Climate Action Roadmap 2025

Irish Wheelchair Association™

Climate Action Roadmap 2025

Approved by:
Senior Management Team
18th December 2025

IWA Board of Directors
19th February 2026

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1 INTRODUCTION AND PROGRESS TO DATE

Irish Wheelchair Association (IWA) is Ireland's leading representative organisation and service provider for people with physical disabilities.

IWA advocate for the needs of people with physical disabilities and provide services and support to over 20,000 members in their homes and communities throughout Ireland every year.

Everything we do is driven by IWA's vision of an Ireland where people with disabilities can enjoy equal rights, choices and opportunities and live their lives independently.

Climate change has been demonstrated to have both a direct and indirect impact on the effective enjoyment of a wide range of human rights, including the rights of persons with disabilities. IWA is committed to meeting public service obligations under the Government's recently published Climate Action Plan, while also ensuring that the voices of disabled people are heard in climate related decision making at regional and national levels.

Irish Wheelchair Association have engaged with the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) under the public sector partnership support programme. The energy and carbon data used in this report has been sourced by our SEAI Partnership Support Manager.

An initial greenhouse gas (GHG) analysis has identified the sources of our carbon emissions.

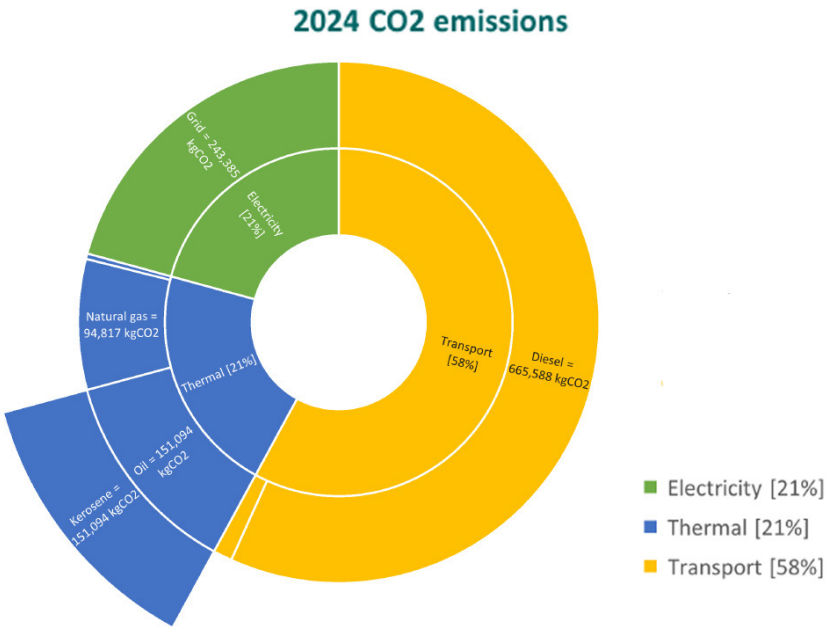


Fig 1. Irish Wheelchair Association 2024 GHG Emissions

Irish Wheelchair Association will play its part in meeting the nations climate goals by reducing our emissions and increasing our energy efficiency in line with Ireland's national targets. This document, the Irish Wheelchair Association Climate Action Roadmap outlines specific actions and strategies to reduce our emissions by 2030.

This is the second iteration of the IWA Climate Action Roadmap and has been updated to meet the requirements of the public sector climate action mandate, published in the Climate Action Plan 2024 (CAP24) at the end of December 2023. Details of progress made are also detailed herein. The first iteration was approved by the SMT on 13.06.2024 and Board on 13.7.2024. The second iteration of the Climate Action Plan 2025 (CAP25) was approved at the end of December 2025 and is incorporated within this report.

2 LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ENERGY AND CLIMATE ACTION

As part of our Climate Action Roadmap, we recognise our legal requirements as the following:

1) Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021, which requires all public bodies to perform their functions in a manner consistent with Ireland's climate ambition.
2) SI393/2021 Energy Performance of buildings, which requires installation of Building Automation and Control by 2025, for buildings with heat, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) rated output over 290kW; requires installation of electric vehicle charging points in carparks for new or refurbished buildings with more than 10 car parking spaces.
3) SI381/2021 Clean Vehicles Directive, which sets targets for the procurement of clean light and heavy- duty vehicles, with the first target falling in 2025 and the second in 2030. The definition of clean vehicle changes to zero emission vehicles in 2025.
4) SI4/2017 Energy Performance of Buildings, which requires all new public sector buildings built since 2018 to be "nearly zero emissions".
5) SI646/2016, which requires that public bodies procure only energy using products and vehicles that are on the Triple E register.
6) SI426/2014, which requires the public sector to demonstrate exemplary energy management and requires public bodies to undertake energy audits every four years. IWA completed an audit in 2022.

3 LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE FOR CLIMATE ACTION

3.1 Governance Structure

I.W.A. Company Limited By Guarantee operates under the registered business name of Irish Wheelchair Association. Irish Wheelchair Association is a company limited by guarantee operating under the Companies Act 2014, Company number 352483 and it is an Irish charity registered with the Charities Regulatory Authority, Charity Number CHY 5393. The company is a public benefit entity as defined by the Financial Reporting Council. The company is governed by its Board of Directors in accordance with the Constitution. The Chief Executive Officer reports to the Board.

Members' Organisation

Irish Wheelchair Association was founded in 1960 by people with disabilities and it continues to be a 'member-owned organisation'. There are over 20,000 registered members. The Constitution sets out persons who are eligible for membership of the company. The members are individuals with disabilities or reduced mobility as well as volunteers, family members and friends.

At the Annual General Meeting (AGM), the members receive the report of the Board on the activities of the year and the financial results, appoint members to the Board of Directors, and discuss and vote on resolutions relating to the strategic direction of the organisation as well as on any proposed changes to the Constitution. This unique structure gives the organisation a high level of accountability and transparency in its activities, and it ensures that IWA is completely focused on the evolving needs of people with physical disabilities.

Voluntary Branches

Irish Wheelchair Association has a network of 19 (2022: 23) voluntary branches nationally These voluntary groups are a vital part of IWA, engaging in social, fundraising and community activities at local level. The voluntary groups do not engage in direct provision of funded services, nor do they have any employees or hold property. They operate under the Bye-Laws of IWA.

IWA Sport

Irish Wheelchair Association is recognised and funded as a National Governing Body of Sport by Sport Ireland. IWA has a network of 24 sports clubs and sports sections. These voluntary run clubs are constituent parts of IWA supported by IWA central services, provide local sports opportunities for all age levels. IWA also owns and operates a flagship sports centre in Clontarf, Dublin 3.

