



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Appendix 1

Climate Action Plan 2021 Progress Report - Q4 2022



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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	27	221	10	96%
Q1 2022	113	51	164	27	86%
Q2 2022	73	50	123	39	76%
Q3 2022	74	13	87	37	70%
Q4 2022	165	N/A	165	92	64%
Total CAP 2021 Delivery	619	141	760	205	79%

Glossary of Acronyms

AA	Appropriate Assessment
BER	Building Energy Rating
BIM	Bord Iascaigh Mhara
CAP	Climate Action Plan
CARO	Climate Action Regional Office
CCS	Carbon Capture and Storage
CE	Circular Economy
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
DSO	Distribution System Operator
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
ETB	Education and Training Board
EU	European Union
EV	Electric Vehicle
GHG	Greenhouse Gases
GNI	Gas Networks Ireland
HGV	Heavy Goods Vehicle
IDA	Industrial Development Agency
LA	Local Authority
LGV	Light Goods Vehicle
LULUCF	Land Use, Land-use Change and Forestry
NDP	National Development Plan
NESC	National Economic and Social Council

NPWS	National Parks and Wildlife Service
NTA	National Transport Authority
NZEB	Nearly Zero Energy Building
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
OPW	Office of Public Works
ORE	Offshore Renewable Energy
ORESS	Offshore Renewable Energy Support Scheme
PPN	Public Participation Network
PV	Photovoltaics
RESS	Renewable Electricity Support Scheme
RSA	Road Safety Authority
RWRP	Regional Waters Resources Plan
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SBCI	Strategic Banking Corporation of Ireland
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SEAI	Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland
SFI	Science Foundation Ireland
SI	Statutory Instrument
TII	Transport Infrastructure Ireland
TSO	Transmission System Operator
VRT	Vehicle Registration Tax
ZEVI	Zero Emissions Vehicles Ireland

Agriculture

Action 306a	Establish National Fertiliser User Register to allow a more resource efficient use of nutrients
Q3 2022 Delayed 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
Update:	<p>The Pre-Legislative Scrutiny phase has been completed and the report from the Joint Oireachtas Committee is now available. There are 19 Recommendations in total, with six relevant to the Fertiliser component of the draft legislation.</p> <p>DAFM is now considering the report and any required amendments arising from this and other matters, before proceeding to the next stage. An updated Bill and a Memo for government will be sent to Cabinet as soon as possible. It is acknowledged that the legislation will not be in place by 1st January, but subject to the democratic process, it is hoped to have this legislation in place for early 2023. Progressing this legislation remains a high priority for the Minister and DAFM.</p>

Action 307b	Increase the use of protected urea fertiliser
Q2 2022 Delayed measure:	Establish an information Portal on Protected Nitrogen Products
Responsible body:	DAFM
Status:	Complete
Update:	<p>The portal has been developed and can be found at the following link: gov.ie - https://www.gov.ie/ga/foilsuichan/30b1d-trade-imports-exports-fertilisers-and-limestone/</p>

Action 309a	Increase the number of dairy herds carrying out milk recording from the current level of 50% to 90%
Every Q4 measure: Promote the use of milk recording through the Teagasc Signpost Programme	
Responsible body: Teagasc	
Status: Complete	
<p>Update: The percentage of dairy cows milk recorded in 2022 has increased to 69% of the national herd. The number of dairy cows' milk recorded has increased to 1,114,321 in 2022, an increase of 13.5% relative to 2021. In 2018, 699,000 cows were milk recorded. The percentage of herds milk recorded is 60%; average size of herds engaged in milk recording is greater than the national average.</p> <p>Year-on-year trend of herds milk recording remains positive with a target of 90%. Some milk processors are now offering financial incentives to suppliers to commence milk recording. Teagasc has incorporated measures to promote milk recording into Signpost programme and other joint industry initiatives. Given progress in milk recording we believe that the industry is on track to meet the 90% target by 2030.</p>	

Action 309b	Increase the number of dairy herds carrying out milk recording from the current level of 50% to 90%
Every Q4 measure: Promote the use of milk recording through engagement with the dairy industry	
Responsible body: DAFM	
Status: Complete	
<p>Update: There were 9,564 dairy herds milk recorded in 2022, which equates to over 1.1 million cows. 68.5% of total dairy cows were milk recorded in 2022. This is an increase of 13.5% on 2021.</p>	

Action 313b 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: Complete

Update: The final indoor feed additive beef cattle has been completed. In this trial we tested the halide supplements (RumenGlas) produced by our industry partner in Meth-Abate, Glasport Bio, at two levels (high and low). As we were successfully able to include the halide feed additive in a pellet (nut) formulation, this pelleted version was evaluated as a third treatment (instead of rape seed oil as originally planned) in the trial. The trial was carried out indoors with a 60:40 forage: concentrate diet.

The high dose (2.25% inclusion) and low (1.35% inclusion) halide doses reduced methane (g/day) emissions by 28% and 17% respectively however the high dose did start to reduce palatability. The pelleted high dose reduced methane emissions (g/day) by 26% with no issues with palatability (intake) and increased average daily gain by 15%. This is the first of the feed supplements evaluated in Meth-Abate that could be delivered in a pellet (resistant to pressure and heat) formulation and can therefore be easily delivered on farm compared to powered additives. These feed additives will be further evaluated during grazing in 2023. These are novel feed additives and would need to be evaluated by European Food Safety Authority for approval to be utilised on farm.

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

Q4 2022 measure: Subject to the outcome of research results, develop new actions for the Climate Action Plan 2022 to progress feed additives to market

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Complete

Update: No new additive applications have been submitted to the European Commission in this quarter, this will be an ongoing action. DAFM has contributed to all relevant discussions on feed additives and is participating in a Head of Agency Working Group Sustainability WG on feed.

The Feedingstuffs, Fertiliser, Grain and Poultry Division (FFGPD) continue to provide temporary licences to allow the use of unauthorised feed additives in trials as requested, in terms of development of new actions we will assist in any way possible, FFGPD role will be to ensure that claims made on new products for the purpose of methane emission reduction are substantiated and that all feed legislation is adhered to.

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

Every Q2 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: AHI

Status: Delayed

Update: While decisions on future disease control strategies for IBR remain a matter for industry, led by the IBR implementation Group in Animal Health Ireland (AHI), to provide impetus to an IBR programme DAFM is considering providing support for a voluntary programme that will allow beef farmers gain an understanding of the IBR prevalence in their herd. This proposal is still in development and will require approval prior to implementation.

Action 315a 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 (ICBF), Meat Industry Ireland (MII), Bord Bia (BB), etc) and other stakeholders' collaborative approach will be required to examine and facilitate implementation. ICBF has introduced a dairy beef index which is expected to contribute to this goal by facilitating farmers to produce the right stock for efficient beef production.

Furthermore, an initiative to genotype the National cattle herd will enhance breeding strategies at farm level and will facilitate more informed decisions concerning beef production potential.

Action 317a Build organic farming research capacity

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

Responsible body: Teagasc

Status: Delayed

Update: Teagasc organic research project team has met on a number of occasions and an organic dairy research project draft proposal is being developed. This proposal and associated resources will support the investigation of technical efficiency differences on dairy farms across a range of intensities.

Action 318d	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. However, an external component, the biomethane upgrader, is required before the plant can be commissioned. This component was due to arrive in Q4 2022 but was delayed due to supply chain issues. It is now expected to be delivered in Q1 2023.

Action 321a	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:	Complete
Update:	<p>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 final "Report of Food Vision Dairy Group on Measures to Mitigate Greenhouse Gas Emissions from the Dairy Sector" was submitted to the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine on the 25th of October 2022 and sets out a list of 19 recommended actions for the dairy sector. It was subsequently published on the gov.ie website.</p> <p>The Food Vision Beef and Sheep Group was established in June 2022 and tasked with producing a detailed plan to manage the sustainable environmental footprint of the beef sector. The final "Report of the Food Vision Beef and Sheep Group to Mitigate Greenhouse Gas Emissions from the Beef Sector" was submitted to the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine on the 30th of November 2022 and sets out a list of 21 recommended actions for the dairy sector. It was subsequently published on the gov.ie website.</p>

Action 327b Expand international research funding opportunities in priority areas including climate related areas

Q4 2022 measure: Review and implement new research areas under the tripartite research collaboration with DAERA and USDA to include priority areas such as climate, environment, and bioeconomy research

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Complete

Update: US-IRL R&D Partnership reviewed by the 3 collaborative partners (Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (UK), United States Department of Agriculture and DAFM) included 6 new research areas to be included in the Agriculture Call that was implemented for the research call in 2022. These include:

1. Sustainable Bioeconomy through Biobased Products
2. Sustainable Agroecosystems: Health, Functions, Processes and Management
3. Bioprocessing and Bioengineering
4. Agricultural Microbiomes in Plant Systems and Natural Resources
5. Data Science for Food and Agriculture Systems (DSFAS – cross-cutting)
6. Inter-Disciplinary Engagement in Animal Systems (IDEAS – cross-cutting)

A further research area was added in December 2022 to the Agriculture Call. This is on Soil Health and will be implemented for the 2023 research call.

Action 327c Expand international research funding opportunities in priority areas including climate related areas

Q4 2022 measure: Engage with developments and funding mechanisms under EU Horizon Research Programmes (e.g., Partnerships) to support research strategy and funding opportunities for research

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Complete

Update: Research Division are creating a Soil Mission Mirror Group.

The Horizon Europe Soil Mission will enable research in the areas which are a key focus in “[Food Vision 2030](#)”, the ten year Strategy for the agri-food sector. This Strategy which highlights that good soil health is critical in terms of agricultural output, producing nutrient-dense food, sequestering carbon, supporting habitats and biodiversity, and building resilience against climate change.

The overall purpose of the Mirror Group is to coordinate, facilitate and maximise Irish engagement with the Soil Mission, with a particular focus on utilising its various facilities and funding to help address national priorities around soils. It is being established to facilitate collective engagement and the exchange of information on soils, involving relevant stakeholders. The goal is to coordinate, structure and mobilise key actors, bringing them together on a planned and regular basis, creating consistent engagement to support the delivery of the Horizon Europe Soil Mission through the following overarching objectives:

- To co-ordinate and communicate the information/requirements of the Horizon Europe Soil Mission.
- To maximise Irish participation in the Mission in order to address key soil-related challenges and opportunities.
- To act as a forum for exchange of views and engagement in research partnerships within the Soil mission research calls.

The group is planned to have the first meeting in early Q1 2023.

The four candidate partnerships under Horizon Europe Cluster 6 led by DAFM on Agroecology, Sustainable Food Systems, Data of Agriculture, and Animal Health and Welfare are now included in the Commission Work Programme for 2023/2024.

DAFM continues to be involved in the development of the Strategic Research and Innovation Agendas (SRIA) for the Partnerships and is involved in the consortium building and proposal preparation for the candidate partnerships Call launched by the Commission on 22/12/2022 (with a deadline of 12/04/2023). The partnership launches and SRIA approval are expected end 2023/beginning 2024.

Action 328a Establish a centre for excellence for innovation in climate smart agriculture and land-use for the agri-food sector

Q4 2022 measure: Support and engage on the centre of excellence project in agri-climate to ensure Ireland as a global leader in research and innovation related to climate smart agriculture and land use

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Delayed

Update: DAFM has engaged with SFI, Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (UK) and others to support the scoping of the [SFI Co-Centres programme Call](#) to include relevant areas for the agri-food sector on climate (GHG emissions, adaptation, sequestration and land-use) and food systems.

The launch of the co-centres Call in November 2022 included relevant themes for the agri-food sector:

- Climate – to develop existing capabilities in the important role of agriculture, land use, land use change and forestry, carbon-neutral industries including carbon capture, greenhouse gas removals and establishing sustainable carbon cycles, improving water quality (surface and groundwater).
- Sustainable and Resilient Food Systems – to develop pathway areas in areas that include Food systems and data; Safe, secure, healthy, sustainable and personalised nutrition; alternative proteins and healthy, sustainable dietary shifts; sustainable food production incorporating improved resource use efficiency; sustainable food processing; Governance and systems changes; Food waste and resource efficiency.

A funding decision for successful co-centres under one or both of the thematic areas above is expected by Oct/Nov 2023.

Action 331a Implement the Food Vision 2030, in particular the mission for “A Climate Smart, Environmentally Sustainable Agri-Food Sector”

Every Q4 from 2022 measure: Ongoing monitoring of implementation by the Food Vision High-level Implementation Committee, including the Environmental Sub- Committee

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Complete

Update: The implementation of Food Vision 2030 is ongoing and important work on environmental sustainability in the dairy and beef sectors has progressed with the publication of the “Report of Food Vision Dairy Group on Measures to Mitigate Greenhouse Gas Emissions from the Dairy Sector” in October 2022 and the publication of the “Report of the Food Vision Beef and Sheep Group to Mitigate Greenhouse Gas Emissions from the Beef Sector” in November. (See Action 321a for links to both reports).

The first Food Vision Implementation report detailing progress on each of the actions was sent to the High Level Implementation Committee (HLIC) in November. In relation to Food Vision Mission 1, “A Climate Smart, Environmentally Sustainable Agri- Food Sector”, 1 action is now complete, 17 actions have substantial action undertaken, 40 actions have commenced and are progressing, and 3 actions have not yet commenced.

The Food Vision Environmental Working Sub-Group (EWSG) was given the task of:

- Assessing and monitoring the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) indicators to identify any significant environmental effects of implementation of the Food Vision 2030 Strategy.
- Reviewing progress towards achieving the Strategy’s high-level environmental goals and actions set out in Mission 1.
- Overseeing and contributing to the preparation of an annual report to HLIC.
- Collectively proposing potential remedial measures to the HLIC should negative environmental trends be identified as a direct result of implementation of the Strategy.

The EWSG held its first meeting in December 2021 and has met on a quarterly basis since then. The Group formally submitted its first annual report to the HLIC in November 2022. In that report it highlighted the main environmental issues arising including those related to water quality, methane, nitrous oxide and ammonia emissions and pressures on biodiversity. The Group also highlighted the importance of the role of industry in supporting farmers in their climate action journey along with a need for data access and sharing to enhance future reporting.

An annual report on Food Vision implementation, including environmental progress, will be published in early 2023.

Action 332b	Promote ecosystem restoration and conservation through Payment for Ecosystem Services and investment in actions that increase carbon sinks while promoting biodiversity e.g., woodlands, bogs, soil management, hedgerows
Q4 2022 measure:	Develop an agrienvironment framework that facilitates the roll-out of a Results Based Payment Scheme that has been designed specifically to achieve improved blanket bog biodiversity with net benefits to climate and water objectives
Responsible body:	DAFM
Status:	Complete
Update:	Central to the Wild Atlantic Nature LIFE IP is a pilot Results-Based Payment Scheme (RBPS) which rewards participating farmers for delivering environmental services – including biodiversity, water quality and carbon storage and sequestration – by linking payments to the habitat quality, as determined by habitat scorecards. In 2022, approximately 780 farmers across eight SACs designated for blanket bog are participating in the programme. This covers c.65,000ha of blanket bog and associated habitats, and provides practical training to all participants in peatland management and restoration. It uses a whole-farm approach to ensure consistency of messages in the management of the Natura 2000 network and includes a focus on water quality and reduction of carbon emissions from peatlands.

Action 334a	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 in parallel with a detailed Forestry 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 Q1 2023. The Forest Strategy will be published after the SEA/AA has concluded. The range of forestry programme measures contained within the Implementation plan is subject to state aid approval.

Action 336b Improve climate resilience in crop production

Every Q4 to 2022 measure: Maintain National Gene Banks in order to provide genetic material for research to identify varieties with traits what will stand up to challenges of Climate Change

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Complete

Update: DAFM maintain the national genebank located in Backweston Campus and all requests for seed were dealt with by DAFM during 2022. The genebank primarily contains cereal and crop wild relative accessions. The seed accessions maintained within the genebank contain genetic diversity which may have potential climate change adaptation properties. i.e., drought tolerance, water-logging resistance, disease resistance etc.

By maintaining this genetic diversity, DAFM are ensuring compliance with international obligations in the area of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture. The material can be shared with plant breeders under a legal agreement. Plant breeders may use this genetic material to produce new crop varieties that ultimately meet the future needs of farmers and feed an increasing population. This genetic diversity has the potential of contributing to meeting various goals such as the Climate Action Plan, Food-vision 2030, Farm-2-Fork Strategy, Biodiversity Strategy and European Green Deal. The genebank is maintained in a secure location and with the appropriate low temperature storage conditions and power safety back-up facilities.

Action 337a Engage DAFM Internal Adaptation Stakeholder Group (IASG) to review DAFM progress on mainstreaming adaptation in policy

Q4 2022 measure: Engage IASG as part of review of agri policy developments across the Department to assess consideration of adaptation issues and to ensure policy is climate proofed

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Complete

Update: The IASG engaged in the development of a template to gather and compile information regarding consideration of adaptation in DAFM policy. Information collected was reviewed and the IASG report finalised.

Action 338a Conduct an Interim Review of the Agriculture, Forest and Seafood Sectoral Adaptation Plan and recommend next steps for increasing climate ambition

Q4 2022 measure: Review current Agriculture, Forest and Seafood Sectoral Adaptation Plan and identify next steps

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Complete

Update: The Agriculture, Forest and Seafood Sectoral Adaptation Plan was reviewed. This included a review of developments since the 2019 Plan was published and a review of the individual sections of the Plan itself. A report outlining the findings of the review has been finalised.

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

Q4 2022 measure: Implement prioritised Steps Towards Building Resilience

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Complete

Update: The Implementation Plan is developed but not yet published.

The actions identified in the Plan have been mainstreamed into CAP 2023 and set out in the Annex of Actions. However, the CAP 2023 Annex of Actions is not yet published (consequently the relevant CAP 2023 action reference number cannot yet be drafted into the Implementation Plan). The Implementation Plan will be published once the Annex of Actions is published.

Action 342a 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 344b Integrate the Cork Institute of Technology/SEAI/Teagasc National Artificial Intelligent Dairy Energy Application (NAIDEA) into Sustainability Dairy Assurance Scheme (SDAS)

Q4 2022 measure: Develop energy efficiency score and report for SDAS members

Responsible body: Bord Bia

Status: Complete

Update: A finalised Dairy Energy tool model was received from Munster Technical University (MTU) (formally Cork Institute of Technology) in Q3 2022 following a series of beta testing with the MTU working group. Over 6,000 evaluations have now been carried out on the NAIDEA tool utilising data submitted by SDAS members on their dairy milking parlour infrastructure collected as part of their audit.

Action 350a Produce Origin Green Farmer Feedback Reports

Every Q4 to 2022 measure: Generate & Deliver Farmer Feedback Reports to members of the Sustainable Beef and Dairy Assurance Schemes to provide information on their farm enterprise carbon footprint and reduce their environmental impact

Responsible body: Bord Bia

Status: Complete

Update: Over 20,000 Farmer Feedback Reports have been dispatched in 2022 to members of the Sustainable Beef and Dairy Assurance Schemes following certification, to provide information on their farm enterprise carbon footprint and reduce their environmental impact.

Action 350b Produce Origin Green Farmer Feedback Reports

Every Q4 to 2022 measure: Communications campaign to raise awareness of Farmer Feedback Reports via text, newsletter, media, SM, advisor discussion groups

Responsible body: Bord Bia

Status: Complete

Update: In 2022 targeted communications to Sustainable Beef and Lamb Assurance Scheme (SBLAS) and Sustainability Dairy Assurance Scheme (SDAS) members to raise awareness of the farmer feedback report have been dispatched including four SBLAS and SDAS member newsletters, articles in Argi-media, a dedicated farmer feedback report helpdesk at the national ploughing championship and SMS reminders to access the farmer feedback report once certification has been granted. This has resulted in a 65% increase from 2021 in members accessing their farmer feedback report online.

Action 355b Develop Egg Carbon Footprint for Sustainable Egg Assurance Scheme (SEAS) members

Q4 2022 measure: Integrate required model input data into the SEAS audit procedure

Responsible body: Bord Bia

Status: Complete

Update: At present, members of the SEAS are recording the input data required to generate their egg Carbon Footprint's (CF) as part of the SEAS audit requirements. An online CF interface has been made available to some members for testing (over 50 farms will have data submitted for their farms by end of 2022). In 2023, all members will be required to submit this data on the online CF Interface. The interface will be hosted within the Egg member portal (egg.bordbia.ie).

Action 355c Develop Egg Carbon Footprint for Sustainable Egg Assurance Scheme (SEAS) members

Q4 2022 measure: Calculate Egg Carbon footprint results for SEAS members

Responsible body: Bord Bia

Status: Complete

Update: Data for over 50 production flocks /crops for egg producing / pullet rearing houses has been submitted and a carbon footprint figure generated for the houses. The average carbon footprint from the pilot testing of the Egg Carbon Footprint model is reported as 2.41 kg CO₂e per dozen eggs.

Action 357c Develop Farm Sustainability Planner

Q4 2022 measure: Pilot tool with farmers

Responsible body: Bord Bia

Status: Complete

Update: The build of the Farm Sustainability Planner has been built and a demo version of the tool was deployed to Bord Bia for testing in November. Bord Bia also presented this to Teagasc for suitability with advisors in November. In December 50 farm action plans were entered on the tool to further test and tweak the tool.

Action 363c	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	
Update: The report is finalised for publication by the EPA. The report will be published when the Memo for Government on Bioeconomy implementation and the stakeholder forum are signed off by cabinet at the end of February 2023.	

Action 363d	Support Regional Assemblies to identify areas of potential growth in the bioeconomy
Every Q4 from 2022 measure: Deliver a Bioeconomy Foresight Analysis providing a roadmap for Ireland towards a sustainable bioeconomy by integrating biomass mapping, value-chain analysis, life-cycle assessment and scenario modelling, and will attempt to quantify the potential of the bioeconomy to contribute to Ireland's climate and sustainability targets	
Responsible body: DAFM	
Status: Complete	
<p>Update: INFORMBIO project kicked off in March 2022.</p> <p>With regards to communications, the project hosted a webinar in October 2022 with the EU funded BioMonitor project and the EU Commission Joint Research Centre on bioeconomy monitoring. The project also presented at the Bioeconomy Research Symposium in October 2022.</p> <p>The project has commenced mapping of biological arisings (mainly agriculture to date) and allocating these on a per county basis, as well as characterising these. Where possible this is done using 2020 baseline data with interviews with key stakeholders complementing desk based research.</p> <p>The project has started to develop a pre-screening sustainability assessment indicator to provide a first estimate of the sustainability of different feedstocks considering different dimensions of sustainability.</p>	

Transport

Action 231a	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	
Update: Updated draft Manual submitted to the Department in December 2022 for Ministerial consideration which will inform next steps in this process.	

Action 231f	Continue the improvement and expansion of the Active Travel and Greenway Network
Q4 2022 measure: Each Local Authority to assess their road network and identify where additional space can be reallocated to pedestrians and cyclists	
Responsible body: Local Authorities	
Status: Complete	
Update: All local authorities have carried out this exercise and forwarded their findings to the Department of Transport, and will inform a continued work programme of roadspace reallocation and pedestrian enhancement plans that is outlined in Climate Action Plan 2023 .	

Action 232a	Develop a coherent and connected National Cycle Network Strategy
Q4 2022 measure: Publish Strategy	
Responsible body: TII	
Status: Delayed	
Update: A draft National Cycle Network (NCN) Plan was submitted by TII to the Department in Q3 2022 following public consultation. Finalisation and publication of the NCN has been delayed to Q1 2023 due to ongoing discussions between TII and D/Transport.	

Action 234b 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: 5-Year Walking and Cycling Delivery Plan 2021-2025 did not progress past draft stage due to the development in the interim of other plans such as [CycleConnects](#) under the SMP Pathfinder Programme. An updated Plan in light of these developments is in progress.

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

Every Q4 measure: Ensure that an equivalent of 20% of the Transport Capital Budget is dedicated to Active Travel and Greenways (walking and cycling)

Responsible body: D/Transport

Status: Complete

Update: For 2023, €290m has been allocated to NTA for Active Travel and €6m allocated for Smarter Travel projects. €63m has also been allocated to TII for Greenways, with additional funding available for cross-border Greenway projects not under TII's remit.

