



An Roinn Cultúir,
Oidhreacht agus Gaeltachta
Department of Culture,
Heritage and the Gaeltacht

Resource Efficiency Action Plan



Progress to 2021

Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
www.chg.gov.ie

Introduction

In January 2019, the Minister for Communications, Climate Action & Environment received Government approval for actions to be taken by each Government Department on single use plastics, prevention of waste and green public procurement. In addition all Government Departments were required to produce a Resource Efficiency Action Plan (REAP) to focus on how individual offices can make improvements in their use of heat, light, water and other resources used such as food, paper, inks etc. to save money and reduce environmental impacts.

The Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment (DCCAE), which is tasked with supporting Departments in the development of their REAP, has specified that plans should include reference to:

- Upgrading office lighting with energy efficient alternatives
- Optimising use of Building Management System controls
- Removing general waste bins from individual desks
- Increasing number of bins for recycling and composting
- Reducing flow rates of taps
- Discontinuing use of single use plastics throughout the organisation
- Establishing in-house Green Team from staff and management representatives

The Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht (DCHG) is working proactively with its state bodies under its remit and with DCCAE, Office of Public Works (OPW), and the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) to progress Energy Efficiency related works and projects required.

In June 2019, The Whole of Government National Climate Action Plan was published. The new Plan sets out a path for us to meet our 2030 target for carbon emissions. The implementation of REAP in the Department is a positive step forward in monitoring and reporting on climate actions.

Overview of the Department of Culture Heritage and the Gaeltacht

The Department supports the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht in the discharge of her powers, duties and functions, as provided for by legislation enacted by the Oireachtas. The Minister has responsibility for a wide range of policies and services which impact on the lives of our citizens and the people of Ireland. The principal functions of the Department are:

- to promote and provide policy and funding support for the development of the arts, culture and creativity, including cultural infrastructure development;
- to provide support to Ireland's National Cultural Institutions;
- to conserve, protect, manage and present Ireland's built and natural heritage, including the conservation of wildlife, promotion of the conservation of biological diversity, and protection of national monuments in State care;
- to support the Irish language and strengthen its use as the principal community language of the Gaeltacht;
- to assist in the sustainable development of island communities, including through the provision of transport links; and
- to promote North-South co-operation through the work of Waterways Ireland and An Foras Teanga.

Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht staff are located in almost 50 locations throughout the country. This dispersal reflects both the scope of the Department's remit and the outcome of various reconfigurations since 2002. The Department headquarters is based in Kildare St. Dublin, with staff also located at three other Dublin city locations, North King Street, Lombard Street and the Custom House. Outside of Dublin the main administrative offices comprise of Killarney, Na Forbacha and Newtown Road Wexford. It is important to note that the Department is the anchor tenant at Killarney, Na Forbacha and North King Street, but not at the other locations. While the majority of properties are state owned, both the North King Street and Lombard St offices are leased by OPW. NPWS regional staff are mainly based at National Parks and Reserves throughout the country with other staff accommodated in smaller shared government offices at various locations.

It would not be practicable to identify the site specific opportunities in all of the locations at which staff are based. Therefore the Department will continue to concentrate resources on the main administrative offices with the greatest potential to achieve significant progress. These sites have also benefited from energy audits conducted to date. Consideration to employing an external resource efficiency assessment for the smaller regional sites will be made at later date. The REAP will allow assessment of opportunities to achieve efficiencies in relation to energy, waste, water and also improve staff awareness in respect of these matters

Energy

Energy Efficiency Policy

The Department commits to responsible energy management practices in providing a safe, comfortable and high quality environment for our staff and customers with a view to reducing CO2 emissions and our impact on the environment. We will ensure the efficient use of energy in the delivery of our services and review our practices periodically to ensure they deliver a continuous improvement in energy performance. The Department will implement and maintain an Energy Management System in accordance with the requirement of ISO 50001 in order to:

