Ireland.

Action 401 Assess and implement mitigation options on post-production peat extraction sites

Every Q3 measure: Assess the status and mitigation potential for other commercial and private peat extraction across Ireland

Responsible body: EPA

Status: Complete

Update: There were 4 topics related to peatlands rehabilitation and restoration in the 2021 EPA research call (related to the [EU LIFE Peatlands & People](#) project). Three of these have been recently awarded and a fourth is still under evaluation. The resulting awards will be for 36-month Fellowships and will evaluate and verify the emissions reduction in the restored/rehabilitated peatlands in terms of the air component (Carbon Dioxide (CO₂), Methane (CH₄), Nitrous oxide (N₂O)) and losses of carbon to the water environment.

Action 402 **Coordinate the actions in the Programme for Government regarding peatlands to maximise the benefits for biodiversity**

Q1 2022 Delayed measure: The Peatlands Strategy Implementation Group will report on progress in the implementation of actions regarding peatlands additional to those set out in the National Peatlands Strategy 2015

Responsible body: DHLGH

Status: Delayed

Update: A report which sets out progress on the main actions for peatlands which maximise benefits for biodiversity will be published by Q4 2022 as part of the National Peatlands Strategy mid-term review, subject to government approval.

Action 406 **Restore and enhance natural systems to increase resilience – starting with managing hydrological processes, carbon processes and pollination**

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Restoration plan published for 60ha of blanket bog in the Wicklow Mountains National Park

Responsible body: DHLGH

Status: Delayed

Update: Restoration plan and management contract for phase 1 (of 2) remediation works is currently advertised on eTenders. Works expected to commence before November 2022. Phase 2 of the restoration plan will be advertised before December 2022.

Action 413 **Increase ocean knowledge and support research and innovation, investing in research and innovation**

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Ensure that the successor to the National Marine Research & Innovation Strategy 2017- 2021 will have the key objective of “advancing towards a climate neutral ocean economy”

Responsible body: Marine Institute

Status: Delayed

Update: The Marine Institute is in the second phase of the preparation process, in collaboration with relevant national agencies and Government Departments, with the aim of having an advanced draft of the new Strategy by the end of 2022.

The Coastal Matters consultancy has been engaged to assist in the review and drafting of the strategy with the working title of Ocean Knowledge 2030. Relevant stakeholders and agencies are being consulted in relation to R&I activities under their remit with updates and inputs being provided and sought primarily through the [Marine Research Funders Forum](#) (met 15th June 2022).

Action 417 Increase broader public understanding of the effects of climate change on the sea

Every Q3 measure: Foster collaborative efforts to ensure enhanced ocean literacy and ocean engagement e.g. through partnerships and collaborations across Ireland's marine sector

Responsible body: DAFM/MI/EPA/DEducation

Status: Complete

Update: The Marine Institute's [Oceans of Learning campaign](#) supported by DAFM, Bord Bia, Bord Iascaigh Mhara and other actors, was a three-week national campaign which celebrated European Maritime Day on 20th May and World Oceans Day on 8th June. The theme for Oceans of Learning 2022 was Ocean Exploration: Ireland's Marine Research Vessels and Ocean Explorers of our Past, Present and Future. Over the three weeks, Oceans of Learning had over half a million impressions on social media. Engagement with the social media community was up over 300%, compared to the previous three weeks before the campaign in May 2022 demonstrating the positive impact of Oceans of Learning on citizen awareness and engagement with our content. The Marine Institute's activity on Twitter was responsible for #WorldOceansDay trending on 8th June in Ireland. Media coverage was received on RTE Learn, Irish Times, Irish Examiner, Irish Tech News, Galway & Mayo Advertiser, Marine Times, Afloat.ie, The Fishing Daily and the Skipper.

Action 418 Build on the success of the UNESCO Dublin Bay Biosphere and achieve further UNESCO designations for Irish sites, including the Lough Ree region

Q3 2022 measure: Proposals developed by relevant local authorities in conjunction with the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) / DHLGH and other stakeholders advanced and submitted to UNESCO

Responsible body: DHLGH

Status: Delayed

Update: Delay was due to limited capacity to progress tender for services to carry out public consultation and draft application to UNESCO. This is being resolved through the [National Parks and Wildlife Service Strategic Action Plan](#) and the specification and tender are now being finalised.

Action 421 Identify areas of climate action appropriate to the Seafood Development Programme 2021-28

Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Finalise SEA and AA Assessment Reports

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Delayed

Update: As per previous update the preparation of the Programme and associated SEA and AA were necessarily paused while the Seafood Task Force carried out its work. Subsequent procurement for the SEA process caused further delays (initial tender process was unsuccessful). Drafts were completed and were released for public consultation on 15 July 2022. The public consultation closed on 26 August and the deadline for statutory consultation was 8 September. All submissions have been considered in the SEA and AA revision. The reports will be finalised in Q4.

Action 421 Identify areas of climate action appropriate to the Seafood Development Programme 2021-29

Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Engage in a Public Consultation process

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Delayed

Update: As per previous update the preparation of the Programme and associated SEA and AA were necessarily paused while the Seafood Task Force carried out its work. Subsequent procurement for the SEA process caused further delays (initial tender process was unsuccessful). Consequently, the public consultation did not commence until 15 July 2022. The public consultation closed on 26 August 2022 and all submissions have been considered in the context of the current draft of the Programme, SEA and AA. A summary report will be completed in Q4.

Action 421 Identify areas of climate action appropriate to the Seafood Development Programme 2021-30

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Submit the Seafood Development Programme to European Commission

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Delayed

Update: A draft of the Programme was approved by Government in September and has been submitted to the Commission. A process of engagement will now take place prior to Commission adoption. It is aimed for the programme to be adopted by end of year. It is anticipated that revisions may be made to the programme as it goes through the interservice consultation and DAFM receives feedback from the Commission.

Action 422 Complete the National Strategic Plan for Sustainable Aquaculture, including climate measures

Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Complete SEA, AA and Draft Plan following public consultation

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Delayed

Update: The public consultation on the draft SEA, AA and Plan has taken place. The submissions to the public consultation process now need to be reviewed and reflected in the final SEA, AA and National Strategic Plan

Action 422 Complete the National Strategic Plan for Sustainable Aquaculture, including climate measures

Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Publish SEA, AA and final National Strategic Plan for Sustainable Aquaculture and submit to the EU

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Delayed

Update: The public consultation took place and closed on 30th September 2022. The submissions will now be considered as part of the process towards finalising the plan, SEA and AA to be submitted for approval. Publication is anticipated by Q4 2022.

Action 423 Publish the Seafood Carbon Footprint Study, providing a detailed analysis of the carbon footprint of the catching and aquaculture sectors

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Finalise carbon footprint report, life cycle assessment and predictive model

Responsible body: Bord Iascaigh Mhara

Status: Delayed

Update: On review of the initial draft of the report a number of issues in the data and methodology used by the consultants has been identified. Work is ongoing to review and correct this prior to publication of the report which is expected to be published mid October 2022.

Work to correct the methodology is currently ongoing and expected to be completed prior to mid-October 2022.

Action 425 Maintain participation rate of 96% in the Clean Oceans Initiative and bring the fishery harbour centres in line with the Port Reception Facilities Directive

Quarterly measure: Continue to support vessel owners, promote and monitor participation in the initiative

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Complete

Update: Bord Iascaigh Mhara hosted a port visit to Dunmore East and Kilmore Quay to discuss the implementation of the Port Reception Facilities directive along with the Single Use Plastics directive. The visit was supported by the harbour authorities and was attended by representatives from the EPA, DECC, D/Transport and the Waste Permitting Office.

Quarterly reports are submitted to DAFM in the following quarter and are not published.

Built Environment

Action 183	Develop proposals to achieve complete phase out of fossil fuel heating throughout our building stock in line with our climate neutrality objective
Q3 2022 measure: Complete necessary analysis to identify appropriate mechanisms consistent with EU law to phase out fossil fuels for heating	
Responsible body: SEAI	
Status: Delayed	
Update: Awaiting resources for this task	

Action 184	Develop and enhance initiatives to educate and enable organisations to contribute to our national energy and emissions targets
Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Review the performance of the Support Scheme for Energy Audits and implement any required changes subject to availability of exchequer funding	
Responsible body: SEAI	
Status: Delayed	
Update: The SEAI undertook a review of the Support Scheme for Energy Audits, with 6 key recommendations outlined. The recommendations of the SEAI review are under consideration.	

Action 185	Develop an approach to retrofit commercial buildings
Q3 2022 measure: The Strategic Banking Corporation of Ireland (SBCI) will assess potential options for an Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) energy efficiency loan guarantee scheme to provide proof of concept and demonstrate market appetite	
Responsible body: SBCI	
Status: Complete	
Update: The SME Energy Efficiency Loan Scheme was launched by SBCI on 11 July 2022. https://sbci.gov.ie/news/sbci-launches-150m-low-cost-loans-for-smes-to-cut-their-energy-costs-and-reduce-carbon-emissions	

Action 185 Develop an approach to retrofit commercial buildings

Q3 2022 measure: Based on the outcome of the National Heat Study, develop an approach to the retrofit of the commercial building stock

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Delayed

Update: The SEAI Information paper on a proposed Commercial Retrofit Support Scheme is currently with DECC for consideration. The paper identifies a number of priorities as key objectives, along with the proposed Commercial Retrofit Support Scheme Architecture.

Action 186 Support the delivery of district heating projects under the Climate Action Fund

Q4 2021 Delayed measure: 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

Responsible body: Dublin City Council

Status: Complete

Update: Action 186a is now complete. The preliminary business case was submitted by Dublin City Council on 18 August 2022.

Action 186 Support the delivery of district heating projects under the Climate Action Fund

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: 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

Responsible body: South Dublin County Council

Status: Delayed

Update: First milestone claim for Climate Action Fund support was submitted by South Dublin County Council (SDCC) to DECC in June. SDCC advise the project has been delayed in relation to ESB certification. This will be resolved by 7th November at the latest when commissioning will commence and heat-on date will be two weeks later. SDCC will be submitting their second claim in mid-October. Final claim will be before year end.

Action 188 Conduct appropriate research to inform and support the growth and development of district heating in Ireland

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Use the outcome of the National Comprehensive Assessment and National Heat Study to examine targets for district heating rollout

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Delayed

Update: The District Heating Steering Group will report to Government by end 2022.

Action 189 **Develop a regulatory framework to protect consumers, and to ensure that district heating is developed in a structured way**

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Transpose Article 15.4 of Renewable Energy Directive RED II to provide that Building Regulations shall permit minimum requirements for renewable energy to be fulfilled through efficient district heating and cooling as defined in the Energy Efficiency Directive

Responsible body: DHLGH

Status: Delayed

Update: Regulation will be published in October 2022.

Action 189 **Develop a regulatory framework to protect consumers, and to ensure that district heating is developed in a structured way**

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Review Primary Energy Factor (PEF) for District Heating Systems and verification system for PEF

Responsible body: DHLGH/DECC

Status: Delayed

Update: The new default primary energy factor for district heating has been approved by the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communication. It is planned for publication in October 2022.

Action 189 **Develop a regulatory framework to protect consumers, and to ensure that district heating is developed in a structured way**

Q3 2022 measure: Determine the appropriate model for the development and ownership of district heating

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Delayed

Update: Analysis being conducted by relevant Working Groups. The District Heating Steering Group will report to Government by end 2022.

Action 189 **Develop a regulatory framework to protect consumers, and to ensure that district heating is developed in a structured way**

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Designate a regulator for district heating networks

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Complete

Update: Achieved through transposition of RED II. CRU designated as regulator by way of [SI 350/2022](#)

Action 189 Develop a regulatory framework to protect consumers, and to ensure that district heating is developed in a structured way

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Transpose the district heating related requirements of the Renewable Energy Directive and Energy Efficiency Directive

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Delayed

Update: RED II articles transposed; Energy Efficiency Directive II articles on track for transposition by mid-October.

Action 193 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

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Complete SEA/AA

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Delayed

Update: On target for delivery in Q4 2022. The publication of the two documents represent the final stages in the SEA and AA processes, and follow the finalisation of the policy statement and an assessment of how that deals with the potential impacts on the environment and proposed mitigation measures. See Step 193d.