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

Q4 2022 measure: Increase the number of dedicated Active Travel Staff in Local Authorities around the country

Responsible body: NTA

Status: Delayed

Update: In progress. Complement of 219 Active Travel staff in place in the 31 local authorities as at the end of Q3 2022 (Q4 data not yet available). The shortfall is a result of constrained market for construction professionals throughout the industry, particularly those with relevant experience to active travel.

Action 235c Accelerate sustainable mobility plans for schools

Q4 2022 measure: Complete review of the School Transport Scheme and identify measures to improve sustainability of school transport system

Responsible body: D/Education

Status: Delayed

Update: The Department of Education commenced a review of the [School Transport Scheme](#) in February 2021. The review involves an in-depth analysis of scheme including examining options to reduce car journeys and assessing how the scheme can work in liaison with the [Safe Routes to Schools Programme](#). The review will consider the objectives of the Scheme in the context of the commitments in respect of climate change and rural development and the potential of the scheme to support sustainability in transport, reducing car journeys and supporting rural development.

Work on the review has been impacted somewhat by the challenges of the pandemic and the impact of the current conflict in Ukraine, it is anticipated that the final phases of the review will be completed in Q1 2023 with recommendations on the future of the Department's School Transport Scheme.

Action 235b Accelerate sustainable mobility plans for schools

Q4 2022 measure: Rollout of Safe Routes to School Infrastructure Programme

Responsible body: NTA

Status: Complete

Update: Projects at all Round 1 schools have commenced, with projects in 18 schools completed. So far, 436 schools have received cycle parking, as part of the Safe Routes to School Programme. Additional inclusion of 108 Round 2 schools into scheme announced in December 2022 with surveys to start in the new year. (<https://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/2938e-minister-naughton-announces-round-two-of-the-safe-routes-to-school-programme/>)

Action 237b 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, which will give the Minister power to make Regulations for the safe use of e-scooters and the appropriate minimum technical standards. The Bill is expected to go to committee stage before the Seanad on 1 February. It will then be required to be returned to the Dáil as amendments have been made before the Seanad, with a view to finalisation by end Q1.

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

Q4 2022 measure: Legislate for e-scooters

Responsible body: D/Transport

Status: Delayed

Update: Completion of this action is dependent on the passage of the bill through the Oireachtas. The Bill is expected to go to committee-stage before the Seanad on 1 February. Preliminary drafting work for e-scooters regulations has commenced. When the Bill is enacted, technical standard regulations can be sent to EU Commission for oversight under Technical Regulation Information System Directive (a mandatory minimum 12-week standstill) before legislation can be settled with Office of the Parliamentary Counsel.

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

Q3 2022 Delayed 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 and are preparing report for public consultation. Public consultation on the draft new bus network will now be undertaken in Q2 2023.

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

Q4 2022 measure: Carry out public consultation in Limerick

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 242b Commence delivery of BusConnects in Cork (Core Bus Corridor Infrastructure Works)

Q4 2022 measure: Commence second round of public consultation on proposals for Core Bus Corridors in Cork

Responsible body: NTA

Status: Delayed

Update: Requested extensions to the initial period of public consultation plus extensive change requests will delay the second round of public consultation until Q2 of 2023.

Action 243a Commence delivery of BusConnects in Limerick (Core Bus Corridor Infrastructure Works)

Q3 2022 Delayed measure: Appoint design teams to undertake preliminary planning for Core Bus Corridor in Limerick

Responsible body: NTA

Status: Delayed

Update: Not yet begun. Delayed due to finalisation of [Limerick Shannon Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy](#) and dependent on the progression of the bus network redesign work (see #240c). In addition, the level of work on BusConnects Cork and BusConnects Dublin has impacted on resource availability to commence this activity.

Action 245c 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 has been approved by NTA Board and Department of Transport. Engagement with DPER before preparation of Memo to Government ongoing.

Action 245e Implement an enhanced rural transport system through delivery of Connecting Ireland Rural Mobility Plan

Q4 2022 measure: Commence implementation of first phase of services

Responsible body: NTA

Status: Complete

Update: Implementation of enhanced services aligned with the Connecting Ireland plan has commenced within existing funding allocations. Further details of Phase 1 are outlined in the first quarterly bulletin (<https://www.nationaltransport.ie/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Connecting-Ireland-Quarterly-Bulletin-Issue-1.pdf>)

Action 250b Examine the role of demand management measures in Irish cities, including low emission zones and parking pricing policies

Q4 2022 measure: Based on findings of study identify regulatory barriers to Demand Management measures and develop proposals to address them

Responsible body: D/Transport

Status: Delayed

Update: Change of Scope - [Climate Action Plan 2023](#) identifies the development of a National Demand Management Strategy by Q4 2023 as a key high-impact measure to support achievement of sectoral abatement targets. Additional consultation with LAs and Regional Authorities to be undertaken in 2023 will inform potential measures to be set out in the Strategy and identification of regulatory barriers will inform final strategy

Action 252a 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: Complete

Update: Report complete and submitted to the Department of Transport in December 2022.

Action 252b 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: Completion of this action is dependent on the passage of the Road Traffic & Roads Bill through the Oireachtas. The Bill is expected to go to committee stage before the Seanad on 1 February. It will then be required to be returned to the Dáil as amendments have been made before the Seanad, with a view to finalisation by end Q1.

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

Q4 2022 measure: Continue to roll out dynamic traffic management infrastructure to provide for variable speed limits on the M50 motorway

Responsible body: TII

Status: Complete

Update: System has been installed and currently being tested with a view to full operation post implementation of legislation.

Action 254a 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: Complete

Update: Limerick Shannon Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy (LSMATS) was published on 1 December 2022. (<https://www.nationaltransport.ie/limerick-shannon/>)

Action 255a 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: Significant progress has been made on the preparation of draft guidelines in Q4 2022. Heritage Divisions issued Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Determination in December 2022, screening out the need for full AA. The SEA process can progress and the draft guidelines will be finalised for publication (February 2023).

Action 256a 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: Complete

Update: The Greater Dublin Area Transport Strategy was submitted to Department before end Q4 and has been approved by the Minister under Section 12 of the Dublin Transport Authority Act 2008, and presented to Government on 18 January. (<https://www.nationaltransport.ie/planning-and-investment/strategic-planning/greater-dublin-area-transport-strategy/>)

Action 256b 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: Complete

Update: Limerick Shannon Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy was published on 1 December 2022. (<https://www.nationaltransport.ie/limerick-shannon/>)

Action 258a Advance Demand Management Measures

Every Q4 measure: Carry out annual sustainable transport satisfaction surveys

Responsible body: NTA

Status: Delayed

Update: The 2022 annual customer satisfaction survey for public transport in Ireland has been completed, with presentation of results available expected early Q1.

Action 258b Advance Demand Management Measures

Q4 2022 measure: Identify a pathway for the implementation of demand management measures

Responsible body: D/Transport

Status: Complete

Update: The development of a National Demand Management Strategy in 2023, to be followed by a NTA National Demand Management Scheme for the Greater Dublin Areas in 2024 has been identified as the appropriate pathway. Commitment to develop a draft Demand Management strategy by Q2 2023, with view to final Demand Management strategy by Q4 2023 has been established in Climate Action Plan 2023.

Action 258d Advance Demand Management Measures

Q4 2022 measure: Review and update the National Household Travel Survey to 2022 and the NTA port and airport passenger surveys

Responsible body: NTA

Status: Delayed

Update: The National Household Travel Survey is complete, with data currently being processed and to be reported on in Q1 2023. Airport surveys of Dublin Airport Authority are complete, with Cork, Shannon and Regional Airport surveys to follow in Q1 2023. Port Surveys are underway, with completion expected by Q2 2023.

Action 267a 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: Complete

Update: These regulations introduce a requirement that electric vehicle recharging infrastructure be installed (to enable the subsequent installation of recharging points for electric vehicles) in:

- New dwelling houses with a parking space located within the curtilage of the dwelling
- New multi-unit buildings
- Multi-unit buildings undergoing major renovation where the car park is located inside or adjacent to the building and the renovations include the car park or the electrical infrastructure of the building.
-

S.I.535 of 2022 was signed on 25 October 2022

<https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2022/si/535/made/en/print>

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

Q4 2022 measure: Complete pilot of hydrogen fuel cell double deck buses and review performance

Responsible body: NTA

Status: Delayed

Update: In progress. Report is being prepared by Bus Éireann for submission to NTA, but finalisation has been delayed by the need for engineering team resources to focus on new vehicle inspections and [Athlone Bus Electrification](#) during December 2022. Discussions held between NTA and Bus Éireann to inform next steps, and to be considered under the IMPROVE work programme of CAP23 regarding decarbonisation of public transport and school transport services.

Action 270a 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: Tendering in progress. Pre-qualification and consultation phases took longer to conclude than expected, with extensions requested to tender submission deadline. Initial Orders to be made in Q1 2023.

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

Q4 2022 measure: Convert entire Athlone town bus service to electric buses

Responsible body: NTA

Status: Complete

Update: Works to deliver the requisite electric bus charging infrastructure at Athlone Depot were substantially complete at end of 2022. Ministerial launch of scheme on 20 January to mark first Pathfinder Scheme in operation. (<https://www.nationaltransport.ie/news/minister-ryan-launches-irelands-first-all-electric-town-bus-service-in-athlone/>)

Action 271a 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: Delays in provision of appropriate power supply to depot have been resolved and charging infrastructure is now commissioned. Customs procedures have delayed vehicle delivery, but anticipated for early Q1 2023.

Action 272a(ii)	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 Q4 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 Tax Strategy Group Papers and in the pre-budget submissions re VRT options to further incentivise motorists in the market for a new car to make 'greener choices'. Work will continue in 2023	

Action 272f	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
Q4 2022 measure: Examine options for the introduction of an emissions based VRT and motor tax for LGVs and HGVs, taking account of the 10-year haulage strategy and other EU regulatory changes affecting the sector	
Responsible body: DFIN	
Status: Complete	
Update: Options were presented in the Tax Strategy Group Papers. The options detailed a banded system whereby lower emission vehicles were subject to discounted rates, and higher emission vehicles were subject to higher rates. Work will continue in 2023.	

Action 275a	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: A decision was taken to delay the communications campaign due to lack of availability of EVs on the market. Preparations are ongoing for a campaign to be deployed once market availability returns. Procurement has commenced for the creative collateral elements and the campaign is likely to be delivered in mid 2023.	

Action 276b Enable greater EV infrastructure roll-out for passenger cars and vans

Q4 2022 measure: Continue to support the delivery of the ESB Electric Vehicle High Power Charging Infrastructure Development Project

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Complete

Update: In 2022 [ESB continued working on installing EV charge points](#) with 313 points installed to date. To date the Government has provided €1,248,889 to support this project.

Action 278a 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: Revised ZEV work programme in line with [EV Charging Infrastructure Strategy](#) - three destination charger schemes to launch in 2023. The first scheme launched on 30 January 2023 - €15m Shared Island Sports Club EV Charging Scheme. A community centre scheme is due to launch in June 2023 and finally a broader destination charging scheme is being prepared to launch in Q4 2023.

Action 279b Amend the Home Charger Grant Scheme to include apartments

Q4 2022 measure: Review the pilot and amend the terms of the scheme as appropriate

Responsible body: D/Transport

Status: Complete

Update: The home charger grant scheme was expanded upon the launch of ZEV 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 Electric Vehicle (EV) 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 280b Support the transition to electric vehicles in Gaeltacht communities through investment in EV infrastructure

Q4 2022 measure: Encourage the inclusion of electric car charging points in applications for new sports and recreational facilities across the Gaeltacht

Responsible body: DTCAGSM

Status: Delayed

Update: Following engagement with D/Transport and Zero Emission Vehicles Ireland, the [Destination Charging Grant for Sports Clubs scheme](#) will provide funding to install a network of publicly accessible chargers in communities nationwide.

Action 280a 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, the Destination Charging Grant for Sports Clubs scheme will provide funding to install a network of publicly accessible chargers in communities nationwide.

Action 281a 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: Change in Scope - Industry consulted as part of EV Policy Pathway Group meetings with amendments made to EV Purchase Grant to provide a higher level of supports to electric van purchases. The value of the grant has been doubled and the eligibility threshold of the value of vehicles raised. ZEVI have also established three formal stakeholder groups across Public Sector Energy, Public Sector Delivery and Public-Private Delivery with industry input.

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

Q4 2022 measure: Review of taxation measures for EV and ICE commercial vehicles that could incentivize uptake of EV LGVs

Responsible body: DFIN

Status: Complete

Update: Options were presented in the Tax Strategy Group Papers. The options detailed a banded system whereby lower emission vehicles were subject to discounted rates, and higher emission vehicles were subject to higher rates. Work will continue in 2023.

Action 284b Rollout planned refuelling infrastructure

Q4 2022 measure: Commence the rollout of a further 21 stations planned as part of the Green Connect Project

Responsible body: GNI

Status: Delayed

Update: The delivery of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) stations under the [Green Connect programme](#) is set against the current backdrop of extremely challenging market conditions for gas in transport in Ireland including COVID-19 related delays in 2020/2021 to rollout plans, and a significant deterioration in market conditions over the past 18 months for gas in transport. This has prevented the commencement of any of the 21 CNG station projects envisaged.

Action 285a Complete Strategic Rail Review to, inter alia, identify a pathway to appropriate decarbonisation of interurban rail service

Q4 2022 measure: Publish Strategic Rail Review

Responsible body: D/Transport

Status: Delayed

Update: Rail analysis is continuing as planned, however sign-off and publication will be delayed due to the lack of a Northern Ireland Executive.

Action 287b Support the development of renewable gas, such as biomethane, as a transport fuel in the transport sector

Q4 2022 measure: Engage with relevant stakeholders with regards to the renewable gas registry to support certification requirements for grid-injected renewable gases in the Transport sector

Responsible body: CRU

Status: Delayed

Update: CRU to create a Supervisory Framework as required by Section 25 of [S.I. No. 350/2022](#). This will provide for the full implementation of the Guarantees of Origin (GOOs) issued by the Renewable Gas Registry (GNI). These are currently being issued by GNI on a voluntary basis, until the framework is established.

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

Q3 2022 Delayed measure: Consider climate recommendations from the Strategy

Responsible body: D/Transport

Status: Complete

Update: [Final Road Haulage Strategy](#) was published on 15 December and in close consultation with development of Climate Action Plan 2023. Progression of the short- and long-term enablers for the sector's decarbonisation are highlighted for special focus within the updated Climate Action Plan 2023.

Action 288a 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: Complete

Update: Road Haulage Strategy 2022-2031 was published on 15 December. Strategy sets out 39 measures to support the sector across 7 thematic areas, including high priority on Sustainability and Decarbonisation. Relevant decarbonisation actions outlined in the Strategy as short- or long-term enablers will be progressed as part of CAP23 work programme.
(<https://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/cdad9-road-haulage-strategy-20222031-published/>)

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

Q3 2022 Delayed 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: Draft secondary legislation is at an advanced stage, with a view to submission once the Road Traffic and Roads Bill completes passage through Houses of the Oireachtas. The Bill is expected to go to committee-stage before the Seanad on 1 February, before being returned to the Dáil with a view to finalisation by end Q1. Regulations are accordingly expected to be completed by Q2 2023.

Action 290a Promote greater eco-practices within the HGV sector

Q4 2022 measure: Examine the feasibility of developing logistics hubs near urban centres to consolidate and rationalise freight transport

Responsible body: D/Transport

Status: Complete

Update: Freight Consolidation Centre study commissioned via TII in 2022. Study is currently in draft stage with a finalised report anticipated by end Q1 2023. Study's objectives include consideration of urban freight consolidation centres, and to examine the role the State could play in supporting their planning, development, or operation.

Action 290b Promote greater eco-practices within the HGV sector

Q4 2022 measure: Review the Control of the Vehicle and Eco Driving Technique module of the CPC syllabus to encourage sustained eco-driving practices

Responsible body: RSA

Status: Delayed

Update: Review of other modules took longer to complete as result of Covid-19 deferrals of wider programme and resource availability. Start date of this Module review now scheduled for Q1 2023. Action #5 of Road Haulage Strategy also commits to national certification/accreditation system for eco-driving as a short-term enabler, with tendering process expected in 2023.

Action 294b 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: Complete

Update: Study has been published with estimates of an additional 570-730 million litres of biodiesel required annually by 2030 to meet sector's B20 pathway. Findings of study will be used to inform an updated National Policy Framework on Alternative Fuels and Renewable Fuels for Transport Policy Statement. (<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/89e44-report-a-review-of-requirements-and-constraints-on-biofuels-in-ireland-arising-from-red-ii-and-national-targets-prepared-by-byrne-ocleirigh-for-department-of-transport-the-national-oil-reserves-agency/>)

Action 297a Improve climate resilience and adapt to climate change on the Light rail and National Road Network

Q4 2022 measure: Publish strategy for adapting to climate change on Ireland's light rail and national road network

Responsible body: TII

Status: Complete

Update: Complete and published on TII website: <https://www.tii.ie/technical-services/environment/changing-climate/>

Action 298a Collaborate and share best practice on adaptation in the transport sector with relevant stakeholders

Q4 2022 measure: Collaborate and share best practice with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

Responsible body: D/Transport

Status: Complete

Update: Department of Transport adaptation team has engaged with OECD colleagues and United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Working Groups to discuss projects and mutual coordination and knowledge transfer. These meetings and engagement will inform adaptation projects and priorities in 2023.

Action 299a Define a set of metrics to accurately quantify the cost of extreme weather events to the State in terms of both revenues lost and the cost of repairs

Q4 2022 measure: Commence a review of the effectiveness of current quantitative data collection procedures for the impacts of extreme weather events and longer-term climate change

Responsible body: D/Transport

Status: Delayed

Update: Department has met with both internal and external stakeholders to discuss progression of project. This action will carry over into Climate Action Plan 2023 work programme and form part of continuing engagement and work with relevant agencies.

Action 300a 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 CFRAMS and 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, output has been delayed to mid-2023.

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

Q4 2022 measure: Commission a study on cross border adaptation issues on an all-island basis

Responsible body: D/Transport

Status: Delayed

Update: Co-funded project with EPA and Maynooth University ICARUS team under EPA2021 call - second adaptation workshop of Transboundary Climate Risk for the Island of Ireland (TRCII) project has been held, however action will carry forward to Climate Action Plan 2023 work programme.

<https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/icarus/active-research-grants/transboundary-climate-risks-island-ireland>

Action 301a Devise pathway to deliver an additional 0.9 Mt CO2 reduction in the transport sector by 2030

Q4 2022 measure: Undertake a programme of work which will Review progress and further refine measures that will seek deliver an additional 0.9 Mt CO2 reduction in the transport sector by 2030 in a fair and equitable manner

Responsible body: D/Transport

Status: Complete

Update: Programme of work to recalibrate transport decarbonisation pathway in order to achieve 50% emissions abatement targets has been completed, and has informed the development of Climate Action Plan 2023. Supporting analysis published as part of wider DECC publication on CAP23 evidence base.

Action 302a Review further linkages between accessibility and climate action

Q3 2022 measure: As per headline action

Responsible body: DCEDIY

Status: Complete

Update: The Transport Working Group considered 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. The Working Group's work concluded in December 2022 with consideration of this report, but in the end the focus in the report was broadly on sustainability rather than specifically on climate action per se.

Electricity

Action 99d	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
Q4 2022 measure:	Facilitate and promote links between LEUs, including data centres, and the renewable energy sector to align with and contribute towards emissions targets and future network needs
Responsible body:	IDA
Status:	Complete
Update:	New links were established, and existing links were strengthened, between LEU's and the renewable energy sector (e.g. in planned renewable energy parks). Long term, the established links should contribute significantly to driving climate action.

Action 99e	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
Q4 2022 measure:	Develop an enhanced reporting framework and implementation plan for electricity emissions for LEU's to facilitate reduced carbon intensity across their demand profile and promote grid efficiency
Responsible body:	SEAI
Status:	Delayed
Update:	This is delayed, a Request For Tender for the Provision of Expert Services to Support the Development of an Enhanced Reporting Framework and Implementation Plan for Electricity Emissions for LEU will be advertised in Q1 2023.

Action 100a	Publish and implement a new Demand Side Strategy
Q3 2022 Delayed measure:	Publish a consultation on a 2030 Electricity Demand Side Strategy
Responsible body:	CRU
Status:	Delayed
Update:	Deferred due to prioritisation of security of supply programme of actions.

Action 100b Publish and implement a new Demand Side Strategy

Q4 2022 measure: Deliver a 2030 Demand Side Strategy

Responsible body: CRU

Status: Delayed

Update: Updated action included as part of CAP 23. Due to be completed in Q1 2023.

Action 101c Enable and incentivise demand side flexibility

Q4 2022 measure: Define standard control and monitoring requirements for consumer energy technologies to be 'flexibility ready'

Responsible body: ESBN

Status: Complete

Update: Following the publication of proposed standard technology requirements in January 2022, ESB Networks has progressed testing activities to support their evidence based adoption as national standards.

A smart-inverter/distributed energy resource communications proof-of-concept test bed is at an advanced stage of development. The initial requirements for a standard domestic communication gateway have been identified and implemented within the test bed. ESBN and 3 Ireland have implemented successfully the communications gateway device to a simulated aggregator control centre.

The test bed is successfully reading the smart inverter registers on operational data and sending this to the aggregator control centre. Current work is progressing to send direct control signals (i.e., limit active power export/set power factor) from the aggregator control centre via to the communications gateway to the smart inverter.)

Action 101d Enable and incentivise demand side flexibility

Q4 2022 measure: Introduce local markets for flexibility services that align with whole of system approach

Responsible body: ESBN

Status: Complete

Update: First 3x local flexibility markets went live in early Q4 2022. The first of a series of calls to competition as part of the national rollout of local flexibility markets went live in December 2022.

High Level Design of new DSO/TSO operating model to ensure local flexibility markets deliver secure and efficient whole of system approaches progressed well through to the conclusion of 2022. In the interim, the TSO and DSO are agreeing case-by-case procedures to support DSO-led flexibility market activities.

Action 101e Enable and incentivise demand side flexibility

Q4 2022 measure: Develop programme of consumer communications based on research relevant to demand side flexibility

Responsible body: ESBN

Status: Complete

Update: Engagement with SEAI is ongoing, including regular update meetings to report on progress, ongoing developments, and uptake, in respect of the Community Enabling Framework supports. The Q4 meeting was held on 1 December 2022.

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

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

Responsible body: SEAI

Status: Delayed

Update: Delay caused by early set backs in procurement process have proven a barrier to timely completion. Now due for completion in Q2 2023 with current timelines and listed in Climate Action Plan 2023 as one of the measures that will support Ireland's renewable acceleration programme (Pg. 137).

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

Q4 2022 measure: Publish a framework to set out targets for onshore renewable electricity development to inform spatial plans

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Delayed

Update: Early delays in procurement process have proven barrier to timely completion. Significant progress now underway. Due for completion in Q2 2023 and has been included in Climate Action Plan 23 under action EL/23/2 to publish the Renewable Electricity Spatial Policy Framework.

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

Q4 2022 measure: Publish a Roadmap for the development of the Regional Renewable Electricity Strategies

Responsible body: Regional Assemblies

Status: Delayed

Update: Delays caused by early set backs procuring consultants. Now due for completion in Q2 2023 and has been included in Climate Action Plan 23 under action EL/23/3 to publish a roadmap for the development and implementation of Regional Renewable Electricity Strategies.

Action 104c Deliver regular Onshore Renewable Electricity Support Scheme auctions that aligns with spatial and planning policy and efficient use of the network

Q4 2022 measure: Commence RESS 3 Auction

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Complete

Update: In October 2022 DECC published a [consultation on the design of the RESS 3 auction](#), with the auction set to take place in 2023. Further auction rounds are expected in future years and an updated RESS auction schedule will be published shortly. The Q4 2022 output was for the auction process to have commenced. Design was commenced long in advance of this date, with the first step of the auction process - the consultation on design taking place in Q4. The auction is on track for delivery in 2023.