- Continually improve our energy performance through the implementation of best practice and to foster a culture of energy efficiency to achieve this improvement;
- Comply with all applicable legal and government requirements, as well as voluntary requirements to which the Department has committed in day to day activities;
- Adhere to internal targets related to energy use, consumption and efficiency;
- Make design decisions which take into account and integrate energy efficiency considerations into the final design which ensure optimal operation throughout the life cycle of the plant, equipment and services;
- Make available the necessary resources and information required for the successful implementation of energy management systems, to ensure the successful realisation of the objective and targets set out by the Department;
- Ensure that internal communication of the energy target and improvements take place at all levels of the Department, to raise energy awareness and encourage responsible energy usage throughout the organisation;
- Ensure that sustainability in the area of energy management is the cornerstone of the practices adopted throughout the organisation and that these policy objectives are consistently met;
- Ensure BMS systems in Offices under the Department's control are working efficiently as possible by requesting that checks are conducted more regularly on all plant equipment such as all boilers, pumps, valves, actuators and temperature sensors etc.;
- Upgrade existing light fittings to LED and install sensors in areas which currently do not have occupancy controls;
- Install 7 day programmable timers on water coolers;
- Weather strip external doors and any windows near where draughts are reported;

- Install meter on solar panel to determine what quantity of DHW it is generating and connect to M&T;
- Install a solar photovoltaic system onsite to generate electricity (Killarney);
- Ongoing liaison with OPW re installation of electric vehicle chargers in our car park at New Road Killarney and in Killarney National Park in addition to those available to the public in Glenveagh, Connemara and Ballycroy.
- Purchase of two new electric buses for Glenveagh National Park
- Follow up pilot use of 4 Citroen Berlingo electric vans purchased in 2017 and in use around Wicklow Mountains and Killarney National Parks

In addition, DCHG is actively engaging in measures to improve efficiencies in the context of energy, waste, water and recycling. The Department participates in OPW's Optimising Power of Work 2 Staff Energy Awareness Campaign. Providing information and training as necessary to increase awareness and to enable staff to make the changes in office culture and practice that are needed to achieve best environmental management practice.

Waste Disposal

The Department is committed to providing a safe, comfortable and high quality environment for its staff while also ensuring efficient use of resources and the environmental disposal of our waste at the end of its useful life cycle. The Department in conjunction with its staff and suppliers will work to continually monitor and reduce our waste across all our premises. At the same time the Department will continue to raise environmental awareness and encourage responsible resource usage throughout the organisation.

Actions:

- Procuring recycling bins in all the administrative buildings and located on individual floors.
- Removal of all Single Use Plastic cups at water fountains, single use cutlery etc.,
- Develop and maintain systems for the segregation of waste streams to allow the majority of our waste to go for recycling rather than landfill.
- Facilitate the provision of colour coded bins for the segregation of waste where feasible
- Communicate to all staff the benefits of recycling and the items that should go into each bin and the need to present the recyclables in a manner that does not contaminate the contents of the bin

- Engage with the Office of Government Procurement (OGP) management and suppliers to ensure that all procurement decisions are backed up with a review of the life cycle costs of the various purchasing options;
- Ensure that procurement of all relevant products and services takes account of energy efficiency and supports for improved energy performance.

Water Conservation

The Department is committed in ensuring efficient use of water resources in the delivery of its services and the elimination of water waste through engagement. The responsible management and the use of water resources is a key element of this commitment.

Actions:

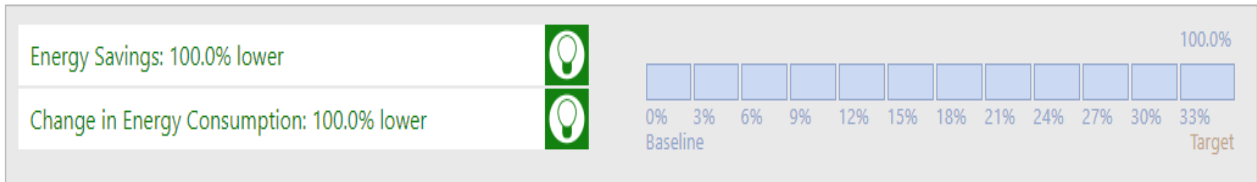
- We will develop and maintain systems for the continuous improvement in water usage performance thereby reducing our impact on the environment.
- Reductions in water usage through the identification of unusual water usage trends and the implementation of a leak repair maintenance programme in conjunction with the OPW and Irish Water.
- Communicating to all staff the benefits of improved water usage performance and by providing training to key staff with responsibility for accommodation.
- Where possible the Department will engage with the OPW to seek to upgrade and replace old inefficient water delivery and waste systems with new more efficient systems that still meet employee's needs.
- Engage with the OPW to agree the specification for efficient delivery of water and waste services.