Sport Ireland is the primary funder of the IWA Sports department and in 2024 released a report mapping the contribution of the Irish National Sports Policy (NSP) to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The SDG report puts forward an innovative framework to understand and articulate the impact of sport on social development in Ireland. This research has identified seven key themes where the NSP makes a significant impact on the SDGs and presents a roadmap to change for each of the key themes. The seven themes are Sport for Health and Wellbeing; Sport and Community Development; Sport for Education and Life-long Learning; Sport and Economic Activity; Sport for an Inclusive, Equitable, and Cohesive Society; Sport and Environmentally Friendly Practices; Governance and the Integrity of Sport.

The next steps which Sport Ireland are working towards include providing strategic leadership, guidance, and advocacy to the bodies they fund including IWA.

Annual Reporting

Public bodies must now publicly report on their climate action activities in their annual reports.
Irish Wheelchair Association will publicly report on their Climate Action activities in their future annual reports. This will include detail on the following.

- Current greenhouse gas emissions and comparison to 2016-18 baseline
- Progress towards implementation of the requirements of the most recent Climate Action Mandate.
- Details of sustainability activities undertaken by the organisation within the last year
- The requirement for offsetting the emissions associated with official air travel is not applicable to the Irish Wheelchair Association

Board of Directors

The composition of the Board of Directors is set out in the Constitution to represent the various stakeholders in the organisation. The Board may have a maximum of 16 directors with a minimum of 13. The Board comprises the President; two directors; one member of the company's sports section; a maximum of nine members elected at the AGM; and a maximum of three further directors who may be co-opted by the Board for their expertise.

At least a third of the directors must be persons with reduced mobility. The broad composition of IWA Board provides diverse perspectives and insight in relation to IWA services and our stakeholders as well as providing commercial, financial, and legal expertise.

The Board of Directors has delegated the day-to-day management of the organisation to the Chief Executive Officer and Senior Management Team.

Senior Management Team

The Senior Management Team is comprised of the following roles.

- National Director for Community Supports
- National Director-Operations, Infrastructure & Volunteers
- National Director for Assisted Living Services
- Director of Sports
- Chief Operations Officer
- Director of ICT
- Chief Financial Officer and Director of Corporate Services
- Director of People and Development
- Commercial Development Director
- Director of Project Management Office & Quality

Governance

Irish Wheelchair Association operates to high standards of governance with a focus on continuous development and improvement.

The IWA Governance Manual sets out the key roles, responsibilities, and procedures for the Board, its Officers, and sub-committees. Delegated authority levels and matters that are reserved for consideration by the Board are clearly defined.

IWA, to meet its public service obligations under the Government's Climate Action, will make green additions to its organisational and governance structure as shown below.

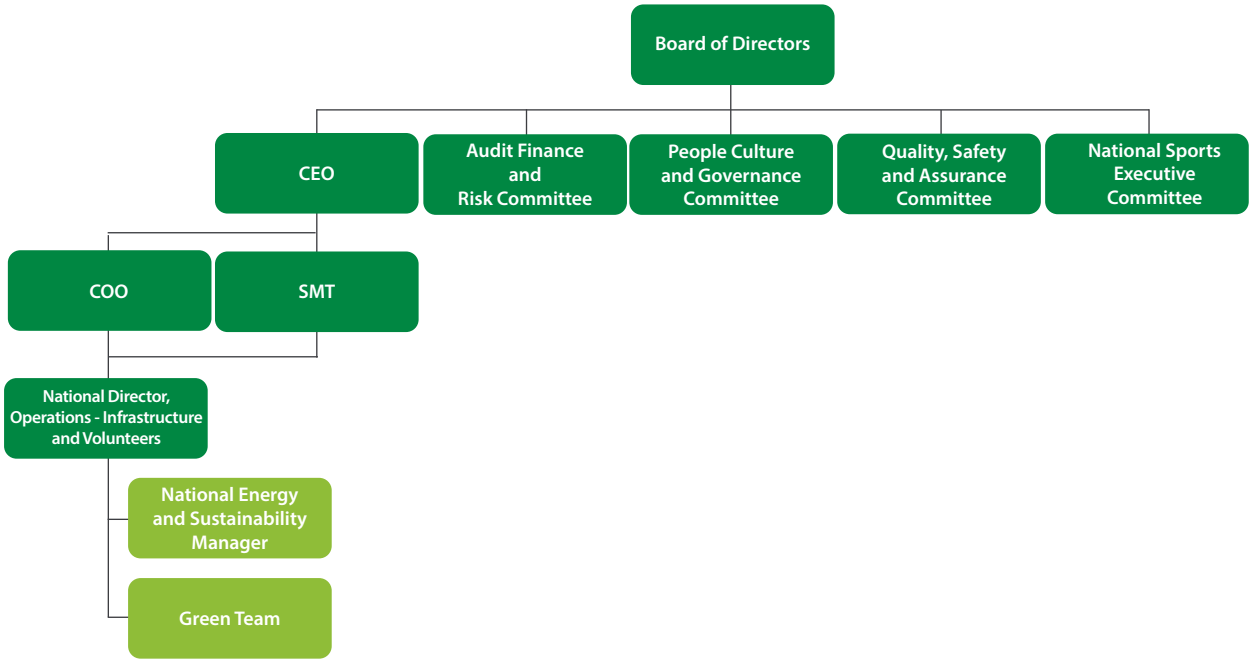


Fig 2. Irish Wheelchair Association Governance Structure

3.2 Energy Performance Officer and Sustainability Champions

A climate and sustainability champion is a member of the management board and is appointed to lead and coordinate sustainability initiatives and climate action within an organization. Their role is to promote and support sustainability and climate action measures, and to ensure that the organization meets its targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving environmental performance.

The role and key responsibilities of Irish Wheelchair Association Climate and sustainability champion include;

- Developing and implementing a climate action plan
- Monitoring and reporting progress
- Engaging stakeholders
- Building partnerships
- Raising awareness

Role	Name
Climate and Sustainability Champion	Declan Hamilton National Director-Operations, Infrastructure & Volunteers
Energy Performance Officer (EPO)	Declan Hamilton National Director-Operations, Infrastructure & Volunteers

3.3 Green Team Structure

As part of their responsibility under the Public Sector Climate Action Mandate, Irish Wheelchair Association has established a green team to integrate and drive sustainability across the organisation as shown below:

An initial term of reference for the green team is as follows.