Action 105f Deliver a Microgeneration Policy Framework

Q3 2022 Delayed 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: The CRU has had significant resource gaps and have only now been able to set up a new Active Consumer & Energy community team, which will work on the implementation plan for the Clean Energy Package in 2023.

Action 105c 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: Complete

Update: Final High-Level Design for MSS was published in December 2022. The document provides the details and reasoning behind the key elements of the Final Scheme Design, and serve as a historical record ahead of the MSS scheme review.

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/b1fbe-micro-generation/#micro-generation-support-scheme-mss>

Action 106c 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: Engagement with SEAI is ongoing, including regular update meetings to report on progress, ongoing developments, and uptake, in respect of the Community Enabling Framework supports. The Q4 meeting was held on 1 December 2022.

Action 106d	Ensure communities benefit from renewable energy projects in RESS – benefit funds and ownership
Q4 2022 measure:	Plan Online Renewable Energy Training Programme
Responsible body:	SEAI
Status:	Complete
Update:	SEAI have in place a suite of resources to enable communities to develop projects. SEAI has published four Community Energy Resource guides on the SEAI website. These cover Onshore Wind, Solar PV, the Planning Process, and Grid Connections. A further five guides are in development covering Stakeholder Engagement, Community Groups & Governance, Business Planning & Procurement, Irish Electricity Market, and Financing Community Projects. SEAI hold regular webinars and workshops with community groups to support project development.

Action 108c	Deliver a Solar and Small-Scale Generation Policy Framework
Q4 2022 measure:	Determine an appropriate settlement mechanism for smallscale generators between 51 kW and 500 kW
Responsible body:	CRU
Status:	Delayed
Update:	Delayed due to resourcing at Commission of Regulation of Utilities (CRU), there are now some additional resources in place. Under CAP 23 action EL/23/11 CRU to publish decision and mechanism for Premium Export Guarantee to facilitate larger on-site generation investments and action EL/23/12 CRU to publish implementation plan for Clean Export Premium feed-in tariff in support of rooftop solar > 6 kWe < 50kWe.

Action 110b	Update the Interconnection Policy to reflect the amendment to the EU TEN-E Regulation, Brexit challenges and the increased significance of hybrid interconnectors
Q4 2022 measure:	Update the 2018 National Policy on Electricity Interconnection
Responsible body:	DECC
Status:	Delayed
Update:	Delayed due to resourcing constraints. Updated action included as part of CAP 23. Due to be completed in Q2 2023.

Action 111a	Review the existing electricity transmission and distribution network tariff structures to assess what changes may be necessary to deliver equitable, cost reflective and transparent charges that facilitate investment in our low carbon transition and the n
Q4 2022 measure:	Evaluate and consult on potential structural changes to the network tariffs and issue a decision
Responsible body:	CRU
Status:	Delayed
Update:	Single Electricity Market Committee Decision on High Level Design published April 2022. This includes provision for TSO procurement of services for all timeframes greater than day-ahead. Work on the day-ahead auction detailed design will continue into 2023.

Action 113b	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:	Complete
Update:	Following public consultation the high-level design decision for System Services Future Arrangements (SSFA) was published by the Single Electricity Market committee on 14 April 2022.

Action 115b	Review the policy position on the development of private networks/direct lines
Q3 2022 Delayed measure:	Assess/analyse consultation responses and submit decision paper on preferred option(s) to Minister
Responsible body:	DECC
Status:	Delayed
Update:	Updated action included as part of CAP 23, public consultation now due to issue in Q1 2023. Decision paper and, if necessary, amending legislation to follow in 2023.

Action 115a 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: Updated action included as part of CAP 23, public consultation now due to issue in Q1 2023. Decision paper and, if necessary, amending legislation to follow in 2023. Delayed due to initial resourcing constraints and latter industry engagement on the subject matter.

Action 116b Develop a new Offshore Renewable Energy Development Plan (ORED II)

Q4 2022 measure: ORED II and associated Strategic Environmental Assessment completed and published

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Delayed

Update: Environmental assessments took more time than anticipated which has pushed public consultation to Q1 2023, with the plan to be finalised in Q2.

Action 116c Develop a new Offshore Renewable Energy Development Plan (ORED II)

Q4 2022 measure: ORED II relevant digital map database and model for area planning developed

Responsible body: GSI

Status: Complete

Update: ORED digital map database operating and model for area planning developed.

Action 117a 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

Q3 2022 Delayed measure: Continued analysis of onshore transmission system capacity to integrate 5GW of offshore wind, including any necessary reinforcements

Responsible body: EirGrid

Status: Complete

Update: This is an ongoing quarterly action and is completed to date for Q4.

Action 122a 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: Complete

Update: Design finalized and offshore RESS auction terms and conditions developed.

<https://assets.gov.ie/239377/556f7efc-b401-40d8-b1d8-bc8785527286.pdf>

Action 122b Finalise design and rollout of dedicated offshore RESS auction

Q4 2022 measure: Commence dedicated offshore RESS auction

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Complete

Update: The final ORESS 1 Timetable was published by Eirgrid on 17 November 2022 and the Qualification Information Pack published by Eirgrid on 28/11/2022.

<https://assets.gov.ie/239377/556f7efc-b401-40d8-b1d8-bc8785527286.pdf>

Action 123b Support the offshore and ocean energy research, development and demonstration pathway for technologies and associated test infrastructure

Q4 2022 measure: Undertake review, including economic analysis of the case for developing beyond 5GW of Offshore and Ocean Renewable Energy Research, Development and Deployment support mechanisms

Responsible body: SEAI

Status: Delayed

Update: SEAI has deferred publication of this roadmap into 2023 pending assignment of resources. In CAP23, this action is subsumed in to the broader Offshore Wind Delivery Taskforce action to: Publish a system-wide plan for the delivery of ORE in Ireland/Offshore Wind Delivery Taskforce to continue to implement the system wide plan for the delivery of ORE in Ireland.

Action 124a 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: Complete

Update: Public consultation issued on 22 November and will close on 27 January.
<https://www.gov.ie/en/consultation/c65b6-consultation-on-developing-an-electricity-storage-policy-framework-for-ireland/>

Action 125a 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: Submission from SOS only received in June 2022. Internal legal review has raised some concerns which may require legislative change. Also delayed due to prioritisation of work on Offshore and Interconnection.

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

Q4 2022 measure: Conclude review of the existing Over-Install Policy

Responsible body: CRU

Status: Delayed

Update: Work on Offshore and Interconnection was prioritised in 2022 leading to delays in over-install policy.

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

Q4 2022 measure: Technical assessment of options for trading of Maximum Export Capacity behind a single connection point

Responsible body: EirGrid

Status: Complete

Update: A joint EirGrid-ESB Networks TSO-DSO paper setting out the technical assessment was submitted to CRU on 12 January.

Action 126a Examine and oversee the feasibility of the utilisation of Carbon Capture and Storage in Ireland

Q4 2022 measure: Establish a framework for analysis of the potential for CCS deployment for Ireland including assessment of the environmental, technical, and financial factors

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Delayed

Update: This action has been carried forward into CAP23. The resources allocated for this task had to be reallocated to the security of supply area following the energy crisis in 2022.

Action 129a Make time-of-use tariffs and smart bills available to electricity consumers

Q4 2022 measure: CRU to progress Smart Metering Programme and Billing for Electricity (formats, etc.)

Responsible body: CRU

Status: Complete

Update: The National Smart Metering Programme has progressed significantly, with over 1.1m smart meters now installed. ESNB have launched a HUB which went live in November 2022 with smart insights on energy usage also available to customers through <https://www.esbnetworks.ie/existing-connections/meters-and-readings/my-smart-data>.

Action 129b Make time-of-use tariffs and smart bills available to electricity consumers

Q4 2022 measure: Roll out of smart metering services (new products and services to enable consumer to shift some of consumption to off peak times when electricity is cheaper)

Responsible body: ESNB

Status: Complete

Update: All suppliers now have smart meter Time of Use tariffs available, in the form of [Standard Smart Tariffs \(SST\)](#). Services available are currently limited to energy insights.

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

Action 364c	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 being finalised and is expected to conclude by Q1 2023. In parallel with the SEA/AA process the draft Forest Strategy was subjected to public consultation for a 6 week period and closed on 29th November 2022. The Forest Strategy is expected to be published in Q1 2023.	

Action 364d	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 will be published in Q1 2023 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 366c	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	
Update: The next Forestry Programme 2023-2027 will include a range of measures to increase incentivisation across all schemes. Government has recently announced a €1.3 billion financial package of supports with the purpose of increasing scheme uptake, particularly in woodland creation measures. DAFM are currently in discussion with the European Commission to seek state aid approval of a new Forestry Programme 2023-2027. Link to dashboard on Forestry statistics: https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/3b8b5-2022-forestry-weekly-dashboard/	

Action 367b 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 August 2022. Request includes ecology reports which cannot be produced this year (seasonal dependence). Earliest planting possibility is now November 2023.

Action 368a Increase output of forestry licences to meet demand

Q4 2022 measure: Increase output of forestry licences to meet demand

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Complete

Update: DAFM issue quarterly updates indicating progress to provide ongoing clarity on the licensing plan and to allow monitoring on the delivery of the various key performance indicators. Licencing output year to date to the end of 2022 was 4,713 which was 90% of the targets set in the Plan. In 2021, 4,018 licences were issued over the same time period.

Further information is available on <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/21b71-forestry-licence-plan-2022/>

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

Q4 2022 measure: Develop skills in the farming sector that support landowners in establishing and maintenance of these forests themselves or with assistance from forestry contractors, in accordance with scheme criteria

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Complete

Update: The latest agri-environmental scheme (ACRES) includes many measures that incorporate tree and forest planting. See further details here: <https://www.gov.ie/en/service/f5a48-agri-climate-rural-environment-scheme-acres/>. In addition to this, the next Forestry Programme 2023-2027, once launched, will have a range of knowledge transfer measures aimed at upskilling landowners on forest management. A detailed communication plan will be put in place to ensure scheme uptake is maximised and monitored across all interventions.

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

Q4 2022 measure: Develop remote sensing data to improve deforestation detection

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Delayed

Update: Work is underway to develop a systematic approach to monitoring deforestation. This work will be integrated into DAFMs Area Monitoring System Service which is currently operational. [Copernicus Sentinel Satellite](#) data will be used to undertake this work. This work will be completed by Q4 2023.

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

Q4 2022 measure: Monitoring of felling licence replanting condition following final harvest

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Complete

Update: The Forestry Inspectorate Division within DAFM undertake inspections of areas that have been clearfelled to ensure compliance with the replanting condition in both the private and public estate.

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

Q4 2022 measure: Generate public awareness of the impacts of deforestation

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Delayed

Update: Work to commence on generating public awareness of the impacts of deforestation will take into account recent EU developments. Deforestation and forest degradation are important drivers of global warming and biodiversity loss. The EU proposed Deforestation Regulation which approval will be sought during the first half of 2023, will force companies placing relevant commodities and products on the EU market to implement due diligence systems to ensure that products are not linked to deforestation. This proposal for an EU wide regulation is aimed at ensuring that products derived from certain commodities (such as coffee, cocoa, palm oil, soya, cattle, rubber and wood), which are placed on the EU market or exported from the EU, have not caused deforestation or forest degradation during their production.

Action 374a 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: A research officer is in place for the [FitForest project](#) who is assessing the range of key forest species and their suitability for future afforestation and is writing up information on key species. Native Oak provenance trials have been assessed and data are in the process of being analysed. Work to complete western Red cedar and hemlock is nearing completion.

Work is ongoing on other species including Japanese red cedar, pacific silver fir and Sitka spruce. A series of monographs on key species are in the process of being prepared for publication. Further information will be available in 2023. Preliminary indications suggest elevated temperatures will result in earlier bud burst for a range of forest tree species, the exact implications of this are still being assessed.

Action 379d Protect and monitor the forest estate for pest and disease in order to maintain carbon stocks and build resilience
Q4 2022 measure: Develop forest gene conservation network for native forest trees in Ireland

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Complete

Update: A forest gene conservation network for Ireland has been developed. Entries are listed on the European Forest Genetic Resources Information System. Further Information available at <https://www.euforgen.org/member-countries/ireland/> . Work is informed by DAFM funded research by the National Botanic Gardens (project: 2019R583 GENENET).

Action 379e **Protect and monitor the forest estate for pest and disease in order to maintain carbon stocks and build resilience**

Q4 2022 measure: Review recommendations and implementation of the Council for Forest Research and Development Sustainable Development and Conservation of Forest Genetic Resources 2020 – 2030

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Complete

Update: DAFM have reviewed the recommendations outlined in the [Conservation of Forest Genetic Resources strategy 2020 –2030](#). Implementation of recommendations is co-ordinated through the Forest Genetic Resources Working Group of the Council of Forest Research and Development (COFORD). Implementation of the recommendations will take place over the time period of strategy.

Action 379f **Protect and monitor the forest estate for pest and disease in order to maintain carbon stocks and build resilience**

Q4 2022 measure: Forest fire risk assessment notice

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Complete

Update: A forest fire risk warning system is in place and danger notices issue during those times where there is a risk of a fire which is typically from February to September. Further information is available here: <https://www.teagasc.ie/crops/forestry/forest-fire-risk/>

Action 381b **Ensure the inclusion of cover crops in tillage to 50,000ha by 2031**

Q4 2022 measure: Continue the Cover Crop Measure in the CAP transitional arrangement to support tillage farmers to increase soil organic carbon levels

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Complete

Update: Cover Crop or catch crop as alternatively known is an action approved under [ACRES](#) in Ireland's CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027. Tranche 1 of ACRES opened for applications on 17 October 2022 with a closing date of 7 December 2022. When approved by DAFM, the ACRES contracts are to start from 1 January 2023.

Action 383a Support the straw incorporation measure to reach 10% of Tillage (cereal) area

Q4 2022 measure: Continue the Straw Incorporation Measure in the CAP transitional period to support tillage farmers to increase soil organic carbon levels by chopping and incorporating straw from cereal crops

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Complete

Update: [Straw Incorporation Measure \(SIM\)](#) has successfully been implemented in 2021 and 2022. There were 2,030 successful applicants in 2021. The total eligible area applied on is 37,276.51 ha, and payments to date (9 November 2022) total just under €8 million.

For scheme year 2022, applications for SIM opened on 16 February 2022 and closed on 16 May 2022, with 2,516 applications.

Action 386a 80,000 hectares in 2030 of reduced management intensity of grasslands on drained organic soils

Q4 2022 measure: Continued investment, monitoring, and evaluation of the European Innovation Partnership "[FARMPEAT](#)" Pilot Project and "[Green Restoration Ireland](#)" Pilot Project

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Complete

Update: Demonstrations of the actions undertaken by participating farmers were held at various locations in 2022. These demonstrations were attended by farmers and non-farmers, such as students, farm advisors and local community members. Feedback at these events was generally positive in relation to the pilot projects, the actions demonstrated and their impact/results. These pilot projects will continue their work in 2023.

Action 387c Continue investment in peatland mapping

Q4 2022 measure: Conclude detailed national land cover and land map and develop land use knowledge in DAFM

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Delayed

Update: The National Land Cover map is undergoing final testing by the Ordnance Survey Ireland (OSI) and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and is scheduled to be delivered to DAFM in early Q1 2023.

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

Q4 2022 measure: Soil organic carbon sampling at signpost farms

Responsible body: Teagasc

Status: Complete

Update: Sampling for nutrient and soil carbon in the topsoil has been completed for the Signpost Farms. The results are stored in a Master database and are available to researchers and advisors for data mining and dissemination purposes. A Soil fertility report for the Signpost Farms was circulated in October and includes an overview of the Soil Organic Carbon content of the different Irish farming systems.

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

Q3 2022 Delayed 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 has almost concluded delivery of this action. A small amount of further sampling and analysis is required. This will run into Q1 2023. The pilot will then be fully completed.

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

Q4 2022 measure: Update the 2013 Teagasc Land Drainage and Soil Management Handbook

Responsible body: Teagasc

Status: Complete

Update: A second edition of the manual was published in February 2022 in print and made freely available on the Teagasc website: <https://www.teagasc.ie/environment/soil/soil-drainage/teagasc-manual-on-drainage-and-soil-management/>

This version contains new aspects including an introduction chapter on soil health and now focuses on drainage advice for mineral soils. It also outlines issues around water table management in high organic content soils. A consistent message is being conveyed to advisors on the ground and at all knowledge transfer events to farmers. Several projects have been established to support these stakeholders – for example, the Teagasc Heavy Soils programme and the DAFM funded ReWET project. Future policy could see measures targeted to rewetting of organic soils. This would involve proposing suitable locations and liaising with landowners to establish a workable programme of rewetting, and thereafter managing existing drainage features (open and field drains) on selected sites to manipulate the depth of the water table and reduce CO₂ emissions to the atmosphere. This water table management regime will also help prevent the release of sediment, carbon and nutrients, and have benefits for biodiversity.

Action 391a Further refine hedgerow carbon sequestration

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

Responsible body: Teagasc

Status: Delayed

Update: Paper accepted pending revision. Revision submitted in December 2022. Time for completion is unknown as the publication process is dependent on the publisher.

Action 391c Further refine hedgerow carbon sequestration

Q4 2022 measure: Refine hedgerow map through the National Land cover mapping project

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Complete

Update: DAFM have finalised a national hedgerow map. This map will be compared with the hedgerow map produced by the National Land cover mapping project once this is delivered to DAFM.

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

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

Responsible body: EPA

Status: Delayed

Update: Phase 1 is complete. Publication of report is pending and due in Q1 2023.

Action 394a 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 fencing. Tree planting will take place in early 2023.

Action 395a Research and development in forestry

Q4 2022 measure: Research investigation into the use of genomics to increase productivity of Sitka spruce e.g. DAFM funded project on Genomic Evaluation for the Sustainable Improvement of Sitka Spruce

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Complete

Update: Research investigation carried out by Teagasc under the DAFM funded research project GENESIS 17C297. Study published on genetic diversity and structure of species using genotyping by sequencing. Project has informed development and established of new seed producing orchards. Further information available at <https://www.teagasc.ie/crops/forestry/research/genesis-project>

Action 396b Deliver the full Land Use, Land-use Change and Forestry flexibility available to Ireland in the context of the 2030 greenhouse gas emissions targets

Q4 2022 measure: Explore options for wider rollout of the pilot

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Complete

Update: The rollout of [ACRES](#) (Agri-Climate Rural Environmental Scheme), due to start in January 2023, is currently accepting applications from farmers and will include measures to reduce emissions from peat soils. The Low Input Grassland on Peat measure is a results-based climate mitigation action which rewards farmers for sensitive management of grassland on peat soils to help reduce CO2 emissions.

The natural transitional area around raised bogs (lag zone) is vital for supporting raised bog ecosystems. Raised bogs provide a range of ecosystem services, including biodiversity, clean water and carbon storage. Pressures from land use in these transitional zones have altered the ecosystem, resulting in the loss of these important ecosystem services. The grassland on-peat scorecard incentivises farmers with land in these transitional zones to help restore these important ecosystems and the services they provide.

Action 399a Support biodiversity data collection

Q4 2022 measure: Collate data on status of protected habitats and species, ecosystem services, natural capital accounts, land use, landcover

Responsible body: DHLGH

Status: Delayed

Update: This is an open-ended action. Biodiversity surveys are on-going. Data on ecosystem services and natural capital accounts are still in research phase. The landuse, landcover map is completed but yet to be published. NPWS unable to service all obligations due to lack of resources/ staff capacity.

Action 400a	Build on the commitments made under the National Biodiversity Action Plan 2017-2021
Q4 2022 measure:	Draft the 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan with relevant stakeholders
Responsible body:	DHLGH
Status:	Delayed
Update:	Submissions via public consultations and outcomes from the Biodiversity citizens assembly and Convention on Biological Diversity COP 15 are being reviewed before final publication in 2023.

Action 401a	Assess and implement mitigation options on post-production peat extraction sites
Q4 2022 measure:	Complete spatial land use mapping project to ensure robust National Inventory Systems are in place to report and account LULUCF emissions and removals (map will undergo continuous development)
Responsible body:	EPA
Status:	Delayed
Update:	The land cover map due for completion in Q4 2022, is currently being finalised for issue in Q1 2023. Separately, the EPA land use mapping project is building on the landcover map products as they become available, and it is due for completion Q4 2024.

Action 402a	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:	Complete
Update:	The national peatland strategy midterm review was approved by the government in Q4 2022 with the report due to be published in Q1 2023.

Action 403a Continue to raise awareness of biodiversity protection

Q4 2022 measure: Facilitate grant schemes to Local, Authorities, Farming groups, Community groups, Environmental Nongovernmental Organizations, Green schools, Heritage in Schools

Responsible body: DHLGH

Status: Complete

Update: The [Local Biodiversity Action Fund](#), operated by the NPWS, provides funding to assist local authority biodiversity officers or heritage officers (in local authorities without a biodiversity officer) with the implementation of projects that promote actions contained in the National Biodiversity Action Plan. In 2022 the NPWS funded 109 biodiversity projects to the amount of € 1.22million. Projects with a biodiversity awareness focus included a social media Invasive Alien Species campaign by Clare County Councils <https://www.instagram.com/greenerclare/> and a joint campaign by County Councils of Westmeath, Laois and Offaly to promote awareness and positive actions from the All Ireland Pollinator Plan.

Action 403b Continue to raise awareness of biodiversity protection

Q4 2022 measure: Administer applications to the Local Authority Biodiversity Action Fund (€1million)

Responsible body: DHLGH

Status: Complete

Update: Funding awarded to all 31 Local Authorities who applied for biodiversity related projects.

Action 404a Research & development- Soil Tellus Soil Sampling Programme (National Geological, Geophysical & Geochemical Programme of GSI)

Q4 2022 measure: Continuation of soil sample collection as part of Tellus programme for baseline data and supporting research

Responsible body: GSI

Status: Delayed

Update: [Tellus](#) programme suspended due to contracting issues & insufficient staff time available, work will resume in 2023.

Action 404b	Research & development- Soil Tellus Soil Sampling Programme (National Geological, Geophysical & Geochemical Programme of GSI)
Q4 2022 measure:	Collaborative Research Project Tera Soil to support smart agriculture
Responsible body:	GSI
Status:	Delayed
Update:	Tellus programme suspended in 2022 due to contracting issues & insufficient staff time available, work will resume in 2024.

Action 405b	Conduct research and engage on how to support climate just transition in agriculture
Q4 2022 measure:	Conduct research and engage on how to support climate just transition in agriculture
Responsible body:	NESC
Status:	Complete
Update:	Both the Working Group and the Council discussed the interim report (three papers including the core argument) in September 2022. Stakeholder workshops were held with farmers across three regions and online in October 2022.

Action 406a	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 work has commenced and will be completed before the end of 2023. The plans are held internally but not published online. A final report will be published online when the work is complete.

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

Q4 2022 measure: Expand and catalogue features with benefits to climate through the NPWS/DHLGH Farm Plan Scheme, including those relating to trees, scrub, peat soils/bogs, drainage, species rich grassland, multispecies swards, soil care, extensification of practices

Responsible body: DHLGH

Status: Delayed

Update: The [NPWS Farm Plan Scheme](#) continues to implement measures for various habitat and the actions are catalogues for individual farms/farm plans but an overall geodatabase to allow overall statistics to be derived has not yet been put in place. It is hoped that this will be set up in Q2 2023.

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

Q4 2022 measure: Restoration plan published for 40ha of blanket bog from coniferous forestry in Connemara Bog Complex SAC under active restoration

Responsible body: Coillte

Status: Delayed

Update: This project is delayed as we have been advised by Forest Service of the need to apply to the local authority for planning permission prior to submitting a felling licence application due to the change in land use from forest to bog. This wasn't anticipated in the original project planning. Consultants have been appointed to apply for planning and to complete any environmental and ecological assessments required. A draft felling and bog restoration plan has been produced.

