



**SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN**  
**2019-2024**

**ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT 2023**

## **South Dublin County Council (SDCC) Climate Change Action Plan – Annual Progress Report 2023**

This Annual Progress Report for the Climate Change Action Plan has been prepared by the SDCC Climate Action team in conjunction with Codema, the Dublin Energy Agency and the Dublin Metropolitan Climate Action Regional Office (CARO) and in partnership with the Environment Strategic Policy Committee and the Elected Members of SDCC.

**Date:** December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023

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## Foreword/Executive Summary

As we complete the fourth year of our Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) 2019-2024 all of the 154 actions are either completed or are underway, as detailed in this report. The CCAP was revised this year to update the four Key Targets and review the actions, to ensure that our plan is suitably ambitious and fully aligned with updated National and European legislation. The CCAP review included updated and expanded risk assessments and an implementation plan for the Decarbonising Zones (DZ) in Clondalkin. The objective of the DZs is to look at what is possible for decarbonisation and climate action at local and community levels and how to deliver outcomes capable of supporting and realising national climate ambition. In 2023, SDCC achieved an energy efficiency improvement of 41% over its baseline. Improvements in public lighting and energy efficiency upgrades in our offices and buildings have helped us to reach this point. The Tallaght District Heating Scheme was commissioned towards the end of 2022 and will further reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 1,500 tonnes in its first phase.

Our 2030 targets for energy efficiency and greenhouse gas reductions are within view but we face an uphill challenge to continue the momentum for beyond 2030, and to work towards achieving a zero-carbon society by 2050.

In the context of global challenges such as the ongoing energy crisis and climate related disasters, the four key targets of our Climate Change Action Plans are more relevant than ever. Higher energy costs will add impetus to our drive to improve our energy efficiency, reduce energy waste and cut greenhouse gas emissions. Building resilience into our systems to protect against future climate change related events will ensure confidence and reliability of our services; and continuing to engage with our citizens and inform them on climate change will educate and empower our communities to take action at a local level.

We will continue work with and support our partners, stakeholders, Elected Representatives and citizens to ensure that all sectors of our community are united and focused on meeting our obligations to future generations.

Teresa Walsh

Director of Environment, Water and Climate Change

## 1.0 Introduction

### 1.1 Background

South Dublin County Council's (SDCC) Climate Change Action Plan 2019-2024 was approved on the 7<sup>th</sup> May 2019 in accordance with the National Adaptation Framework – Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland 2018 (NAF)<sup>1</sup>. The Plan was also completed in accordance with the requirements of the Covenant of Mayors (COM)<sup>2</sup> for Climate & Energy to which SDCC is a signatory.

The 2019 Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) set out 4 key targets and 130 actions (with a subsequent 24 additional actions) that the Council will undertake in the areas of energy & buildings, transport, flood resilience, nature- based solutions, resource management and citizen engagement. The Plan was developed by SDCC in conjunction with the City of Dublin Energy Management Agency (Codema) and the Dublin Climate Action Regional Office (CARO). The Plan was subject to public consultation and Strategic Environmental Assessment processes.

SDCC works closely together with our partners, CARO and Codema, in the delivery and monitoring of a number of CCAP actions. These strategic relationships allow for good communication, collaboration of knowledge and sharing of industry expertise.

Annual progress reports are required as part of the NAF and COM processes and SDCC has committed to reviewing and reporting on this Plan annually. In 2022, SDCC added 24 additional actions to the plan, to reflect the progress and ambition on climate action projects adopted since 2019.

This report refers to the reporting period of 2023. To date, 42 actions have been completed and 112 are ongoing. Progress and additional information on each action is presented in the tables in Chapter 6.

## 1.2 Updates to policy and legislation since the Annual Progress Report 2021

### 1.2.1 Policy and legislative context relating to climate action has developed in the last year

**The Climate Action Plan 2023 (CAP 2023)**, is the second annual update to Ireland’s Climate Action Plan 2019. This plan is the first to be prepared under the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021, and following the introduction, in 2022, of economy-wide carbon budgets and sectoral emissions ceilings. The plan implements the carbon budgets and sectoral emissions ceilings and sets a roadmap for taking decisive action to halve Ireland’s emissions by 2030 and reach net zero no later than 2050.

*CAP 23 states “Local Authorities have a key role in the delivery of both climate mitigation and adaptation. This is reflected in the provisions of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021, which requires each Local Authority to prepare a Local Authority Climate Action Plan (LA CAP), specifying the adaptation and mitigation measures to be adopted by the Local Authority. All LA CAPs are due to be submitted to the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC) no later than March 2024. LA CAPs will be updated once every 5 years from this date.”*

The **Climate Change Advisory Council**<sup>5</sup> published its 2023 annual review in late July. A key task of the Council is to conduct an annual review of progress made over the previous year across all sectors, in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and furthering the transition to a low-carbon, climate-resilient and sustainable economy and society by 2050. In its ‘traffic light’ review of sectoral adaptation progress the Local Government Sector has continued on from the 2022 report and noted as ‘Good Progress’ being made by Local Authorities and CAROs in 2023.

The Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland’s **Annual Report 2022 on Public Sector Energy Efficiency Performance** showed the improvement in energy efficiency amounts to 31.5% on business as usual. This improvement is equivalent to 4,353 GWh of avoided primary energy consumption, representing €307 million in cost savings across the sector.

### 1.2.2 Decarbonising Zones

The National Climate Action Plan 2019 contains 183 actions, including some of relevance to

the Local Authority Sector. In particular, the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) are the lead for Action 165 of the National Climate Action Plan 2019 which requires Local Authorities to identify and implement a ‘Decarbonising Zone’ (DZ)<sup>7</sup> in each of their areas. A circular issued by DHLGH to Local Authorities in February 2021 requires that *‘Once candidate decarbonising zones are identified, and subject to additional guidance and feedback each local authority must develop DZ Implementation Plans’*. A DZ Working group has been set up chaired by DHLGH comprising representatives of DECC, SEAI, EMRA, CCMA, LGMA, OPR and CARO with a view to assisting the sector in implementing this action. Ownership of this action changed from DHLGH to DECC in late 2021.

### 1.2.3 Local Authority Resourcing and Funding

The Climate Action Regional Offices (CARO), working with the County & City Managers Association (CCMA) have over the last 3 years been actively engaging with the Department of Environment Climate and Communications in efforts to secure funding towards the cost of putting resources in place to allow the sector to scale up efforts and play a key leadership role locally and nationally in delivering effective climate action. These resources are also needed in advance of the preparation of the Climate Action Plans as required under the Climate Act. In *Delivering Effective Climate Action 2030* (DECA 2030), the local government strategy on climate action, an overarching commitment on leadership is highlighted to ensure a coherent approach to climate action across the administrative and political structures of all 31 local authorities.

## 2.0 Climate Action Regional Office (CARO) Report

The Climate Action Regional Offices (CAROs) were established in 2018 in response to Action 8 of the 2018 National Adaptation Framework (NAF) – *Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland*. The offices are mandated to co-ordinate engagement across the varying levels of government and help build on experience and expertise that exists in the area of climate change and climate action. The offices have a role in driving climate action at both regional and local levels, including supporting the implementation of local adaptation plans/Climate Change Action Plans.



The composition of the 4 Climate Action Regions has been determined by the geographical and topographical characteristics, vulnerabilities and shared climate risks experienced across local authority areas. The 4 CARO regions, constituent local authorities and associated lead authorities are shown in Table 2.1.



**Figure 2.1 - Climate Action Regional Offices (CAROs)**

Climate Action Region	Local Authority function area	Lead Authority
<b>Dublin Metropolitan</b>	Dublin City, Dun-Laoghaire-Rathdown, South Dublin, Fingal	Dublin City Council
<b>Eastern and Midlands</b>	Carlow, Cavan, Kildare, Kilkenny, Laois, Leitrim, Longford, Louth, Meath, Monaghan, Offaly, Roscommon, Tipperary, Waterford, Westmeath, Wexford, Wicklow	Kildare County Council with support from Kilkenny County Council
<b>Atlantic Seaboard North</b>	Donegal, Sligo, Mayo, Galway City & County	Mayo County Council
<b>Atlantic Seaboard South</b>	Clare, Limerick, Kerry, Cork City & County.	Cork County Council

**Table 2.1** - Climate Action Regional Offices

The Dublin Metropolitan CARO has been working closely with the four Dublin Climate Teams and Codema, the Dublin Energy Agency to support the implementation of their Climate Change Action Plans and to support the local authorities with the development of their Climate Action Plans in accordance with the requirements of Section 16 of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021.

Another key focus of the CARO work programme for 2023 has been the roll out of climate action training across the local authority sector. This training plan has been developed by the CAROs in collaboration with partners such as the Local Authority Environmental Services Training Group (LASTNG), Climate Ireland, the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI), Met Éireann, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Institute for Public Administration and others. Training has been targeted at all staff levels and focuses on the following six

pillar areas;

- Climate Action Leadership – aimed at all elected members & senior staff
- Climate Action Awareness Training – aimed at building capacity across climate action teams
- General Awareness Building – online training for all indoor staff to raise awareness of climate action
- Practical Climate Action – training for all outdoor staff to assist them to deliver practical climate action measures
- Behavioural Change Training – to empower staff to promote positive change both internally and across the community
- Specific and Targeted Training – training arising from specific knowledge gaps or individual policy/ role requirements, such as spatial planning, flood risk management and green public procurement.

### 3.0 SDCC Climate Action Plan

SDCC are continuing to work towards achieving the four primary targets of the CCAP. Our energy and carbon emission targets have been revised to reflect changes in National and European legislation since the CCAP was adopted in 2019. Our current targets are:

- 50% improvement in Energy Efficiency by 2030
- 51% reduction in Greenhouse Gas Emissions by 2030
- Make Dublin a climate resilient region by reducing the impacts of future climate change related events
- Actively engage and inform our citizens on climate change

#### 3.1 Climate Change Action Plan Key Energy Efficiency & Carbon Emissions Targets

SDCC obtained primary figures from the SEAI Monitoring and Reporting (M&R) database relating to our 2021 energy performance, consumption and efficiency. In 2021, SDCC consumed 45.9 gigawatt hours (GWh) of primary energy; equivalent to 8,389 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>.