Action 193 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

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Finalise policy statement

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Delayed

Update: On target for delivery in Q4 2022. There was significant engagement with the public consultation on the draft policy statement, with substantive submissions received from environmental groups, industry, government bodies and individuals. Extensive revisions to the draft policy statement will be examined with the recently established Advisory Group on Geothermal Energy, within which the Environment, Industry and Social Pillars are represented.

Action 197 Work with industry stakeholders to increase the use of low carbon materials, taking into account international best practice

Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Develop a roadmap to promote greater use of lower-carbon building material in construction

Responsible body: OPW

Status: Delayed

Update: A draft report/roadmap is advancing. Consultation with key stakeholders is ongoing. Feedback is currently being incorporated along with editing and graphics. The expected delivery date is Q4 2022 subject to further feedback from stakeholders.

Action 197 **Work with industry stakeholders to increase the use of low carbon materials, taking into account international best practice**

Q3 2022 measure: Provide training to the construction sector in the use and installation of low carbon technologies and materials

Responsible body: SOLAS (Irish: An tSeirbhís Oideachais Leanúnaigh agus Scileanna, lit. 'Further Education and Skills Service')

Status: Complete

Update: 6 Education and Training Boards (ETBs) have been designated "Centres of Excellence" for training in Near Zero Energy Building-NZEB (Laois and Offaly ETB, Waterford and Wexford ETB, Mayo, Sligo and Leitrim ETB, Cork ETB, City of Dublin ETB and Limerick and Clare ETB). 3 of these centres are operational. Cork ETB and Mayo, Sligo and Leitrim ETB began courses in Q3 2022. Cork ETB will be operational in 2023. Courses in NZEB Fundamentals and NZEB in Retrofit, Electrical, Plumbing, Carpentry - amongst other areas- running in these centres have been developed with industry partners, with specific skills training in construction for the low carbon economy.

The centres have also formed an oversight group to ensure that low carbon construction skills remains core to Further Education construction sector training. Training on NZEB fundamentals is becoming part of the Apprenticeship curricula to ensure that all apprentices gain awareness and understanding of the importance of NZEB in the Construction sector. In July, [Minister Harris announced that Louth and Offaly ETB will develop a new Modern Methods of Construction](#) (MMC) Demonstration Park at the National Construction Centre in Mount Lucas, which will be dedicated to the skilling and upskilling of construction workers in innovative technologies, including those required for the green transition. SOLAS in consultation with Laois and Offaly ETB have appointed the technical adviser and the design team who will have responsibility for the design and build face of the MMC park which is expected to consist of 10 pads. SOLAS, DFHERIS, D/Housing and DETE have commenced a consultation process regarding the MMC project.

Action 200 **Design and construct two exemplar public sector buildings using alternative construction techniques and materials, and monitor their performance**

Q3 2022 measure: Identify two public sector construction projects (one new build and one fit-out) that will use low-carbon alternatives to traditional construction materials

Responsible body: OPW

Status: Delayed

Update: Project 1. The Casino in Marino Visitor Facilities are currently at the sketch scheme stage. OPW will be undertaking a scoping report examining the low carbon material options for the design and construction of the Visitor facilities with a view to developing the design (planning/tender/construction) taking into account the recommendations of the report.

Project 2. The OPW are currently undertaking a major refurbishment of Tom Johnson House in Beggars Bush. The reuse and fit-out of this building is being documented and used as an exemplar project for the sustainable re-use, low carbon and low energy use public building. The building is due for completion in 18 months time. Upon completion the OPW will issue information outlining the sustainable strategies employed and the monitoring regime to indicate both carbon and energy savings achieved.

Action 200	Design and construct two exemplar public sector buildings using alternative construction techniques and materials, and monitor their performance
Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Scope alternative construction materials and techniques most suitable for use in pilot construction projects	
Responsible body: OPW	
Status: Delayed	
<p>Update: Project 1. Casino in Marino Visitor Facilities are currently at the sketch scheme stage and as part of the design development the OPW will be undertaking a scoping report examining the low carbon material options for the design and construction of the Visitor facilities with a view to developing the design (planning/tender/construction) taking into account the recommendations of the report. The OPW is currently commissioning specialist advice to assist in a review of the current design and formulation of the report with recommendations. This report and accompanying recommendations will be complete Q1 2023.</p> <p>Project 3. Modular Housing for Ukrainian Refugees - OPW are currently working with Sisk to develop the exemplar lower carbon design. OPW will complete a scoping report and recommendations in relation to this project Q1 2023.</p>	

Action 202	Evaluate potential for further emissions savings through changing consumer behaviour to lower household heat demand
Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Undertake analysis to evaluate further abatement potential, considering need to avoid double-counting of emissions savings and behaviour change opportunities in existing and planned awareness initiatives	
Responsible body: SEAI	
Status: Delayed	
Update: SEAI launched a project to assess behavioural options to maximise residential retrofits, delivery expected in Q4 2022.	

Action 203	Develop specific climate maps and data for use in building design to enhance resilience in support of climate change adaptation
Q3 2022 measure: Produce building standard temperature and snow loads maps change	
Responsible body: DHLGH - Met Éireann	
Status: Complete	
<p>Update: Maps of isotherms of maximum and minimum shade air temperatures, of isotherms of the lowest 10cm soil temperature and snow loading calculations for Ireland were produced. Results published on met.ie.</p>	

Action 204	Assess and monitor climate impacts on heritage sites and identify threatened heritage sites
Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Undertake monitoring of climate change and its impacts at selected heritage properties	
Responsible body: DHLGH	
Status: Delayed	
Update: Meeting held with Met Eireann 14/9/22. They have advised that alternative solutions to monitoring climate impacts should be explored before deciding on weather station installation.	

Action 204	Assess and monitor climate impacts on heritage sites and identify threatened heritage sites
Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Monitor ongoing maintenance and repair works undertaken and emergency response	
Responsible body: DHLGH	
Status: Delayed	
Update: Work continuing through expanded 2022 heritage grant schemes to identify vulnerable heritage, with repair works undertaken.	

Action 205	Cooperate actively and share knowledge with international partners and climateproof planning procedures for heritage properties
Q3 2022 measure: Development of guidelines/recommendations for local authorities	
Responsible body: DHLGH	
Status: Delayed	
Update: Contractor appointed (May 2022) to develop guidance. Contract completion date for guidance is Q4 2022.	

Action 205	Cooperate actively and share knowledge with international partners and climate proof planning procedures for heritage properties
Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Develop Memoranda of Understanding with Northern Ireland and Welsh governments	
Responsible body: DHLGH	
Status: Delayed	
Update: Northern Ireland Memoranda of Understanding signed, (as with Scotland) and waiting on Welsh Heritage Authorities to respond	

National Retrofit Plan

Action 208	Implement a national awareness and demand generation campaign for residential retrofit
Q3 2022 measure: Carry out Community Based Social Marketing events	
Responsible body: SEAI	
Status: Delayed	
<p>Update: Retrofit campaign launched earlier this year with two waves of the campaign. First wave was from February - March in support of the Government's launch of the One Stop Shop (OSS) programme and increased grants. The second wave was in May – July in support of the publication of the registered OSSs and on the back of DECC's Reduce Your Use campaign. Planning for the third wave to go out in the autumn has commenced.</p> <p>With regards to CBSM, a tender was published on etenders on the 10th August for the Provision of field marketing and event management services in support of SEAI's Community Based Social Marketing (CBSM) activities. The deadline for submission is the 23rd September. SEAI is aiming to have the selected provider in place by the end of November and planning for on the ground CBSM activities to kick off early January 2023.</p>	

Action 209	Provide a personalised roadmap for homeowners on how to upgrade their home to a BER B2 in the new BER advisory report
Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Launch a new interactive BER tool for homeowners	
Responsible body: SEAI	
Status: Complete	
<p>Update: The BER interactive tool has been launched and is available on the SEAI website: https://www.seai.ie/home-energy/home-upgrades/b2-rated-home/ SEAI are monitoring the tool and webpage for usage and interaction.</p>	

Action 212	Utilise Sustainable Energy Communities to drive Community Activation
Q2 2022 Delayed measure: 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	
Responsible body: SEAI	
Status: Complete	
<p>Update: A Sustainable Energy Community regional event was held on 17 September with a national event held in October. This allows input and feedback to inform future developments. National and Regional events have been held and appropriate structures are in place to allow learnings and ideas to assist in their rollout to be shared. The number of SEC's has grown from 296 in 2019 to over 680 now.</p>	

Action 212 Utilise Sustainable Energy Communities to drive Community Activation

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Launch a call for smaller projects under the Communities Energy Grant Scheme for SECs

Responsible body: SEAI

Status: Delayed

Update: SEAI is engaging with SECs, communities and One-Stop-Shop to establish service required and to ensure design of scheme meets needs communities. The introduction of a targeted and more streamlined strand of the [Communities Grant](#) scheme focused on smaller projects for retrofitting homes will be introduced following public consultation.

Action 213 Support those least able to afford to retrofit

Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Complete a review of the implementation of the Strategy to Combat Energy Poverty to inform next steps in relation to the development of a new strategy

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Complete

Update: The Review of the Strategy to Combat Energy Poverty was published on 3 August <https://www.gov.ie/en/consultation/4e1ac-energy-poverty-strategy-review/>

Action 213 Support those least able to afford to retrofit

Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Warmth and Wellbeing research study completed

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Complete

Update: The research stage of this project has been completed. The Department has received a draft final report which is currently being reviewed by the project Steering Group.

Action 215 Launch a new Energy Efficiency Obligation Scheme

Q1 2022 Delayed measure: As per headline action

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Delayed

Update: The new regulations underpinning the scheme are expected to be published in the coming weeks with the new Scheme coming into effect in Q1 2023.

Action 218 Introduce a residential retrofit loan guarantee scheme

Q3 2022 measure: As per headline action, including access for landlords to help address the split incentive issue

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Delayed

Update: There has been significant progress made on this project including the publication of a pre-qualification call to financial institutions. An invitation for award to on-lenders was also launched. However, given the range of complex issues to be addressed, the scheme is expected to be launched in Q1 2023.

Action 223 Introduce initiatives to ensure the required number of BER assessors

Q3 2022 measure: Introduce Initiatives to increase the numbers of BER assessors

Responsible body: SEAI

Status: Complete

Update: BER assessors on public reg:
Dec 2021 = 787 | Sept. 2022 = 868 (up 10%)

A range of recruitment and retention initiatives have been put in place including:

- Domestic registration process updated to reduce the time between successful completion of training and registering;
- New online registration form for domestic assessors developed to simplify registration process;
- Regular CPD and mentoring delivered to assessors to increase technical supports;
- Streamlining of the process for assessing existing dwellings which make up 79% of published domestic BERs.

Action 224 Launch a study into the Heat Loss Indicator criteria for the installation of heat pumps

Q4 2021 Delayed measure: As per headline action

Responsible body: SEAI

Status: Complete

Update: The Heat Loss Indicator research pilot study was approved by the Minister and launched in September - <https://www.seai.ie/pilot-projects/>.

Action 225 Publish new Standards and Guidance Documents for retrofit

Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Publish new guidance for the retrofitting of traditional buildings (See also Action 131)

Responsible body: DHLGH

Status: Delayed

Update: Final draft received from contractors. This will require agreement with key stakeholders before publication which potentially poses a risk to meeting the current deadline for publication in Q4 2022.

Action 225 Publish new Standards and Guidance Documents for retrofit

Q3 2022 measure: Update the Energy Efficient Retrofit of Dwelling (SR54) Guidance Document

Responsible body: National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI)

Status: Complete

Update: Guidance Document published week commencing 22 August.

<https://www.nsai.ie/about/news/nsai-announces-the-publication-of-an-amendment-to-s.r-542014-code-of-practice-for-energy-efficient-retrofit-of-dwellings/>.