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

Q4 2022 measure: Restoration plan published for 116ha of blanket bog from coniferous forestry in Glenamoy Bog Complex SAC under active restoration

Responsible body: Coillte

Status: Delayed

Update: This project is delayed as we have been advised by Forest Service of the need to apply to the local authority for planning permission prior to submitting a felling licence application due to the change in land use from forest to bog. This wasn't anticipated in the original project planning. A draft felling and bog restoration plan has been produced.

Action 407a	Strengthen the Natura 2000 network by providing increased capacity for the enforcement of habitat regulations
Q4 2022 measure:	Establish a Wildlife crime team and a Conservation measures team
Responsible body:	DHLGH
Status:	Complete
Update:	New Directorates for Wildlife Enforcement & Nature Protection and Conservations Measures established as part of NPWS's Strategic Action Plan for the Renewal of NPWS. Increase in number of NPWS staff working across the organisation and all regions of the country to address wildlife crime and enforcement in 2022.

Action 410a	Engage stakeholders in all sectors to protect biodiversity in order to increase resilience to climate change
Q4 2022 measure:	Enact the Wildlife Amendment Bill 2016 which includes the Biodiversity Duty
Responsible body:	DHLGH
Status:	Delayed
Update:	A memorandum will be brought to Cabinet shortly seeking to restore the Wildlife (Amendment) Bill 2016 to the Dáil Order Paper. The Bill had completed all stages in the Dáil and the Seanad, and had been returned to the Dáil for consideration of the various amendments made by the Seanad when the Bill lapsed with the dissolution of the 32nd Dáil in January 2020. Further work on drafting the Bill has been undertaken, and it is now ready to recommence its journey through the Houses of the Oireachtas.

Action 411a	Develop a financial strategy to implement the Biodiversity Climate Change adaptation plan which includes public and private funds innovative financial mechanisms and enables investment from national to local level
Q4 2022 measure:	Expand the remit of Biodiversity Finance Plan to include Climate Adaptation Finance
Responsible body:	DHLGH
Status:	Delayed
Update:	This will be considered as part of the next round of Climate Adaptation Plans.

Action 413b 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 new marine strategy coordinated with cross department and cross agency input, Ocean Knowledge 2030, will set out key Research, Knowledge and Innovation actions necessary to enable the marine sector to play its role in addressing the climate crisis and to explore mitigation and economic opportunities presented by the blue economy.

The Marine Institute is in the second phase of the preparation process, in collaboration with relevant national agencies and Government Departments. 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 (9 Dec 2022). The development of Ocean Knowledge 2023 will be finalised under CAP 2023 Action Plan.

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

Every Q4 measure: Provide support through the National Contact Point network to researchers, SMEs, and Industry to successfully access funding through the Horizon Europe Framework Programme, and Cluster 6 (Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment) in particular

Responsible body: Marine Institute

Status: Complete

Update: To date, Ireland has drawn down €21.24m in marine- and maritime-dedicated projects under [Horizon Europe](#) (Annex 1). These are across a range of Pillars of the Horizon Europe framework programme. These results are based on twenty-three projects in total with 38 individual participations.

Cluster 6 NCPs (Mark Sweeney of EI and Fiona Grant of the Marine Institute), recently presented at the SFI Summit in Limerick. The 2023-2024 work programmes for Cluster 6 have been pre-published and can be accessed here: The direct link to the cluster 6 WP 2023-2024 is https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/horizon/wp-call/2023-2024/wp-9-food-bioeconomy-natural-resources-agriculture-and-environment_horizon-2023-2024_en.pdf

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

Q4 2022 measure: Fund and conduct marine climate research to support blue bioeconomy solutions towards climate neutrality. This includes co-funding with national and international partners e.g., Horizon 2020 Blue Bio ERA-Net Cofund (current) & the Horizon Europe Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership & Partnership for Safe & Sustainable Food Systems (from 2022-2023)

Responsible body: Marine Institute

Status: Complete

Update: [Blue Bioeconomy 2nd Additional Call](#): This call is targeted at 'Advancing Resource Management, Market and Socioeconomic aspects in the Blue Bioeconomy Value Chains'. The call aims to facilitate research and innovation to underpin sustainable and circular management and use of natural resources. This will encompass an integrated food systems approach to ensure ecosystem integrity and resilience.

Furthermore, acceptability, trust, transparency, and innovation uptake by citizens are key to developing the Blue Bioeconomy sector. To this end, the production and consumption of safe and healthy food and bio-based products (food and nutrition security) is vital and this call will address market and socioeconomic aspects of the value chain to foster solutions to these issues.

Under the Blue Bioeconomy (BlueBio) ERA-NET 2nd Additional Call three proposals with Irish partners were successful, with funding of €450,000 from the Marine Institute over three years (2022 to 2025) as follows:

1. BIVALVI: Advancing European bivalve production systems – University College Cork - €150,000
2. ImPrESSIVE: Improved Processing to Enhance Seafood Sidestream Valorization and Exploration - Teagasc - €150,000
3. SeaSoil: Value creation and ecosystem services of European Seaweed industry by reducing & handling potentially toxic elements from breeding to soil – Atlantic Technological University (Galway), Oilean Glas Teo and Donegal Seaweed - €150,000

The projects commenced on 1 November 2022.

Action 415a **Develop a monitoring programme under the Marine Strategy Framework Directive that allows us to assess the effects of climate change**

Q4 2022 measure: As per action

Responsible body: Marine Institute

Status: Delayed

Update: This action is in progress. National marine climate indicators are being developed in conjunction with the Marine Institute and will be delivered by Q4 2023.

The delay is related to coherent timings between the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) Reporting timelines and the Assessment Framework being progressed. At present the focus is on identifying and collating existing data streams and climate indicators to meet the reporting deadlines we have for the MSFD Art 8 Assessment Art 9 and Environmental Status (this has a 2024 deadline but due to requirement for public consultation and a Socio-Economic Analysis our national timeline is 2023).

The action will, in the future be augmented to include a 2024 action which will be reported in the 2024 CAP: 'Develop a pilot national monitoring and assessment programme to assess the effects of climate change and ensure integrated delivery of regional and European commitments'

The 2024 deadline for the development of the monitoring programme will then meet our 2026 deadline of reporting a revision of our MSFD Marine Strategy II (monitoring programmes) to include climate change; which will ensure alignment with both national and regional work programmes.

Action 416a **Develop comprehensive legislation for the identification, designation, and management of Marine Protected Areas in Irish marine waters**

Q4 2022 measure: Enact legislation

Responsible body: DHLGH

Status: Delayed

Update: In December 2022 government approved the General Scheme of stand-alone Marine Protected Areas Bill. The legislation is expected to be enacted as early as possible in 2023.

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

Q4 2022 measure: Provide support to increase ocean literacy through initiatives like the Explorers Primary Education Programme, the Irish Ocean Literacy Network and other citizen engagement projects

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Complete

Update: The [Marine Institute Explorers Education Programme](#) (primary schools) delivered marine modules to 13,000 children throughout Ireland during 2022. The recently refurbished [Sea Science Wild Atlantic Exhibition](#) at Galway City Museum has returned to full opening hours, following COVID-19 restrictions. The Marine Institute exhibited at [Galway Science & Technology Festival](#) (with more than 22,000 visitors), and the Explorers team at [Let's Talk Science Festival](#) in Ballymun, in November. The [RV Tom Crean launch](#) in Dingle in October included an afternoon when the vessel was open to the public. The [Irish Ocean Literacy Network](#) (on which the Marine Institute is a Steering committee member) held a members' meeting in December 2022.

Action 418a 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 Delayed measure: Proposals developed by relevant local authorities in conjunction with NPWS/DHLGH and other stakeholders advanced and submitted to UNESCO

Responsible body: DHLGH

Status: Delayed

Update: A request for services to develop an additional biosphere proposal has been published on eTenders. The delay is due to difficulty commissioning a contractor to deliver the required actions for application to [UNESCO for Biosphere Reserve](#) status.

Action 419a Develop criteria for marine protected areas to include nature-based carbon storage and resilience to climate change and ocean acidification

Q4 2022 measure: Develop Criteria

Responsible body: DHLGH

Status: Delayed

Update: The development of criteria will go hand in hand with the enactment of the legislation as per Action 416a.

Action 421b 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: Complete

Update: The SEA and AA have been completed and submitted to the EU Commission with the [Seafood Development Programme](#). These will be published with the Programme in Q1 2023.

Action 421c 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: Complete

Update: Public consultation of the Seafood Development Programme and associated SEA and AA closed on 26 August and all submissions were considered, with necessary changes incorporated into the Programme and SEA and AA Documents. The Programme incorporating these submissions was approved by Government and adopted by the EU Commission.

The public consultation report is currently being formatted for publication and will be published with the Programme and associated documents in Q1 2023.

Action 421d 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: Complete

Update: The Seafood Development Programme was approved by Government in September 2022 and was submitted to the Commission. The Commission adopted the Programme in December 2022 and will be published shortly.

Action 422a 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: Complete

Update: The SEA, AA and Plan have been completed and are being formatted for publication shortly.

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

Q1 2022 Delayed measure: Publish SEA, AA and final NSPA and submit to the EU

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Delayed

Update: The Plan has been finalised and was submitted with the EMFAF Seafood Development Programme. The last remaining step is the formatting of the final plan for publication. Publication is anticipated in Q1 2023.

Action 423b 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: BIM

Status: Complete

Update: The report is finalised having undergone extensive revisions, editing and formatting. An external editor has completed their review and input in the document. Final verification of the figures and values in the report were completed in November. The final report went to print at the beginning of December, following final internal review. It will be available on the BIM website shortly.

Action 425a 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: Participation in the Initiative is being maintained at the 96% for vessels involved in fishing for litter into the 12 Clean Oceans ports. Further work with the sector and the EPA to develop an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) scheme continues with a meeting with Gear Suppliers took place in November in Donegal; two guest speakers addressed producers and suppliers of fishing and aquaculture gears to share experiences and advice for starting an EPR.

Action 426b Develop a study to test different seaweeds cultivation techniques for eventual inclusion in cattle feed to reduce methane production

Q4 2022 measure: Report on years findings and communication to industry

Responsible body: DAFM

Status: Complete

Update: The report has undergone extensive revisions, editing and formatting. An external editor has completed their review and input in the document. Final verification of the figures and values in the report were completed in November. The final report went to print at the beginning of December, following final internal review. The report will be available shortly online. The reports on the seaweed cultivation for inclusion in cattle feeds are complete and will be published in 2023 on the BIM website.

Built Environment

Action 183a Develop proposals to achieve complete phase out of fossil fuel heating throughout our building stock in line with our climate neutrality objective

Q3 2022 Delayed 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: This action is being examined in the context of the [National Economic and Social Council](#) and aligned with other heat policy related actions.

Action 184a 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: Complete

Update: Report received Q2 2022. Reviewed by division and eSubmission sent to Minister for information as changes are administrative in nature. eSubmission for the information of the Minister submitted in Dec 2022.

Action 184b Develop and enhance initiatives to educate and enable organisations to contribute to our national energy and emissions targets

Q4 2022 measure: Review and develop the initiatives provided to educate and enable businesses to reduce energy use and emissions

Responsible body: SEAI

Status: Complete

Update: The [energy academy](#) has 28 training modules available (with more developed as the need is identified). It has over 4,800 registered members and has issued approx 1,700 certificates of completion. The LIEN has continuously expanded, having started with 41 organisations and a Total Primary Energy Requirement of 12,600 GWh, it has expanded to approx. 200 active organisations with an estimated Total Primary Energy Requirement of over 31,000 GWh. The SEAI have carried out webinars and training sessions on all existing supports, market surveillance, best practice and useful information for relevant parties.

Action 185a Develop an approach to retrofit commercial buildings

Q3 2022 Delayed 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: Elements of the approach are underway. New non-domestic retrofit support received approval and budget of 2M for 2023. Support Scheme for Energy Audits will form part of the retrofit approach. Approach paper for the new non-domestic retrofit support received from the SEAI.

Action 186b 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: "Heat-on" date now estimated as end January 2023. A number of delays during the testing phase have added 2 months to time line for completion. Previous delay related to Covid lockdowns and war in Ukraine.

Action 187b Establish a system of governance for the development of district heating policy

Q4 2022 measure: District Heating Steering Group to report to Government annually

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Delayed

Update: Report is at final drafting stage and anticipated for delivery in Q1 2023.

Action 188a 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: Recommendations from the Research and Policy Insights Working Group, have been included in the draft District Heating Steering Group Report. The Report has yet to be finalised.

Action 189c 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: Complete

Update: The purpose of the District Heating Regulations is to facilitate the partial transposition of Article 15.4 of the [Renewable Energy Directive](#) to permit Building Regulation minimum requirements for renewable energy in Nearly Zero Energy Buildings to be fulfilled through efficient district heating and cooling using a significant share of renewable energy and waste heat and cold. This will ensure that District Heating systems can meet the renewable energy requirements for Nearly Zero Energy Buildings. This is part of the wider move to the use of more renewable energy and also waste heat.

Action 189d 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: Complete

Update: New default Primary Energy Factor and Carbon Emission Factor for selected Efficient District Heating were published by SEAI on 29/11/2022 and are available [here](#).

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

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

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Delayed

Update: Recommendations have been included in the draft District Heating Steering Group Report. The Report has yet to be finalised.

Action 189b 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: Complete

Update: [SI 350/2022](#) transposed the district heating elements of the Renewable Energy Directive. [S.I. 630/2022](#) transposed remaining District Heating Articles 9,10, & 11 of the 2018 Energy Efficiency Directive.

Action 191a Identify appropriate financing mechanism to support the delivery of district heating projects

Q4 2022 measure: Examine the potential, including considering the policy and regulation options that might be used, for attracting private sector investment for district heating

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Delayed

Update: Recommendations have been included in the draft District Heating Steering Group Report. The Report has yet to be finalised.

Action 192b Assess the viability of district heating systems within higher density urban/periurban developments through a demonstration project

Q4 2022 measure: Implement pilot small scale efficient district heating system subject to feasibility study outcomes

Responsible body: LDA

Status: Complete

Update: Work has commenced on site. Detailed design and viability assessment of proposals. Liaising with CODEMA and DECC re capital support for demonstration project & research on potential for further decarbonisation of proposed system design.

Action 193c 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: SEA Statement and Natura Impact Statement follow finalisation of Policy Statement.

Action 193d 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: Policy Statement being finalised for submission to Minister.

Action 195a Support the current review by the European Commission of the Construction Products Regulation and proposed implementation of Basic Works Requirements 7+ for sustainability of construction products

Every Q4 measure: Monitor any revision by the European Commission to the Construction Products Regulation which will address environmental aspects of construction products

Responsible body: DHLGH

Status: Complete

Update: In 2022, the legislative proposal for a revised CPR was considered by both the European Council Working Party on Technical Harmonisation (Construction Products) and the European Parliament. This process will continue in 2023. Legislative proposal - https://single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/sectors/construction/construction-products-regulation-cpr/review_en

Action 195b Support the current review by the European Commission of the Construction Products Regulation and proposed implementation of Basic Works Requirements 7+ for sustainability of construction products

Every Q4 measure: Support the European Commission in correction, completion and renewed adoption of technical specifications adopted under the Construction Products Regulation

Responsible body: DHLGH

Status: Complete

Update: The review of Construction Products Regulation Acquis product priorities #1 and #2 are ongoing. The review of product priorities #3 and #4 commenced in October 2022. A horizontal subgroup on 'Environmental Sustainability of Construction Products' held its inaugural meeting in October 2022.

This process will continue in 2023. See <https://ec.europa.eu/docsroom/documents/42129>

Action 197a 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 Q3 2023 subject to further feedback from stakeholders

Action 200b	Design and construct two exemplar public sector buildings using alternative construction techniques and materials, and monitor their performance
Q3 2022 Delayed 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:	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>

Action 200a	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
Update:	<p>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 Q3 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 Q3 2023.</p>

Action 201a Pilot project to assess the adaptive re-use potential of existing traditionally built structures as residential accommodation

Q4 2022 measure: Development of design options and assessment of impact of various proposed technical solutions on a suitable pilot LDA project. Include assessment of impacts including embodied carbon offset

Responsible body: LDA

Status: Complete

Update: Draft scoping study on cost variance for adaptive re-use of state assets as affordable homes and embodied carbon impacts complete. DHLGH requested LDA to submit application to EU funding call for pilot projects as priority for Q3 2022/Q1 2023. Applications are now completed.

Action 202a 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: Consultant framework established in Q4 2022. Literature review to be carried out in Q1 2023 followed by delivery of a report in Q2 2023.

Action 203c Develop specific climate maps and data for use in building design to enhance resilience in support of climate change adaptation

Q4 2022 measure: Produce building standard short duration rainfall map

Responsible body: DHLGH -Met Éireann

Status: Complete

Update: Short duration rainfall map complete and finalised. Written report due to be published online Feb 2023.

Action 203d Develop specific climate maps and data for use in building design to enhance resilience in support of climate change adaptation

Q4 2022 measure: Develop specific building standards climate reference years to support decisions related to overheating risk in buildings

Responsible body: DHLGH -Met Éireann

Status: Complete

Update: Building standards climate reference years complete. Written report due to be published online in February 2023.

Action 204a	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:	Pursuing new path with Met Éireann following discussions.

Action 204c	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:	This work is ongoing through heritage grant schemes. Work to assess and monitor impacts on heritage sites will continue under the implementation of the Climate Change Sectoral Adaptation Plan Built and Archaeological Heritage and will lead to statistics being available.

Action 205d	Cooperate actively and share knowledge with international partners and climateproof planning procedures for heritage properties
Q4 2022 measure:	Support local authorities and other sectors to develop climate vulnerability assessments of heritage sites
Responsible body:	DHLGH
Status:	Delayed
Update:	The action has been amended for inclusion in CAP23. Original action was delayed due to ongoing international review of Vulnerability Assessment efficacies, which are still being resolved. For this reason, on consideration, new priority emerged for a need for training for LAs and this is now the focus. A contractor has been engaged to review relevant sources and develop a general training template for local authority staff. This is being developed in conjunction with Local Government Management Agency, Heritage Council, CAROs and various other Adaptation Plan Stakeholders. Aim is to have completed in Q2 2023 and delivered to local authorities.

Action 205c	Cooperate actively and share knowledge with international partners and climateproof planning procedures for heritage properties
Q3 2022 Delayed measure:	Development of guidelines/recommendations for local authorities
Responsible body:	DHLGH
Status:	Delayed
Update:	This measure will not be brought forward into CAP23. Reason for delay was failure to reach consensus on approach, which is still being worked through, and as per 205d above support for Las through training was deemed a greater priority at this time. Work will continue under the implementation of the Climate Change Sectoral Adaptation Plan Built and Archaeological Heritage

Action 205b	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:	Unable to complete this measure due to lack of capacity within the Welsh authorities. MOUs have been completed with Scotland and NI and we are currently exploring the potential to develop a similar MOU with England.

Action 206a	Build public awareness of the risks of climate change (in general and for heritage) and of efforts to mitigate it and adapt to it
Q4 2022 measure:	Assess existing communication gaps and strategy for public engagement
Responsible body:	DHLGH
Status:	Delayed
Update:	This work is ongoing as steering group of stakeholders has expanded through 2022. Delay in meeting objective is down to the complexity of the climate adaption space and a contractor has been engaged to drive this forward, including through public and key stakeholder consultation to go out later this year. Work will continue under the implementation of the Climate Change Sectoral Adaptation Plan Built and Archaeological Heritage . The stakeholders are the broad group of partners who sit on of CCSAP Advisory Group established in 2015 and which has grown to be a very extensive network across government, agencies and NGOs.

National Retrofit Plan

Action 208c	Implement a national awareness and demand generation campaign for residential retrofit
Q3 2022 Delayed measure:	Carry out Community Based Social Marketing events
Responsible body:	SEAI
Status:	Delayed
Update:	A Community Based Social Marketing service provider has been selected following a tender process. It is intended to proceed with Community Based Social Marketing events in Q1 2023.

Action 209a	Provide a personalised roadmap for homeowners on how to upgrade their home to a BER B2 in the new BER advisory report
Every Q4 measure:	As per headline action
Responsible body:	SEAI
Status:	Complete
Update:	The new BER Advisory report has been implemented and the SEAI website updated to provide the homeowner with additional guidance (https://www.seai.ie/home-energy/building-energy-rating-ber/ber-advisory-report/)

Action 212c	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 Sustainable Energy Communities
Responsible body:	SEAI
Status:	Delayed
Update:	SEAI is engaging with Sustainable Energy Communities, communities and One Stop Shops 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 212d Utilise Sustainable Energy Communities to drive Community Activation

Q4 2022 measure: Increase the number of Sustainable Energy Communities to 680 by end 2022

Responsible body: SEAI

Status: Complete

Update: The target for the number of [Sustainable Energy Communities](#) has been exceeded with 709 SECs now registered.

Action 214a Rollout of Social Housing National Retrofitting Programme in 2021 with retrofitted properties required to reach BER B2 or equivalent

Q4 2022 measure: Develop a roadmap for Local Authority housing as part of retrofit works to achieve cost optimal performance by 2030, subject to funding, for publication in Climate Action Plan 2022

Responsible body: DHLGH

Status: Complete

Update: Completed, Local Authorities notified on an annual basis of their target in a given year with targets and outturn always considered within the wider target of hitting the 36,500 retrofits out to 2030.

Action 214b Rollout of Social Housing National Retrofitting Programme in 2021 with retrofitted properties required to reach BER B2 or equivalent

Q4 2022 measure: Deliver retrofits to approximately 2,400 local authority homes

Responsible body: DHLGH

Status: Complete

Update: Programme for Government commitment is to retrofit 36,500 homes to B2/Cost Optimal out to 2030. Targets in each year are subject to the funding available as part of the estimates process. DHLGH targets for social housing retrofit remain in place albeit slightly behind schedule on account of it being the first year of this 10 year programme, the effects of Covid on the construction sector and supply chain issue. Local authorities are ramping up delivery in order to get back on track with the overall aim of achieving the 36,500 retrofits by the end of the decade. Full outturn for 2022 was 2,283 as published on the DHLGH website. Local Authorities are ramping up delivery to ensure the target of 36,500 retrofits is arrived at out to 2030 as part of the Programme for Government .

Action 215a Launch a new Energy Efficiency Obligation Scheme

Q1 2022 Delayed measure: As per headline action

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Complete

Update: New regulations underpinning the Energy Efficiency Obligation Scheme were published in October with the new Scheme coming into operation on 1 January 2023

(<https://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/e5331-new-legislation-introduced-for-the-energy-efficiency-obligation-scheme/>)

Action 218a Introduce a residential retrofit loan guarantee scheme

Q3 2022 Delayed 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 completion of a pre-qualification call to financial institutions as well as the invitation for award to on-lenders. However, given the range of complex issues to be addressed, the scheme is expected to be launched in 2023.

Action 219a Pursue funding through EU initiatives as appropriate

Every Q4 measure: As per headline action

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Complete

Update: A total of over €264 million of European Regional Development Funds and national co-financing has been secured to increase budget allocations for the [SEAI Warmer Homes Scheme](#) to 2027. This will allow more free energy upgrades to be provided for households at risk of energy poverty.

Action 220a Explore the potential for new tax measures to support retrofit

Q4 2022 measure: As per headline action

Responsible body: DFIN

Status: Complete

Update: November 2022 saw the announcement of a new tax incentive to encourage small-scale landlords to undertake retrofitting works.

This measure will provide for a tax deduction of up to €10,000 per property, against Case V rental income, for certain retrofitting expenses incurred by the landlord on rented residential properties, for a maximum of two rental properties.

Retrofitting works carried out and certified by the SEAI in year 1 can be claimed against Case V rental income in year 2. The scheme will run for 3 years. The property must remain as a rental property for a period of two years after the work has been carried out.

The landlord must also be tax compliant and registered with the Residential Tenancies Board.