The Green Team shall use SEAIs 'Gap to Target' tool to plan our Climate Action Goals and to monitor and diagnose performance against the 2030 Targets:

- 51% greenhouse gas emissions reduction target
- Improvement in Energy Efficiency to 50%
- Climate Action Roadmap aligned with our climate ambition
- Engage with the Public Sector Monitoring and Reporting (M&R) System to track our implementation of the Climate Action Mandate

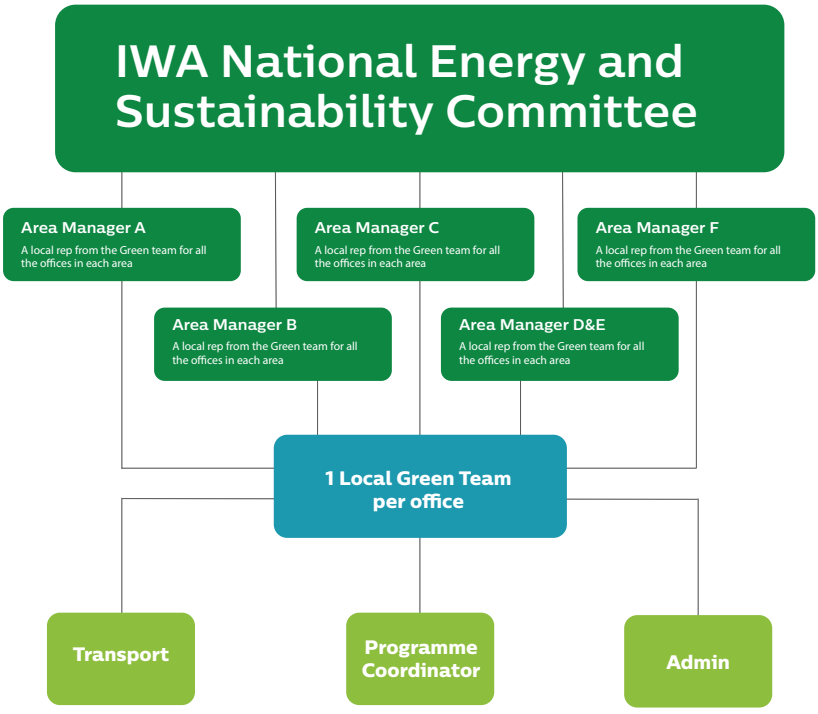


Fig 3. Irish Wheelchair Association Green Team Structure

The outputs of the Gap to Target tool are shown in sections 5 and 6 of this document and shall be the initial focus of the Green Team.

Support for the development of the IWA Green Team has been provided by HSE Capital & Estates through the Climate Action and Sustainability Office. The IWA Green team structure has been developed based on the HSE's Green Team Guidance. A Terms of Reference outlining roles and responsibilities has been prepared, along with a proposed IWA-specific structure. The current goal is to establish one Green Team for each Significant Energy User, with plans to extend this to all other sites over time.

In February 2024, the HSE Energy Bureau funded a full time Energy Manager post shared on a 50/50 basis between Irish Wheelchair Association and the Central Remedial Clinic (CRC). Unfortunately, the post holder resigned in June 2024 to accept a post with SEAI.

In July 2024, recognising the benefits of the energy manager post to IWA and CRC, the HSE verbally committed to funding a full-time post for each of IWA and CRC. The recruitment process will commence once IWA receives the funding letter of commitment. A full-time National Energy and Sustainability Manager joined IWA in April 2025.

Commencing in 2023 the HSE Energy Bureau has also provided capital funding for a series of energy upgrade projects based on the IWA Register of Opportunities. It is anticipated that this capital funding will continue to be provided by the HSE in the coming years. Completed and planned energy projects are contained in appendix 2 and 3 of this document.

4 ENGAGING OUR PEOPLE

As part of the development of the Irish Wheelchair Association Green team, we will create a curated programme of training for targeted staff, focussed specifically and initially on energy related emissions.
This will provide training on topics relevant to the staff and initiatives to improve our energy performance. We will continue to identify appropriate climate action training for our staff as part of our ongoing staff development and training needs analysis process.

Training modules and initiatives identified as being appropriate for staff development include:

- Reduce Your Use – Annual Winter Energy Reduction Campaign
- SEAI Energy and Carbon Basics Training - 3 Hours online course held by SEAI at regular intervals throughout the year
- SEAI's Monitoring and Reporting training including business travel reporting requirements
- SEAI Building Register Training
- Eco Driving
- The SEAI Public Sector Calander of Events will be referenced to identify training opportunities relevant to IWA personnel

SEAI has several training modules available in the SEAI Energy Academy:
https://www.seai.ie/energyacademy/?adlt=strict

Modules Available

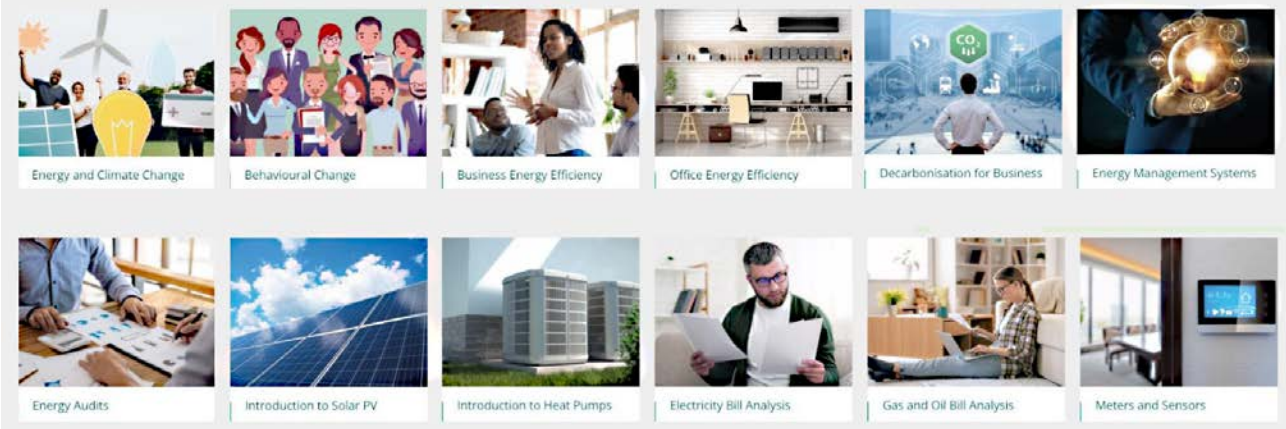


Fig 4. SEAI Energy Academy Training

Additional resources are available at
https://greenteams.ie

We will make these training materials available and accessible to designated staff. To promote staff participation in this training, we propose to register each Energy Academy module completed by staff as part of their annual personal development process.