Codema has been entering this yearly data into the M&R system on behalf of SDCC since 2011, in order to comply with the reporting requirements of the European Energy Efficiency

Directive 2012/27/EU. The directive has been transposed into Irish Law as Statutory Instrument S.I. 426 of 2014, which sets out several obligations on public bodies with respect to their “exemplary role” for energy efficiency by achieving savings of 33% by 2020. This is an average reduction target of 3% per year.

To date, as reported by the M&R system, SDCC has improved its energy performance by 41%, compared to the baseline year (which is an average of between 2006-2008).

### 3.2 CCAP return to DECC

SDCC completed and submitted the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual reporting template of progress on our Climate Change Action Plan 2019-2024 to the Department of Environment and Climate & Communications (DECC). The template tracks the status of each of the original 154 actions and provides an update on progress throughout the reporting period. The template includes the performance dashboard, Figure (3.2.1). The additional actions are distributed across each of the 6 action areas:

- Energy & Buildings
- Transport
- Flood Resilience
- Nature Based Solutions
- Resource Management
- Citizen Engagement

154 Climate Actions  
 42 Actions Completed  
 112 Ongoing

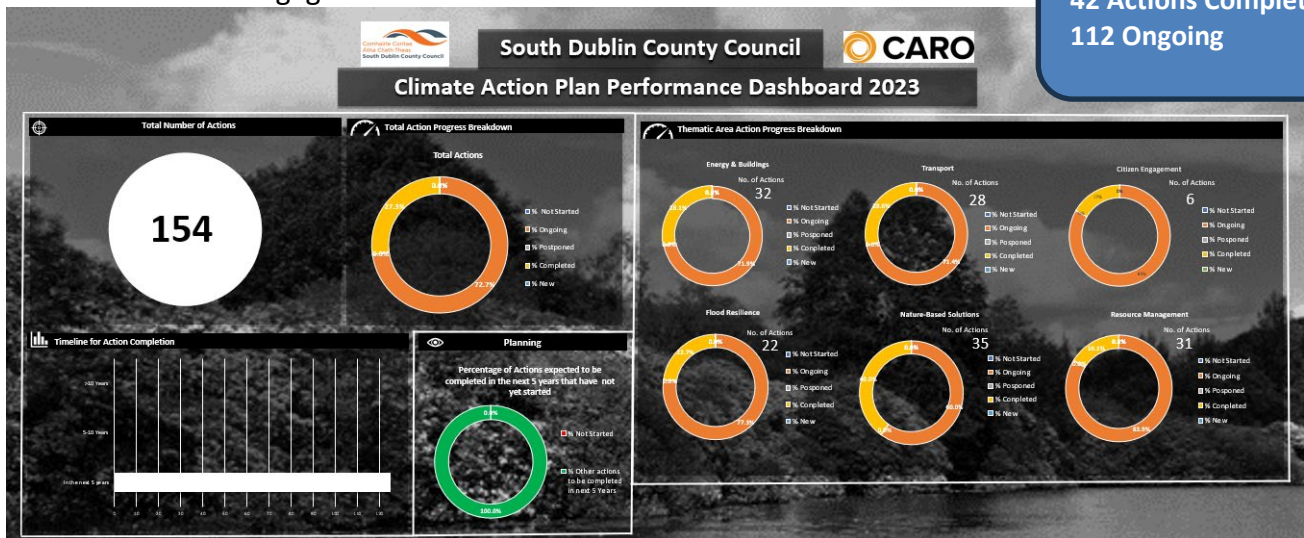


Figure 3.2.1 – SDCC Climate Action Plan Performance Dashboard 2023

### 3.3 Tallaght District Heating Scheme

Construction work on phase 1 of the Tallaght District Heating project was completed in 2022. The Tallaght District Heating Scheme is being led by SDCC and will operate as Ireland's first not-for-profit heat utility making a significant contribution to reducing carbon emissions in the area. Annual saving of almost 1,500 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> is expected in the initial phase of operation. Operating as a Non-profit company, Heatworks began to supply heat energy to customers in January 2023.

It is providing low-carbon heat to public buildings in the Tallaght area since April 2023. The development of this innovative, low carbon initiative has been led by SDCC with the assistance of its energy agency, Codema. The district heating network will initially provide heat to 32,800m<sup>2</sup> of public buildings, including County Hall, Tallaght County Library, the SDCC Innovation Centre- Work IQ, and 133 affordable apartments (the construction of which commenced in April 2023, and which will be connected in early 2025).



The university buildings include the Main Building, the Sports- Science, Health and Recreation Building, followed by the new Catering College (CAET), to be completed in 2024. The network uses excess heat from Amazon Web Services' (AWS) data centre to provide low carbon heat to the network customers, currently SDCC and Technological University Dublin (TU Dublin). AWS has included heat collection systems in their new facility which provides this recycled heat at no cost as part of its broader sustainability commitments.

*HeatWorks* will assist Ireland in meeting its EU 2030 national heating and carbon-reduction targets. It is estimated that in this first phase of delivery, the carbon emissions reduction in the Tallaght area will be over 1,500 tonnes per year. For the initial period of January to March

2023 there has been a 21.4% reduction in gas usage in County Hall. Further reductions in overall energy consumption are anticipated once additional data is available.