<https://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/bc236-minister-donohoe-announces-a-new-tax-incentive-to-encourage-small-scale-landlords-to-undertake-retrofitting-works/>

Action 222d Deliver the necessary increase in upskilling, reskilling and apprenticeship supports for residential retrofitting

Q4 2022 measure: Bring total number of centres of excellence to support the national expansion of retrofit and Nearly Zero Energy Building (NZEB) courses for new and existing construction workers to a minimum of 5

Responsible body: DFHERIS

Status: Complete

Update: 6 Education & Training Boards (ETBs) have been designated "Centres of Excellence" for training in Nearly Zero Energy Building (Laois & Offaly ETB, Waterford & Wexford ETB, Limerick & Clare ETB, Mayo, Sligo & Leitrim ETB, Cork ETB & City of Dublin ETB). LOETB, WWETB, LCETB, CETB and MSLETB are delivering courses and CDETB will be operational in 2023. All training running in these centres has been developed with industry partners, with specific skills training in construction for the low carbon economy. The Centres of Excellence Oversight Group has held meetings throughout 2022 with a focus on ensuring that low carbon construction skills for new builds and retrofitting remains core to construction sector further education and training (FET). Laois & Offaly ETB is working on the development of a new Modern Methods of Construction (MMC) Demonstration Park at the [National Construction Training 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. A Project Management Group has been appointed for the development of the National MMC Demonstration Park and a consultation is underway to include contributions from an Expert Advisory Panel.

Action 222e Deliver the necessary increase in upskilling, reskilling and apprenticeship supports for residential retrofitting

Q4 2022 measure: Reduce COVID-19 related backlogs on apprenticeships

Responsible body: DFHERIS

Status: Complete

Update: Covid-19 public health measures impacted the capacity of the apprenticeship system. During the immediate emergency period of 2020/21 there were impacts on capacity and intake, while in the post-emergency period the system has been in 'restart' mode and making up for lost ground, with strong registrations continuing and more apprentices being added to waiting lists. As a result, some apprentices who were impacted will ultimately take extended training time to complete their apprenticeships.

As of the end of November 2022, 7,251 apprentices were waiting to access off the job training. However, more than 8,400 apprentices or over 70% who were delayed in their training by Covid-19 have now progressed in their off-the-job training. This includes over 700 final year apprentices who were fast-tracked on an accelerated final phase to complete their qualification at the end of 2021.

It is expected that the majority of craft apprentices waiting for off-the-job training for phases 4 and 6 will be cleared by the end of this year. Significant progress continues to be made on phase 2 waiting lists as additional capacity comes on stream. Excess backlogs are expected to be brought in line with normal waiting list levels by the end of 2023.

It should be noted that Covid-19 related backlogs predominantly impacted the construction sector, resulting from the shut-down of building sites due to public health measures. The above figures for backlogs pertain to the general craft apprenticeship population, and are not a significant issue for specific climate-related apprenticeships, for instance the Wind Turbine Maintenance Technician Apprenticeship offered by Kerry Education and Training Board. Neither are they a significant issue for specific climate-related training components of apprenticeships, such as the delivery of retrofit and Near Zero Energy Buildings (NZEB) training to apprentices. Among the 66 apprenticeships currently available, retrofit and NZEB training courses saw 1,899 starters by end November 2022.

Action 222f	Deliver the necessary increase in upskilling, reskilling and apprenticeship supports for residential retrofitting
Q4 2022 measure:	Continue the NZEB train the trainer programme to ensure that there is an appropriate number of skilled trainers
Responsible body:	DFHERIS
Status:	Complete
Update:	SOLAS has instigated a continued professional development process with instructors across the 6 NZEB CoE's to upskill instructing staff on NZEB Retrofitting Fundamentals commencing with LOETB and the National Construction Training Campus.

Action 225a	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:	The draft is currently being edited in-house and will be brought to the Project Steering Group (DHLGH, DECC, DES, OPW, SEAI, HC) in April for final sign off and publication in Q3 2023. This has been a complex project requiring significant engagement across industry, professional bodies and other relevant stakeholders, including public consultation.

Action 227a	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:	Complete
Update:	The functions of this group has been subsumed into the new Heat and Built Environment Delivery Acceleration Taskforce. This group held its first meeting on 11 January, 2023.

Action 228a Further develop and resource the SEAI as the National Retrofit Delivery Body

Every Q4 measure: As per headline action

Responsible body: SEAI

Status: Complete

Update: In 2022, SEAI received sanction to increase its headcount by 50 to bring the workforce to 195. For 2023, SEAI has advised that the Agency's current budget allocation will fund an additional 40 whole time equivalents.

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

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

Responsible body: SEAI

Status: Complete

Update: Data across SEAI and Local Authority retrofit schemes are now consolidated on a quarterly basis.

Action 230a Enhance the capacity of local authorities to deliver their retrofit programme according to budgets allocated

Every Q4 measure: As per headline action

Responsible body: DHLGH

Status: Complete

Update: The [2021 Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme](#) was a newly revised Retrofit Programme and last year was the first year of a ten year plan that is expected to grow to meet the Programme for Government retrofit commitment that calls for the 'retrofit' of 500,000 homes by 2030, of which, approximately 36,500 are expected to be local authority owned homes.

To help deliver this programme local authorities have been provided additional resources as detailed below;

Project Management Fees

The Department has put in place a €5 million fund for project management fees to assist local authorities in the implementation of the new programme. It is recognised that an element of external expertise may be required by some local authorities as they embark on this programme but every effort should also be made to ensure that in-house staff are upskilled to manage the programme beyond 2021, thereby reducing the reliance in future years on external consultants. This funding will remain in place in 2022.

Staffing Resources within the HDCO

Two new members of staff have been deployed within the Housing Delivery Coordination Office (HDCO) to drive performance and guide local authorities in their administration of the scheme. As part of this an individual local authority "tracker" is available which will quickly and easily identify the current status of the programme within a local authority area through a user friendly interface. This is available to the LA sector, the HDCO and the Department.

Increased budget for 2022

Funding of €65 million was made available in 2021 towards the retrofit of local authority housing stock which would allow a target number of dwellings reach a BER rating of B2 or Cost Optimal BER. In 2022 €85m will be available to local authorities for their work in this area which is a substantial increase in Exchequer funding support.

*Q3 Text update applies. However a further measure to offset the effects of inflation has been implemented which maximises the funding available to the local authority sector with the removal of line item caps from the funding available for eligible works.

Enterprise

Action 131a	Develop networks in key industry sectors and a roadmap of actions to support decarbonisation of large industry
Q4 2022 measure:	Develop networks in key industry sectors and a roadmap of actions to support decarbonisation of large industry
Responsible body:	SEAI
Status:	Complete
Update:	SEAI manage the Large Industry Energy Network (LIEN), which is our network programme for engaging with industry. A number of actions have been carried out under CAP 2021 Action 131(a) including the development of new sectoral special working groups such as the Dairy and Nutrition SWG which focussed on developing decarbonisation roadmaps for this sector, further sectoral best practice and knowledge sharing activities, development of an emissions evaluation and tracking methodology for the LIEN network, and close collaboration with IDA on large environmental aid application assessment, and on developing decarbonisation partnerships with large industry energy users. In addition, SEAI have published the Heat Study in 2022, and developed a proposed decarbonisation roadmap for industrial heat as part of CAP 2023 development which will be further developed in 2023.

Action 134b	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 Delayed measure:	Circulate Actions for Sign-off
Responsible body:	DETE
Status:	Delayed
Update:	DETE formed the Cement & Construction Sector Decarbonisation working group to develop actions necessary to reduce embodied carbon in the construction sector. The group will continue its work in 2023 and is planning to procure technical expertise in Q1 2023. This expertise will be advising on areas such as cement standards, supply and availability and wider socio-economic impacts of reducing embodied carbon in the construction sector.

Action 144c	Negotiate and implement the revised EU Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive which includes environmental information
Q4 2022 measure:	Continue supportive engagement in the EU negotiations throughout transposition period and finalise transposition into Irish law
Responsible body:	DETE
Status:	Delayed
Update:	The directive entered into force on the 5th of January 2023. There is an accelerated deadline for transposition by 6 July 2024. Work is underway to prepare businesses and DETE hosted a stakeholder webinar attended by nearly 500 participants at end January 2023. Note: This action is delayed due to the longer than anticipated negotiations on the Directive at EU level. However, this is countered somewhat by the 18 month accelerated transposition deadline.

Action 147b	Promote the potential of innovation and applied research in Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine Learning and Data Analytics to solve complex challenges related to sustainability and the low carbon transition
Q4 2022 measure:	Increase the number of companies engaged in applied research projects related to AI and sustainability
Responsible body:	EI/IDA
Status:	Complete
Update:	IDA supported four companies in the development of AI and sustainability initiatives in 2022. Four AI-sustainability investments were approved by IDA's Investment Committee and Board in 2022, representing a fourfold increase on 2021.

Action 150a	Promote the benefits of adapting to low carbon technologies and processes to SMEs through a new Low Carbon Business Award within the existing Seedcorn Investor Readiness Competition
Q4 2022 measure:	Provide a dedicated award for businesses that best present a low carbon offering in the investor readiness competition
Responsible body:	Intertrade Ireland
Status:	Complete
Update:	Capella Workspace Solutions, a Dublin-based company specialising in technology to facilitate hybrid office and home based working won the Sustainability/Low Carbon Award at InterTradeIreland's Seedcorn Investor Readiness Competition . A key part of the competition, is feedback on the SME's business plans and the opportunity to network with potential investors - thus helping Capella to accelerate growth and achieve its aim of cutting carbon emission further.

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

Q3 2022 Delayed 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. Use of the model by agencies is delayed as DEPR is updating the parameters of the model. The amended model is expected to be in use by the end of Q2 2023.

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

Q3 2022 Delayed 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 Q1 2023. However, IDA continues to work on existing sustainable initiatives across its property portfolio in advance of completion of the new strategy. IDA is also proactively involved in direct monitoring and reporting through SEAI.

Action 158d Enable the preparation of detailed firm-level decarbonisation implementation strategies by large food & drink businesses

Q4 2022 measure: Require Origin Green company members with a turnover greater than €50 million to establish carbon emission targets. Origin Green company members must conduct baseline assessments in 2021 to determine company emissions targets

Responsible body: Bord Bia

Status: Complete

Update: 34 Origin Green member companies developed carbon emission targets for the annual review period.

Action 158e Enable the preparation of detailed firm-level decarbonisation implementation strategies by large food & drink businesses
Q4 2022 measure: Hold annual net zero emissions guidance webinars for Origin Green company members to ensure targets are set, maintained, and implemented
Responsible body: Bord Bia
Status: Complete
<p>Update: In 2022 Bord Bia partnered with Accenture to deliver a five-part emissions Science Based Target (SBT) webinar series. The webinar series was designed to prepare Origin Green companies for the requirement that all members with a turnover of over €50 million must establish carbon emissions targets before the end of 2022. The webinar series consisted of five sessions, which were presented by experts from Accenture, industry and member companies covering four key areas: Introducing SBT: An introduction to SBTs and the imperative to take urgent climate action; Measuring emissions: The methodologies and tools needed to measure Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions; Reducing Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions: The various levers companies can pull to reduce emissions across all scopes and make progress on their SBTs; Communicating SBTs: The recommended approaches to communicate SBTs, and broader sustainability performance, to various sets of stakeholders. This interactive webinar learning series has guided c.350 webinar participants from over 110 organisations through the process of setting and delivering on emissions Science Based Targets.</p> <p>Following the conclusion of the webinar series, the webinar guidance and the key insights gathered through engagement with webinar attendees is now being summarized into a public report.</p>

Action 158f Enable the preparation of detailed firm-level decarbonisation implementation strategies by large food & drink businesses
Q4 2022 measure: Encourage Origin Green company members to enrol in the SEAI Energy Academy courses on an ongoing basis, including: Decarbonisation for Businesses, Energy Use in Labs, Meters and Sensors Energy Audits, Encourage Origin Green company members to avail of EI
Responsible body: Bord Bia
Status: Complete
<p>Update: In November and December, Bord Bia hosted a three-part Resource Efficiency webinar series for Origin Green members, aimed at supporting companies to manage natural resources more sustainably in an effort to achieve improved resource efficiency for businesses and ultimately support in business decarbonisation. The sessions included guest speakers from Origin Green partner organisations (e.g., Enterprise Ireland, SEAI, Irish Water, and Circuleire) to share their funding supports and training resources available to companies. 128 companies took part.</p>

Action 167a 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 169b Develop renewable gas in the gas grid

Q4 2022 measure: Test the technical feasibility of safely injecting green hydrogen blends in the gas grid

Responsible body: GNI

Status: Complete

Update: GNI submitted to DECC in Q4 2022 a report entitled 'Injecting green hydrogen blends into Ireland's gas network Technical and safety feasibility study'.

Action 173a Undertake research into business engagement with the low carbon agenda, including support needs to invest and commitment to low carbon adaptations

Q4 2022 measure: Research business engagement with climate action through the All-Island Business Monitor

Responsible body: Intertrade Ireland

Status: Complete

Update: InterTradeIreland, included questions in its quarterly [All-Island Business Monitor survey](#) to ask firms if they have a Net Zero Plan. Responses indicated a low level of preparedness among SMEs. Not surprisingly, Cost of Doing business dominated as the key business issue. InterTradeIreland provided a broad range of Innovation based support to business to help improve efficiency, reduce costs, develop 'green' products and processes and contribute to the Circular Economy and low carbon agendas.

Action 174a Proactively engage with opportunities to support business cluster and network development which will support the all-island circular economy

Q4 2022 measure: Proactively seek to support circular economy cluster development

Responsible body: Intertrade Ireland

Status: Complete

Update: InterTradelreland sponsored "[Bio-Invest Ireland](#)" an all-island pitching and networking event for start-ups in the bio-economy and circular economy. The event was held in Belfast on January 18th. It was very well attended and was an opportunity for start-ups in the bio/circular economy sphere to meet potential investors and to exchange ideas. InterTradelreland also provided support to the Irish Nutrient Sustainability platform to further develop cross-border activity in the circular economy.

Action 177b 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

Q4 2022 measure: Establish a new Division of the High Court dealing with planning and environmental issues

Responsible body: D/Justice

Status: Delayed

Update: On 2 November 2022, Cabinet approved the establishment of a dedicated Planning and Environment division of the High Court.

The Department of Justice has worked in partnership with the Courts Service and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage to assist in establishing the new court and efforts to do so are now at an advanced stage. The Practice Direction necessary for its establishment has been drafted by the President of the High Court and the Courts Service are to engage in a public consultation on the draft Practice Direction very shortly.

Government approval in relation to the recommendations of the Judicial Planning Working Group was obtained on 21 February 2023 and so the primary legislation for the appointment of any additional judges will now also advance.

It is estimated that the new Court will be fully established by Q2 2023.

Note that introduction of legislation to reform the judicial review process is being undertaken by the DHLGH.

Action 181a Promote sustainable practices in the Screen Production industry

Q4 2022 measure: Expand the use of the Screen Greening Coalition's carbon calculator and toolkit

Responsible body: Screen Ireland

Status: Delayed

Update: In order to encourage better use of the Albert Carbon Calculator, new grants for on set Sustainability Advisors are being launched by Screen Ireland to assist productions. Expected Delivery Date: Q1 2023.

Public Sector Leading by Example

Action 53b	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: Seek Government approval and publish new Public Sector Strategy for delivery	
Responsible body: DECC	
Status: Delayed	
Update: The strategy has been developed and will be delivered in early 2023.	

Action 53c	Develop a strategy to achieve at least a 51% reduction in GHG emissions and a 50% improvement in public sector energy efficiency by 2030
Q4 2022: Large Public Bodies will prepare comprehensive Climate Action Roadmaps to be coordinated and monitored at Departmental Group level	
Responsible body: SEAI	
Status: Delayed	
Update: The requirement for public bodies to prepare roadmaps was included in the climate action mandate (CAP21). The original timeline was by end of 2022. This has been extended to by end of Q1 2023. A formal communication from DECC in this regard will issue in Q1 2023.	

Action 54a	Expand the successful public sector energy efficiency monitoring and reporting programme to incorporate GHG emissions reduction
Q4 2022: Develop the public sector energy and reporting programme to incorporate greenhouse gas emissions reduction including emissions recording and compliance monitoring	
Responsible body: SEAI	
Status: Delayed	
Update: Updating of the monitoring and reporting system is underway by SEAI. This will include enhanced reporting on public sector climate action. Revised timeline for completion is Q1 2023.	

Action 55c Introduce Climate Action Mandate for every public body

Q4 2022: Publish School Sector Climate Action Mandate

Responsible body: D/Education

Status: Delayed

Update: The School Sector Climate Action Mandate for 2023 was issued in early December 2022 to Stakeholders and it will be published in January 2023.

Action 56a Strengthen supports to enable Climate and Sustainability Champions to deliver on public sector targets

Q4 2022: Support Climate and Sustainability Champions by requiring public sector bodies to comply with requirements for Display Energy Certificates including getting SEAI to establish an online register of DEC's so compliance can be assessed

Responsible body: SEAI

Status: Delayed

Update: Other developments in SEAI were prioritised due to resource constraints within SEAI and with their information technology partners. There are concerns about the ability to achieve this in the short-term from an IT systems point of view.

Action 57c Support the retrofit of public sector buildings

Q2 2022 Delayed: 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: Complete

Update: The SEAI undertook a comprehensive review of the Pathfinder Programme to identify opportunities to scale up the Programme and to enhance delivery of a cost effective retrofit and decarbonisation approach of public sector building stock. In doing so, the SEAI carried out extensive research on the current delivery model and determined that the Pathfinder programme would require an increased capital budget in combination with a new operational delivery model to support a scaling up of the programme. The review and the actions contained in CAP 23 have directly informed the development of a new programme strategy, including capital utilisation, supply-chain development and measurement and verification processes.

Action 60a	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: Individual areas of work/projects identified and showcased in national media	
Responsible body: D/Education	
Status: Complete	
Update: Press release issued 28 December 2022. https://merrionstreet.ie/ministers_foley_and_ryan_welcome_progress_on_schools_decarbonisation_pathfinder_programme.html	

Action 61d	Set a trajectory for commencing and implementing a deep energy retrofit programme for the higher and further education sectors
Q4 2022: Completion of 586 school surveys measure: Complete Phase 1 of schools energy inventory survey	
Responsible body: D/Education	
Status: Complete	
<p>Update: In preparing for the delivery of the deep energy retrofit of all schools built prior to 2008 the Department of Education is establishing a national energy profile inventory of all schools. This will provide a clear and measured understanding of the requirements on a national basis by completing a national energy profile inventory of all schools.</p> <p>Phase 1 is complete and includes the development and validation of a survey tool and database along with assessing 543 schools and has been funded by the European Investment Bank (EIB). This involved energy assessors gathering focused information on energy use, building types, age, and size along with an overview of general fabric and energy aspects of electrical and mechanical systems etc. along with the energy performance and energy consumption characteristics of each school. The phase 1 schools are in counties Kildare, Offaly, Meath, Wicklow and Wexford. Phase 2 is underway.</p> <p>Phase 2 is underway and has also being supported by EIB. The database system design and development will be compatible to interface with the Department's Geographic Information System for delivery of the NDP investment programme</p>	

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

Q4 2022: Confirm decarbonisation pathway trajectory to meet 2030 and 2050 targets for the schools sector

Responsible body: D/Education

Status: Delayed

Update: The timeline for delivery of Climate Action Roadmaps for the Public Sector has been moved out from Q4 2022 to Q1 2023 following the publication in November 2022 of the [SEAI CAP Roadmaps Guidance document](#). The Department are working to this revised timeline for delivery in Q1 2023.

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

Q4 2022: Establish principles, including with regard to the prioritisation and sequencing of capital investments that will inform the development of individual campus decarbonisation strategies

Responsible body: DFHERIS

Status: Complete

Update: Principles established in consultation with the sector as part of the Pathfinder Programmes.

For the higher education sector energy efficiency and decarbonisation (EED) investment is prioritised based on the pathways identified in the "Higher Education Decarbonisation Pathways" report.

For the further education and training sector EED investment will be prioritised towards buildings which meet the following criteria:

- Greatest Thermal kgCO₂ from SEAI Monitoring & Reporting 2019 data.
- Mix of Training Centres and Further Education & Training Colleges
- Geographical Spread.
-

These principles may be updated periodically based on learnings from the pathfinder programmes and other developments.

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

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

Responsible body: ComReg

Status: Complete

Update: Climate Change and its Effect on Network Resilience - A study by Frontier Economics' is available on the ComReg Website - ComReg 22/100a

<https://www.comreg.ie/media/2022/12/ComReg-22100a.pdf>

The Circular Economy

Action 427b	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 Delayed measure:	Establish a national Circular Economy platform which will report on an ongoing basis
Responsible body:	DECC
Status:	Delayed
Update:	DECC is currently considering an application in relation to an enhanced proposal in relation to CE communications, re the establishment of a National Centre of Excellence for Communicating the Circular Economy. Such a centre would, inter alia, host the National platform. A decision regarding funding for this proposal is expected in Q1 2023.

Action 427c	Publish a Whole-of-Government Circular Economy Strategy and promote the Circular Economy, including focus on awareness raising, Green Public Procurement and international partnerships
Q4 2022 measure:	Identify opportunities for international cooperation on Green Public Procurement projects
Responsible body:	DECC
Status:	Delayed
Update:	DECC has engaged with other EU member states in 2022 in relation potential Green Public Procurement cooperation, in particular with the Netherlands in relation to circular Information and Computer Technologies (ICT) procurement opportunities. That international process is still in development and DECC will formally report on it in 2023. ICT procurement requires a high-level of technical/specialist input. A new national procurement framework for personal ICT devices is currently being finalised which incorporates Green Public Procurement requirements and which will form the basis for assessing potential for international procurement partnerships.

Action 429a	Establish a Circular Economy Innovation Scheme, focusing on providing funding for a limited number of regional and/or national scale circular economy projects, with the capacity to significantly raise awareness of the circular economy and/or improve consumption patterns in relation to specific product categories or within specific sectors
Q4 2022 measure:	Establish an annual process whereby projects are funded
Responsible body:	DECC
Status:	Complete
Update:	2022 Circular Economy Innovation Grant Scheme funding call announced in Q4 2022 and some 97 valid applications received within Dec 2022 deadline. DECC is now evaluating applications with a view to announcing funding decisions in Q1 2023 as planned. 2023 funding call will be announced in Q4 2023.

Action 431a 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 streams

Q4 2021 Delayed measure: Enact necessary legislative changes via the Circular Economy Bill 2021

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Delayed

Update: Regulations being drafted at present. Anticipated public consultation Q1 2023, with enactment Q2.

Action 434b The High-Level National Bioeconomy Implementation Group will report to Government and develop a detailed Bioeconomy Action Plan in 2023

Q3 2022 Delayed measure: Agree and set out a Bioeconomy Action Plan for a three-year period

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Delayed

Update: This action is due to be completed imminently - also a Bioeconomy Action Plan will soon be released which will house all bioeconomy related actions going forward. Bioeconomy Implementation Group due to report to Government very soon and are currently drafting the Bioeconomy Action Plan with the aim of publishing the Plan by Q1 2023 end.

Action 434a 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: This action is due to be completed imminently - also a Bioeconomy Action Plan will soon be released which will house all bioeconomy related actions going forward.

Action 435a 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: Complete

Update: National Bioeconomy Forum Feedback taken on board for the development of the Bioeconomy Action Plan 2023-2025.

Action 437a 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: Complete

Update:

1. Mapping of the funding structures is undertaken in cooperation with the Irish Bioeconomy Foundation. This task is being undertaken as part of the EU funded [RuralBioUp project](#).
2. Bioeconomy and biorefining capital funding opportunities has been provided through Carbon Tax funding for an Anaerobic Digestions & Biorefining Demonstration Initiative as part of the [Farm Zero C](#) project on the Shinagh Dairy Demonstration farm in Co. Cork
3. The Government has approved and the EU Commission are now finalising their review of the [Irish EU Just Transition Fund](#) (JTF). The JTF includes a €20 million fund to support bioeconomy demonstration initiative opportunities. This is expected to support 2 projects in 2023 and 2 projects in 2024.
4. The Government have approved DAFM & DAERA to further discuss bioeconomy demonstration initiative opportunities as outlined in the bioeconomy forum report in relation to the Shared Island Initiative.
5. 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.