Action 227 Establish a cross-Departmental group to oversee implementation of the National Retrofit Plan

Q1 2022 Delayed measure: As per headline action

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Delayed

Update: DECC has continued to engage bilaterally with key Departments and Agencies in relation to the implementation of the [National Retrofit Plan](#). As agreed at the Cabinet Committee on Environment and Climate Change, and set out in the National Energy Security Framework, one of the six cross-Government/Agency Delivery Taskforces being established to accelerate and drive delivery in key programme areas will focus on Retrofitting, Renewable Heat, and District Heating. This group will meet in October.

Action 229 Enhance the collection and monitoring of retrofit activity data delivered with Government support

Q4 2021 Delayed measure: Consolidate the data in order to determine the overall current level of Government supported retrofit

Responsible body: SEAI

Status: Complete

Update: Data on SEAI and Local Authority retrofit now combined on a quarterly basis.

Enterprise

Action 134	Establish a focus group comprised of the relevant stakeholders to develop the actions required to achieve the Climate Action Plan target of a “10% (and up to 60%) decrease in embodied carbon in construction materials” including low carbon cement
Q3 2022 measure:	Circulate Actions for Sign-off
Responsible body:	DETE
Status:	Delayed
Update:	The working group has been formed and bilateral engagement with various stakeholders is ongoing. A range of complex technical and regulatory considerations are being assessed to try and inform feasible and impactful future actions.

Action 143	Update the Eco-design Regulations for energy efficient products
Q3 2022 measure:	Continue to engage with the EU Commission and other Member States on development of new and existing product regulations under the Ecodesign Regulation
Responsible body:	EI
Status:	Complete
Update:	During 2022 Enterprise Ireland engaged with stakeholders - companies, industry bodies and in EU consultative processes - on the ongoing development of Eco-design regulation. Of note for 2022 was the proposed expansion of scope of the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation (ESPR) from energy-related products to all products excluding medicines, food and feed. This activity is ongoing, forming part of the 2022-2024 EU Commission working plan.

Action 145	Promote a focus on CO2 reduction / sustainability credentials across venture capital funds delivered under the EI Seed & Venture Capital programme
Q4 2021 Delayed measure:	Explore the feasibility of attracting funds with a focus on CO2 reduction/sustainability
Responsible body:	EI
Status:	Complete
Update:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To promote a focus on CO2 reduction/sustainability credentials across venture capital funds, approved funds under the 2021 Seed & Venture Capital Scheme funding call were required to provide annual reporting on Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) policies of investee companies 2. An evaluation of the Seed & Venture Capital scheme is being undertaken in 2022, conducted by DETE and Enterprise Ireland, which will include an assessment of funding needs for early stage companies. The review will be concluded in 2023.

Action 146 Deliver the programmes to decarbonise enterprise outlined in the National Development Plan and Resilience and Recovery Fund Submissions

Q3 2022 measure: Launch and deliver on the Enterprise Ireland Climate Enterprise Action Fund

Responsible body: EI

Status: Complete

Update: [Green Transition Fund](#) launched in June 2022. Since fund was launched, 34 companies have been supported under the Climate Planning Fund for Business (formerly Climate Enterprise Action Fund).

Action 151 Incorporate measurement of climate-related impacts into capital grant decisions by the enterprise agencies

Q3 2022 measure: Collect additional climate data from enterprise agency clients through their annual surveys

Responsible body: DETE

Status: Complete

Update: The Annual Business Survey includes additional climate-related questions and there is the potential to add further questions to next year's survey.

Action 151 Incorporate measurement of climate-related impacts into capital grant decisions by the enterprise agencies

Q3 2022 measure: Assess agency grants through the Economic Appraisal Model for their Climate impact

Responsible body: DETE

Status: Delayed

Update: The Pilot on the Economic Appraisal Model for Climate Impact has been concluded, and the Department and agencies are examining the results.

Action 153 **Align Enterprise Ireland and IDA grant funding and supports with progress towards achieving the carbon abatement targets for enterprise, ensuring resilience in the transition to a low carbon economy**

Q3 2022 measure: Implement the revised policy for new funding applications to Future-proof company growth plans and accelerate the low-carbon transition

Responsible body: DETE

Status: Complete

Update: Following the introduction of the environmental impact assessment measures outlined in 153b, these measures will be more broadly rolled out across Enterprise Ireland funding in 2023. The number of companies supported in the area of the low carbon transition by Q3 2022 was provided as part of the response under action 164b.

Also, IDA has introduced new measures that involve the sustainability and climate action practices and policies of potential investors being assessed as part of IDA Ireland's investment evaluation process.

Action 153 **Align Enterprise Ireland and IDA grant funding and supports with progress towards achieving the carbon abatement targets for enterprise, ensuring resilience in the transition to a low carbon economy**

Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Revise policy and develop proportionate approach to due diligence to include decarbonisation requirement so that EI and IDA will direct State investments to projects which will deliver economic value consistent with the transition to a low carbon economy

Responsible body: DETE

Status: Complete

Update: IDA Ireland has introduced new measures that involve the sustainability and climate action practices and policies of potential investors being assessed as part of IDA Ireland's investment evaluation process. An updated economic appraisal model, to include quantitative assessment of the climate impact of projects financially supported by the enterprise agencies, is currently being piloted by IDA, in agreement with DETE.

During Q2 and Q3 2022, Enterprise Ireland provided relevant documentation to DETE to outline our approach to project assessment for the low carbon transition (e.g. reference documentation for Green Transition funding, VFM for carbon abatement).

Action 156 **Develop a strategy specifying optimum sustainability solutions and additional carbon abatement opportunities in IDA's property portfolio**

Q3 2022 measure: Identify various climate action options and select optimum solutions

Responsible body: IDA

Status: Delayed

Update: A new formal strategy and plan of action to further decarbonise IDA's property portfolio is in the process of being developed and is now scheduled for completion in Q4, 2022. However, IDA continues to work on existing sustainable initiatives across its property portfolio in advance of completion of the new strategy.

Action 160 Develop certification of recycled construction products scheme

Q3 2022 measure: Recruit and train staff. Develop certification scheme. Include requirement in public procurement

Responsible body: National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI)

Status: Complete

Update: Staff training requirements have been met and National Standards Authority of Ireland now provide a scheme to certify recycled aggregates. A number of products are already certified and the new certification scheme for recycled construction products is ready for insertion into public procurement requirements.

Action 164 Enable the preparation of detailed decarbonisation implementation strategies by client companies in high-impact sectors such as Pharmaceuticals, Cement, Construction, Engineering, and other manufacturing

Q3 2022 measure: Support investment in decarbonised processes through the Carbon Reduction Fund (NRRF), the EI and IDA Environmental Aid programme, SEAI Excellence in Energy Efficient Design (EXEED) programme and other enabling supports

Responsible body: DETE

Status: Complete

Update: [Fund launched](#) June 16th 2022. The first application has been received (Enterprise Emissions Reduction Investment Fund - capital), with a number of other companies are now progressing applications.

93 Enterprise Ireland companies have been supported in 2022 with funding related to accelerating the low-carbon transition. This includes offers under the Green Transition Fund (Recovery and Resilience Facility) (launched June 2022), Environmental Aid and other enabling supports. SEAI have supported approximately 2100 businesses with funding committed of approx. €34.5million in 2022.

IDA have supported 11 investments.

Action 167 Engage with the alumina manufacturing sector and key stakeholders to progress measures to support the achievement of the identified potential abatement

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Agree high level decarbonisation plan with the sector and energy sector stakeholders, with commitments on key actions to support the development of renewable energy supply options and project costing

Responsible body: IDA

Status: Delayed

Update: A changing geopolitical situation has resulted in a different operating environment, which has delayed progress on the decarbonisation plan.

Action 169 Develop renewable gas in the gas grid

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Establish an official certification scheme for renewable gas in the gas grid

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Complete

Update: Output achieved as Secondary legislation establishing GNI's renewable gas registration scheme was completed in July and [SI 350/22](#) was laid before the Oireachtas.

Action 172 Consider introducing a renewable energy obligation in the heat sector

Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Determine if renewable energy obligation should be introduced in the heat sector

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Complete

Update: The Government Decision on the Proposed Sectoral Emissions Ceilings agrees to the introduction of an obligation on the heat sector to include renewable heat by 2024.

<https://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/83757-government-agrees-to-the-introduction-of-an-obligation-on-the-heat-sector-by-2024/>

Action 177 Introduce new legislation to reform the judicial review process, in compliance with EU legal requirements, so that reforms come into effect on the establishment of a new Division of the High Court dealing with planning and environmental issues

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Introduce new legislation to reform the judicial review process, in compliance with EU legal requirements, so that reforms come into effect on the establishment of a new Division of the High Court dealing with planning and environmental issues

Responsible body: DHLGH

Status: Complete

Update: Amendments to the Judicial Review process in Planning were introduced through [Section 22 the Planning and Development, Maritime and Valuation \(Amendment\) Act 2022](#). The amendments are to ensure that the administrative process is exhausted prior to the taking of a Judicial review and to enable the courts, if appropriate, to consider remitting a decision back to the Local Authority or An Bord Pleanála for reconsideration. These provisions will come into effect once commenced by the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

It is recognised that the area of Judicial Review is always evolving and will be kept under review to maintain compliance with National, EU and international law.

Action 178 Progress sustainability through business planning

Q3 2022 measure: Identify and deliver incentive and capex schemes to industry to address key change barriers & drivers to stimulate transformational change

Responsible body: Fáilte Ireland

Status: Complete

Update: Delivery partners for these schemes have been identified, and a variety of supports are being delivered in collaboration with other Departments and public bodies, for example Destination Charging with Zero Emissions Vehicles Ireland, retro-fitting schemes with Sustainable Energy Authority Of Ireland and low-cost loans from the European Investment Bank.

Action 180 Implement Údarás na Gaeltachta's Gaeltacht Ghlas (Green Gaeltacht) project

Q3 2022 measure: Identify the best method to achieve carbon neutrality in buildings in the Údarás na Gaeltachta's property portfolio

Responsible body: Údarás na Gaeltachta

Status: Complete

Update: An overall business plan has been completed, this identified high level upgrade measures for the portfolio, as well as a phased approach proposed with a pilot project for a net-zero business park to commence in 2023.

Public Sector Leading by Example

Action 53	Develop a strategy to achieve at least a 51% reduction in GHG emissions and a 50% improvement in public sector energy efficiency by 2030
Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Communicate measurement and systems to all Public Sector Bodies	
Responsible body: DECC	
Status: Complete	
Update: Action 53a is now complete. The Public Sector Mandate received Government approval on 4 July. The Ministerial letter on the Public Sector Mandate (Action 55b) was issued to all Departments on 14 July and communicated measurement and systems.	

Action 53	Develop a strategy to achieve at least a 51% reduction in GHG emissions and a 50% improvement in public sector energy efficiency by 2030
Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Seek Government approval and publish new Public Sector Strategy for delivery	
Responsible body: DECC	
Status: Delayed	
Update: Action 53b is delayed but on track for completion in Q4 2022. The working group to prepare the Public Sector Strategy (comprised of DECC climate/ energy efficiency, EPA, SEAI) meets fortnightly. Drafting of strategy will be finalised in Q3 2022. The Strategy will be included in the Public Sector chapter in CAP23 and published in Q4 2022.	

Action 55 Introduce Climate Action Mandate for every public body

Q4 2021 Delayed measure: Develop framework for commercial semi-state sector to address climate action objectives

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Complete

Update: The Framework has been completed and was approved by Government in July 2022. The Framework will apply to every commercial semi-State company and comprises of a series of five commitments as follows:

- Governance of climate action objectives;
- Emissions measurement and reduction target;
- Emissions valuation in investment appraisal;
- Circular economy and green procurement;
- Climate-related disclosures.

The five commitments reflect requirements that apply to the public sector more generally, as set out in Climate Action Plan 2021 – in relation to the measurement of carbon footprint, green public procurement and carbon pricing in capital evaluation. Two additional commitments (governance of climate action and financial disclosures) are specific to the commercial semi-State companies. The framework can be found online at <https://www.ntma.ie/uploads/publication-articles/Climate-Action-Framework-for-CSS-Sector.pdf>

Action 55 Introduce Climate Action Mandate for every public body

Q4 2021 Delayed measure: Issue a policy direction or equivalent to all public bodies requiring a public body to adopt mandate and notify Climate Action Delivery Board

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Complete

Update: Action 55b is now complete. The [Public Sector Mandate](#) received Government approval on 4 July. A Ministerial letter issued to all Departments and to all DECC agencies on 14 July. Departments were asked to make their agencies aware of the Mandate. A paper was sent to the Climate Action Delivery Board meeting on 22 July.