### 3.4 Solar PV Projects

#### 3.4.1 Solar PV on SDCC Buildings

A pipeline of SDCC buildings for decarbonisation has been prepared and projects are underway to address energy efficiency and carbon emissions, including the introduction of renewable energy sources. As part of this, a number of community centres have been identified for the installation of Solar PV on the roofs.

#### 3.4.2 Arthurstown Landfill

South Dublin County Council have been working with CoDEMA to establish two potential solar PV facilities at Arthurstown Landfill:

1. A small scale solar PV plant to deliver a PV array capable of supplying sufficient energy to manage current operations on the site, pumping and treating leachate. Tender documents are being finalised and preliminary discussions regarding planning permission are being held.
2. SDCC have appointed a consultant to undertake a feasibility study to develop a commercial PV facility at the site. A kick off meeting has been held.

### 3.5 Decarbonising Zones

In February 2021, the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage issued a circular on Decarbonising Zones to enable Ireland to meet its EU targets of reducing carbon emissions by 30% between 2021 and 2030, and thereafter to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050. Action 165 of the National Climate Action Plan requires identification of one location or area in each local authority that would be subject to a plan for a Decarbonising Zone.

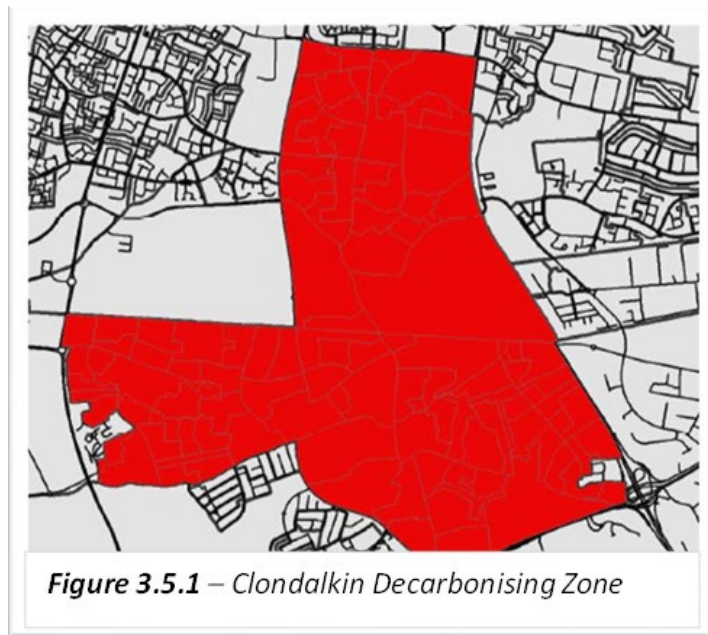
South Dublin County Council identified Clondalkin and Tallaght as Decarbonising Zones under Action 165 of the National Climate Action Plan (2019).

Subsequently, under Section 16 of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021, LAs were required to include one Decarbonising Zone in the statutory Climate Action Plan 2024-2029. An assessment was undertaken and Clondalkin was selected as the Decarbonising Zone. Work on the DZ has progressed in conjunction with Codema.

Completed to date is:

- The baseline emissions inventory,
- Stakeholder identification,
- Climate pathways,
- and a register of opportunities.

The consultation stage is currently being planned.



## 3.6 Active Travel

### 3.6.1 Cycle South Dublin

The Cycle South Dublin (CYSD) Programme has now been in place for almost 3 years and SDCC currently has over 30 CYSD projects in development, many of these will be completed between 2023-2024 while others will be delivered over the 8-year programme. A number of significant projects including Wellington Road Cycling and Walking Scheme and Phase 5 of the Dodder Greenway received Part 8 planning approval in 2022 and initial works on the scheme started in 2023. The D24 Neighbourhood network scheme, which is part of the DoT sponsored Pathfinder Programme, commenced in July 2023, and will deliver 11km of new protected cycle tracks through road space reallocation.

A Lot of progress has been made to date on CYSD schemes adding significant cycling

infrastructure for South Dublin County Council and making cycling and walking clear, viable and preferable options for shorter journeys to work, leisure or school.

### 3.6.2 Active Travel

The following cycle/pedestrian routes are being progressed through planning or construction stages in 2023:

1. Dodder Greenway (1 - 5)
2. N81 Jobstown Active Travel Scheme
3. Monastery Road Walking Route
4. Wellington Lane Active Travel Scheme
5. Grand Canal to Lucan Urban Greenway
6. N81 Integrated Transport Planning Strategy
7. Grange Road Walking and Cycling Scheme
8. Tallaght to Knocklyon Active Travel Scheme
9. Castletymon District Enhancement (Active Travel)
10. D12 Bike Bus
11. Templeville Road Active Travel Scheme
12. Castletymon Active Travel Scheme
13. Avonbeg Road Active Travel Scheme
14. Tallaght to Clondalkin Active Travel Scheme
15. Rapid Deployment Pedestrian Facilities
16. Airton Road Extension
17. Esker Permeability Scheme
18. Killinarden Park and Greenway
19. Citywest to Rathfarnham Active Travel Scheme
20. Clonburris Southern Link Street (Active Travel)
21. Clondalkin Movement Study
22. Corkagh Park to Grand Canal Active Travel Scheme
23. D24 Neighbourhood Cycle Network
24. St. Dominic's N.S. and Scoil Maelruain SRTS Phase 2
25. Rapid Deployment Cycle Facilities: Taylors Lane, Doddsborough Rd, Glendown Rd, R136  
Lucan, and Airton Road
26. Rapid Deployment - junction safety measures