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

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

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Delayed

Update: This action is due to be completed imminently - also a Bioeconomy Action Plan will soon be released which will house all bioeconomy related actions going forward. Report to Government in Q1 2023 will include specific papers on education, training and skill gaps.

Action 439c 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: Complete

Update: The Policy Statement is available to download at gov.ie - [Policy Statement on Mineral Exploration and Mining](#)

Action 439a 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: Complete

Update: The SEA Statement and Natura Impact Statement are available to download at gov.ie - [Policy Statement on Mineral Exploration and Mining](#)

Action 440a 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: Complete

Update: Roadmap published in November 2022. €500K is being allocated to the Regional Waste Management Planning Offices in 2023 to support food waste recycling awareness activities which includes the procurement and distribution of a number of food waste recycling kitchen caddy packs to householders.

Action 441a 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 Department continues to work with Regional Waste Management Planning Offices to deliver national education and awareness campaigns. In 2022 campaigns focused on issues such as efforts to increase commercial waste segregation, improved Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment recycling, improved recycling of plastics and ongoing efforts to deliver on various circular economy related projects. Legislation will be introduced in 2023 to provide for introduction of incentivised waste collection charging in the commercial sector and nationwide roll-out of brown bin collection, both of which will serve to drive improved waste segregation.

Action 442a 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 now expected to be published in Q2 2023. Please note a single national Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy will replace the existing 3 regional plans.

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

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

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Complete

Update: DRS launched by Minister on 28 November 2022
<https://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/b3f2f-minister-smyth-launches-irelands-deposit-return-scheme/>

Action 443a 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.

Action 443b 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 TRIS on 8th September 2022 and a public consultation concluded on 25 November. Responses are now being considered with a view to finalising the regulations in Q1 2023.

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

Q4 2022 measure: Identify appropriate measures to limit environmental impacts of medium weight plastic bags

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Complete

Update: The Circular Economy Act, signed July 2022, provides powers to make regulations to introduce levies and bans on a wide range of single-use items including all classes of plastic bags.

Carbon Pricing and Cross-Cutting Policies

Action 66a(ii)	Monitor and review successive carbon tax increases as legislated in the 2020 Finance Act
Every Q4 measure: As per headline action	
Responsible body: DFIN	
Status: Complete	
Update: This measure is complete to date. Monitoring and review of successive carbon tax rate changes will continue. The carbon tax rate increased to €48.50 per tonne CO ₂ . This impacted autofuels on 12 October 2022 and is due to apply to other fuels on 1 May 2023.	

Action 66b	Monitor and review successive carbon tax increases as legislated in the 2020 Finance Act
Every Q4 measure: The allocation of carbon tax revenues to be included in the Budget	
Responsible body: DPER	
Status: Complete	
Update: The additional revenue raised by the carbon tax has been allocated in line with the programme for Government commitments and a paper explaining the allocations was published alongside Budget 2023. https://assets.gov.ie/235732/93f95f31-bc1e-4823-993f-af16492fe628.pdf	

Action 67a(ii)	Ongoing examination of environmental taxation measures across all relevant tax heads as part of the annual budgetary process
Every Q4 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: This measure is complete to date. Examination of environmental tax measures will continue as part of the annual budgetary process.	

Action 68b Continue to reform budgetary process and procedures to provide transparency on the Government's financial commitments to the climate change agenda

Q4 2022 measure: Refine and apply methodologies to assess impact of Government spending on climate and environmental outcomes in line with international best practice and emerging evidence

Responsible body: DPER

Status: Complete

Update: Green budgeting reform has been an iterative process with a number of green budgeting reforms introduced including the climate and environmental assessment of the NDP, completion of a performance budgeting pilot project on the "tagging" of spending programmes.

Green budgeting reform will continue in 2023 through the development of performance metrics for climate related expenditure and the expansion of the tagging programme. Further analysis and research on green budgeting will be reported on under action CP/23/3.

Action 68a 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: Complete

Update: Work on the piloting of a proposed methodology for identification of climate harmful spending is now complete, with a paper reporting this work published in January 2023.
<https://www.gov.ie/pdf/?file=https://assets.gov.ie/246726/9111558d-d0b6-4623-8862-ec16111dd8ba.pdf#page=null>

Action 69c	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
Q4 2022 measure:	Review treatment of environment and climate impacts in infrastructure investment appraisal under Public Spending Code
Responsible body:	DPER
Status:	Delayed
Update:	Final report currently being prepared for publication in Q2 2023.

Action 69a	Keep the Public Spending Code (PSC) 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, including decarbonisation and sustainability, was published in Q1 2022. The new Transport Appraisal Framework is at a very advanced stage and is currently being finalised with a view to publication in Q1 2023.
	A DPER update to the current Public Spending Code guidance is anticipated imminently, if possible, it is the intention of the Department of Transport to include forthcoming Public Spending Code updates in any newly published transport guidance. The date of publication of the updated Public Spending Code guidance, once confirmed, will inform the final publication date of the Transport Appraisal Framework within Q1.

Action 69d	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
Q4 2022 measure:	Incorporate methodology for assessing climate risk and uncertainty into the Public Spending Code
Responsible body:	DPER
Status:	Delayed
Update:	Final report currently being prepared for publication in Q2 2023.

Action 69b	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: Complete	
Update: Analysis finalised, with publication of updated shadow price to coincide with the wider updates to the Public Spending Code. Anticipated publication date of late Q1/early Q2 2023.	

Action 70a	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 Delayed measure: Bring forward proposals to transpose EU Green Deal related decisions in a timely manner	
Responsible body: DFIN	
Status: Delayed	
Update: DFIN has actively engaged in negotiations which will continue in 2023. However, neither Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism or Energy Tax Directive files progressed to transposition stage during the 2022 timeline.	

Action 70b	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
Q4 2022 measure: As per headline action	
Responsible body: DFIN	
Status: Complete	
Update: This measure is complete to date. DFIN has actively engaged in negotiations which will continue in 2023. Agreement has been reached on CBAM at council and a final proposal is expected by Q2 2023. Following publication of the final proposal the transposition process can begin. No agreement has yet been reached on the ETD and is not expected to be reached in the first half of 2023.	

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

Every Q4 measure: NewERA will work with the commercial State companies, the Ireland Strategic Investment Fund, the Strategic Banking Corporation of Ireland, and other public bodies to mobilise private investment towards assisting in meeting our climate objectives

Responsible body: NewERA

Status: Complete

Update: The report is commercially sensitive and not available in the public domain. However, publically available information on the current allocation of Green Bonds details the €1,036m allocated to eligible green projects. Total allocation has increased to €7,344m.

[Chapter Zero Ireland](#) was launched in May, with the aim of driving climate action decisions in boardrooms. It is backed by representatives from the Institute of Directors in Ireland, HSBC Ireland, Ibec, Chartered Accountants Ireland and Deloitte Ireland.

Action 75a	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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Centre of Excellence launched - work commenced on initial research and proposals - https://www.skillnetireland.ie/international-sustainable-finance-centre-of-excellence-launched-in-ireland/ Ireland's Sustainable Fintech Strategy launched - https://www.sustainablefinance.ie/2022/10/19/irelands-first-sustainable-finance-strategy-for-the-fintech-sector-launched/#:~:text=Our%20plan%20is%20to%20create,to%20maximise%20opportunities%20for%20growth.%E2%80%9D Skillnet Ireland course on sustainable finance for compliance also launched - https://sfskillnet.sustainablefinance.ie/training/professional-diploma-in-sustainable-finance-for-compliance-professionals/ 	

Action 75b	Promote the further development of the sustainable finance sector to facilitate increased investment in zero-emission sectors in Ireland
Every Q4 measure: Engagement on the sustainable finance agenda at EU and international level, including through the work programme of the Coalition of Finance Ministers for Climate Action	
Responsible body: DFIN	
Status: Complete	
Update: Irish views and input raised at various Expert Group meetings on EU Taxonomy, EU Taxonomy Delegated Acts, and EU Green Bond Standard. Liaison carried out across relevant Departments, and close work undertaken with EU Presidency on substantive issues.	

Action 77a	Promote opportunities for EIB investment in relevant climate projects in Ireland through EIB Financing Ireland
Every Q4 measure: Oversight of EIB Financing Ireland subgroups, of which climate is a cross cutting theme	
Responsible body: DFIN	
Status: Complete	
Update: Ireland continues to effectively engage with the European Investment Bank (EIB). In 2022 the EIB provided almost EUR 1 billion finance to Irish projects. Over 80% (EUR 839 million) of projects financed in Ireland were Climate related. This is in addition to the Advisory and Technical services EIB is providing to Climate related projects.	

Action 78a Implement the National Planning Framework

Every Q4 measure: Deliver National Policy Objectives for compact growth with regard to targets for development within the existing built footprint of settlements, supported by the Project Ireland 2040 funds, and policy measures that integrate land use and transport planning

Responsible body: DHLGH

Status: Delayed

Update: Work will commence on the review of the [National Planning Framework](#) in Q1 2023 to incorporate monitoring and reporting measures.

Action 78f Implement the National Planning Framework

Q4 2022 measure: Plan for and progress the regeneration and development of underutilised and centrally located sites to provide compact sustainable development, jobs, amenities, and services

Responsible body: LDA

Status: Complete

Update: Urban brownfield Lands identified for transfer in Housing Finance Agency identified to progress to spatial frameworks, masterplans etc.

- Colbert Spatial Framework is available www.colbertquarter.ie
- Limerick Colbert – Masterplan underway for the HSE lands due for consultation during 2023
- Digital Hub Draft Masterplan consultation now concluded. Final plan being prepared. See www.peartreecrossing.ie
- Sandy Road (Draft Masterplan being developed due for public consultation during 2023. 3 More sites approved to commence in 2023

First 2 frameworks / masterplans have been published and consulted on (Colbert & Digital Hub). Publication of further masterplans and frameworks on Housing Finance Agency sites will progress on ongoing basis).

Action 78g Implement the National Planning Framework

Q4 2022 measure: Support and promote a modal shift towards healthy active and sustainable mobility in the design and delivery of our developments. Plan to reduce travel by private car and design to optimise connectivity and access to sustainable and active travel. Promote

Responsible body: LDA

Status: Delayed

Update: Land Development Agency (LDA) projects prioritise sustainable active travel and sustainable mobility plans commissioned as part of project development. Active projects available to view on LDA website.

Action 78h Implement the National Planning Framework

Q4 2022 measure: Develop metrics on development pipeline across relevant LDA projects on underutilised sites in the urban centres

Responsible body: LDA

Status: Delayed

Update: Key Performance Indicators & metrics developed. Ongoing monitoring and reporting internally.

Action 78c 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, which will see the establishment of the group by Q1 2023.

Action 80g Support, monitor and assess Local Authority Climate Action

Every Q3 measure: Publish Climate Action KPIs for Local authorities

Responsible body: NOAC (National Audit and Oversight Commission)

Status: Complete

Update: The NOAC Performance Indicator Report 2021 was published on 4th November 2022. The report, along with other information about the National Oversight and Audit Commission, can be found on the website: www.noac.ie.

Action 80c Support, monitor and assess Local Authority Climate Action

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

Responsible body: DHLGH

Status: Complete

Update: Sectoral Learning and Development Strategy was published with a view to establishing general implementation arrangements and structures funded by 2023 Budget allocation (€400k). In addition, specific climate action and planning training events for LA staff and elected members tentatively scheduled for mid 2023.

Action 80a 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: The Stakeholder Working Group has been constituted and has met twice in Q4. It is intended to agree specifications for tendering for an external consultant early in Q1 2023, with tendering to begin as soon as possible afterwards.

Action 80b 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: 31 LA Decarbonisation Zones have been identified. Plans for decarbonised zones will be included in Action PS/23/6 to be delivered by DECC in CAP 2023.

Action 80d Support, monitor and assess Local Authority Climate Action

Q4 2022 measure: Scope out a practical framework assessing the climate action performance of local authorities to be incorporated into statutory guidelines on Local Authority Climate Action Plans

Responsible body: EPA

Status: Complete

Update: The Emissions Statistics team have been developing a spatial disaggregation of the greenhouse gas and air pollutant Inventories based on the [MapEire](#) product originally developed by Aarhus university. The tool is now operational on EPA systems and the team are updating the information in it with the latest geocoded data, consistent with the 2021 Inventory. This can be used, in combination with Central Statistics Office population data, to calculate per-capita CO₂ eq emissions for local authorities, consistent with the National Inventory.

Action 80e Support, monitor and assess Local Authority Climate Action

Q4 2022 measure: Incorporate guidelines for implementation of Decarbonising Zones into statutory guidelines on Local Authority Climate Action Plans

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Complete

Update: Decarbonisation Zones are now included as Technical Annex D to the Local Authority CAP Guidelines.

Action 81a Enhance the energy efficiency of community infrastructure in the Gaeltacht

Q4 2022 measure: Support local communities to include energy efficiency measures in funding applications for new and upgraded community facilities across the Gaeltacht

Responsible body: DTCAGSM

Status: Delayed

Update: Funding conditions and application forms have been updated to include energy efficiency measures in community facilities across the Gaeltacht and will be available to applicants, in line with the next round of grant funding. Expected Delivery Date: Q1 2023.

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

Q4 2022 measure: Pursue a strategic approach to investment in research infrastructure for climate action

Responsible body: SFI

Status: Complete

Update: The [2021 SFI Research Infrastructure Call](#) indicated that proposals must be aligned to one of the 14 Refreshed Priority Research Areas for 2018-2023 or to any other area under SFI's remit where there is convincing evidence that there will be significant potential for economic and/or societal impact. Two of the Refreshed Priority Areas are in the theme of Energy, Climate Action and Sustainability. Additionally, the SEAI were a co-funder for this call and supported projects aligned with their research objectives. The call document listed research topics of particular relevance for this co-funding, all of which were aligned with the area of climate action.

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

Q4 2022 measure: Examine climate research classification and climate research metrics to support delivery of the next National Research & Innovation Strategy

Responsible body: EPA

Status: Complete

Update: [Research Classification Ireland](#) is Ireland's first national research classification system and has been developed at DFHERIS, supported by the SFI Public Research Fellowship programme.

Significant work was undertaken to ensure alignment of the classification with other national and international reporting requirements, most notably for climate and energy research. This work was undertaken in collaboration with the National Climate Research Coordination Group and the SEAI.

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

Q4 2022 measure: Deliver Grand Challenge funding in areas relevant to Climate under the new National Grand Challenges Programme

Responsible body: DFHERIS

Status: Complete

Update: Grand Challenge funding has been delivered to areas relevant to Climate through targeted programmes including the Zero-Emissions Challenge, the Plastics Challenge and the SDG Challenge (relevant projects = Floating Treatment Wetland & SolarClean) .

Through the National Challenge Fund, the Green Transition Theme has 5 related challenges (2050 Challenge launched in Q3 2022; Healthy Environment for All launched in Q4 2022; and Energy Innovation launched in Q4 2022; Sustainable Communities and Future Food Systems Challenges will launch in Q2 2023).

Action 83a	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: NESC	
Status: Delayed	
Update: Project will be completed by Q3 2023. Roundtables will be convened in Q1 2023 with a report going to Council in June.	
Two reasons for delay: (i) timing better aligns with biodiversity sector developments; (ii) effectively aligns with the climate and agriculture project with a focus on agro-ecological accounting in agriculture, forestry and other land use.	

Action 84d	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 Delayed 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: Complete	
Update: The recruitment of new postdoctoral researchers was achieved. Ongoing research funding partnerships with the EPA, Irish Research Council and SFI were renewed. New competitive research calls have issued - https://www.met.ie/science/research-call-2023	

Action 84f	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
Q4 2022 measure: Continue to lead Ireland's Global Climate Observing System (GCOS) activities to increase national capability in earth, ocean, and atmosphere observations	
Responsible body: DHLGH - Met Éireann	
Status: Complete	
Update: Continuing leadership and coordination of World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) GCOS Surface Reference Network Task Team (2021-2024) including in-person meeting in Dublin June 2022; and decision paper presented at WMO INFCOM 2 November 2022, Geneva, Switzerland.	
GCOS-Ireland committee meetings organised in 2022 and annual report complete - https://www.met.ie/cms/assets/uploads/2023/02/GCOS-Ireland-National-Committee-Annual-Report-2022.pdf	

Action 84b	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:	Complete
Update:	Meeting held 30 November 2022. Chaired by Met Éireann and attended by EPA, Teagasc, Marine Institute, DECC, and Department of the Taoiseach.

Action 86a	Apply sector-specific climate appraisal methodology to programmes, schemes and projects funded by DTCAGSM
Q4 2022 measure:	Sector-specific climate appraisal methodology finalised
Responsible body:	DTCAGSM
Status:	Complete
Update:	A climate appraisal methodology and carbon estimation tool has been developed. These will be integrated into DTCAGSM appraisal processes and applied to future capital projects funded by the Department.

Action 87a	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:	An initial consultation with key stakeholders has taken place. The purpose of the initial consultation was to help inform the direction of the comprehensive consultation which will be completed in Q2 2023.

Action 90b Grow the awareness and understanding of sustainability in tourism

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

Responsible body: Sustainable Tourism Working Group

Status: Complete

Update: The [SDG Champions programme](#) launched in Dec 2022. Key stakeholders in the tourism sector have been notified of the programme and they have spread the message to their members to support applications from the Tourism sector. A number of organizations within the tourism sector have submitted applications for consideration. Applications closed on 20 January and the new champions will be announced in February 2023.

Action 90a 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: Complete

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 took place on November 14th 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.

Action 91a Develop a Major Sports Events Policy and Strategy that includes sustainability as a key part of the assessment of potential events

Q4 2022 measure: Open Major Sports Events Policy up for public consultation

Responsible body: DTCAGSM

Status: Complete

Update: The [public consultation](#) phase of the Major Sports Events Policy was completed in May 2022.

Action 92c	Support the modification of sports facilities in order to reduce energy consumption
Q4 2022 measure: Make funding available through the Sports Capital and Equipment Programme to reduce energy consumption in sports facilities	
Responsible body: DTCAGSM	
Status: Complete	
Update: The final set of allocations under the latest round of the Sports Capital and Equipment Programme (SCEP) were announced in May 2022 and the total allocation of €166.6 million represents the highest level ever made under the SCEP. Within this overall amount, €15.4 million was allocated to 166 applications which specifically featured green measures such as LED floodlighting, solar and PV panels. A new round of the SCEP is expected to open in 2023.	

Action 93a	Support environmentally friendly initiatives through the Action Plan for the Irish Language
Q4 2022 measure: Assess climate parameters to be included in the applications funding under the Action Plan for the Irish Language	
Responsible body: DTCAGSM	
Status: Delayed	
Update: This is currently in progress in line with the development of the Action Plan for the Irish Language, along with a number of other climate action initiatives. DTCAGSM has developed new tools to assess the climate impacts of its grant schemes and these are being rolled out in line with new grant application systems. Expected Delivery Date: Q3 2023.	

Action 93b	Support environmentally friendly initiatives through the Action Plan for the Irish Language
Q4 2022 measure: Ensure that climate-related assessments are integrated into capital and current funding provided under Action Plan for the Irish Language	
Responsible body: DTCAGSM	
Status: Delayed	
Update: This is currently in progress in line with the development of the Action Plan for the Irish Language. This will be in place in the updated grant forms for Action 81a. Expected Delivery Date Q1 2023.	

Action 95a Facilitate the development of sustainable practices in the wider media sector and the increased production of climate and sustainability related programming

Q4 2022 measure: Consider statutory provision to confer the Media Commission with functions to promote the development of sustainable practices and the production of climate and sustainability related programming

Responsible body: DTCAGSM

Status: Complete

Update: [The Online Safety and Media Regulation Act 2022](#) contains a statutory provision to confer Coimisiún na Meán with functions to promote the development of sustainable practices and the production of climate and sustainability related programming.

Section 7(3)(e)(ii) of the Act provides that Coimisiún na Meán shall promote and stimulate the development of programmes relating to climate change and environmental sustainability.

Section 7(3)(f) of the Act provides that Coimisiún na Meán shall promote and encourage environmental sustainability in the policies and practices of providers of broadcasting services, audiovisual on-demand media services, and relevant online services.

Action 96a Improve environmental performance of Ireland's Creative and Cultural Sector

Q4 2022 measure: Continue capital funding to support Arts and Culture organisations' efforts to reduce their carbon footprints

Responsible body: DTCAGSM

Status: Complete

Update: The [Cultural Capital Scheme 2019-2022](#) provided funding for 27 projects that supported specific sustainability measures, e.g. upgrading windows, insulating buildings, and installing LED lighting in Arts and Culture venues across Ireland. In addition, a new capital scheme is now under development that will provide further support for Arts and Culture organisations' efforts to reduce their carbon footprints in 2023.

Action 96b Improve environmental performance of Ireland's Creative and Cultural Sector

Q4 2022 measure: Deliver Greening Arts Centres to reduce CO2 emissions in arts centres

Responsible body: Arts Council

Status: Complete

Update: Through Arts Council funding the seven participating venues: axis (Ballymun, Dublin), Belltable (Limerick), Hawk's Well (Sligo), Pavilion Theatre (Dun Laoghaire, Co Dublin), Theatre Royal (Waterford), Town Hall Theatre (Galway), and Visual (Carlow) have taken part in a programme of capacity building including creating in-house Green Teams, building stakeholder engagement, delivering training around waste management and the circular economy, developing skills around energy efficiency and changing behaviour as well as drawing up environmental policies and adaptation strategies. The programme was completed in September 2022.

Action 96c Improve environmental performance of Ireland's Creative and Cultural Sector

Q4 2022 measure: Initiate the development of a Creative Green Programme through a review of current actions and international research and consideration of certification schemes

Responsible body: DTCAGSM

Status: Complete

Update: A review was undertaken to examine international best practice in the area of culture and climate action in Q4 2022. This review has informed the development of A National Policy Framework for Culture, Creativity and Climate by DTCAGSM that will be published in 2023.

Action 97a Invest in developing our outdoor tourism offering, including outdoor activities, that enhances Ireland's international reputation of being a green, clean, and sustainable destination

Q4 2022 measure: Progress and deliver priority outdoor projects in line with Project Ireland 2040/NDP priorities and Fáilte Ireland's Platforms for Growth programme

Responsible body: Fáilte Ireland

Status: Complete

Update: Fáilte Ireland completed the following outdoor tourism projects in 2022; Berthings & Mooring on the river Shannon, new mountain biking trails, 5 destination town projects, 8 outdoor participative events funded, 1 Blueway accredited, 30 outdoor dining projects completed, opening of Beyond the Trees at Avondale, opening of new viewing point and exhibition at the Blasket centre.