IWA Sport will also avail of training opportunities available at:

Game on For Green initiative by Waste.ie
https://mywaste.ie/?s=sports+clubs&main_query=

Action	Responsibility	Deadline
Identify Appropriate training modules	Green Team Leader / Learning & Development	Q1 2026
Identify staff requiring training	Green Team Leader / Learning & Development	Q1 2026
Include awareness material in staff communications	Green Team Leader / Learning & Development	Q2 2026

5 ACHIEVING OUR TARGETS

The historic total primary energy (TPER) reported on the SEAI Monitoring and Reporting (M&R) system from 2009 to 2022 is shown in Fig. 5. In 2015 there was a significant reduction in electricity and thermal energy consumption resulting in building projects notable in the Clontarf headquarters and the impact of Covid from 2019.

Transport is an essential part of the IWA association remit in helping disabled people attend day centres around the country through their door-to-door collection service and training disabled people to be able to drive. It is the IWA significant energy user accounting for 59% of their annual energy consumption in 2022. Currently, no EVs are available to meet the IWC transport requirements. In the short term, their best option to reduce transport use is through an effective driver awareness programme estimated to save 5% of the annual transport.

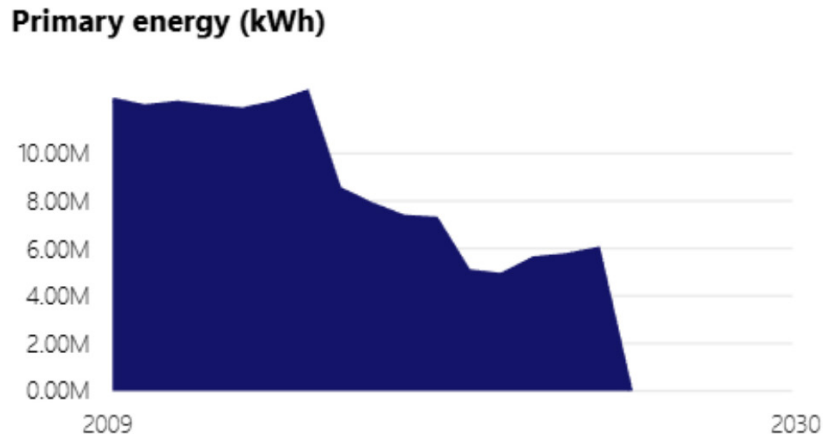


Fig 5 Total Primary Energy Required

Current Energy Use (Total Final Consumption)

The annual fuel consumption in 2024 is shown below.

Fuel Type	kWh	%
Electricity	919,687	19%
Thermal	1,068,310	22%
Transport	2,576,902	59%
Total	4,564,899	100%

Although transport is the organisation's significant energy user, the strategy will be to reduce thermal energy consumption in short to medium term until viable transport vehicles are available.

5.1 Achieving our Energy Efficiency Targets

Irish Wheelchair Association has service users as their energy performance indicator (EnPi) activity metric for the SEAI M&R reporting system. In 2024 their EnPi was 309 kWh/no. service users and their target for 2030 is 306 kWh/no. service user. IWA will meet their 2030 energy efficiency target under the modelled business as usual scenario; however, this will require ongoing management and monitoring of energy efficiency across the organisation.

5.2 Energy Efficiency Actions

A pipeline of projects presenting carbon and cost saving opportunities have been identified and are contained in Table 1 of the IWA Energy Audit report dated 22/11/22 as shown in appendix 1.

6 ACHIEVING DECARBONISATION

6.1 Carbon Emissions

Fig.6 shows the total tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO2) on the SEAI M&R system from 2009. Since 2015 there has been a significant reduction in the total tonnes of CO2. This is attributed to the increase of wind energy on the national grid, which reduces the carbon intensity of electricity compared to other fuels, plus projects undertaken in the Main office complex in Clontarf.

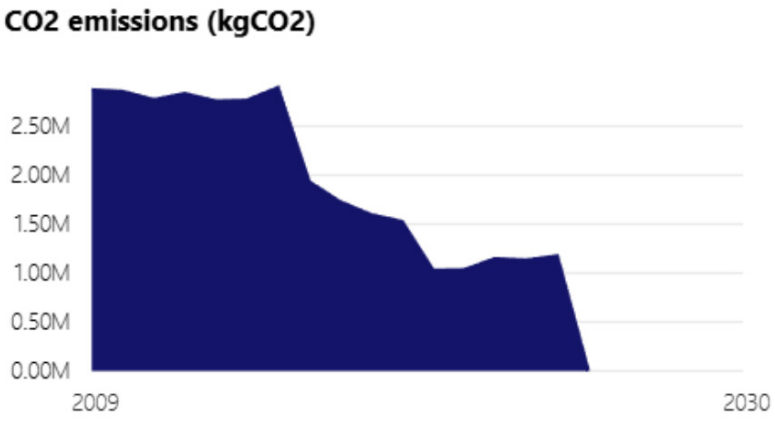


Fig 6. Irish Wheelchair Association Tonnes CO2

The changes in the emission for Irish Wheelchair Association are outlined below. They identify transport as the fuel with the most significant impact on the organisation's carbon footprint, accounting for over 50% in 2024.

Fuel Type	2024	2009	2021%	% Change 2009
Electricity Tonne CO2	241	1,221	24%	-80%
Thermal Tonne CO2	250	748	22%	-67%
Transport Tonne CO2	679	900	54%	-25%
Total Tonne CO2	1,170	2,869	100%	-59%

6.2 Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Gap To Target

The SEAI Gap to Target (GtT) identifies that the IWA Green House Gas (GHG) target for 2030 is 729 Tonnes of CO2. Their carbon baseline is 1,749 Tonnes of CO2. Therefore, their gap to target equals 1,020 Tonnes of CO2 from their 2016-2018 baseline, and in 2022 their carbon intensity was 1,144 tonnes. The opening target of 271 tonnes. Assuming business as usual then IWA will meet their 2030 target of 729 tonnes of CO2 as shown in fig. 7.