### 3.6.3 ESB e-Bike Pilot Project for Dublin Commuter Hubs

The Current pilot on Public e-bike Rental Scheme with ESB has not been successful in South Dublin and all Bikes have now been removed due to vandalism. SDCC will review the appropriate approach for a new action in 2024, under the proposed Climate Action Plan 2024-2029.

### 3.7 Sustainable Energy Communities

SDCC continues to support the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland's (SEAI's) Sustainable Energy Community



(SEC) programmer. SDCC has co-signed a Memorandum of Understanding with SEAI for the provision of bridging finance to facilitate communities to develop Energy Masterplans up to the value of €30,000 under the Sustainable Energy Communities programme. Costs for developing approved Energy Masterplans is fully recoupable from the SEAI.

SDCC continues to support the Sustainable Energy Communities (SECs), working closely with local SEC Mentor, Gavin Harte. In 2023 the mentor worked with several new groups and helped to reengage with inactive SECs. There are 9 SECs that are considered active, with varying levels of engagement.

### 3.8 Green Public Procurement (GPP)

The Climate Action Charter for Local Authorities (*Appendix II*) calls for the implementation of green public procurement across all business areas. To support this action SDCC established a Green Procurement Working Group.

A number of staff have attended green procurement training. The SDCC Tender Request form requires green procurement to be considered in all tenders issued by SDCC and the procurement team are tracking this implementation. Further actions are planned under the Draft Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 to develop the understanding of green procurement and increase opportunities across the organisation, with more detailed tracking.

### 3.9 Community Climate Action Fund (CAF)

The Community Climate Action Programme will open in South Dublin in December 2023 for

applications. The programme will see €1,073,000 available for local community groups and organisations over an initial 18-month period to take local climate action, with additional funding available for projects with a Northern Ireland aspect.

The overall objective of the Programme is to support and empower communities, in partnership with SDCC, to shape and build low carbon, sustainable communities in a considered and structured way to help contribute to national climate and energy targets. Projects should seek to maximise the wider gain to the community as much as possible.

Communities can play a critical role in driving such positive change. South Dublin County Council, in conjunction with the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications, will support this through the Community Climate Action Programme.

Two workshops were held in November to support potential applicants. SDCC's dedicated Community Climate Action Officer is available for interested groups in support of their applications and can be reached at [climatechange@sdblincoco.ie](mailto:climatechange@sdblincoco.ie)

More information on the programme can be found at <https://www.sdcc.ie/en/climate-action/community-climate-action-programme/>

### 3.10 World Water Day

SDCC, DURL and LAWPRO delivered a secondary school workshop in Deansrath Community College on 22nd March to mark World Water Day 2023. The workshop focused on the Griffeen River. Students learned about the local wetland SDCC have constructed in Griffeen Valley Park and the ecosystems services provided.

### 3.11 Pollinator Awards 2022/2023

SDCC were delighted to announce that Tymon Park has won the prestigious **2022/23 Pollinator Award** for the **Best Town Park in Ireland** as part of the Green Flag scheme.

The Pollinator Award is jointly run by An Taisce's Environmental Education and the National Biodiversity Data Centre. The award assesses the pollinator-friendly management of parks against the recommendations of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan.

Over the past number of years SDCC have significantly increased the area of natural meadows

in parks and open spaces across the county including in Tymon Park. Tymon Park has over 41 ha (100 acres) of long flowering meadows with 160 ha (395 acres) county wide.

As well as managing the meadows and carrying out survey work to ensure the management is effective Public Realm have been actively communicating their efforts to the public using video updates of the work that being undertaken and highlighting the importance of these actions.

SDCC has been presented with 5 Green Flag Awards from An Taisce's Environment Education Unit. Waterstown Park, Sean Walsh Park, Tymon Park, Corkagh Park and Rathfarnham Castle Park all achieved Green Flags Awards. The Green Flag Award scheme aims to encourage the provision of good quality public parks and green spaces that are managed in environmentally sustainable ways. The Green Flag Award Scheme encourages high environmental performance and good management. Parks and green spaces are judged against 8 key criteria.

SDCC acknowledges *the parks staff, the Council's Heritage Officer and all of the community volunteers and residents' groups who continue to play an active role in parks around the county and whose hard work and dedication contributed to these awards.*



## 4.0 Climate Innovation Fund

In 2019 SDCC approved a budget to provide seed funding for innovative projects that can demonstrate alignment with actions or objectives in the CCAP. This Climate innovation Fund is available to all staff in SDCC to pilot or progress innovative projects with the potential to reduce energy consumption or greenhouse gas emissions, conduct feasibility studies to improve current practices, inform the citizens of South Dublin on climate action or develop pilot or exemplar projects to demonstrate and support our policies and guidance documents. Since 2019, the Climate Innovation Fund has received an annual allocation to encourage innovative solutions to climate change.