Action 98a	Increase nature connectedness and promote pro-environmental behaviours by developing outdoor recreation
Every Q4 measure: Raise awareness of responsible outdoor recreation and minimise its impact on nature through the Leave no Trace Programme	
Responsible body: Sport Ireland	
Status: Complete	
Update: Sport Ireland Outdoors and Communications department provided support and promotion for the "Leave No Trace" Campaign through the Sport Ireland social channels. The campaign received 9,193 impressions across a range of social media platforms (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and LinkedIn)	
Leave No Trace Website: https://www.leavenotraceireland.org/	

Action 98b	Increase nature connectedness and promote pro-environmental behaviours by developing outdoor recreation
Q4 2022 measure: Development of a sustainable outdoors events charter	
Responsible body: Fáilte Ireland	
Status: Complete	
Update: As part of Fáilte Ireland's suite of Climate Action Roadmaps for tourism, a specific set of guidelines for outdoor events and festivals was launched in November 2022 with a charter being part of this wider suite of actions. This is available here: https://supports.failteireland.ie/climate-action/festivals/	

Governance

Action 1a	Finalise Ireland's long-term climate strategy
Q1 2022 Delayed measure: As per headline action	
Responsible body: DECC	
Status: Delayed	
<p>Update: Delivery of this action is now expected in Q1 2023. Submission of Ireland's Long-Term Strategy was paused to ensure that it aligns fully with domestic climate ambition and the Climate Action Plan 2023, which was published in December 2022. The Department will be bringing an updated draft Long-Term Strategy to Cabinet in the coming weeks to seek approval to submit the draft Strategy to the Commission and launch a public consultation. The Department considers it prudent to carry out a further public consultation to that held in 2019 in light of the important national climate policy developments, and in order to make the strongest possible contribution to the overall EU ambition. As a result, a finalised Strategy will be submitted to the Commission later in the year.</p>	

Action 3c	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: Hold quarterly meetings of the Climate Action Delivery Board	
Responsible body: D/Taoiseach	
Status: Complete	
<p>Update: The Climate Action Delivery Board met on 30 November 2022, co-chaired by the Secretaries General from DECC and D/Taoiseach.</p>	

Action 3d	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: Publish progress report each quarter	
Responsible body: D/Taoiseach	
Status: Complete	
<p>Update: Final updates on all Q4 measures due for reporting (including 'new' Q4 measures and those delayed from previous quarters) were due from all Departments to D/Taoiseach by close of business on 18 January 2023.</p> <p>Following review and analysis, they culminated in the creation of this Progress Report which was approved by Government for publication.</p>	

Action 4a	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: Enhance Cabinet procedures to ensure that all Government Memoranda are considered against their carbon impact and mitigation potential	
Responsible body: D/Taoiseach	
Status: Delayed	
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 Office of the Government Chief Information Officer. 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.	

Action 4b	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 5b	Undertake a capacity review across all departments to ensure that both the people and systems are configured to deliver on climate action
Q3 2022 Delayed measure: As per headline action	
Responsible body: All departments	
Status: Delayed	
Update: Following initial procurement delays, the Institute of Public Administration (IPA) was appointed in Q3 2022 to carry out the capacity and capability review with respect to climate action delivery across all Government Departments. The review is currently underway and is now expected to be completed in Q2 2023.	

Action 5e	Undertake a capacity review across all departments to ensure that both the people and systems are configured to deliver on climate action
Q3 2022 Delayed measure: Engage with appropriate Departments and Agencies to prepare gap analysis in climate training across civil service	
Responsible body: DECC	
Status: Delayed	
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 Q2 2023, with contracted support from the IPA.	

Action 5f	Undertake a capacity review across all departments to ensure that both the people and systems are configured to deliver on climate action
Q3 2022 Delayed measure: Procure Training Provider(s) for design and delivery of new civil service training courses	
Responsible body: DPER	
Status: Delayed	
Update: Progress on this action is contingent on completion of gap analysis, ref action 5e.	

Action 7a	Prepare Climate Action Plan 2022 to fully reflect the legally adopted carbon budgets and sectoral ceilings
Q4 2022 measure: As per headline action	
Responsible body: DECC	
Status: Complete	
Update: Climate Action Plan 2023 was approved by Government on 21 December 2022 https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/7bd8c-climate-action-plan-2023/	

Action 8a	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: DPER and DECC published a spending review paper that estimates the cost of compliance under different scenarios. This work is to be progressed as an action in CAP23. ref https://www.gov.ie/pdf/?file=https://assets.gov.ie/246850/5982d0ec-1590-4caf-8c40-ce8bf178f5fc.pdf#page=null	

Action 9a	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 will complete in Q2 2023.	

Action 9b	Identify common challenges to climate action implementation within the Civil Service and develop a proposal to address any challenges identified
Q3 2022 Delayed 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.	
<p>The development of the final options paper is delayed pending completion of the Institute of Public Administration's capacity and capability review. The review is expected to complete in Q2 2023, and its outputs and recommendations will be tracked and presented to the Climate Action Delivery Board in new actions under the Climate Action Plan 2023.</p>	

Ensuring a Just Transition to a Climate Neutral Ireland

Action 10a 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. CAP 23 provides that the Commission will be established by Q2 2023.

Action 10b Establish a Just Transition Commission

Q4 2022 measure: Approval of General Scheme of legislation to establish Just Transition Commission

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Delayed

Update: Next steps to be decided following decisions on proposed policy approach. CAP 23 provides that the Commission will be established by Q2 2023.

Action 11a Integrate just transition considerations into sectoral policy development through the Climate Action Plan

Every Q4 measure: Integrate just transition considerations into sectoral policy development through the annual Climate Action Plan

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Complete

Update: The Just Transition Framework established in CAP 21 has informed the development of sectoral actions in CAP 23 and will continue to inform implementation.

Action 12c 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. CAP 23 provides that the Commission will be established by Q2 2023.

Action 13b Deliver the Programme for Government commitment to develop a Green Further Education and Skills Development Plan

Q4 2022 measure: Education and training opportunities offered under the SOLAS Green Skills Action Programme

Responsible body: SOLAS

Status: Complete

Update: For NZEB, 2,034 places were provided in 2022 in 5 NZEB Centres of Excellence (Laois & Offaly ETB, Waterford & Wexford ETB, Limerick & Clare ETB, Mayo, Sligo & Leitrim ETB and Cork ETB). System capacity can meet current and increased demand up to the proposed output of 4,550 places, and whilst demand is currently relatively low, there are signs that demand is beginning to increase. In 2022, over 2,000 places were taken up, compared to 793 in 2021 and 363 in 2020. For green skills modules, a wholly online green skills module was launched in December 2022, providing the capacity to deliver 60,000 green skills places.

Action 16a Promote timely and tailored activation and training responses for workers whose jobs are at risk by the decarbonisation process

Q4 2022 measure: Encourage early engagement from employers where business decisions regarding decarbonisation may result in job losses through the promotion of DSP services in conjunction with the Education & Training Boards

Responsible body: DSP

Status: Complete

Update: The Department's Employer Relations Division supports recruitment and sectoral engagement with employers, promotes awareness of Intreo and provides information on all schemes and programmes available to employers. In 2022 the Employer Relations organised 668 events, such as roadshows and jobfairs, at which 4,393 employers attended. In addition, 7,728 employers were contacted in 2022 regarding the supports available from Intreo.

The Work Placement Experience Programme (WPEP) is a six-month work placement programme. Under WPEP mentoring is provided by the host during the programme.

As the construction sector moves towards more modern methods of construction DSP and ETBi co-ordinating Future Building co-ordinated an Intreo Construction Work and Skills week. 43 events to promote construction held across the country. 4,171 jobseekers engaged with the events. 28 moved into employment, 4 into apprenticeships, 1 business start and 149 referred to construction related training.

Future building is also collaborating with DDLETB on a 1-week Construction Site Ready Course supporting participants with career assistance on completion. To date 223 participants have completed the course of whom 47 have gained employment. A further 18 have progressed to further education and training and 101 are currently being assisted to find employment in the construction sector.

Action 17a Create additional community workplaces and supported workplaces in green sectors for people who are economically inactive, long-term unemployed, and/or with severe needs

Q4 2022 measure: Provide additional places on State Employment Schemes to provide employment opportunities for those from disadvantaged and marginalised backgrounds and other persons facing barriers to work

Responsible body: DSP

Status: Complete

Update: The 3,000 places as set out in the action were provided to be available to meet a general need (as the Live Register was expected to rise) and also to meet the needs of marginalised and to cover innovative activities in the green sector, etc. As it transpired, the Live Register has returned to pre-covid levels with more people now in work than was the case pre-covid. As a result, these places have not been needed and remain unfilled. Promotional events have been held to encourage participation from among traveller, Roma and other minority groups. Locally based operational managers have also linked with representative groups, with some initial progress made on setting up new dedicated schemes.

Action 18a In line with the Programme for Government, ensure that targeted social welfare measures are put in place to prevent fuel poverty and support a just transition

Every Q4 measure: Continue currently available welfare supports i.e., Household Benefit Package and Fuel Allowance, electricity and gas allowance under the Household Benefit Scheme, the Supplementary Welfare Allowance to financially support disadvantaged groups

Responsible body: DSP

Status: Complete

Update: Welfare supports such as Fuel Allowance, Household Benefits Package and Supplementary Welfare Scheme continue to provide financial support to disadvantaged groups. The Social Protection budget announced in September 2020 provided assistance to pensioners, carers, people with disabilities and families with the cost of living through a mix of lump sum supports and increases to weekly payments.

The lump sum payments announced as part of the Budget included:

- a doubling of Child Benefit on 1 November, to support 639,000 families in respect of 1.2 million children
- an Autumn double social welfare payment in October, benefitting 1.4 million people
- a €500 Disability Support Grant to people with disabilities
- a €400 Fuel Allowance lump sum payment to 370,000 households in November.
- a €500 lump sum Working Family Payment paid to 44,000 households
- a €200 lump sum payment to the 234,000 people in receipt of the Living Alone Allowance
- a €500 Carer's Support Grant to the country's carers
- a Christmas Bonus double payment will be paid on the week commencing 5 December.

In addition, Budget 2023, provided for a major expansion of the Fuel Allowance scheme – which will see up to 81,000 new households (particularly those over 70) supported with their fuel cost for the first time.

The Budget also provided for across-the-board welfare rate increases of €12 per week from January 2023.

Action 20a	Develop and coordinate regional and local strategic partnerships in the Midlands region to address the specific challenges posed by the transition to a low-carbon economy
Q4 2022 measure: Coordinate Local Authorities, State Agencies, and other relevant stakeholders in the Midlands region to ensure an integrated approach	
Responsible body: MRTT	
Status: Complete	
Update: Midlands Regional Transition Team Steering Committee has met four times during 2022 and provides an important forum for addressing ongoing challenges associated with the low-carbon transition in the region. The work of the MRTT has fed into the the update of the Midlands Implementation Plan in CAP 23 and into Ireland's Territorial Just Transition Plan for the EU Just Transition Fund.	

Action 20b	Develop and coordinate regional and local strategic partnerships in the Midlands region to address the specific challenges posed by the transition to a low-carbon economy
Q4 2022 measure: Represent the wider Midlands region in the EU Just Transition Platform	
Responsible body: MRTT	
Status: Complete	
Update: Midlands Regional Transition Team (MRTT) represent the Midlands Region in the EU Just Transition Platform, which provides an important knowledge sharing and networking opportunities for EU regions undergoing similar decarbonisation challenges. In September 2022, MRTT hosted the region of Western Macedonia (Greece) in a knowledge exchange visit. See https://energy.ec.europa.eu/topics/oil-gas-and-coal/eu-coal-regions/exchangeeu-programme_en	

Action 20c	Develop and coordinate regional and local strategic partnerships in the Midlands region to address the specific challenges posed by the transition to a low-carbon economy
Q4 2022 measure: Develop Local Authority Climate Action Plans in the relevant counties in line with statutory timeframe provided by Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021	
Responsible body: Local Authorities	
Status: Delayed	
Update: Local Authority Climate Action Plans for Midlands Region will be prepared in accordance with guidelines and timeframe to be established by Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications. CAP 23 sets out a deadline of Q1 2024 for Local Authority Climate Action Plans to be developed and submitted to the Minister.	

Action 21a	Deliver the NPWS/DHLGH Peatlands Restoration Programme for the raised bog habitat within the Special Area of Conservation and Natural Heritage Area networks
Every Q4 measure: Implement restoration plans	
Responsible body: DHLGH	
Status: Complete	
Update: In 2022 restoration measures were undertaken on 6 protected raised bog sites, with over 1700 peat/plastic dams and 23.5 kilometres of bunding completed within an area of over 300 ha. Further phases of the restoration programme continue in 2023.	

Action 22a Deliver the EU LIFE Peatlands and People Project

Every Q4 measure: Deliver the EU LIFE Peatlands and People project by 2027

Responsible body: Bord na Mona

Status: Complete

Update: Implementation of EU LIFE Peatlands and People project is continuing, including a successful first cohort of the Accelerate Green business accelerator during 2022. Further details available at <https://peatlandsandpeople.ie/>

Action 25a Investigate and evaluate potential geological resources in the Midlands to provide supporting information for just transition and climate mitigation planning

Q4 2022 measure: Evaluate the potential for communities and local economies to use groundwater, geothermal energy, sand and gravel deposits and mineral resources

Responsible body: GSI

Status: Delayed

Update: Preparation of reports has been delayed due to resource constraints.

Action 26a 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: Complete

Update: Grant agreements now in place for all successful projects, and fund will be administered on ongoing basis by DECC. Further details available at <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/ed10d-just-transition-fund/>

Action 26b Support delivery of projects under the Just Transition Fund

Every Q4 measure: MRTT Working Groups to provide assistance to Grantees for project implementation

Responsible body: MRTT

Status: Complete

Update: Midlands Regional Transition Team Working Groups provided an important forum for dissemination of JTF project information to regional stakeholders during 2022.

Action 29a Enhance delivery of further and higher education in the Midlands region to equip people for future employment opportunities in green growth sectors

Q4 2022 measure: Education and Training Boards to offer deep retrofit training provision and renewable energy courses

Responsible body: ETBs

Status: Complete

Update: Hosting one of six the Centres of Excellence for Retrofit and NZEB at Mount Lucas National Construction Training Centre, Laois & Offaly ETB (LOETB) provides a range of programmes in NZEB and Retrofit including; NZEB suite of provision from Fundamental Awareness to NZEB Retrofit and NZEB Ventilation. LOETB also offers skills-based training in Retrofit Insulation Skills, External Wall Insulation Applicator, and Air Tightness and Vapour Control Applicator and in 2022 its partnership with Generation Ireland produced the initial Retrofit Advisor Programme. 1,143 learners participated on these NZEB/Retrofit Programmes in 2022.

467 LOETB learners engaged in Renewable Energy upskilling and reskilling provision in 2022 – including Domestic Heat Pumps Systems, Micro Solar Photovoltaic Systems Implementation, and Micro-Generator Electrical Installations.

Action 29b Enhance delivery of further and higher education in the Midlands region to equip people for future employment opportunities in green growth sectors

Q4 2022 measure: Education and Training Boards to provide Bog Rewetting Programme Traineeship and the Sustainable Agriculture Traineeship

Responsible body: ETBs

Status: Complete

Update: Laois and Offaly Education and Training Board (LOETB) continues to engage with Bord Na Móna and their employees engaged operationally on the [Peat Climate Action Scheme](#) in a Peatland Rehabilitation Traineeship. Despite experiencing some delays and interruptions due to COVID19 and the piecemeal nature of bog licensing for the national rewetting programme, 222 Bord Na Móna operatives have participated on the Traineeship Programme to date. LOETB has agreed to keep this programme open to facilitate those yet to complete elements of it and have reoriented provision to upskill employees in the specific work being undertaken by the company on Peat Climate Action Scheme (PCAS) each year. LOETB is providing the Sustainable Agriculture Traineeship in partnership with Teagasc and the Agricultural Colleges at Gurteen and Mountbellew. It is primarily aimed at Bord Na Móna seasonal employees and Bord Na Móna families aiming to support the farming community in its transition to a lower carbon environment and provide them with the skills to avail of green initiatives in new CAP reform policies as well as exploring diversification and off-farm income generation. 79 learners have participated on the Certificate in Sustainable Agriculture since 2021 with 69 learners gaining certification and the remaining 10 due for certification in 2023. The success of this initiative has prompted LOETB to offer this programme to the wider agricultural community in the region and to build on its partnership with Teagasc and the Agricultural Colleges. Additional agricultural programmes are currently being developed by these partners for 2023.

Action 29c Enhance delivery of further and higher education in the Midlands region to equip people for future employment opportunities in green growth sectors

Q4 2022 measure: Education and Training Boards will undertake skills audits

Responsible body: ETBs

Status: Complete

Update: Laois and Offaly Education and Training Board (LOETB) led the multi-agency response to Bord Na Móna workers whose jobs were, and are, at risk due to the company's decarbonisation process. This initiative involved GRETB – at Blackwater Bord Na Mona Works - and Longford Westmeath Education and Training Board (LWETB) – who led it in Mount Dillon Bord Na Mona Works. Having offered Training Needs Analyses and Skills Audits to all Bord Na Móna staff who were availing of Voluntary Redundancy, LOETB engaged 450 Bord Na Móna training participants during 2020/2021 on a range of programmes from Bicycle Maintenance to Retrofit and NZEB provision, from Train The Trainer to Sustainable Agriculture, from Electrical Instrumentation to Horticulture at QQI Level 4.

The current focus is on employees engaged in the Peat Climate Action Scheme (also known as Enhanced Decommissioning Restoration and Rehabilitation scheme (EDRRS) and those employed in Derrinlough Briquette Factory. It is likely that employment in the Briquette Factory will cease within eighteen months and PCAS has a maximum lifespan of two and a half more years.

122 Bord Na Mona employees undertook Skills Audits, Training Needs Analysis and Career Coaching with LOETB in 2022 – Blackwater (31), Boora (24), Derrinlough (22), Derrygreenagh (9), Kilberry (2), Mount Dillon (33), Newbridge (1). 15 of those employees have, to date, availed of the Bord Na Mona Employee Supports Training and Upskilling Project funded under the Irish Just Transition Fund to enable them avail of upskilling and reskilling programmes that are not available from the ETB's. LOETB will meet with all employees in Derrinlough Briquette Factory on February 1st to explore employment opportunities in growth sectors for the midlands and develop upskilling pathways that enable employees gain the skillsets required to avail of those opportunities. All of the programmes outlined are ongoing. Many of those outlined were pilot programmes that have proven successful and are being mainstreamed in Further Education and Training (FET) provision and/or broadened in their scope beyond employees to include families and communities most affected by the transition away from extractive industry.

Action 33a Deliver the Enhanced Decommissioning, Rehabilitation and Restoration (EDRR) Scheme for Bord Na Móna peatlands

Every Q4 measure: Restore 33,000 hectares of peatlands across 81 bogs owned by Bord na Móna that have been industrially extracted for energy production

Responsible body: Bord na Móna

Status: Complete

Update: Delivery of the scheme on track. 11,114 hectares rehabilitated across 35 bogs to end of Dec 2022.

Citizen Engagement

Action 34a	Advance coordinated climate action communications from the centre of Government
Quarterly: Maintenance and update of gov.ie/climate action	
Responsible body: D/Taoiseach	
Status: Complete	
Update: Whole of Government Climate Communications Strategy is finalised and agreed and will be published on gov.ie in the coming weeks. Workplan for Climate Communications Coordination Committee is in development, and gov.ie continues to be updated as a central resource for information on Government Climate Action.	

Action 36b	Build Climate Literacy through primary and secondary curriculum
Q4 2022 measure: Develop communications strategy to mark, celebrate and communicate climate action in our schools	
Responsible body: D/Education	
Status: Complete	
<p>Update: The climate communication requirements needs in relation to the school sector are multi stranded with focus required in numerous areas. Some of these areas include Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and the National Strategy ESD to 2030, sustainable travel and policies, sustainability champions in leadership roles within the schools, the voice of the young person, staff training, advice and mentoring, Green Schools and many other programmes along with the promotion of climate action themes through the range of the curriculum subjects. With the above in mind, the School Sector Climate Action Mandate which is published annually and will be updated on an annual basis to reflect the Climate Action Plan for that year will be used as the foundation stone for the communication climate action strategy for the school sector.</p> <p>The School Sector Climate Action Mandate covers the key areas of legislation overview. Our way of working, our people, school climate related built environment and transport. The School Sector Climate Action Mandate will be supported by the ESD newsletter which is published on a quarterly basis, an annual ESD Forum for stakeholders and also at least quarterly climate action press releases profiling the schools energy retrofit programme and showcasing projects has been developed and can celebrate and communicate climate action in our schools.</p> <p>This strategy will ensure a coherent and annually updated approach utilising the above high profile outlets while minimising the burden on schools and avoiding dilution of the message.</p>	

Action 37b 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 non-violence, global citizenship, and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development

Responsible body: D/Education

Status: Complete

Update: December newsletter issued: <https://www.gov.ie/en/collection/a1d6e-education-for-sustainable-development-newsletter/>

Some topics covered include:

- Energy Pathfinder Programme Update
- Using Technology to Teach about Climate
- Dublins First Bike Library
- Renewable Energy and Jobs: Annual Review 2022
- National Youth Assembly on Climate - Report
- Our World Irish Aid Awards 2022-23
- Our Outdoor Classroom at Kinsale Community School
- New Creative Climate Action Fund launched by Government

Action 38b 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 Delayed 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: Complete

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. Climate Ambassador awards were held in Dublin on the 18th November. Each Climate Ambassador received a certificate of recognition, with an additional twelve outstanding awards presented to teams and individuals from swap shops and flash mobs, to musicians and artists, sports stars, farmers, social entrepreneurs, community activists, businesses and universities.

Public outreach has been carried out through public surveys on attitudes and awareness around climate change and climate action. Report "Analysis of thoughts and opinions on climate change" completed and attached. Information obtained from public events attended (ATN, Electric Picnic, Ploughing Championships, Vegfest, Stories of Change)

Action 38e	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 Delayed measure: Commence Senior Primary Climate Action Resource and accompanying lesson plans	
Responsible body: An Taisce	
Status: Complete	
Update: 13 schools completed the training in December, totalling 269 Primary Climate Ambassadors in the pilot thus far. Senior Primary resources for 3rd-6th piloted here with initial teacher information seminar in September, launch in Climate Action Week in October and resource training complete in December 2022.	

Action 39e	Support initiatives and activities that deliver practical and innovative solutions to address climate change at local level
Q4 2022 measure: Continued support for the development of PPN Community Wellbeing Statements via structured consultation process with PPN members	
Responsible body: DRCD	
Status: Delayed	
<p>Update: Due to the pandemic-related restrictions some PPNs had difficulty completing the in-person components of the project. At EOY 2022, 10 PPNs had not commenced; the project was complete or in progress in all other PPNs.</p> <p>DRCD undertook extensive discussions with the training/toolkit provider on progressing the project with the PPNs that had not completed the process. This led to major changes in the project scope in light of experience to date. These changes are required to deliver the project more effectively and require more time to implement.</p> <p>DRCD will provide final round of support to the remaining PPNs to complete Community Wellbeing statements over the course of 2023. Action will conclude by EOY 2023.</p>	

Action 41g	Design and conduct annual Climate Conversations and Public Consultation on the Climate Action Plan
Q4 2022 measure: Publish report outlining citizen views and submissions received as part of the Climate Action Plan consultation demonstrating how the consultation shaped the Plan	
Responsible body: DECC	
Status: Complete	
Update: Climate Conversations 2022 Short Report published with the Climate Action Plan 2023 in December 2022: https://assets.gov.ie/243537/f901a445-ff28-4fd5-9d36-a58c6a717bdd.pdf	

Action 44f	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 Delayed 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:	Complete
Update:	A draft research programme includes carrying out a Literature Review and a series of between 2 and 4 behavioural research studies in 2023 on core policy priorities. The Programme is due to begin implementation in March 2023.

Action 44c	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 2022 measure:	Organise and host at least 2 meetings per year of the National Social and Behavioural Advisory (NSBAG) Group on Climate Action to consolidate key research and identify where they can support delivering on the Climate Action Plan
Responsible body:	DECC
Status:	Delayed
Update:	2 NSBAG meetings were held in 2022. The production of a 'Synthesis report on key literature/ studies in social and behavioural science on climate change' was not within the scope of the Advisory Group terms of reference as they were agreed with the group. this is being delivered through 45a as per the below. The Outputs from the Meetings will instead be Meeting Agendas and Minutes in 2023.

Action 45b	Design and implement a robust project management system to monitor NDCA progress
Q3 2022 Delayed 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:	Complete
Update:	Detailed presentations were provided to the Inter Departmental Working Group, the National Social and Behavioural Advisory Board, the Citizen Engagement and Climate Literacy Taskforce, and Working Groups on the Climate Action Plan 2023 for their consideration an inclusion in their development of policy.