Action 57 Support the retrofit of public sector buildings

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Develop an approach to cost-effectively retrofitting the public sector building stock to 2030 based on completed research including establishing the role of energy performance contracting

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Delayed

Update: The SEAI has carried out an in-depth review of the [Public Sector Pathfinder Retrofit Programme](#), which identifies the opportunities, risks and learnings from the scheme to date. Following discussions with SEAI, the broad suite of recommendations are being refined by SEAI and will be re-submitted to the Dept shortly.

Action 59 Devise a revised mileage rate structure that reflects changing driving patterns including increased use of EVs and hybrids

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Devise and agree revised mileage rate structure that reflects changing driving patterns including increased use of EVs and Hybrids

Responsible body: DPER

Status: Complete

Update: Revised mileage rates for EVs and hybrids agreed and now published in Circular 16/2022

Action 60 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 SEAI

Quarterly measure: Individual areas of work/projects identified and showcased in national media

Responsible body: D/Education

Status: Complete

Update: Press release issued noting launch by Minister for Education Norma Foley TD and Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications Eamon Ryan TD of the 2023 – 2024 Schools Energy Retrofit Pathfinder Programme that will evaluate and demonstrate the approach to energy retrofit and carbon reduction in the schools' sector, testing energy efficiency solutions and renewable heat technologies.

<https://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/769d9-ministers-foley-and-ryan-launch-schools-energy-retrofit-pathfinder-programme-for-2023-2024/>.

Action 61 **Set a trajectory for commencing and implementing a deep energy retrofit programme for the higher and further education sectors**

Q3 2022 measure: Progress implementation of the Energy Efficiency and Decarbonisation Pathfinder Programme

Responsible body: DFHERIS

Status: Complete

Update: The eight initial projects which were successful in 2020 are on site or complete. A further eight projects have been successful at Stage 2a proposal evaluation stage. HEA, SEAI and DFHERIS hold regular [Energy Efficiency and Decarbonisation Pathfinder Programme](#) steering group meetings with lesson-sharing part of the agenda. The Higher Education Authority have attended a number of design team meetings with Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in order to gather some of the lessons learned. A workshop will be convened with HEIs to share lessons learned as the 2020 round of projects come to a close. Lessons learned will then be collated and circulated.

Action 63 **Understand the effects of climate change on telecoms networks**

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Conduct a study on the impact climate change and adaptation have on telecom networks in Ireland

Responsible body: ComReg

Status: Delayed

Update: As stated in the Q2 update, challenges to the timing of this project were linked to both the pandemic and resourcing issues caused by unforeseen priority workstreams, such as Nuisance Communications. An external consultant has been engaged following a procurement process and is currently carrying out the research/ analysis work necessary to execute this project. Due to the constraints detailed above, the timeline for this project has now changed from the original timeline, and it is expected to continue into Q4 2022.

The Circular Economy

Action 427	Publish a Whole-of-Government Circular Economy Strategy and promote the Circular Economy, including focus on awareness raising, Green Public Procurement and international partnerships
Q3 2022 measure: Establish a national Circular Economy platform which will report on an ongoing basis	
Responsible body: DECC	
Status: Delayed	
Update: Scoping document in development.	

Action 428	Enact the Circular Economy Bill 2021
Q4 2021 Delayed measure: Enact the Circular Economy Bill 2021	
Responsible body: DECC	
Status: Complete	
Update: Circular Economy and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2022 enacted July 2022.	

Action 431	Reduce demand for virgin raw materials and support re-use, by keeping material out of waste streams through streamlined End-of-Waste and By-Product decision-making processes and national End-of-Waste decisions for specific Construction and Demolition waste
Q4 2021 Delayed measure: Enact necessary legislative changes via the Circular Economy Bill 2021	
Responsible body: DECC	
Status: Delayed	
Update: Following enactment of Circular Economy Act Q3 2022, regulations are now in drafting. For introduction Q1 2023.	

Action 434	The High-Level National Bioeconomy Implementation Group will report to Government and develop a detailed Bioeconomy Action Plan in 2023
Q3 2022 measure: Agree and set out a Bioeconomy Action Plan for a three-year period	
Responsible body: DECC	
Status: Delayed	
Update: Currently designing this Action Plan along with DAFM and other Gov Departments. Due to be completed by the end of the year with current timeframes.	

Action 434 The High-Level National Bioeconomy Implementation Group will report to Government and develop a detailed Bioeconomy Action Plan in 2022

Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Report to Government with an update on the implementation of the National Bioeconomy Policy Statement

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Delayed

Update: Due to go up on eCabinet in the coming weeks - will be completed very soon.

Action 435 The Bioeconomy Forum will contribute to the development of actions in future iterations of key policies and strategies

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Provide recommendations and advice to aid the advancement of the Bioeconomy. This process will result in recommendations for future iterations of the Climate Action Plan, key policies and other key Government strategies

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Delayed

Update: This is on track to be completed, a bioeconomy forum report has been finalised and will input to the Bioeconomy action plan.

Action 437 Funding mechanisms for bioeconomy innovation at demonstration level will be explored, aiming to achieve coherence across national funds

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Engage with funding structures with a view to include demonstration actions within the Bioeconomy, corresponding to Technology Readiness Level levels 6 to 7

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Delayed

Update:

1. Mapping of the funding structures being undertaken in cooperation with the Irish Bioeconomy Foundation. This task is still ongoing.
 - a) An original version of this mapping is available on the Irish Bioeconomy Foundation website: [Funding Opportunities - Irish Bioeconomy Foundation](#) (general information required to access the form). This is now being updated.
2. Engagement with funding bodies is ongoing e.g.:
 - a) All relevant research funders (Science Foundation Ireland, DAFM, SEAI, EPA) are offering bioeconomy funding opportunities.
 - b) Bioeconomy funding opportunities have been offered through the [Project Ireland 2040 Rural Regeneration and Development Fund](#) (RRDF) & [Disruptive Technologies Innovation Fund](#) (DTIF) innovation funding programmes corresponding to Technology Readiness Level levels 6 to 7.
 - c) A bioeconomy demonstration initiative proposal as outlined in the bioeconomy forum report is being examined in relation to a range of funds including the following Shared Island Initiative.
 - d) Bioeconomy and biorefining capital funding opportunities are being explored through Carbon Tax funding.
 - e) The EU Commission are reviewing a bioeconomy demonstration initiative co-funding opportunity under the EU Just Transition Fund Ireland programme.
 - f) Engagement is ongoing with DETE and Enterprise Ireland regarding the updating from an environmental and climate perspective of the General Block Exemption Regulation to enquire if the Circular Economy & Resource Efficiency article considers the requirements to fund bioeconomy projects. This matter has also been raised with the EU Commission Bioeconomy Policy Forum.

There is a pilot activity ongoing with a Marine Biorefinery company to identify how a range of agencies (Bord Iascaigh Mhara, Udaras, EI) can combine to meet the needs of the company to develop a marine biorefinery. This activity has somewhat progressed but appears blocked at the Enterprise funding level. See point f above as an activity being undertaken to move the task forward.

Action 438 Opportunities to increase skills in the bioeconomy will be explored

Q3 2022 measure: Identify where bioeconomy education, training and skill gaps currently exist and how that might be remedied

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Delayed

Update: A report has been written which will be included in the update to government, actions to deliver change will be in the above bioeconomy action plan. This will be marked as completed when the above update to Government is submitted.

Action 439 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 in terms of the materials required for renewable energy, energy storage (batteries), the move to a digital economy, and electrifying the transport system

Q4 2021 Delayed measure: Finalise policy statement

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Delayed

Update: Policy Statement has been finalised. Will be published following approval by Government, expected to be scheduled for decision at a meeting in November. Draft Memo with Minister DECC.

Action 439 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 in terms of the materials required for renewable energy, energy storage (batteries), the move to a digital economy, and electrifying the transport system

Q4 2021 Delayed measure: Complete SEA/AA

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Delayed

Update: SEA/AA Complete. Will be published with Policy Statement following approval by Government, expected to be scheduled for decision at a meeting in November. Draft Memo with Minister DECC.

Action 440 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

Q4 2021 Delayed measure: Publish Roadmap and commit resources to the EPA to undertake national food waste prevention activities

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Delayed

Update: Decision to publish draft roadmap for [public consultation](#) in January 2022. Public consultation closed on 28th March 2022. Expect to publish final roadmap later in 2022.

Action 441 Enhance food waste segregation, collection and treatment (anaerobic digestion and composting)

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Implement further roll out of segregation and collection of commercial and household food waste, and engage in education and awareness, and enforcement activities

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Delayed

Update: The recently enacted Circular Economy and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2022 provides for a mandatory segregation and incentivised charging regime for commercial waste, similar to what exists for the household market, to ensure waste minimisation and proper segregation in the sector. The required secondary legislation to give effect to these provisions will be enacted as soon as possible.

The Regional Waste Management Planning Offices, with support from DECC, continue to successfully deliver an education and awareness campaign to help drive behavioural changes towards more sustainable waste management practices while also continuing to develop the MyWaste.ie website, please see <https://www.mywaste.ie/> for further detail.

In 2022 campaigns, which started in late October, focused on issues such as efforts to increase commercial waste segregation, improved Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) recycling, improved recycling of plastics and ongoing efforts to deliver on various circular economy related projects.

Action 442 Develop and implement a new Regional Waste Management Plans that will guide our transition to a circular economy

Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Publish Regional Waste Management Plans

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Delayed

Update: A Waste Management Plan for a Circular Plan is due to be published in Q4 2022. Please note a single national Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy will replace the existing 3 regional plans.

Action 443 Develop new and expanded environmental levies to encourage reduced resource consumption and incentivise higher levels of re-use and recycling

Q3 2022 measure: Introduction of a Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) for plastic drinks bottles and aluminium cans

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Delayed

Update: Deposit Return Scheme Ireland application to Minister to establish DRS approved July 2022. Launch of project Q4 as registration system opens for producers and retailers. Work Programme 2023: build out required information and communications technology; procurement; contracting; communications etc.

Action 443	Develop new and expanded environmental levies to encourage reduced resource consumption and incentivise higher levels of re-use and recycling
Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Introduction of a new Waste Recovery levy	
Responsible body: DECC	
Status: Delayed	
Update: Following enactment of the Circular Economy Act work has commenced on scoping the Waste Recovery Levy. Detailed engagement with industry will take place from September - proposed implementation Q1 2023.	

Action 443	Develop new and expanded environmental levies to encourage reduced resource consumption and incentivise higher levels of re-use and recycling
Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Introduction of a new levy on disposable coffee cups	
Responsible body: DECC	
Status: Delayed	
Update: Regulations introducing the levy have been drafted. These were notified to EU via Technical Regulation Information System on 8th September 2022 and a public consultation on the draft regulations will be issued at end September with a view to signing the regulations in December 2022.	

Action 444	Amend the Policy Statement on Petroleum. Exploration and Production and amend legislation to copper fasten the Programme for Government commitment on petroleum and gas exploration and extraction
Q4 2021 Delayed measure: Finalise policy statement on Petroleum and Gas Exploration and Production Activities as part of Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Economy	
Responsible body: DECC	
Status: Complete	
Update: Published on GOV.IE in Q3 2022 - 12/08/22 https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/3bcaf-policy-statement-on-petroleum-exploration-and-production-in-ireland/ .	

Carbon Pricing and Cross-Cutting Policies

Action 66	Monitor and review successive carbon tax increases as legislated in the 2020 Finance Act
Every Q3 measure:	As per headline action
Responsible body:	DFIN
Status:	Complete
Update:	Carbon tax covered in Tax Strategy Group Paper on Climate Action and Tax 22/06 available on line https://www.gov.ie/en/collection/d5b41-budget-2023-tax-strategy-group-papers/ . Budget 2023 committed to planned carbon tax increase, budget speech and documents available online: https://www.gov.ie/en/campaigns/budget/?referrer=http://www.budget.gov.ie/ .