South Dublin County Council have collaborated in the WeCount / I-Change project with UCD, by funding air quality monitoring equipment at schools in the county, through the Climate Innovation Fund. The WeCount project empowers citizens to measure road traffic and air pollution in their own neighbourhoods.

### 4.1 Improve Energy Efficiency

#### 4.1.1 Energy Elephant

Energy Elephant were awarded a 2-year contract as a pilot project with SDCC to install a full energy monitoring and management system for the council. The cloud-based energy data management solution aims to assist SDCC in the following areas:



- In efficiently managing and reducing ongoing energy use, carbon emissions and utility costs for our buildings, assets, public lighting, and vehicles.
- By providing a strategic real-time overview of energy use and costs, will promote internal user engagement facilitating the roll-out and implementation of ISO 50001. The solution is able to manage both billing data from invoices, and interval data from smart metering. The system is central to SDCC in meeting EU 2030 Carbon-reduction targets and overall Climate-change Strategy actions.
- In building a comprehensive searchable energy database, recording energy initiatives

and verifying energy savings, it delivers an evidence base and benchmark for investment decisions on building upgrade and renewable-energy programmes into the future.

#### 4.1.2 Greening Tallaght Stadium

Tallaght Stadium is owned and operated by SDCC and is best known for being both home to Ireland's most successful football club Shamrock Rovers and equally as the home grounds of the Football Association of Ireland women's national team.

A multipurpose venue, the stadium has played host to a variety of other sports including rugby, American football, hurling and Gaelic football. Tallaght Stadium is a UEFA Category 4 venue, a standard that puts it alongside some of the world's most elite stadia. The stadium also offers conference facilities for up to 300 delegates and a concert facility for up to 20,000 patrons.

As part of our commitment to climate action, SDCC has sought quotations to carry out a feasibility study to improve Tallaght Stadium's climate friendly profile, establishing a baseline and identifying a register of opportunities in key areas of Energy, Waste and Water.

Works to Tallaght Stadium are ongoing with a new 2,500-seat North Stand is under construction (which will increase the seated capacity from 8,000 to 10,000) which is due for completion this year. It is an external concrete stand structure with associated circulation, and ancillary facilities. 2 Associated commercial units are being provided in the stand undercroft. One of which is fitted out as the Shamrock Rovers shop and offices. This has been done to current standards of energy efficiency (are Part L of the Building Regulations - Conservation of Fuel and Energy). The concrete structure of the stand uses GGBS content which is a less carbon intensive form of concrete.

To further examine the potential to take climate action at Tallaght Stadium, SDCC sought quotes to identify a register of opportunities across the energy, water and waste resource streams. A single tender was returned but was deemed not to meet the minimum requirements of the project and could not proceed.

#### 4.1.3 Green Procurement

SDCC is committed to Green Public Procurement (GPP), sourcing goods, services and works with a reduced environmental impact. Tenderers have been asked to demonstrate how they are working to reduce the environmental impact of the delivery of this service.

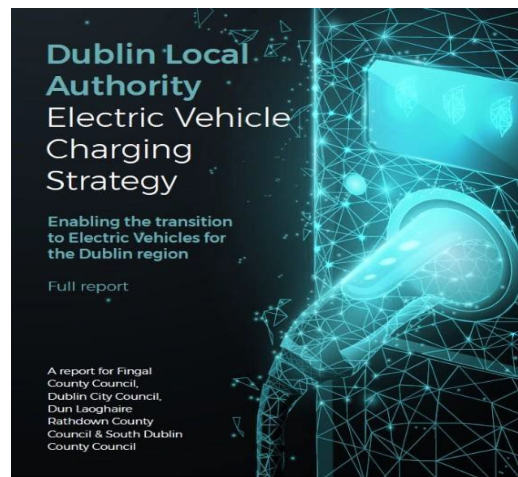
Suppliers will demonstrate the relevant educational and professional qualifications staff have been awarded. Suppliers are also asked to provide information on steps they have taken in examining the climate and environmental performance of their organisation i.e., professional accreditation achieved.

SDCC's Climate innovation fund has approved €25,000 for the development of a feasibility study to review sustainable solutions to grass management.

## 4.2 Reduce Carbon Emissions

### 4.2.1 Dublin Regional Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy

The Dublin Regional Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Strategy was launched on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2022. The strategy outlines the expected need for EV charging infrastructure in the Dublin Region to support the anticipated increase in electric vehicles in the region.



The objective of this strategy was to assess what infrastructure should be deployed and where, the number of charging points needed, the level of investment that will be required over the next 10 years, and to explore the coordinated role the Dublin Local Authorities (DLAs) play in the infrastructure roll out.

The report also includes a stakeholder engagement study that helps identify potential obstacles to the deployment of chargers, identifying available grid capacity as one of the main challenges. The report makes recommendations, including continued engagement with stakeholders including ESB networks.