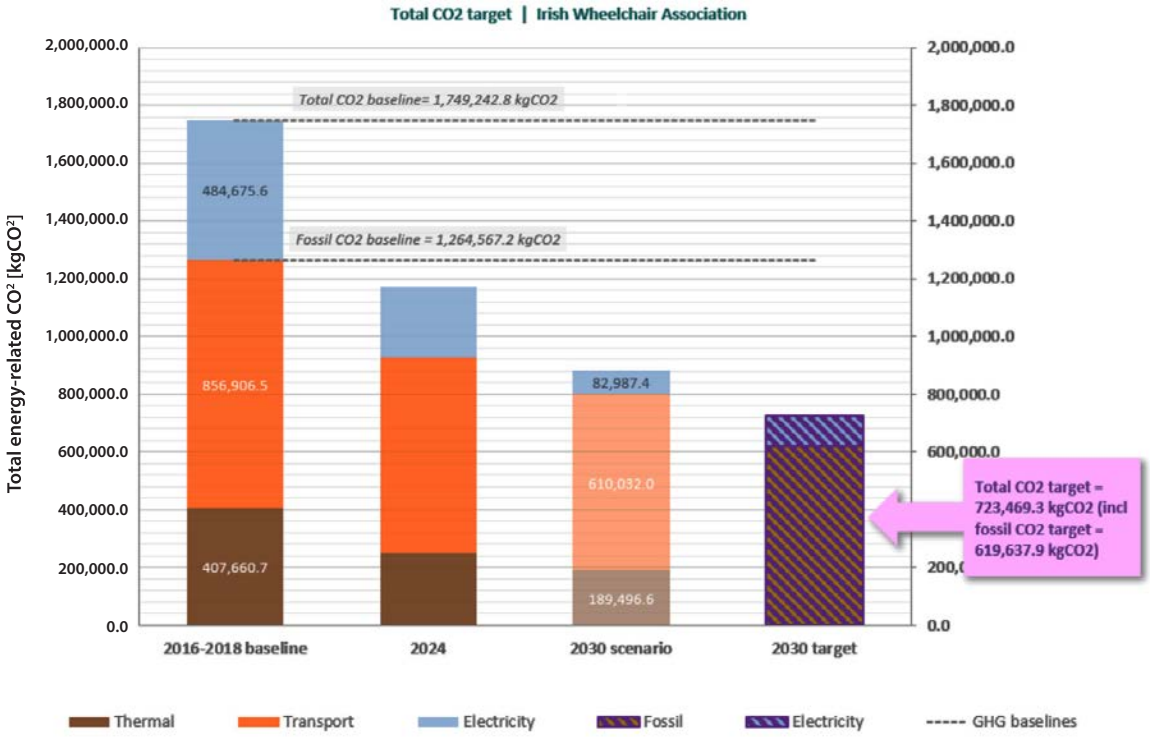


Fig 7. Irish Wheelchair Association Gap to Target Tool – CO² Target

6.3 Project Pipeline Achieving our De-Carbonisations Target

Energy audits were undertaken as part of the Irish Wheelchair Association requirement to meet the public sector obligation under SI 426. Projects conducted under SI 426 are energy focused. Should they have difficulty achieving their 2030 carbon target, the project identified in the audits will be input into the Gap to Target tool to analyse their impact on the organisation's overall carbon intensity.

A pipeline of projects presenting carbon and cost saving opportunities have been identified and are contained in Table 1 of the IWA Energy Audit report dated 22/11/22 as shown in appendix 1 of this document.

Details of energy related projects completed since the previous Climate Action Roadmap of 2023 are shown in Appendix 2 of this document.

Energy related projects planned for 2024 are summarised in Appendix 3 of this document.

6.4 Resources

Irish Wheelchair Association has received strategic and financial support from the Health Service Executive, via the HSE Energy Bureau and it is anticipated that this will continue.

7 ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

SEAI's guide to Demonstrating Exemplar Energy Management has been used to determine the appropriate energy management programme for Irish Wheelchair Association as shown below.

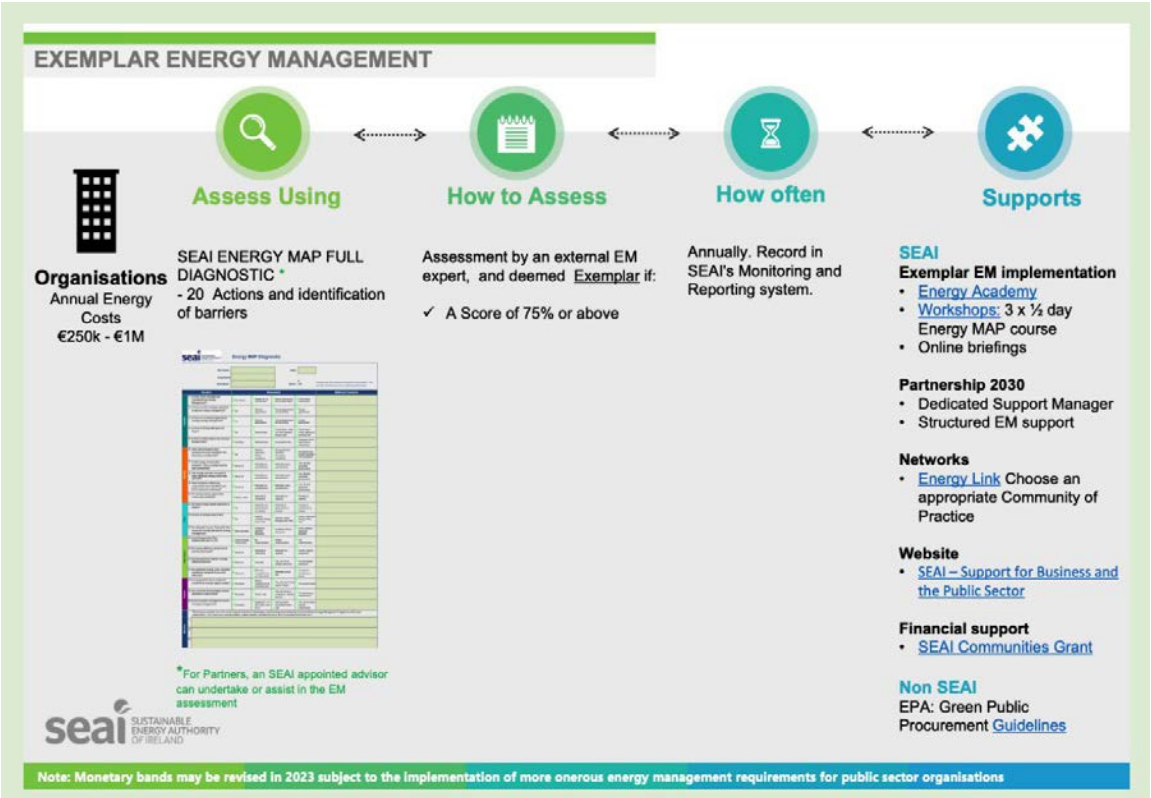


Fig 8 SEAI Energy Management Structure

We will work with our assigned SEAI Partnership Support Manager (PSM) and the HSE Energy Bureau to develop energy management practices appropriate for use by the Irish Wheelchair Association. As part of this development process IWA will use the SEAI Critical Success Factors tool in conjunction with their PSM.