Action 67	Ongoing examination of environmental taxation measures across all relevant tax heads as part of the annual budgetary process
Every Q3 measure:	Consideration of a number of reforms to the taxation system under relevant tax heads from an environmental perspective
Responsible body:	DFIN
Status:	Complete
Update:	Environmental taxation measures were examined in the Tax Strategy Group Paper on Climate Action and Tax 22/06 available on line https://www.gov.ie/en/collection/d5b41-budget-2023-tax-strategy-group-papers/ .
	Examples of environmental taxation reforms include: 1. Options to phase out the Diesel Rebate Scheme which act to support heavy consumption of fossil fuels, must therefore be considered in future budgets. 2. The Energy Tax Directive revision proposes a structure for taxing electricity and hydrogen used in vehicular transport to replace current fossil fuel tax streams.

Action 68	Continue to reform budgetary process and procedures to provide transparency on the Government's financial commitments to the climate change agenda
Q4 2021 Delayed measure:	Develop and publish a methodology to identify expenditures that are having a negative impact on emissions and identify these expenditures through the budgetary process on an ongoing basis
Responsible body:	DPER
Status:	Delayed
Update:	Expected to be published with the 2023 REV.

Action 69	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 investments
Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Revise shadow price of carbon in light of enhanced climate ambition in the Climate Act 2021 and informed by updated research on marginal abatement cost of reaching these higher targets	
Responsible body: DPER	
Status: Delayed	
Update: Delayed due to reliance on finalisation of sectoral emissions ceilings. DPER are now working with DECC to progress the modelling based on the Govt decision on SECs. The expectation is that the finalised values will be implemented by year end.	

Action 69	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 investments
Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Publish a new iteration of the Common Appraisal Framework for Transport Projects and Programmes, reflecting developments in the Public Spending Code and transport since 2016	
Responsible body: D/Transport	
Status: Delayed	
Update: Interim guidance to facilitate appraisal alignment with National Investment Framework for Transport in Ireland (NIFTI), including decarbonisation and sustainability, published in Q1 2022. Second stage draft framework, in modular format, is in progress incorporating feedback from key partners involved in transport investment appraisal. A transport appraisal advisory group to inform and support ongoing appraisal guidance updates has also been established. Draft proposals to address a number of technical issues re. climate and economic appraisal currently in detailed development. Completion targeted for Q4 2022 though publication will need to dovetail with DPER update of Public Spending Code.	

Action 70	Engage to ensure best environmental outcomes in EU negotiations on revisions to Energy Tax Directive and on new Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism proposal as part of Fit for 55 package
Q3 2022 measure: Bring forward proposals to transpose EU Green Deal related decisions in a timely manner	
Responsible body: DFIN	
Status: Delayed	
Update: Ireland continues to actively engage in the negotiation of Fit for 55 Directives. A Council General Approach was agreed in March 2022 on the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism, negotiations with the European Parliament are ongoing at trilogue stage. Negotiations of the Energy Tax Directive revision proposal are ongoing at working party level.	

Action 73 Use the mandate of the New Economy and Recovery Authority (NewERA) to support the mobilisation of private finance for climate-related investment

Every Q3 from 2022 and also every Q1 thereafter measure: NewERA will monitor implementation by the commercial State companies of the commitments set out in the framework for the sector to address climate action objectives

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Delayed

Update: The final approved framework was submitted to the 22 commercial semi-State companies on 12 August and we are expecting that all the companies are working on implementing the framework. One of the first steps is for the companies to work towards obtaining approval from their respective boards to adopt the framework by the end of the year with each of the companies also requested to complete and return a framework reporting template (developed by NewERA) by mid February 2023.

Action 75 Promote the further development of the sustainable finance sector to facilitate increased investment in zero-emission sectors in Ireland

Quarterly measure: Implement the Actions set out in Ireland's Sustainable Finance Roadmap so that Ireland becomes a world leader in Sustainable Finance by 2025

Responsible body: DFIN

Status: Complete

Update: All sub-actions progressing and on track, for example:
To date, 2,400 Irish located finance professionals trained [in Sustainable Finance by Skillnet Ireland Courses](#) under development on sustainable finance for compliance officers and in climate related disclosure and reporting. Mapping of existing Industry climate commitments underway:

- Sustainable Finance Fintech Strategy on track
- Climate Finance Week set for 17th - 21st October

Action 76	Consider opportunities for issuance of new Irish Sovereign Green Bonds, and monitor allocation and impact of funds raised through existing Irish Sovereign Green Bonds
Q3 2022 measure:	Monitor market developments and consider opportunities for issuance of new Irish Sovereign Green Bonds to complement the State's eligible green projects
Responsible body:	NTMA
Status:	Complete
Update:	The NTMA continues to monitor market developments and consider opportunities for further Green Bond issuances.

Action 76	Consider opportunities for issuance of new Irish Sovereign Green Bonds, and monitor allocation and impact of funds raised through existing Irish Sovereign Green Bonds
Q3 2022 measure:	Produce annual Allocation Report and biennial Impact Report in respect of funds raised through existing Irish Sovereign Green Bonds
Responsible body:	Irish Sovereign Green Bonds Working Group
Status:	Complete
Update:	Reports published on National Treasury Management Agency Website. https://www.ntma.ie/news/ntma-announces-the-publication-of-the-irish-sovereign-green-bond-isgb-allocation-report-for-2021-and-the-impact-report-for-2020 .

Action 78	Implement the National Planning Framework
Q3 2022 measure:	Develop indicators and timelines to achieve National Planning Framework targets for residential development on vacant/redevelopment sites to minimise sprawl
Responsible body:	DHLGH
Status:	Complete
Update:	‘The Housing Delivery Tracker’ monitors housing delivery at local authority and settlement level, relative to the housing targets which have been published in County Development Plans. The tracker presents housing target and completion data in a series of dashboards and interactive maps and will be used to monitor the ongoing implementation of the National Planning Framework. While the Housing Delivery Tracker has been launched, as part of the wider suite of research and evidence based data that will be required to inform the review of the National Planning Framework in 2023, further enhancements to the tracker are under consideration. Work has also commenced separately on a spatial tracker specifically for Urban Regeneration and Development Fund projects.

Action 78 Implement the National Planning Framework

Q4 2021 Delayed measure: Establish a working group to examine implementation of climate actions in the National Planning Framework

Responsible body: DHLGH

Status: Delayed

Update: It is intended to address this action as part of the analysis to be undertaken to inform the review of the [National Planning Framework](#).

Action 80 Support, monitor and assess Local Authority Climate Action

Q3 2022 measure: Deliver, and support training and education to Local Authorities with specific programmes relating to planning and climate change

Responsible body: DHLGH

Status: Delayed

Update: Sectoral Learning and Development Strategy has been finalised in Q3 2022 and will be published and implemented subject to DHLGH – Office of the Planning Regulator – Local Authority sector budgetary and governance agreement. In addition to the Strategy, a range of training events continues to be delivered for the elected members and staff of local authorities.

Action 80 Support, monitor and assess Local Authority Climate Action

Every Q3 measure: Publish Climate Action key performance indicators for Local authorities

Responsible body: NOAC (National Audit and Oversight Commission)

Status: Delayed

Update: The National Audit and Oversight Commission are currently working with relevant stakeholders with the view to publishing the Annual Performance Indicators Report on 4 November 2022.

Action 80 Support, monitor and assess Local Authority Climate Action

Q4 2021 Delayed measure: Conduct a review of Strategic Policy Committees (SPCs) to consider establishment of climate action SPCs in each Local Authority

Responsible body: DHLGH

Status: Delayed

Update: Inaugural meeting of the Strategic Policy Committees (SPCs) Review Stakeholder Working Group planned for Q4 2022, with the aim of commencing a comprehensive independent review of SPCs as early as possible in Q1 2023 for completion by the end of next year.

Action 80 Support, monitor and assess Local Authority Climate Action

Q4 2021 Delayed measure: Each Local Authority will identify and develop plans for one “Decarbonising Zone”

Responsible body: DHLGH

Status: Delayed

Update: Identification of [Decarbonising Zones](#) is complete for 31 Local Authority Decarbonising Zones.

Development of plans is now contingent on the development of statutory guidelines by DECC for Local Authority Climate Action Plans in Q4 2022 as set out in the Climate Action Amendment Act 2021 and Action 80e of CAP 2021.

Action 82 Strengthen our delivery of public funding for basic and applied research to meet climate action objectives

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Implement EPA research strategy to 2030

Responsible body: EPA

Status: Complete

Update: The 4th Annual Report of the Climate Research Co-ordination Group (CRCG) has now been published and is available at: <https://www.epa.ie/publications/research/climate-change/crcg-report-2021.php>.

Action 83 Support climate and biodiversity progress through relevant strategic advice to enhance evidence-based decision-making

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Provide advice on natural capital (nature) accounting frameworks

Responsible body: National Economic and Social Council (NESC)

Status: Delayed

Update: This work will be undertaken in Q4 2022 and completed in Q1 2023. This timing will more effective following the In Case research and Biodiversity Action Plan.

Action 84	Continue to provide research funding and to coordinate national initiatives for the delivery and continuous improvement of national predictive capability and capacity in the areas of weather, climate, and hydrology
Q3 2022 measure: Continue to provide competitive project funding in support of national predictive capability and capacity in the areas of weather, climate, and hydrology	
Responsible body: DHLGH - Met Éireann	
Status: Delayed	
Update: New competitive research calls are planned for Q4 2022. The recruitment of new postdoctoral researchers was achieved. Ongoing research funding partnerships with the Environmental Protection Agency, Irish Research Council and Science Foundation Ireland were renewed.	

Action 84	Continue to provide research funding and to coordinate national initiatives for the delivery and continuous improvement of national predictive capability and capacity in the areas of weather, climate, and hydrology
Q3 2022 measure: Contribute to assessing national talent and skills capacity building in support of national predictive capability and capacity in the areas of weather, climate, and hydrology in consultation with stakeholders	
Responsible body: DHLGH - Met Éireann	
Status: Complete	
Update: A meeting with DFHERIS to identify gaps (if any) in national talent and skills capacity in the areas of weather, climate and hydrology took place in Q3 2022.	

Action 84	Continue to provide research funding and to coordinate national initiatives for the delivery and continuous improvement of national predictive capability and capacity in the areas of weather, climate, and hydrology
Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Initiate the coordination of Ireland's National Framework for Climate Services (NFCS) in consultation with stakeholders	
Responsible body: DHLGH - Met Éireann	
Status: Delayed	
Update: Kick off meeting for the National Framework for Climate Services is planned for Q4 2022.	

Action 87 Create a national Sustainable Tourism Policy

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Undertake public consultation on new national sustainable tourism policy

Responsible body: DTCAGSM

Status: Delayed

Update: Officials in DTCAGSM are currently preparing the initial consultation with key stakeholders with a view to participating in an informal consultation. Following the completion of this initial informal consultation and a review of the previous policy (People Place and Policy 2025), which was delayed due to the Covid-19 pandemic, a formal public consultation will take place with a view to publishing the Sustainable Tourism Policy in 2023. Expected Delivery Date: Q4 2022

Action 89 Minimise negative environmental impact of tourism

Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Undertake research and analysis to investigate options for tourists within Ireland, to minimise and offset their carbon emissions

Responsible body: Fáilte Ireland

Status: Complete

Update: Tourism Ireland commissioned research on overseas consumer and trade perspectives on carbon offsetting and sustainability accreditation schemes that found consumers expected the destination or tourism industry to lead in this area and that there had been limited take-up of consumer-led schemes in competitor destinations.

Action 90 Grow the awareness and understanding of sustainability in tourism

Q3 2022 measure: Encourage applications from the tourism sector for the next Sustainable Development Goals Champions Programme

Responsible body: Sustainable Tourism Working Group

Status: Delayed

Update: This action is dependent on the relaunch of the Sustainable Development Goals Champion's Programme. DTCAGSM are currently discussing a Tourism application to be submitted when the next Champions Programme is launched. Expected Delivery Date: Q1 2023.