Action 45a	Design and implement a robust project management system to monitor NDCA progress
Q3 2022 Delayed 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:	Collate, and analyse social and behavioural research insights by key themes and sectors is now to be a three stage process. As a first step to the delivery of a social and behavioural research insight, a Literature Review was carried out in 2022 which guided the Climate Conversations 2022 Summary Report providing insights by key themes and sectors. The second step of this action will be to conduct a more detailed social and behavioural research literature review in 2023, the third stage is to be delivered through the EPA Research Call 2023 which now includes a study to carry out a complete review of the behavioural research literature on climate and its relevance to Ireland due to be complete by 2024.

Action 47d	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:	Complete
Update:	Fáilte Ireland held a number of Energy Management workshops in 9 locations across the country in Oct/Nov 2022 to maximise the potential of nature-based solutions in local tourism. In addition, Fáilte Ireland held the first national conference on driving climate action in tourism businesses in Croke Park on the 14th Nov 2022. Further engagement and workshops will continue in 2023.

Action 49a	Progress the establishment of a Citizens' Assembly on Biodiversity
Q1 2022 Delayed measure:	Conclude and analyse youth engagement on scope of Assembly
Responsible body:	NPWS
Status:	Complete
Update:	The Young People's Assembly on Biodiversity was convened as per Q3 update and meetings have now concluded. A draft report of its findings has been received by the NPWS and the final report will be furnished to Minister Noonan in the coming weeks.

Action 50a	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: NESC	
Status: Delayed	
Update: The Council will provide its strategic advice on climate and agriculture in 2023. This substantive body of work will include a focus on just transition governance.	

Action 51a	Examine national and international sources of funding that could be used to support the transition to a low-carbon economy and society
Q4 2022 measure: Identify relevant sources and provide an assessment of the opportunity for funding at EU level across line Departments	
Responsible body: DECC	
Status: Delayed	
Update: This action is no longer required with the passage of time and now with dedicated focus on funding requirements for programmes in individual SEC sectors.	

Ireland's International Action on Climate Breakdown

Action 445a Make efforts through our diplomacy to ensure that climate change is recognised as a driver of instability and climate action is an opportunity for peacebuilding in multilateral fora where appropriate

Q4 2022 measure: Co-chair the Informal Experts Group on Climate and Security for 2021, and through this role and our contribution at the Security Council, strengthen the integration of climate considerations into discussions and resolutions on peace and security

Responsible body: DFA

Status: Complete

Update: All relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions and mandate renewals reviewed to include, strengthen, or defend (depending on the context) language recognizing links between climate change and instability.

Action 445b Make efforts through our diplomacy to ensure that climate change is recognised as a driver of instability and climate action is an opportunity for peacebuilding in multilateral fora where appropriate

Q4 2022 measure: Through our multilateral diplomacy at the EU, UN and other fora highlight the risks that climate change poses to international peace and stability and propose mitigating actions. Highlight also the opportunities for peacebuilding through climate action

Responsible body: DFA

Status: Complete

Update: Ireland worked within the EU, the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe, the NATO Partnership group, at COP27 and in other fora, as relevant, to promote our position.

Action 446c Place climate action, especially for Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States, at the heart of all development cooperation and policy partnerships, as well as our engagement in multilateral processes

Q4 2022 measure: Support efforts in Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) to develop innovative solutions to climate change challenges, including technology and data innovations

Responsible body: DFA

Status: Complete

Update: Financial support was provided to projects providing innovative solutions in Least Developed Countries and SIDS. Financial support was also provided to projects including innovation challenge funds (e.g. Climate-KIC) and projects which enhance capacity, data and technologies, including projects that support the development of early warning systems (e.g. Systematic Observations Financing Facility). Monitoring and evaluation of these projects is ongoing.

Action 447a **Constructive participation in negotiations on a new UN Convention on the Law of the Sea Implementing Agreement**

Q4 2022 measure: Constructive participation in negotiations on a new UN Convention on the Law of the Sea Implementing Agreement for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction

Responsible body: DFA

Status: Delayed

Update: UN Member States did not manage to adopt a text in 2022. Negotiations will resume in Feb/Mar 2023 when it is hoped an agreement will be adopted.

Action 448a **Double, at least, the percentage of ODA spending on climate finance by 2030, and report on our expenditure each year**

Every Q4 measure: Annual reports produced on international Climate Finance expenditure (including ODA) across Government Departments

Responsible body: DFA

Status: Delayed

Update: Ireland's annual climate finance figure for 2021 was published in Q4 2022 in Irish Aid's Annual Report. The figure was subject to verification by the OECD and finalised end 2022. A full breakdown of the Ireland's 2021 climate finance spend will be completed and published in Q1 2023.

Action 451a **Work with like-minded European States to promote and support changes to European energy laws – in particular the upcoming revision of the EU's Gas Directive and Gas Regulation – in order to allow the importation of fracked gas to be restricted**

Q4 2022 measure: Promote the inclusion of measures to limit the importation of fracked gas in the EU gas legislation

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Complete

Update: DECC has engaged extensively on the development of the EU methane regulation. The methane regulation sets out new legal requirements on methane emissions for natural gas supplies in Europe. The measures in Chapter 5 of the [Methane Regulation](#) 'Methane emissions occurring outside the Union' and Annex VIII will promote the reduction of harmful emissions from sources such as imported fracked gas. The regulation is currently in trialogue negotiation.

Action 452a Work with international partners to promote the phasing out of fracking at an international level within the wider context of the phasing out of fossil fuel extraction

Q4 2022 measure: Promote the phasing out of fracking through multilateral diplomacy at the EU and internationally

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Complete

Update: DECC has engaged extensively on the development of the EU methane regulation. The methane regulation sets out new legal requirements on methane emissions for natural gas supplies in Europe. To account for imports of fossil energy into the Union, chapter 5 of the Methane Regulation sets out importer information requirements, as well as the Commission's prerogative to submit amending legislative proposals to impose more stringent measures on importers once better global methane emission data are available and ensuring compliance with the applicable international obligations of the Union. Ireland's position is that these are in line with national policy, as these measures set out to gather evidence on natural gas based on lifecycle emissions in order to promote the reduction of harmful emissions from sources such as imported fracked gas. The regulation is currently in trialogue negotiation.

Adaptation

Action 453b Deliver Climate Ireland as the national platform for data, information and decision supports on climate impacts and adaptation

Q4 2022 measure: Support institutional reporting on adaptation report to the UNFCCC

Responsible body: EPA

Status: Complete

Update: Data and reporting supplied to DECC in Q1, which has included it in the draft 8th Communication to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Action 454a Build local and regional resilience to the impacts of climate change through delivery of Local Authority Adaptation Strategies as required under the National Adaptation Framework

Q4 2022 measure: Implement Local Authority Adaptation Strategies prepared under National Adaptation Framework

Responsible body: CARO

Status: Complete

Update: A Local Authority Annual Progress Report for 2022 was submitted to DECC in November 2022, and has been published by the Climate Action Regional offices at: <https://www.caro.ie/local-authority-climate-action/local-authority-adaptation-progress-reports>

Action 456b Commence pilot project to identify a suitable approach for the use of Climate Change Adaptation Indicators at national level

Q3 2022 Delayed measure: Agree changes to national guidance to reflect agreed methodology for the use of indicators in adaptation planning

Responsible body: DECC

Status: Delayed

Update: Due to the delay in completing action 456b CAP21, adaptation indicators in national Guidance will be updated as part of CAP23 Action AD/24/2 which will comprehensively revise Sectoral Adaptation Guidance (including Indicators).

Action 456a	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:	The identified pilot sector is Transport (Roads). Climate Ireland has been engaged to deliver this set of indicators but the work has proved more technically challenging than anticipated. Delivery of the action is now included in CAP23 action AD23/1 where it will inform the comprehensive revision of National Framework Guidance to Sectors.

Action 457b	Further develop Ireland's national climate change risk assessment capacity to identify the priority physical risks of climate change to Ireland
Q4 2022 measure:	Steering group Scoping report submitted to Minister
Responsible body:	DECC
Status:	Delayed
Update:	A workshop to inform the scoping report was scheduled for December 2022. However, due to resource issues, it had to be postponed and will now be held on 13 January 2023.

Action 459a	Assess appropriate adaptation measures for those existing flood relief schemes, where climate change may in time impact the current standard of protection
Q4 2022 measure:	Identify a list of Scheme Adaptation Plans required and develop a five-year programme of works
Responsible body:	OPW
Status:	Complete
Update:	A programme of works has been developed to ensure that all existing flood relief schemes will have an SCCAP completed prior to the end of 2027. A total of 41 SCCAPs are proposed to cover 51 existing flood relief schemes, together with a further 7 that are under construction. Progress against this programme of works will be reviewed annually and is dependent on resource availability (staff and financial).
	A Business Case setting out scope, budget estimate, and programme amongst other things was prepared in December 2022.

Action 459b Assess appropriate adaptation measures for those existing flood relief schemes, where climate change may in time impact the current standard of protection

Q4 2022 measure: Complete a pilot Scheme Adaptation Plan for an existing flood relief scheme

Responsible body: OPW

Status: Delayed

Update: The draft of a pilot SCCAP was completed for the existing [Mallow Flood Relief Scheme](#) in Q3 2022. This has been reviewed and amendments/comments are currently being addressed in an updated version. Lessons learned have been incorporated into the updates and will also be included in the updated Guidance Note on SCCAPs.

Action 463a Ensure that potential future flood information is obtained and/or generated through a Flood Risk Assessment that is then used to inform suitable adaptation requirements, within the planning and development management processes, in line with the Guidelines on the Planning System and Flood Risk Management

Q4 2022 measure: Review and respond to consultations on draft Development Plans, Local Area Plans, and issues papers, advising on the consideration of future flood information

Responsible body: OPW

Status: Complete

Update: OPW responded, via letter, to all 104 formal consultations on draft Development Plans, Local Area Plans, and issues papers received in 2021 and 2022. This included 23 draft County Development Plans and 4 draft Local Area Plans.

Action 464b Continue to enhance knowledge and capacity with regards to Naturebased Catchment Management Solutions, and assess their potential to be part of future flood relief schemes

Q4 2022 measure: Through the EPA/OPW co-funded research project SLOWWATERS, undertake a review and evaluation of international best practice in NbCMS

Responsible body: OPW

Status: Complete

Update: A review and evaluation of international best practice in Nature-based Solutions for Catchment Management (NbS-CM) has been undertaken as part of the SLOWWATERS project. Due to the proliferation of NbS literature reviews, the project steering group agreed that an online resource that identified the best-practice for a range of NbS would be a more valuable output than a report. This online resource is available through the project website. Further resources will be reviewed, evaluated, and shared on the project website as and when they become available.

Action 464c Continue to enhance knowledge and capacity with regards to Naturebased Catchment Management Solutions, and assess their potential to be part of future flood relief schemes

Q4 2022 measure: Draft a sample Feasibility Assessment to assess the feasibility of implementing NbCMS for flood risk reduction as part of a Flood Relief Scheme

Responsible body: OPW

Status: Complete

Update: An NbCMS Feasibility Assessment Report was produced for Ballina Flood Relief Scheme in Q3 2022. The findings of this help inform the identification of an emerging preferred option for the flood relief scheme.

Action 465a Build on Groundwater Flood Mapping delivered by GSI

Q4 2022 measure: Continue to develop groundwater flood forecasting capability

Responsible body: GSI

Status: Complete

Update: Feasibility Study Report completed. Work commencing in 2023.

Action 465b Build on Groundwater Flood Mapping delivered by GSI

Q4 2022 measure: Drilling and installation of monitoring boreholes and modelling of results

Responsible body: GSI

Status: Complete

Update: 2022 work complete - work will be ongoing in 2023 Available online at [gwlevel.ie](https://www.gwlevel.ie)

Action 466a Maintain and further develop national landslide mapping related to climate change and land use

Q4 2022 measure: Maintain and update the national landslide susceptibility map and database to further develop a methodology for a National Landslide Hazard Map with incorporation of climate change modelling

Responsible body: GSI

Status: Delayed

Update: Lack of resources to complete, intended to reschedule for 2023 and included in GSI Capital Projects.

Action 466b Maintain and further develop national landslide mapping related to climate change and land use

Q4 2022 measure: Assess the contributing factors which lead to 3 major peatland failures in 2020 for use by agencies developing policy relating to planning and land use

Responsible body: GSI

Status: Delayed

Update: Lack of resources to complete, intended to reschedule for 2023 and included in GSI Capital Projects.

Action 467a Develop and publish coastal vulnerability mapping and coastal erosion databases for the east and south coasts of Ireland

Q4 2022 measure: CVI Integration in online mapping (GIS) environment

Responsible body: GSI

Status: Delayed

Update: Lack of resources to complete, intended to reschedule for 2023 and included in GSI Capital Projects.

Action 467b Develop and publish coastal vulnerability mapping and coastal erosion databases for the east and south coasts of Ireland

Q4 2022 measure: Roll out of Coastal Vulnerability Index (CVI) processing and compilation of thematic layers

Responsible body: GSI

Status: Delayed

Update: Lack of resources to complete, intended to reschedule for 2023 and included in GSI Capital Projects.

Action 467c Develop and publish coastal vulnerability mapping and coastal erosion databases for the east and south coasts of Ireland

Q4 2022 measure: Coastal erosion processing using satellite and airborne imagery spanning the last 20 years

Responsible body: GSI

Status: Delayed

Update: Lack of resources to complete, intended to reschedule for 2023 and included in GSI Capital Projects.

Action 468d Continue to develop flood forecasting capability, including the development of coastal and marine monitoring and predictive capability

Q4 2022 measure: Continue to develop coastal flood forecasting capability in the context of increased flooding risk related to climate change

Responsible body: DHLGH - Met Éireann

Status: Delayed

Update: Research on an atmosphere-ocean-wave coupled Numerical Weather Prediction system continues but has been delayed slightly. Project's final report expected in 2023.

Action 469a 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: EC-Earth-Veg CMIP6 SSP simulations completed, HCLIM SSP2-4.5 downscaling simulation completed, HCLIM SSP5-8.5 downscaling simulation completed and HCLIM model development started. Future Weather Research Fellowship delayed due to limited numbers of applicants.

Action 470c Continue to improve Ireland's national climate monitoring capabilities through the delivery of advanced, sustainable, and long-term, climate and environmental monitoring programmes

Q4 2022 measure: Continue the modernisation of the surface climate and weather observation monitoring station network

Responsible body: DHLGH - Met Éireann

Status: Delayed

Update: 78 stations installed to end 2022. 3 sites outstanding:

1. Inis Mor: co-ordinating schedule with contractor/sub-contractor. Scheduling delays/ limited window for installation. Expected Q1 2023
2. Turlough Hill: Environmental Appropriate Assessment required for Special Area of Conservation. Awaiting survey and report.
3. Merrion Square: Working with OPW as part of the renovation of the fountain / pond in Leinster House.

All expected to be completed in 2023.

Action 470d Continue to improve Ireland's national climate monitoring capabilities through the delivery of advanced, sustainable, and long-term, climate and environmental monitoring programmes

Q4 2022 measure: Maintain and develop Ireland's National Climate Archive supporting the provision of a wide range of quality assured data, used to define the climate of Ireland

Responsible body: DHLGH - Met Éireann

Status: Delayed

Update: Migration of National Archive to new geo-resilient infrastructure (P2V) planned for January 2023.

QC system implemented for rainfall in August 2022. Additional variables to be added as part of below implementation plan:

Procurement of ICT consultancy to establish the requirement and specification of the processing quality control and storage of climate and observations data underway. Delayed due to change of framework and moved to 2023

Action 470b 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: Works to commence Q2 2023 under OPW. Estimated completion Q3 2023.

Action 471c Continue to support National Emergency Management during extreme weather events

Q4 2022 measure: Continue to work in partnership with decision makers and with National Emergency Management organisations

Responsible body: DHLGH - Met Éireann

Status: Complete

Update: An ever improving network of stakeholders in support of National Emergency Management is being developed, in particular with a new Forecasting Services Manager in place. See <https://www.met.ie/met-eireann-warning-system-explained>

Action 472b Publish a new and strengthened River Basin Management Plan for the period 2022-2028

Q4 2022 measure: Publication of final RBMP for 2022-2027 for the protection and improvement of Ireland's waters

Responsible body: DHLGH

Status: Delayed

Update: Following close of public consultation an engagement with stakeholders on proposed measures for inclusion in the final plan commenced. These complex engagements have delayed the finalisation process of the final plan.

Action 475a Review of the Sectoral Adaptation Plan for the Water Quality and Water Services Infrastructure sectors

Q4 2022 measure: Amendments based on review of current Adaptation Plan for the water sectors with input from key stakeholders

Responsible body: DHLGH

Status: Delayed

Update: Delayed and expected to complete in Q1 2023 due to competing work programmes/projects. Review of Sectoral Adaptation Plan to commence. Unable to progress during the specified time frame due to competing work programmes/projects.

Action 476f Adopt the four regional plans under Irish Water's National Water Resources Framework Plan

Q4 2022 measure: Publication of final Regional Water Resources Plan: North West

Responsible body: Irish Water

Status: Delayed

Update: New schedule developed to facilitate the extended stakeholder engagement. Expected completion in Q3 2023.

Action 476g Adopt the four regional plans under Irish Water's National Water Resources Framework Plan

Q4 2022 measure: Public consultation on the draft Regional Water Resources Plan: South East

Responsible body: Irish Water

Status: Delayed

Update: Delayed and expected completion for Q3 2023. Additional option analysis ongoing.

Action 476d Adopt the four regional plans under Irish Water's National Water Resources Framework Plan

Q3 2022 Delayed measure: Publication of final Regional Water Resources Plan: South West

Responsible body: Irish Water

Status: Delayed

Update: The consultation period on the RWRP EM was extended at the request of stakeholders, with a resultant delay in the delivery of the RWRP SW. Submission assessment and deliberation underway. Final Publication Q1 2023.

Action 476e Adopt the four regional plans under Irish Water's National Water Resources Framework Plan

Q3 2022 Delayed measure: Public consultation on the draft Regional Water Resources Plan: North West

Responsible body: Irish Water

Status: Complete

Update: Uisce Éireann is now seeking feedback on the draft RWRP-North West and associated SEA Environmental Report and Natura Impact Statement. The public consultation will run from 22 November 2022 to 21 February 2023.

Action 476b 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: Complete

Update: Statutory public consultation on The Regional Water Resources Plan: Eastern and Midlands has been completed. The RWRP-EM and associated environment reports have been updated and adopted. Consultation report has also been published. See <https://www.water.ie/projects/strategic-plans/national-water-resources/rwrp/eastern-midlands/>

Action 477e 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: Being implemented by Dept Health and HSE already and incorporated in Roadmaps by other agencies. Will be included through Climate Action Mandate where not already incorporated.

Action 479b Ensure effective health service planning for climate resilience

Q4 2022 measure: Plan for possible changes in volume and pattern of healthcare demand specifically due to climate-related impacts (such as vectorborne diseases dengue, malaria, and Lyme; mental health needs; and increased migration)

Responsible body: D/Health

Status: Delayed

Update: To be taken forward through the HSE Climate Action and Sustainability Strategy which will be launched in Q1 2023.

Action 480c 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: Wide range of internal and external stakeholders across health sector, with the HSE representing the focus for most engagement; Stakeholder engagement will be institutionalised through the HSE strategy which launches in Q1 2023.

Action 485a	Review the current and emerging building infrastructure and its potential associations with climate-sensitive UV health impacts in the indoor and outdoor architectural environment
Q4 2022 measure:	Review of building infrastructure
Responsible body:	D/Health
Status:	Delayed
Update:	The HSE and Department will jointly take forward this action, beginning in Q1 2023, also supporting the new Skin Cancer Prevention Plan.

Action 486b	Build and refine Irish-specific climate change epidemiology relating to air pollution and identify risk groups
Q4 2022 measure:	Develop tools for surveillance and monitoring of the effectiveness of health adaptation measures
Responsible body:	HSE
Status:	Delayed
Update:	Under the Clean Air Strategy a Clean Air Research Forum will be established which will bring together information on all clean air research and gaps. There is a specific commitment to collaborate with health researchers.

Action 486a	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:	National Clean Air Strategy due to launch in Q1 2023 and includes an enhanced Ambient Air Monitoring Programme. DECC driving development and launch of strategy.

Action 487a 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

Update: Currently awaiting the establishment of the Energy Technical Advisory Division and therefore resources are not available to progress action. This will be delayed until the Energy Technical Advisory Division have the resources to update.

Action 488a 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: Currently awaiting the establishment of the Energy Technical Advisory Division and therefore resources are not available to progress action. This will be delayed until the Energy Technical Advisory Division have the resources to update.

Action 489a 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: Currently awaiting the establishment of the Energy Technical Advisory Division and therefore resources are not available to progress action. This will be delayed until the Energy Technical Advisory Division have the resources to update.

Action 490a 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: Currently awaiting the establishment of the Energy Technical Advisory Division and therefore resources are not available to progress action. This will be delayed until the Energy Technical Advisory Division have the resources to update.

Action 491a Identify areas vulnerable to impacts of climate change in the electricity and gas networks sector

Q3 2022 Delayed measure: Energy network companies to continue to identify vulnerable areas where assets are located

Responsible body: Planning authorities

Status: Delayed

Update: Currently awaiting the establishment of the Energy Technical Advisory Division and therefore resources are not available to progress action. This will be delayed until the Energy Technical Advisory Division have the resources to update.

Action 492a Identify measures required to adapt to climate change impacts on vulnerable infrastructure in the electricity and gas networks sector

Q3 2022 Delayed measure: Monitoring and enhanced maintenance of energy assets

Responsible body: CRU

Status: Delayed

Update: It is intended that actions relating to monitoring, maintaining and improving infrastructure resilience are to be brought into the gas and electricity National Development Plans. Also the current PR5 framework facilitates adjustments in capex spend where needed.

Action 492b	Identify measures required to adapt to climate change impacts on vulnerable infrastructure in the electricity and gas networks sector
Q3 2022 Delayed measure:	Refurbish / Upgrade energy assets
Responsible body:	CRU
Status:	Delayed
Update:	Currently awaiting the establishment of the Energy Technical Advisory Division and therefore resources are not available to progress action. This will be delayed until the Energy Technical Advisory Division have the resources to update.

Action 492c	Identify measures required to adapt to climate change impacts on vulnerable infrastructure in the electricity and gas networks sector
Q4 2022 measure:	Installation of Flood Defences
Responsible body:	CRU
Status:	Delayed
Update:	Currently awaiting the establishment of the Energy Technical Advisory Division and therefore resources are not available to progress action. This will be delayed until the Energy Technical Advisory Division have the resources to update.

Action 492d	Identify measures required to adapt to climate change impacts on vulnerable infrastructure in the electricity and gas networks sector
Q4 2022 measure:	Relocation of energy assets
Responsible body:	CRU
Status:	Delayed
Update:	Currently awaiting the establishment of the Energy Technical Advisory Division and therefore resources are not available to progress action. This will be delayed until the Energy Technical Advisory Division have the resources to update.

Action 493a Continue to develop and improve timely communications to customers during weather events, including information provision to users on the status of electricity and gas network infrastructure, how they will be affected, and when normal services will be restored; and increase public awareness of the benefits of the measures being taken to ensure resilience to build public support for climate adaptation measures

Q4 2022 measure: Assess existing communications procedures; identify gaps and make recommendations as appropriate

Responsible body: Energy network companies

Status: Complete

Update: ESB Networks has updated its [Power Check](#) App. The app allows customers to quickly check the status of power outages, including planned restoration times in their area which is particularly useful during large weather events. The app has recently been updated to remove issues for customers such as the requirement for an MPRN number to receive updates. The following self-serve tools are now available:

- 'Check my power status' (search using Eircode & Telephone No. or MPRN only)
- Keep Me Updated - SMS/Email for updates on a specific power outage
- Search Map by Eircode/Address
- Report a fault

Further to this, in November, ESB Networks launched a new Customer Online Portal. This provides customers with a range of services including the ability to check the power status of their house from anywhere.

Further features will be added during 2023/2024.