8 GREENING OUR PROCUREMENT

8.1 Green Selection & Award Criteria

Green Public Procurement (GPP) is a process where public authorities seek to source goods, services or works with a reduced environmental impact. The EPA has published GPP guidance, and ten accompanying criteria sets that support the inclusion of sustainable and green practices into public sector procurement procedures. The ten criteria sets are Road Transport Vehicles & Services; ICT Products & Services; Food & Catering Services; Indoor Cleaning Services; Office Buildings Design, Construction & Management; Indoor & Outdoor Lighting; Heating Equipment; Energy related Products and Paper Products & Printing Services.

Reference:
https://www.epa.ie/publications/circular-economy/resources/GPP-Guidance-for-the-Irish-Public-Sector.pdf

Circular 20/2019 Promoting the use of Environmental and Social Considerations in Public Procurement

We have commenced engagement with our procurement team to ensure that green criteria are included in procurement processes where bidding vendors demonstrate the appropriate measures in accordance with the latest guidelines and directives regarding GPP.

From Q.3 2023 Irish Wheelchair Association will include green criteria under the qualitative criteria and qualification process for bidders, when procuring all goods and services in line with the latest guidelines and directives regarding GPP, using the published GPP guidance and criteria sets. The progress made so far is that IWA has launched its first GPP compliant tender titled Vehicle Emissions & Environmental Impact (Article 18.2), marking a significant milestone in its journey toward sustainability and regulatory alignment. The organisation recognises that implementing Green Public Procurement (GPP) may result in higher costs; however, it acknowledges the critical importance of compliance. Non-compliance could expose existing contracts that fall short of EU requirements and potentially affect funding. While progress may be gradual, IWA remains committed to advancing GPP within current constraints and ensuring full adherence to all relevant circulars.

In terms of cleaning services, all indoor cleaning tenders must require suppliers to detail staff training on environmentally responsible cleaning practices. IWA does not directly manage any cleaning contracts, except for the Head Office in Clontarf, which operates under the existing HSE framework contract.

ICT-For all our equipment, the TCO list currently provides limited options, but we are exploring additional frameworks to broaden our choices. Any solution must also be financially feasible for IWA, as we are a non-profit organisation.
We purchase all laptops, desktops, and monitors through the Office of Government Procurement (OGP) framework.

Other equipment is sourced from specialised vendors or through tender exercises. In terms of sustainability, all hardware and packaging are fully recycled. Looking ahead, we plan to start tracking whether the equipment we own is TCO-certified or meets a comparable standard within our asset register.

8.2 Construction

IWA are conscious of the need to specify low carbon construction methods and low carbon cement material as far as practicable for directly procured or supported construction projects.

In addition, IWA will strive to adhere to the best practice guidelines for the preparation of Resource and Waste Management Plans for construction and demolition projects for directly procured or supported construction projects from 2024 including fit outs and refurbishments.

The Energy Efficiency Directive was transposed into Irish legislation via SI 426 of 2014 and has been updated via several amendments. Regulation 8 obliges public bodies to only purchase or lease buildings with BERs of A3 or higher.

9 BASELINING AND REDUCING RESOURCE USE

9.1 Food Waste Reduction

Irish Wheelchair Association will strive to measure and monitor the food waste generated on premises using a standardised approach to food waste measurement, from 2024 onwards.

In addition, IWA will ensure that all new contract arrangements related to canteen or food services, will include measures that are targeted at addressing food waste. This will include a specific focus on food waste prevention and food waste segregation. There is a requirement that 10% of food, by value, must be organic. IWA operates only a small number of kitchens, and food is rarely prepared from scratch. In instances where food preparation does take place, it is done in line with the existing HSE contract. Therefore, this requirement is not applicable to IWA.

9.2 Paper Waste Reduction

Irish Wheelchair Association has initiated a change programme which will run for the duration of our current strategy. This change programme is focused on documenting current processes and identifying process improvement, removal of duplication of effort and the use of paper. Our strategy is as follows:

"IWA has robust solutions which adapt to and meet business and sustainability needs and streamline business processes, enabled by appropriate technology."

(IWA Strategy 2022 – 2025) In summary the strategy provides for:

- Reviewing paper-based processes and evaluate the possibilities for digitisation.
- Eliminating paper-based processes as far as is practicable
- Ensuring that recycled paper is procured when required.
- Measuring and monitoring paper consumption.

In terms of digitalisation, during 2024, IWA implemented a new printing process that has led to a significant reduction in overall printing volumes, particularly for reports. In addition, all IWA printing paper is now sourced through the OGP Framework for Recycled Office Paper for Printing and Photocopying to the Irish Public Sector (MSO021F). All paper supplied under this framework carries the EU Ecolabel, demonstrating that it is ethically sourced and compliant with EU directives on packaging and chemicals.

9.3 Water Use

Irish Wheelchair Association aims to provide suitable drinking water refill points for all staff and in premises accessed by the public. In addition, the IWA Green Team will be focused on reducing water consumption, by measuring and monitoring water consumption. IWA is exploring the installation of smart water meters to better track water usage. The Head Office at Clontarf has been audited to assess the requirements. This initiative is currently under review and will be implemented as soon as possible.

9.4 Single Use Items

Irish Wheelchair Association aims to progressively eliminate all single-use items within the organisation, including events organised or sponsored.

Our initial step is to conduct a review of what single-use items are used within the IWA and to prepare a plan to progressively eliminate them. Procedures will be put in place to support this obligation.

9.5 Other Materials

Irish Wheelchair Association will support Ireland's Producer Responsibility Initiatives in the collection and recycling of products. Where available and practical IWA will use waste collection services that are segregated into a minimum of 3 streams – residual/general waste, recycling waste and organic/biowaste. IWA is piloting proper waste segregation into three streams: General Waste, Recycling, and Compost. Colour-coded bins have been ordered to assist in correctly separating waste, and more IWA sites will be supplied with these bins over time. In addition, an educational component will be introduced to further support effective segregation. All waste will be measured through designated waste management portals.

10 IMPROVING OUR BUILDINGS & CAMPUSES

Community Centres
Through our network of 58 community centres around Ireland, we provide services including independent living supports and accommodation, holiday a range of activities for young adults within and outside of Irish Wheelchair Association activities.