Action 90 Grow the awareness and understanding of sustainability in tourism

Q4 2021 Delayed measure: Incorporate the guiding principles for sustainable tourism development in business support programmes

Responsible body: Fáilte Ireland

Status: Delayed

Update: Fáilte Ireland have developed a substantial volume of resources to educate and support tourism businesses on their climate action journey, the Fáilte Ireland "Climate Action Roadmap". This Roadmap consists of stand-alone interactive chapters that includes; a look at jargon busters, key insights, checklists and case studies. A National Climate Conference to officially launch these Fáilte Ireland supports will take place on in November to highlight Fáilte Ireland's position, the work done to date, the net benefits to industry in coming on the climate action journey and rallying industry to the Government's climate action goals. Expected Delivery Date: Q4 2022.

Action 92 Support the modification of sports facilities in order to reduce energy consumption

Q3 2022 measure: Embed sustainability in the planning, design, construction, and operation of all new infrastructure projects at the Sport Ireland Campus

Responsible body: Sport Ireland

Status: Complete

Update: The Sport Ireland Sustainability Statement sets out how sustainability will be implemented in all future projects, in line with the goals set out under action 92a.

Action 92 Support the modification of sports facilities in order to reduce energy consumption

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Development of a new sustainability strategy for the Sport Ireland Campus

Responsible body: Sport Ireland

Status: Complete

Update: The Sport Ireland Sustainability Statement was presented to the Department in September detailing Sport Ireland's commitment to achieving a target of net carbon neutrality by 2030. The Sustainability Statement centres around six sustainability pillars; energy, water, waste, mobility, biodiversity and governance each with their own specific vision statement and policies to achieve the headline target of carbon neutrality by 2030, ahead of the targets set at EU and national level. The statement also details a number of sub targets:

- 62%-81% reduction in electricity emissions by 2030.
- Net Zero Operational Emissions by 2050.
- Further improvement in fabric and energy efficiency in existing buildings.
- Roll out of zero-carbon heating solutions using heat-pumps and district heating networks.
- Promoting behavioural change energy use.
- 80% of gross electricity consumption to come from renewable sources by 2030.

Governance

Action 1	Finalise Ireland's long-term climate strategy
Q1 2022 Delayed measure: As per headline action	
Responsible body: DECC	
Status: Delayed	
Update: An updated draft Long Term Strategy was prepared and circulated to Senior Officials' Group (SOG) for review and comment. A further and final iteration, taking account of feedback received and recently approved sectoral ceilings is being finalised with a view to submitting to the Commission by Q4 2022.	

Action 3	Streamline the reporting process to distinguish to between key actions that deliver significant emissions abatement, and supporting actions, to allow for greater transparency on progress towards decarbonisation
Quarterly measure: Publish progress report each quarter	
Responsible body: D/Taoiseach	
Status: Complete	
<p>Update: First text updates were received from all Departments on 7 September 2022 to give early sight on the progress of measures due for reporting in Q3 and generate attention to any measures deemed at risk of delay.</p> <p>Final updates on all measures were due by close of business on 3 October 2022, culminating in the creation of this Progress Report which was approved by Government for publication.</p>	

Action 3	Streamline the reporting process to distinguish to between key actions that deliver significant emissions abatement, and supporting actions, to allow for greater transparency on progress towards decarbonisation
Quarterly measure: Hold quarterly meetings of the Climate Action Delivery Board	
Responsible body: D/Taoiseach	
Status: Complete	
Update: The Climate Action Delivery Board met on 22 July 2022, co-chaired by the Secretary General from DECC and the new Secretary General from D/Taoiseach.	

Action 4	Activate a process, incorporated in Cabinet procedures, to ensure that all Government memoranda and major investment decisions are subject to a climate mitigation and adaptation evaluation
Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Enhance Cabinet procedures to ensure that all Government Memoranda are considered against their carbon impact and mitigation potential	
Responsible body: D/Taoiseach	
Status: Delayed	
<p>Update: Preparatory work/design on a technical solution for the eCabinet system to include a requirement to indicate the Climate Change impact of Government Memoranda is now complete and is awaiting implementation by the software developer and the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO). Once implemented, the Secretary General of Department of the Taoiseach will write to each Department regarding the change and its implications for submitting Government Memoranda. A further presentation to the Climate Action Unit Network is also planned.</p> <p>In addition, and building on previous engagement, D/Taoiseach has further engaged with D/PER and D/ECC on developing more comprehensive guidance/metrics that would not only aid climate proofing of Government Memoranda but help increase the capacity of the wider system to measure the climate implications of Government Policy. Work is ongoing and engagement with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and EU institutions on best practice/potential Technical Solution Instrument is being explored.</p>	

Action 4	Activate a process, incorporated in Cabinet procedures, to ensure that all Government memoranda and major investment decisions are subject to a climate mitigation and adaptation evaluation
Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Identify and put in place appropriate support to assist Departments on the inclusion of climate impact in Memoranda	
Responsible body: DECC	
Status: Delayed	
Update: DECC is working closely with the D/Taoiseach to put in place the appropriate supports to assist Departments consideration of climate impacts on foot of the completion of 4a.	

Action 5	Undertake a capacity review across all departments to ensure that both the people and systems are configured to deliver on climate action
Q3 2022 measure: Procure Training Provider(s) for design and delivery of new civil service training courses	
Responsible body: DPER	
Status: Delayed	
Update: This action has been delayed as it is dependent on the completion of the capacity review that is being carried out across all Departments.	

Action 5	Undertake a capacity review across all departments to ensure that both the people and systems are configured to deliver on climate action
Q3 2022 measure: Host events to facilitate collaboration and peer learning across all Units	
Responsible body: D/Taoiseach	
Status: Complete	
<p>Update: The Climate Action Unit Network was established in March 2022 to facilitate collaboration and peer learning across all Departmental Units. The group has met twice to date, with information sessions and training events held on topics spanning international climate policy, civil service capacity, public sector mandates, climate communications, CAP 23 development, climate proofing and developing a vision for the public sector decarbonisation strategy.</p> <p>Terms of Reference and a forward looking work programme has also been agreed by the group, including further desired Unit collaboration and training.</p>	

Action 5	Undertake a capacity review across all departments to ensure that both the people and systems are configured to deliver on climate action
Q1 2022 Delayed measure: As per headline action	
Responsible body: All Departments	
Status: Delayed	
<p>Update: Following initial procurement delays, the Institute of Public Administration (IPA) was appointed in Q3 to provide external and independent expertise to undertake a capacity and capability review across all Government Departments with respect to climate action delivery.</p> <p>A methodology for engaging officials from across Departments has been devised in Q3. The Climate Action Unit Network and letters to Secretaries General will be used to expedite participation across the system.</p>	

Action 5	Undertake a capacity review across all departments to ensure that both the people and systems are configured to deliver on climate action
Q3 2022 measure: Engage with appropriate Departments and Agencies to prepare gap analysis in climate training across civil service	
Responsible body: DECC	
Status: Delayed	
<p>Update: A coordination group has been set up between D/Taoiseach, DECC and DPER over the last few months to coordinate actions on capacity, capability and training. A capacity review is expected to complete in Q3 2022, with contracted support from the IPA.</p>	

Action 6	Complete the statutory process for the legal adoption of economy-wide carbon budgets and sectoral ceilings
Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Finalise Carbon Budgets and sectoral ceilings	
Responsible body: DECC	
Status: Complete	
Update: Action 6b is now complete. The sectoral emission ceilings were approved by Government on 28 July following a period of engagement at senior and Ministerial level.	

Action 8	Consult on how individual sectors could bear any compliance costs for the State arising from failure to reach sectoral targets
Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Develop a consultation paper on potential methodologies for apportioning any cost of compliance across Government Departments	
Responsible body: DPER	
Status: Delayed	
Update: Delayed due to reliance on finalisation of sectoral emissions ceilings. DPER are now working with DECC to progress a spending review and consultation paper. The expectation is that the paper will be finalised by year end.	

Action 9	Identify common challenges to climate action implementation within the Civil Service and develop a proposal to address any challenges identified
Q3 2022 measure: Develop options to enhance delivery and tackle key implementation challenges	
Responsible body: D/Taoiseach	
Status: Delayed	
Update: The capacity review under 5b was expanded to also identify common challenges to climate action implementation within the Civil Service.	
The development of the final options paper and recommendations to tackle implementation challenges is thus delayed pending completion of the capacity and capability review. The review is expected to complete in Q4, with the options paper planned for Q1 2023.	

Action 9	Identify common challenges to climate action implementation within the Civil Service and develop a proposal to address any challenges identified
Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Conduct a review across the civil service to establish common challenges to climate action implementation	
Responsible body: D/Taoiseach	
Status: Delayed	
Update: The Civil Service capacity review under 5b was expanded to identify common challenges to climate action implementation in keeping with this measure. Following initial procurement issues which delayed its commencement, the review is currently underway by the IPA and is now expected to complete in Q4.	

Ensuring a Just Transition to a Climate Neutral Ireland

Action 10	Establish a Just Transition Commission
Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Approval of policy approach on establishment of Just Transition Commission	
Responsible body: DECC	
Status: Delayed	
Update: The proposed policy approach is currently under consideration by the Minister after stakeholder engagement was undertaken.	

Action 12	Support the provision of strategic advice and research on just transition in Ireland, including future priorities and spatial and sectoral impacts
Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Establish a Just Transition Working Group to coordinate the provision of strategic advice and research to the proposed Just Transition Commission	
Responsible body: DECC	
Status: Delayed	
Update: The Minister is currently considering the appropriate approach to taking forward this proposal in the context of the overall approach to the establishment of the Just Transition Commission.	

Action 26	Support delivery of projects under the Just Transition Fund
Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Issue funding agreements to successful projects and finalise arrangements for delegated management of the Fund	
Responsible body: DECC	
Status: Delayed	
Update: The Department has finalised funding agreements with all successful projects under the national Just Transition Fund 2020 . The Department is currently reviewing the proposed arrangements for delegation of the management of the Fund.	

Citizen Engagement

Action 34	Advance coordinated climate action communications from the centre of Government
Q3 2022 measure: Commence roll-out of centralised communications through GIS	
Responsible body: D/Taoiseach	
Status: Complete	
Update: Centralised communication processes and structures have now been rolled out and cross-Government climate communications groups and networks are being coordinated by Government Information Service. This includes the rollout of a shared calendar of climate communications activity, and whole of Government engagement in a number of key campaigns and launches.	

Action 34	Advance coordinated climate action communications from the centre of Government
Quarterly measure: Maintenance and update of gov.ie/climate action	
Responsible body: D/Taoiseach	
Status: Complete	
Update: Regular updates were undertaken on gov.ie/climateaction to reflect updates in the climate action area. In Q3 2022 the platform was updated to highlight the second progress report of the 2021 Climate Action Plan and associated annex of actions.	

Action 34	Advance coordinated climate action communications from the centre of Government
Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Develop a climate communications strategy	
Responsible body: D/Taoiseach	
Status: Complete	
Update: In Q3, a whole of Government Climate Communications strategy was developed by the Climate Action Unit in Department of Taoiseach in collaboration with relevant Departments and agencies. This strategy will inform a cross-Government climate communications workplan.	

Action 35 **Provide support for the development of relevant media content, including in the independent production sector**

Q3 2022 measure: Collate and synthesise findings from research and engagement activities to establish an evidence base to inform communications

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Complete

Update: Short reports on the [National Youth Assembly on Climate](#), [National Climate Stakeholder Forum](#), [Creative Ireland](#), and the [Climate Conversations](#) (Public Participation Network (PPN), focus groups, interviews, and the public consultation) are being finalised and will be available in September. Main findings: clear consistent communications, strong leadership by government, demonstrating action, learning by doing, and community level action are essential. Climate literacy is a significant gap and a priority for 2023.