The strategy identifies the potential requirement for over 1,600 public charge points in the Dublin Region by 2025, categorised as mainly Residential and Destination EV charging. The DLAs are working to identify suitable locations to meet this need. The role of the DLAs will be to facilitate the roll out of Rapid Hubs and on-street equipment through planning and licensing, and to ensure that our—public sites, including sports centres, parks, and administration buildings, have public charging facilities, where possible.

SDCC Climate Innovation Fund Contributed €20,491.16 to the development the Dublin Local Authority Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy.

14 sites have been identified in SDCC as potential public charging sites and are gone to tender.

The initial contract currently being tendered will provide destination charging as follows:

- sites with 2x50 kW DC charge points
- sites with 4x50 kW DC charge points
- sites with 2x22 kW AC charge points

We are currently at Stage 2 of the procurement process and hope to have a charge point operator appointed before the end of the year. This will be on a concession basis, with a 10-year contract. Works are expected to be completed over the following 12 months.

#### 4.2.2 Anaerobic Digester Feasibility Study

SDCC manages over 1,500 hectares of parks and open spaces including 163 Ha of Pollinator friendly meadows and have been implementing a decreased mowing regime over the past number of years. SDCC are seeking innovative alternative solutions to managing the grass cuttings, including the possibility of anaerobic digestion (AD). SDCC Sustainable Energy Consulting Ltd is currently progressing the feasibility study on anaerobic digester (AD) for SDCC. The project is broken down into 5 main work packages (WP). WP1, and 2 are concluded and WP3 is almost finalised:

- WP 1: This work package focused on assessing the greenhouse gas emissions, CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent, and monetary costs associated with various grass harvesting methods and uses. The main objectives include calculating GHG emissions, determining CO<sub>2</sub> equivalence, and estimating the monetary costs for different options. The tasks involve mapping the grass harvesting processes, calculating emissions and energy usage, estimating monetary costs, and conducting an overall comparative analysis. The outcomes have provided insights into the environmental and economic impacts of different grass-cutting methods. Completed.
- WP 2: In this work package, the goal is to quantify the biogas potential of the collected grass cuttings and explore options for their use by SDCC. The tasks involved quantifying biogas potential, assessing energy requirements, identifying suitable pathways for biogas use, and evaluating the feasibility of converting SDCC's vehicles and equipment to biogas fuel. The outcomes have informed SDCC about the potential of utilising biogas from grass cuttings to meet our energy needs. Completed.
- WP 3: This work package aims to review the viability of using anaerobic digestion (AD) as

a solution for managing grass cuttings. Objectives include evaluating the suitability of AD, assessing operational requirements, and examining the possibility of developing an AD plant. Tasks involve conducting a comprehensive review of AD viability, outlining operational requirements, and performing a detailed technical and cost analysis of potential AD pathways. The outcomes will help SDCC make informed decisions regarding the use of AD for grass cuttings. Currently finalising WP 3.

- WP 4: In this work package, the focus is on assessing alternative uses for meadow grass, reviewing recent AD developments, and exploring innovative solutions for SDCC's grass cuttings. Objectives include evaluating alternative grass uses, reviewing national and local AD developments, and considering partnerships with third-party developers. Tasks involve assessing various grass utilisation options, reviewing recent AD projects, and scoping potential partnerships with data centers and property developments. The outcomes will provide SDCC with insights into alternative uses for grass cuttings and potential collaborations. To be completed mid-January.
- WP 5: The objective of this work package is to establish effective communication and reporting mechanisms throughout the project. Tasks include preparing a communication plan, providing regular progress updates to the client, and submitting intermediary and final study reports. The final report will outline the study's objectives, methodology, key findings, and recommendations. To be completed mid-February and findings of feasibility to be presented to management.

#### 4.3 [Make Dublin Resilient to the impacts of Future Climate Change related events](#)

##### 4.3.1 [Sustainable Drainage Systems \(SuDS\)](#)

SDCC is in the process of delivering the District Centre Enhancement Programme (DCEP) which aims to enhance local communities to make them more accessible, sustainable, and attractive for residents, businesses, and visitors. The various schemes look to improve the sense of place, add climate resiliency, and provide facilities to encourage people to make healthy, sustainable choices in how they get to and from the District Centre. A key part of DCEP is early and ongoing stakeholder engagement to identify problems faced locally and to develop options which best serve the needs of the local community.



Some of the measures being implemented across the DCEP Schemes include incorporation of additional soft landscaping and SuDS features in the form of bioretention areas / rain gardens which promote increased biodiversity and climate resilience.

South Dublin County Council SuDS guidance documents were launched on 7th February 2022 and is available on SDCC website. The guidance documents were updated in 2023 to include example details. The SuDS guidance is being implemented with Developers through the planning process, in conjunction with assessments of flood risk mapping etc.

SDCC's Major Emergency Management Plan includes a sub plan for emergency flood events. SDCC has developed a Sustainable Drainage Explanatory Design and Evaluation Guide which sets out the implementation of SuDS in South Dublin. This is being implemented with Developers and SDCC are progressing the implementation of SuDS in Council projects. Examples of SuDS can be found in Clonburris and Adamstown, including bioretention rain gardens at Adamstown Station.