Our community centres operate as a hub locally to provide activities, programmes, and outings for our members within communities. Locally, communities also use our community centre facilities for their meetings, activities, and events. We opened three new locations in 2021, Navan, Dundalk, and Roscommon.

Holiday and Services
The Irish Wheelchair Association respite service provided accessible and supported holidays through our dedicated holiday centres in Ballinasloe, Kilkenny, and Dublin.

Approved Housing Body
Irish Wheelchair Association is an approved housing body (AHB) under Section 6 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1992. In 2021 we provided fifty-one wheelchair-accessible and affordable homes, and tenancy support, to people with limited mobility in Dublin, Kilkenny, Carlow, Tipperary, Mayo, Roscommon, and Galway.

In 2021 Irish Wheelchair Association also purchased and adapted an additional apartment in Kilkenny. This apartment was fully funded by the Capital Assistance Scheme from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government.

10.1 Display Energy Certificates
Irish Wheelchair Association premises that are frequently visited by the public, require that a Display Energy Certificate (DEC) will be displayed in these locations.

Irish Wheelchair Association will review their building stock to identify which premises are frequently visited by the public, to determine if a Display Energy Certificate (DEC) is required. IWA has identified the premises exceeding 250 m^2 and is currently assessing the next steps.

10.2 Parking
Irish Wheelchair Association will examine the requirement for vehicle parking in buildings that have access to a range of public transport services and active/shared mobility options for the majority of staff/visitors, while providing that sufficient accessible parking is maintained for those with physical mobility issues. Potential for EV charging stations will be examined.

10.3 Building Stock Plan
In 2024 Irish Wheelchair Association completed a Stage 1 Building Stock Plan which defines the extent of the IWA Building Stock. Details of the IWA building stock are contained in the SEAI M&R system and will be reviewed annually as part of the M&R process.

10.4 Bicycle Friendly Buildings
Irish Wheelchair Association premises aim to be bicycle friendly buildings and locations will be reviewed for opportunities to include bicycle parking available for employees and visitors.

10.5 Non-Fossil Fuel Heating in New Builds 2024
Irish Wheelchair Association procurement and design procedures are being updated to comply with the requirement for no fossil fuel heating after 2023. Irish Wheelchair Association commits to making our outdoor environments on our campuses eco- friendlier and biodiverse.

11 IMPROVING OUR TRANSPORT

Irish Wheelchair Association has a nationwide fleet of 138 (2020: 116) accessible buses to support the delivery of services in our centres and other locations.

Transport is an essential part of the IWA association remit in helping disabled people attend day centres around the country through their door-to-door collection service and training disabled people to be able to drive and therefore provide a greater degree of independence.

Vehicle life expectancy varies due to rural-to-city driving, but on average has a life span of 12 – 15 years. The average mileage travelled per vehicle is 15,000 -20,000 km. The typical cost of a new 3.5- ton bus is €30k plus €16k for a retrofit to make it suitable for wheelchair transport. The cost of a similar EV is estimated at €50k before retrofit, with no guarantee that it will be fit for purpose, taking into consideration the requirements to lift wheelchairs on & off the bus, be warm for clients and make several long journeys each day, and the need to recharge the vehicle.

IWA will monitor the marketplace on development of EV/Hybrid alternative vehicles that are suitable to their needs. The transition to electric vehicles presents several challenges for IWA due to the nature of our fleet. The vehicles currently in use are H2L3 vans, while the electric models available on the market are primarily H 1,2 L2 vans. These vehicles have a significantly reduced seating capacity, which would greatly impact on the delivery of services. In addition, the load placed on electric engines would reduce the driving range, further limiting the roll out of services.

In relation to Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) fuels, while they offer a lower-carbon alternative to diesel, there are notable constraints. No fuel rebate is currently available for HVO, unlike diesel, representing a significant financial impact. Furthermore, HVO refuelling stations remain limited across the country, restricting accessibility and consistent supply. Given these factors, HVO represents a more practical short-term solution for IWA until viable electric vehicle options become available.

The Transport Manager continues to engage with the Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles community to identify potential fleet options suitable for IWA and to ensure progress towards meeting mandated sustainability targets.

IWA remains committed to reducing carbon emissions within the transport division and will continue to pursue all feasible options to advance sustainability within the operational and financial constraints currently faced.

11.1 Transport Procurement

At present Irish Wheelchair Association has no electric vehicles. We will ensure that the procurement of any further vehicles will be zero emission vehicles where operationally feasible, as well as the minimum targets set out by SI381/2021 Clean Vehicles Directive.

The Directive applies to cars, vans, trucks, and buses (excluding coaches), when they are procured through:

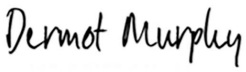
- Purchase, lease, rent or hire-purchase contracts
- Public service contracts for the provision of passenger road transport services
- Services contracts for public road transport services, special-purpose road passenger- transport services, non-scheduled passenger transport, refuse collection services, mail and parcel transport and delivery

As we conclude, the IWA Strategy 2026–2030 firmly positions climate action as a central priority. Through this strategy, we commit to fulfilling our public-service obligations under the Government's Climate Action Plan and ensuring the long-term climate sustainability of our services for the years ahead.

12 MANAGEMENT/BOARD SIGN OFF

Signed: _____

Ann Marie O'Grady, IWA CEO
Date approved by SMT:
Date of signature:



Signed: _____

Dermot Murphy, IWA Chairperson
Date approved by Board:
Date of signature:

13 APPENDIX 1 – SUMMARY OF POTENTIAL SAVINGS

Location	Section	Option	Saving kWh	Saving €	CO2	Capital Cost €	Spend Pay Back (SPB) yr.	NPV	IRR
Clane	4.3	LED Lighting Upgrade	5,049	€752	2.7	€5,000	7	3,834	14.3%
Clane	4.4	Staff Awareness Programme	2,294	€341	1.2	€0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Clane	4.7	Old House (Re- Locating Staff)	3,090	€1,360	0.7	€0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Clane	4.7	Old House (Re- Locating Staff)	3,090	€1,360	0.7	€0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Clane	4.8	Mobility Centre - Heat Pump Installation	2,447	€1,268	0.6	€20,000	16	-5,092	1.1%
Clane	4.9	Resource Centre Heat Pump Installation	7,647	€3,963	1.7	€30,000	8	16,586	11.9%
Clane	4.11	Install PV panels on the roof	2,628	€563	1.4	€5,000	9	1,617	9.2%
Lucan	5.3	LED Lighting Upgrade	4,663	€610	2.5	€5,000	8	2,170	10.6%
Lucan	5.4	Staff Energy Awareness	1,424	€305	0.8	0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Lucan	5.7	Install PV panels on the roof	2,628	€563	1.4	€4,000	7	2,620	13.1%
Gilbert	6.3	LED Lighting Upgrade	9,088	€3,214	4.8	€25,000	8	12,781	11.5%
Gilbert	6.4	Replace Shunt pump with Energy Efficient variable speed drive pump	810	€286	0.4	€1,000	3	2,367	29.9%
Gilbert	6.4	Replace cold water pump with Energy Efficient variable speed drive pump	475	€168	0.3	€1,001	6	974	16.5%