Action 37 **Support, through the education system, the required initiatives to support the development of a climate neutral economy**

Quarterly measure: Ensure all learners acquire knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including among others through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and

Responsible body: D/Education

Status: Complete

Update: September newsletter issued: <https://www.gov.ie/en/collection/a1d6e-education-for-sustainable-development-newsletter/>. Some of the topics covered included:

- The Education for Sustainable Development Strategy 2023
- ECO-UNESCO Summer Camp update
- Young Environmentalist Awards 2023
- Scoilnet - extension of collaboration on resource-sharing
- Green-Schools and Global Citizenship Education
- EPA Report on 2021 Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Climate and Nature Summit – Irish Schools Sustainability Network
- Climate Education Summer University

Action 38	Deliver the National Climate Change Action and Awareness Programme to support the international Foundation for Environmental Education programmes through Green-Schools, Green-Campus and Young Reporters for the Environment
Q3 2022 measure:	Fund and support the Climate Ambassador Programme by providing Training, Network Events, Public Outreach, Podcast, and Climate Ambassador Awards
Responsible body:	An Taisce
Status:	Delayed
Update:	Climate Ambassador Programme Support: Four networking events were held early in quarter two to encourage partnerships, collaboration and skills sharing amongst 83 Climate Ambassadors. Public outreach survey complete with 1,178 respondents. Climate Ambassador Awards are held in Q4 where Climate Heroes will be awarded based on submission of activity logs outlining Climate Actions and Climate Communications carried out throughout the year. This will be held on 18th November in Dublin.

Action 38	Deliver the National Climate Change Action and Awareness Programme to support the international Foundation for Environmental Education programmes through Green-Schools, Green-Campus and Young Reporters for the Environment
Q3 2022 measure:	Continue to promote the Extra Personal Vacation Online Climate Action Teacher Training course for primary teachers
Responsible body:	An Taisce
Status:	Complete
Update:	The course has been fully accredited for 2020-2022 by Drumcondra Education Centre on behalf of the Department of Education and Skills. Completion of this 20-hour CPD course grants primary teachers three Extra Personal Vacation (EPV) days as an incentive to participate. 103 teachers from 21 counties across Ireland completed the online course in 2022.

Action 38	Deliver the National Climate Change Action and Awareness Programme to support the international Foundation for Environmental Education programmes through Green-Schools, Green-Campus and Young Reporters for the Environment
Q3 2022 measure:	Develop further resources and supports for teachers and schools including a "We want our park back" animated video to support the Junior Primary Storybook
Responsible body:	An Taisce
Status:	Complete
Update:	The Climate Action Team worked with illustrators and animators in quarter two to bring the junior primary storybook We Want Our Park Back to life for young children. This video project will help strengthen the interconnectedness of Green-Schools' themes and climate change and complete the resource package for Junior Primary Teachers. The video will be finished in Q3 and launch in September/October. Final touches being added to this for October launch.

Action 38	Deliver the National Climate Change Action and Awareness Programme to support the international Foundation for Environmental Education programmes through Green-Schools, Green-Campus and Young Reporters for the Environment
Q3 2022 measure:	Commence Senior Primary Climate Action Resource and accompanying lesson plans
Responsible body:	An Taisce
Status:	Delayed
Update:	Initial development began towards the end of Q2. Difficult to source provider but work has now commenced with timeline for completion before end of 2022.

Action 38	Deliver the National Climate Change Action and Awareness Programme to support the international Foundation for Environmental Education programmes through Green-Schools, Green-Campus and Young Reporters for the Environment
Q3 2022 measure:	Identify and promote the connections and benefits which the Green Schools programme brings in terms of measurable and actionable climate action through staff survey, policy research, participation in submit.com working group meetings, employing NDCA research
Responsible body:	An Taisce
Status:	Complete
Update:	Report complete. CAP 2021 specifically identifies the Environmental Education Unit (EEU) of An Taisce as a lead actor with the Department of Environment, Communications and Climate (DECC) a key stakeholder in the delivery of eight specific outcomes necessary under Action 38 - Citizenship Engagement: The National Climate Change Action and Awareness Programme. This document has been formulated with these actions to the fore. By combining the internal and external networks available to the EEU with tried and tested programme methodology, there is scope to move forward with measurable and attainable actions which decouple our everyday lifestyles from carbon use in line with agreed policy. Each of the ten Green Schools themes ranging from litter and waste to global citizenship travel are addressed in turn with input from complimentary programmes such as Climate Ambassadors, Young Reporters for the Environment (YRE) and Green Campus where relevant. The format is the same throughout – a brief thematic summary and list of key stakeholders, followed by an analysis of where each respective theme can link into CAP objectives and how this can be measured. The primary and secondary relevant Sustainable Development Goals are then listed by theme.

Action 38	Deliver the National Climate Change Action and Awareness Programme to support the international Foundation for Environmental Education programmes through Green-Schools, Green-Campus and Young Reporters for the Environment
Q3 2022 measure:	Continue to expand the Green-Campus network programme increasing the number of those awarded green flag status from 15/39 to 23/39
Responsible body:	An Taisce
Status:	Complete
Update:	A report on the eight newly registered Green Campuses is now complete.

Action 38	Deliver the National Climate Change Action and Awareness Programme to support the international Foundation for Environmental Education programmes through Green-Schools, Green-Campus and Young Reporters for the Environment
Q3 2022 measure: Expand the Young Reporters for the Environment (YRE) Pilot, focus on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and key climate themes (e.g., water, travel, biodiversity) through additional training, webinars, the Green Campus Programme, and support through an YRE Award	
Responsible body: An Taisce	
Status: Complete	
<p>Update: Registration for the new academic year opened in the last week of August and a targeted promotion to our schools and campus network is ongoing. The previous years entries can be viewed here : https://yreireland.exposure.co/</p> <p>Both of the national winners from Green-Schools and Green-Campus were shortlisted for the international competition. Schools involved:25, Projects: 37, Students (directly):86, Students (indirectly):12,500, Teachers:25, Submissions:41, Overall reach: 25,000.</p> <p>A YRE Webinar “The Anatomy of an Article” took place during Climate Action Week October 2022. YRE programme operates on the academic year, there was an increase in the number of participants for the academic yr 21/22.</p> <p>New academic year programme for 22/23 has launched and participants are currently registering.</p>	

Action 41	Design and conduct annual Climate Conversations and Public Consultation on the Climate Action Plan
Q3 2022 measure: Engage with relevant sectors to ensure citizen feedback is incorporated in the Climate Action Plan	
Responsible body: DECC	
Status: Complete	
<p>Update: Due to some administrative delays, presentation of the findings will be given in October to c.120 CAP 23 working group members. Key findings from 4,000 online participants and engagement with sectoral focus groups will inform the development of Climate Action Plan 2023.</p>	

Action 41	Design and conduct annual Climate Conversations and Public Consultation on the Climate Action Plan
Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Organise and host Broad Online Conversations	
Responsible body: DECC	
Status: Complete	
<p>Update: Delays in launching the Climate Conversations 2022 have meant that the consultation will be open until the 9 September 2022. The final report will be available at the end of September.</p>	

Action 44	Employ the latest research to provide an evidence base to support work of the NDCA, communications and the Inter-departmental Working Group, drive sectoral demand shifts and behavioural change, and provide input into policy
Q3 2022 measure: Conduct ad hoc qualitative research studies exploring specific policy priorities	
Responsible body: EPA	
Status: Complete	
Update: The Climate Conversations 2022 (CC22) were held between May and Sept 2022 and included 10 focus groups with populations vulnerable the transition to carbon neutrality, 10 in-depth interviews with experts in engagement and social research, and 15 Public Participation Network (PPN) workshops. The National Social and Behavioural Advisory Group has been established. The findings of the reports was to be presented to the sectoral leads through the Interdepartmental Working Group on Engagement and the advisory group in September but this has been pushed back until late October. Based on these discussions, priority policy areas will be selected to carry out additional qualitative research studies.	

Action 44	Employ the latest research to provide an evidence base to support work of the NDCA, communications and the Inter-departmental Working Group, drive sectoral demand shifts and behavioural change, and provide input into policy
Q3 2022 measure: Design a plan of further studies informed by the findings of the Climate Change in the Irish Mind Report and associated outputs	
Responsible body: EPA	
Status: Delayed	
Update: The findings of the Climate Conversations 2022 and the Climate Change in the Irish Mind research was presented to the Inter-departmental Working Group (IDWG), the Climate Action Plan 2023 Working Groups, the Citizen Engagement and Climate Literacy Taskforce, and the National Social and Behavioural Advisory Group in September. Following discussions with these groups gaps in knowledge and policy areas that would benefit from gathering further insights will be identified. A research programme to carry out qualitative or behavioural studies will be developed to examine these priority areas and delivered in 2023.	

Action 44	Employ the latest research to provide an evidence base to support work of the NDCA, communications and the Inter-departmental Working Group, drive sectoral demand shifts and behavioural change, and provide input into policy
Q3 2022 measure: Capture insights from research studies funded through the Climate Action Fund and Creative Ireland	
Responsible body: DECC	
Status: Complete	
Update: A draft report has been submitted for review.	

Action 44	Employ the latest research to provide an evidence base to support work of the NDCA, communications and the Inter-departmental Working Group, drive sectoral demand shifts and behavioural change, and provide input into policy
Q4 2021 Delayed measure: Establish a National Climate Change Behavioural Insights and Implementation Unit	
Responsible body: EPA	
Status: Complete	
Update: The Unit is now established with a full time manager leading it.	

Action 45	Design and implement a robust project management system to monitor NDCA progress
Q3 2022 measure: Analyse outputs from short reports on Engagement and Research into consolidated report providing insight by sector and an evaluation of the engagement activity to provide evidence base for Government and the next Climate Action Plan	
Responsible body: DECC	
Status: Delayed	
Update: A Literature Review, Stakeholder Report, and Interim reports from the National Climate Stakeholder Forum and the National Youth Assembly on Climate will be available for review in September and will be presented to the Climate Communications Coordination Committee (CCCC) at the next meeting, and the Climate Action Plan Working Groups when established. The Climate Conversations 2022 (CC22) will be open until the 9 September 2022. The final consolidated CC22 report will be available at the end of October including insights by sector; the NDCA Annual Report will be available in October which will include an evaluation of the NDCA. These reports will be made available to sectoral leads in their development of the Climate Action Plan 2023 Chapters.	

Action 45	Design and implement a robust project management system to monitor NDCA progress
Quarterly measure: Collate, and analyse social and behavioural research insights by key themes and sectors including Just Transition, energy, waste, transport, built environment and agriculture	
Responsible body: DECC	
Status: Delayed	
Update: The Short report on social and behavioural research insights including key findings by sector will be included in the Climate Conversations 2022 report.	

Action 47 Promote sustainable destination management

Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Develop and promote a sustainability pledge for both inbound and domestic tourists and tour operators to support Ireland's efforts to help preserve the environment and act in a responsible and sustainable manner

Responsible body: Sustainable Tourism Working Group

Status: Complete

Update: Extensive consumer research into visitor pledges and the success of initiatives undertaken by other destinations was completed by Tourism Ireland and reviewed by The Sustainable Tourism Working Group. The consumer research found no evidence that consumers valued such a pledge and would sign up to one. Rather, they expected the destination or tourism industry to lead on taking such pledges. The research findings were supported by a review of pledges in place in competitor destinations which revealed little meaningful take-up. Instead of developing a new consumer pledge, Fáilte Ireland will continue support schemes and initiatives already in place, such as the "[Leave no Trace](#)" programme.

Action 47 Promote sustainable destination management

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Evaluate the benefits of introducing a national tourism enterprise sustainability programme along the lines of 'Origin Green'

Responsible body: Sustainable Tourism Working Group

Status: Complete

Update: The evaluation has been completed by the Department's Sustainable Tourism Working Group, informed by research with overseas consumers and trade. The Group has supported the development of such a scheme in principle. The DTCAGSM's tourism agencies will now proceed to scope the nature of such a scheme and its potential modus operandi.

Action 47 Promote sustainable destination management

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Organise workshops with local stakeholders including community groups/farmers etc. to maximise the potential of nature-based solutions in local tourism

Responsible body: Fáilte Ireland

Status: Delayed

Update: This is part of the [EU LIFE Wild Atlantic Nature](#) - the project was delayed commencing due to COVID-19 so timelines have been adjusted. Since the project was delayed all associated actions were pushed out.

The guidelines have been drafted and are awaiting approval from the project team and the other beneficiaries and partners prior to the workshops to be held in Q4.
Expected Delivery Date: Q4 2022.