Action Summary

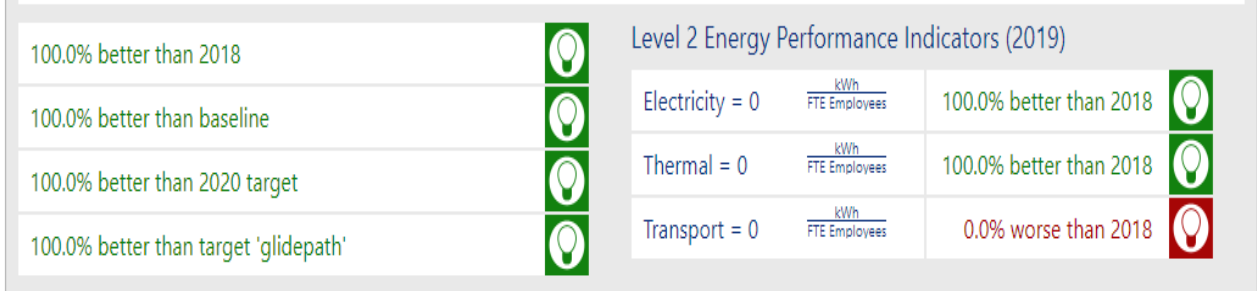
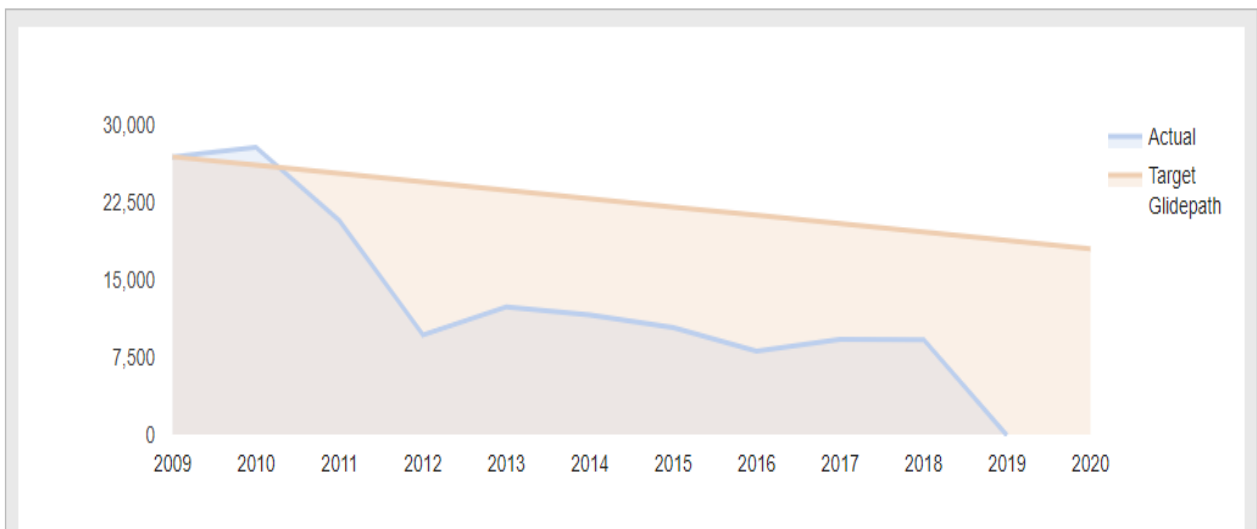
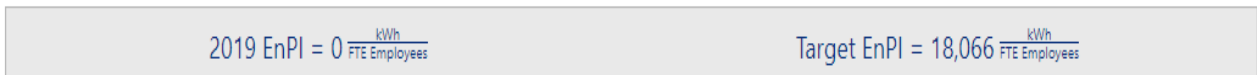
	Department of Culture, Heritage & the Gaeltacht
Energy/Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish Departmental Green Team and local Green Teams in each major location that will have oversight on all green issues across the Department. - Launch an energy awareness campaign by educating staff on tips for energy saving at home & work through lunch and learns, posters, email communication. Provide keep cup/water bottles to facilitate removal of all cups from water coolers. - Review possibility of certain IT initiatives which include automatic PC shutdown etc., - Investigate green plant areas/biodiversity areas for Departmental buildings. - Continue to monitor metrics for: Energy, Water and Waste Consumption. - LED lighting being introduced in Kildare St office. - The Creative Ireland Unit completed a report <u>“Engaging the Public on Climate Change through the Cultural and Creative Sectors”</u> - SEAI Workshop for Bodies under the aegis of the Department held in October 2019
Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Roll out of Food waste recycling bins in various 2019. Plan to roll out to other Departmental locations in 2020 - New recycling stations rolled out in Kildare Street in 2019. Plan to expand to other Departmental locations in 2020.
Green Procurement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We have already eliminated single use plastic cups and introduced compostable cups in water coolers throughout the Department. - Trialling a number of LED lamps in North King Street and have installed timers on photocopiers
Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A contract has been signed for the provision of electric buses in Glenveagh National Park. - Purchased 4 Citroen Berlingo electric vans in 2017 which are in use around Wicklow Mountains and Killarney National Parks. - EV charging points available to the public in Glenveagh, Connemara and Ballycroy national parks.
Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monitor water and wastewater rates. - Rain harvesting system are operating for toilets (Killarney) and sensors are installed in urinals to reduce water wastage which in turn has achieved significant cost savings on water usage and charges