Location	Section	Option	Saving kWh	Saving €	CO2	Capital Cost €	Spend Pay Back (SPB) yr.	NPV	IRR
Gilbert	6.5	Staff Awareness Programme	1,308	€463	0.7	0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Gilbert	6.5	Reduce the temperature of the ACU setting in the Comms room from 22 December to 18 deg.c	526	€186	0.3	0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Gilbert	6.6	Install small air handling unit to supply outside ambient air for cooling	1,314	€465	0.7	€2,500	5	2,963	18.7%
Gilbert	6.6	Comms room Free Cooling air handling unit	475	€168	0.3	€1,000	6	975	16.5%
Gilbert	6.7	Install a local area thermostat for each heating zone.	9,999	€438	2.2	€2,000	5	3,148	22.5%
Gilbert	6.8	Install PV on roof	4,380	€1,549	2.3	€11,500	7	6,708	12.3%
Tuam	7.3	LED Lighting Upgrade	3,385	€687	1.8	€5,000	7	3,072	12.6%
Tuam	7.4	Staff Energy Awareness -Electrical	1,516	€308	0.8	€0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Tuam	7.6	Staff Energy Awareness - Heating	7,911	€467	1.8	€0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Tuam	7.7	Install Heat Pump	55,908	€855	12.6	€20,000	23	-9,954	-3%
Tuam	7.8	Install PV on the Roof	4,380	€1,549	2.3	€11,000	7	7,208	13%
Clontarf	8.3	Staff Energy Awareness	12,432	€1,865	6.6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Clontarf	8.7	Install local area thermostat to control Maintenance building temperature	8,001	€600	1.6	€1,000	2	6,053	61.9%
Clontarf	8.8	Install local area thermostat to control Finance building temperature	8,534	€640	1.7	€1,000	2	6,523	66.0%
Clontarf	8.11	Install PV on the Roof	5,256	€788	2.8	€7,000	9	2,267	9.2%
		Total Savings	**167,568**	**€24,422**	**57**	**158,001**	**6**		
		Total Cost	**964,009**	**€108,021**	**344**				
		% Total Cost	**17%**	**23%**	**17%**				

14 APPENDIX 2 – ENERGY RELATED PROJECTS COMPLETED IN 2023

IWA Energy Projects 2023

Project Name	Proposed Finish Date	Project Stage
Kilkenny-Claddagh Court ROC-Roof Insulation Upgrade	Nov-23	Complete
Cork-Mallow ROC-LED Light Fitting Upgrade Phase 1	Nov-23	Complete
Galway-Tuam ROC-LED Light Fitting Upgrade	Nov-23	Complete
Cork-Mallow ROC-VSD Pump Install x 2	Nov-23	Complete
Kerry-Listowel ROC-Heat Pump Installation	Nov-23	Complete
Kerry-Listowel ROC-Heat Pump Installation	Jan-24	Complete
Dublin-Clontarf-LED Light Fitting Upgrade	May-25	SMT Review

15 APPENDIX 3 – ENERGY RELATED PROJECTS PLANNED IN 2024/2025

IWA Energy Projects 2024

Project Name	Status
Dublin-Clontarf HQ-Building Fabric Assessments	
Dublin West-Lucan CC-Building Fabric Assessment	
Cork-Mallow CC-Building Fabric Assessment	
Galway-Tuam CC-Building Fabric Assessment	
Kildare-Clane CC-Building Fabric Assessment	
Kerry-Listowel CC-Building Fabric Assessment	
Dublin West-Lucan ROC-LED Light Fitting Upgrade	Tender Review
Kildare-Clane Campus-LED Light Fitting Upgrade	Out for Tender
Cork-Mallow CC-Heating Controls & LED Upgrade Phase2	Tender Review
Dublin-Clontarf-Solar PV Panel Installation	Scoping Stage
Galway-Tuam CC-Solar PV Panel Installation	Out for Tender
Galway-Tuam CC- Building Fabric Assessment and Heat Pump Installation	Scoping Stage
Cork-Mallow CC-Thermostats for Heat Zones Install	Scoping Stage
Dublin-Clontarf-Heating Controls & LED Upgrade	Scoping Stage

IWA Energy Projects 2025

Project Name	Status
Dublin-Clontarf-Solar PV Panel Installation	Scoping Stage
Dublin West-Lucan ROC-Solar PV Panels Installation	Scoping Stage
Cork-Mallow ROC-Solar PV Panel Installation	Scoping Stage
Kildare-Clane Campus-Heat Pump Install x 2	Scoping Stage
Kildare-Clane Campus-Solar PV Panel Installation	Scoping Stage

16 APPENDIX 4 – ACTION SUMMARY TABLE

Area	Action	Responsibility
Annual Report	Include climate action activities in annual reporting process	Green Team Leader / Corporate Reporting Team
Training	Identify Appropriate training modules	Green Team Leader / Learning & Development
	Identify staff requiring training	Green Team Leader / Learning & Development
	Include awareness material in staff communications	Green Team Leader / Learning & Development
Food	Measure and monitor using a standardised approach to Food Waste	Green Team Leader
Paper	Reviewing paper-based processes and evaluate the possibilities for digitisation	Green Team Leader
	Eliminating paper-based processes as far as is practicable.	Green Team Leader
	Ensuring that recycled paper is procured when required.	Green Team Leader
	Measuring and monitoring paper consumption.	Green Team Leader
Water Consumption	Measuring and monitoring water consumption	Green Team Leader
Single Use Items	Review of what single-use items are used	Green Team Leader
	Prepare a plan to progressively eliminate them	Green Team Leader
Waste Collection	Identify Potential for segregated waste collection	Green Team Leader
Parking	Review parking requirements	Green Team Leader
Building Stock	Maintain register on M&R	Green Team Leader
	Review potential for leasing A3 buildings	Green Team Leader

NOTES

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