Action 49 Progress the establishment of a Citizens' Assembly on Biodiversity

Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Conclude and analyse youth engagement on scope of Assembly

Responsible body: National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)

Status: Delayed

Update: The Young Professional Advisory Board (YPAB) Young Advisory Team has been convened. It is made up of 9 people and has conducted most of its activities virtually so far. A 2 day residential meeting took place in Dublin City University in September.

Two physical meetings (weekend sessions) are planned for the YPAB (Assembly) in October to dovetail with the main Citizens' Assembly. Venues for the meetings and accommodation for the participants have been secured.

There will be also be a YPAB website launched in advance of the meetings.

Action 49 Progress the establishment of a Citizens' Assembly on Biodiversity

Q3 2022 measure: Scope ToR for Citizens' Assembly incorporating results of consultation

Responsible body: D/Taoiseach

Status: Complete

Update: This action has been superseded by the progression of the Citizen's Assembly on Biodiversity Loss which held its first meeting in May 2022. There will be a number of deliberations up to the end of the year. All of the meetings and presentations will be available online at www.citizensassembly.ie

Action 50 Supporting Climate and Biodiversity progress through relevant strategic advice to enhance evidence-based decision-making

Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Provide advice on 'how-to' progress strategic or challenging projects (which may be identified during the current planning, modelling and bottom-up process)

Responsible body: National Economic and Social Council (NESC)

Status: Delayed

Update: Proposed single output changed to three outputs early in 2022 which delayed overall status:

- Research report on place-based approach to just transition published in July (Q3).
- Interim report on engagement and advice on agriculture and just transition- on schedule Q4;
- Advisory review of just transition methods, governance and engagement-Q4.

Ireland's International Action on Climate Breakdown

Action 449	Develop and implement approaches to climate-proof all ODA, and continue to include climate as a core theme in strategy development in countries where Ireland has a significant development cooperation programme
Q3 2022 measure: Provide technical support to HQ Units and Missions to ensure climate action is included in their strategic and business planning	
Responsible body: DFA	
Status: Complete	
<p>Update: Climate proofing tender for implementation support was completed in September 2022. Climate Proofing will be an ongoing process, with external support to be delivered over the next 12 months. The development of an updated framework for climate proofing official development assistance (ODA) is being initiated, in consultation with Climate Unit and relevant focal points across DFA including in missions. DFA Climate Unit also continues to provide training related to climate action in bilateral country programming. This includes monitoring drafts of new mission strategies and mid-term reviews of strategies as they arise, and contributing relevant inputs and observations that incorporates climate as a core theme in those strategies.</p>	

Action 450	Promote the development of the sustainable finance sector internationally, including preparing a Climate Finance Roadmap
Q3 2022 measure: Monitoring of and reporting on sustainable finance measures within the 2021 Ireland for Finance Action Plan	
Responsible body: DFIN	
Status: Complete	
<p>Update: The Ireland for Finance Progress Report 2021 was published in June 2022 and is available on the Department of Finance website at the link: https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/a3662-ireland-for-finance-progress-report-june-2022/.</p> <p>All action measures in the Ireland for Finance Action Plan 2021 that dealt with sustainable or climate finance were either completed or on track at the end of 2021.</p>	

Adaptation

Action 453	Deliver Climate Ireland as the national platform for data, information and decision supports on climate impacts and adaptation
Q3 2022 measure:	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
Responsible body:	EPA
Status:	Complete
Update:	Climate Ireland has provided policy and decision-making support along with capacity building tools to local authorities and sectors. Information and data on the Climate Ireland website has been updated in line with Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Assessment Report 6. In addition to this the Climate Ireland website is in the process of being migrated onto the EPA platform.

Action 455	Review National Adaptation Framework
Q3 2022 measure:	Report to Minister results of Review Process
Responsible body:	DECC
Status:	Complete
Update:	Public consultation completed July 20th. A report on the National Adaptation Framework review was submitted to the Minister on 26 September.

Action 456	Commence pilot project to identify a suitable approach for the use of Climate Change Adaptation Indicators at national level
Q3 2022 measure:	Agree changes to national guidance to reflect agreed methodology for the use of indicators in adaptation planning
Responsible body:	DECC
Status:	Delayed
Update:	Knock on effects from action 456a. It will not be possible to progress this action until action 456a is complete.

Action 456	Commence pilot project to identify a suitable approach for the use of Climate Change Adaptation Indicators at national level
Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Scope out and agree Climate Indicators in an existing national adaptation sector	
Responsible body: DECC	
Status: Delayed	
Update: Delayed due to external dependencies - D/Transport agreed to progress the climate indicators pilot and is working with the technical experts in the EPA to progress the project. The Climate Ireland team is progressing the development of climate indicators as a pilot project as part of its work programme, and is working with Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) to develop a pilot indicator set for the road sector. A preliminary project output may be available by November 2022.	

Action 468	Continue to develop flood forecasting capability, including the development of coastal and marine monitoring and predictive capability
Q3 2022 measure: Continue to develop coastal monitoring in the context of increased flooding risk related to climate change	
Responsible body: DHLGH - Met Éireann	
Status: Complete	
Update: All wave sensors were deployed. The Commissioners of Irish Lights collaboration is continuing and trials will continue into 2023 with a review of the performance of the sensors.	

Action 469	Continue to improve the understanding of, and the communication around, Ireland's changing climate and the co-creation and delivery of climate services
Q3 2022 measure: Continue to expand climate communication and the availability of climate services, data, and information to the public and users	
Responsible body: DHLGH - Met Éireann	
Status: Complete	
Update: Standardised Core Climate Indices for Ireland are complete. Results published on met.ie .	

Action 469	Continue to improve the understanding of, and the communication around, Ireland's changing climate and the co-creation and delivery of climate services
Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Continue to work in state-of-the-art climate modelling	
Responsible body: DHLGH - Met Éireann	
Status: Delayed	
Update: Actions i) to iv) complete. Action v) Future Weather Research Fellowship: interviews were held in September 2022, with the aim of having the position filled by Q4 2022 or Q1 2023.	

Action 470	Continue to improve Ireland's national climate monitoring capabilities through the delivery of advanced, sustainable, and long-term, climate and environmental monitoring programmes
Q2 2022 Delayed measure:	Continue the modernisation of the weather radar network by procuring Shannon replacement dual-pol radar
Responsible body:	DHLGH - Met Éireann
Status:	Delayed
Update:	Civil works contractor awarded contract for Shannon radar tower works under Office of Public Works Q3 2022. Works to commence Q1 2023. Radar installation scheduled for Q1 2023 / Q2 2023. The reason for the delay is due to the scope of civil works required at the airport site to bring the radar tower up to modern building regulations before the new radar can be installed, and ensuring Shannon downtime is minimised during storm season.

Action 476	Adopt the four regional plans under Irish Water's National Water Resources Framework Plan
Q3 2022 measure:	Publication of final Regional Water Resources Plan: South West
Responsible body:	Irish Water
Status:	Delayed
Update:	Consultation on draft Regional Water Resources Plan South West closed on 24th Aug. Submission assessment and deliberation underway.

Action 476	Adopt the four regional plans under Irish Water's National Water Resources Framework Plan
Q3 2022 measure:	Public consultation on the draft Regional Water Resources Plan: North West
Responsible body:	Irish Water
Status:	Delayed
Update:	New schedule developed to facilitate the extended stakeholder engagement for the Eastern and Midlands region.

Action 476	Adopt the four regional plans under Irish Water's National Water Resources Framework Plan
Q2 2022 Delayed measure:	Publication of final Regional Water Resources Plan: Eastern and Midlands
Responsible body:	Irish Water
Status:	Delayed
Update:	New schedule developed to facilitate extended stakeholder engagement. Final Regional Water Resources Plan: Eastern and Midlands will be adopted in October 2022.

Action 477 Develop clear leadership across the health sector

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Health sector bodies state-funded or grant aided to reflect on and embed relevant adaptation actions within their strategic and operational planning

Responsible body: D/Health

Status: Delayed

Update: This expenditure is being analysed by the Health Service Executive (HSE) and voluntary hospital sector, who will be covered by the Climate Action and Sustainability Strategy being finalised at present. This Strategy will be launched in Q4 2022.

Action 480 Identify and build collaborative relationships with key stakeholders to guide implementation of health-related climate policies

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Identify arrangements for ongoing engagement with key stakeholder groups and ways to ensure integration of their work

Responsible body: D/Health

Status: Delayed

Update: Health sector engagement will be carried out by the Department and the Health Service Executive (HSE) as part of the implementation of the Climate Action and Sustainability Strategy. Forum development expected in Q4 2022.

Action 486 Build and refine Irish-specific climate change epidemiology relating to air pollution and identify risk groups

Q2 2022 Delayed measure: Assess adequacy of number of ambient air quality monitoring stations

Responsible body: D/Health

Status: Delayed

Update: This action will be taken forward in conjunction with DECC and the Health Service Executive (HSE) once the Clean Air Strategy is published.

Action 487	Undertake climate change adaptation research in the electricity and gas networks sector
Q4 2021 Delayed measure: Identify energy specific climate research required	
Responsible body: SEAI	
Status: Delayed	
<p>Update: Relevant Thematic Topics were included in the 2022 SEAI National Energy Research, Development & Demonstration (RD&D) Funding Programme Call: Topic 8 - Demonstration of smart controllers in conjunction with ESB network' National Networks Local Connection Programme (co-funded with ESB Networks); Topic 13 - Green hydrogen in the Irish energy sector.</p> <p>SEAI has designed topics for inclusion to 2022 RD&D Call, with Eirgrid, ESB and others. RD&D 2022 applications are currently under evaluation, with results due in Q3 2022.</p> <p>T here is no further update as the 2022 RD&D Call applications are still under evaluation, with results likely in late September. Applicants to these topics may or may not be funded, as the call is evaluated on a competitive basis.</p>	
Action 488	Continue to build on adaptation measures in the electricity and gas networks sector already in place
Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Identify measures that are working well in other jurisdictions and assess whether they can also be deployed in Ireland	
Responsible body: Energy network companies, private generators & agencies	
Status: Delayed	
Update: We are currently awaiting the establishment of the Energy Technical Advisory Division and therefore resources are not available to progress action. This is due to be done in Q1 2023.	
Action 489	Mainstream climate change adaptation into general energy policy, and strategic objectives to 2050
Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Assess level of climate change adaptation in energy policy and make recommendations, as appropriate	
Responsible body: DECC	
Status: Delayed	
Update: We are currently awaiting the establishment of the Energy Technical Advisory Division and therefore resources are not available to progress action. This is due to be done in Q1 2023.	

Action 490	Harmonise the collection of baseline data on the costs to business and the public arising from past extreme weather events in the electricity and gas networks sector
Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Develop justification criteria for mitigation measures by utilities based on avoided costs to wider economy from such mitigation measures	
Responsible body: EPA	
Status: Delayed	
Update: We are currently awaiting the establishment of the Energy Technical Advisory Division and therefore resources are not available to progress action. This is due to be done in Q1 2023.	

Action 491	Identify areas vulnerable to impacts of climate change in the electricity and gas networks sector
Q3 2022 measure: Energy network companies to continue to identify vulnerable areas where assets are located	
Responsible body: Planning authorities	
Status: Delayed	
Update: We are currently awaiting the establishment of the Energy Technical Advisory Division and therefore resources are not available to progress action. This is due to be done in Q1 2023.	

Action 492	Identify measures required to adapt to climate change impacts on vulnerable infrastructure in the electricity and gas networks sector
Q3 2022 measure: Monitoring and enhanced maintenance of energy assets	
Responsible body: CRU	
Status: Delayed	
Update: We are currently awaiting the establishment of the Energy Technical Advisory Division and therefore resources are not available to progress action. This is due to be done in Q1 2023.	

Action 492	Identify measures required to adapt to climate change impacts on vulnerable infrastructure in the electricity and gas networks sector
Q3 2022 measure: Refurbish / Upgrade energy assets	
Responsible body: CRU	
Status: Delayed	
Update: We are currently awaiting the establishment of the Energy Technical Advisory Division and therefore resources are not available to progress action. This is due to be done in Q1 2023.	