SEAI Scorecard: Progress to 2020

Since Baseline to 2019



Energy Performance Indicators - 2019



*Scorecard for 2019 incomplete at time of issue.

Annex I

Data for REAP environmental benchmark

Year: 2019

Department name: Department of Culture, Heritage & the Gaeltacht

Site

Site address: Government Buildings, New Road, Killarney, Co. Kerry, V93 A49X

Green team contact person:

Name: John D. O'Connor
 email: john.oconnor@chg.gov.ie
 phone: 064-6627323

Total number of staff at this site (full time)

130

Total area of the building (m2):

4,300

m2

Energy data

Total electricity use for the year: 321,918 kWh

Total thermal fuel use for the year (as relevant):

306,425

Natural gas, LPG, & biogas

2,547

kWh

Heating

308,972

kWh

oils

kWh

Renewable

kWh

Energy indicator: 146.71 kWh per m2 per year

Water data

Total water use for the year

1,200

M3

Water indicator: 9.23 m3 per employee per year

Waste data

Total waste amounts for the year (fill in as relevant):

Recyclables: 3.29 tonnes

Food waste: tonnes

General waste: 1.22 tonnes

Other (e.g. confidential paper, WEEE, etc.): 4.01 tonnes

Total waste: 8.52 tonnes

**Waste indicators: 65.5 kg per employee per year
 85% percentage sent for recycling**

Annex 2

Data for REAP environmental benchmark Year:

Department name:

Site

Site address:

Green team contact person: Name:
 email:
 phone:

Total number of staff at this site (full time equivalent):

Total area of the building (m2): m2

Energy data

Total electricity use for the year kWh

Total thermal fuel use for the year (as relevant):

Natural gas, LPG, & biogas kWh

Heating oils kWh

Renewables kWh

Energy indicator: kWh per m2 per year

Total transport fuel use kWh

Water data

Total water use for the year m3

Water indicator: m3 per employee per year

Waste data

Total waste amounts for the year (fill in as relevant):

Recyclables tonnes

Food waste tonnes

General waste tonnes

Other (e.g. confidential paper, WEEE, etc.) tonnes

Total waste tonnes

Waste indicators: kg per employee per year
 percentage sent for recycling

Annex 3

Data for REAP environmental benchmark

Year: 2019

Department name: Department of Culture, Heritage & the Gaeltacht

Site

Site address: 90 North King Street, Smithfield, Dublin 7, D07 N7CV

Green team contact person:

Name: John D. O'Connor

email: john.oconnor@chg.gov.ie

phone: 064-6627323

Total number of staff at this site (full time equivalent): 89

Total area of the building (m2): 4,382 m2

Energy data

Total electricity use for the year 538,547 kWh

Total thermal fuel use for the year (as relevant):

Natural gas, LPG, & biogas 457,246 kWh

Heating oils kWh

Renewables kWh

Energy indicator: 227.25kWh per m2 per year

Total transport fuel use kWh

Water data

Total water use for the year 1257.06 m3

Water indicator: 14.12 m3 per employee per year

Waste data

Total waste amounts for the year (fill in as relevant):

Recyclables 1.8 tonnes

Food waste tonnes

General waste 1.8 tonnes

Other (e.g. confidential paper, WEEE, etc.) 2 tonnes

Total waste 5.6 tonnes

Waste indicators: 62.9 kg per employee per year

68% percentage sent for recycling