#### 4.3.2 The Dublin Urban Rivers LIFE (DURL) Project

The DURL project is a collaboration between South Dublin County Council, Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council and the EU LIFE Programme. The project seeks to improve water quality in County Dublin and promote water quality improvement in urban areas by carrying out domestic misconnection inspections using a GIS-based approach. Domestic misconnections are caused by incorrectly plumbed washing machines and dishwashers which discharge to the stormwater drainage network flowing directly to the river, rather than to the foul sewer network, resulting in water pollution and a reduction in the habitat

value of our rivers and streams. It impacts on our potential to meet the requirements of the Water Framework Directive (WFD) and the River Basin Management Plan 2022-2027 for Ireland. During the past two years the project has assessed water quality in the River Griffeen catchment, visited over 4,000 houses and found approximately 420 misconnected appliances - most of which have been repaired by homeowners, with a small number awaiting repair. Access to houses has been tremendous, with 98.5% of the homeowners approached participating, and a very high repair rate showing a genuine willingness by homeowners to contribute to a better environment.

The DURL project also built three integrated constructed wetlands (ICWs) in South Dublin

County in 2023, using these nature-based solution to treat polluted stormwater. These natural water retention measures improve stormwater quality before discharging to local rivers and serve to improve biodiversity, increase flood resilience, and add to green infrastructure in public parks. Local communities got involved in planting the wetlands during construction.

The project has brought about a significant reduction in the levels of stormwater pollution flowing into the River Griffeen. The project team have recorded a meaningful reduction in typical pollution indicators in 2023 – with a reduction rate of 75% of phosphate levels and a reduction rate of 85% of ammonia levels (which cause excess algal growth and clog up our waterways) compared with 2021. A significant improvement in water quality has been achieved, and stormwater outfall quality can now reach national Environmental Quality Standards. The DURL Project was awarded an ESRI-Ireland Annual Standout Success award in 2022 in the category of Data Management and Collection for its Domestic Misconnection Assessment IT Application.

#### 4.3.3 Flood Event Emergency Plans

SDCC's Major Emergency Management Plan includes a sub plan for emergency flood events. A Severe weather sub-plan is in place for SDCC.

The Flood forecasting service within Met Eireann has been established and rolled out to Local Authorities. To support and input into developing this service. SDCC is continuing to liaise with Met Eireann, via an appointed Severe Weather and Flood Liaison Manager (SWFLM).

Met Éireann continue the trial of the Flood Forecasting Centre (FFC) with daily forecast, Flood Alerts and Flood Advisories being issued to Local Authorities.

#### 4.3.4 Flood Event Emergency Plans

SDCC, in partnership with the Office of Public Works (OPW), is progressing a project to manage flooding from the Whitechurch Stream in Rathfarnham. The €2M investment in this scheme will provide 275 meters of flood defenses to protect over 170 properties, including 150 homes and up to 20 businesses. Planning permission was granted in November 2022. Construction of the scheme commenced in May 2023 and is expected to be completed in early 2025.

### 4.4 Actively Engage and Inform Our Citizens on Climate Change

As a local authority, SDCC delivers a range of climate projects and actions which impact the lives of citizens across the county. The Council uses a range of communication tools, such as our Climate Change Newsletter and Climate Action Website ([www.southdublinclimate.ie](http://www.southdublinclimate.ie)) to inform and educate on what we can all do to reduce our impact.

By supporting community initiatives, such as Tidy Towns, SDCC aims to support and reward local groups taking positive climate action. The introduction of the Community Climate Action Fund, as outlined here, offers significant financial assistance to local groups in building low carbon, sustainable communities.

#### 4.4.1 Public Consultation of Climate Action Plan 2024 - 2029

A major focus for the Climate Action Team this year was developing the CAP 2024-2029. The statutory LA CAP 2024-2029 must be in place within 12 months and be in line with the Guidelines – by 23rd February 2023.

The Draft Plan has been prepared and was released for Public Consultation. The Draft Plan is accompanied by the Draft Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and the Natura Impact Report (NIR). It is an evidenced-based approach, building on a Baseline Emissions Inventory, a Climate Change Risk Assessment, and the previous CCAP 2019-2024.

An engagement strategy was enacted, to comprised of the following steps:

- Workshop with Senior Management
- Workshops with each Climate Action Sub Team
- Update for Climate Action Steering Group
- Engagement with wider council staff (Stands in Canteen for visioning exercise, Online survey.)
- Coordination with DLAs to review draft actions
- Early Engagement Workshop with Councillors and SPCs (prior to Statutory Consultation) – Held on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of June 2023
- Updates at SPCs/CPGs/Council Meetings – Ongoing
- CE Monthly Report (article notifying of launch published in April edition)
- Climate Action questions in the Clondalkin LAP survey
- Formal public consultation campaign – 20<sup>th</sup> September to 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023

Public notice of Draft Plan Public Consultation was advertised in local and national newspapers, radio stations, as well as via online and social media channels.

The draft Plan was on display at a number of locations:

- County Hall, Tallaght
- Clondalkin Civic Offices
- County Library, Library Square, Tallaght, Dublin D24A3EX.
- Ballyroan Library, Orchardstown Avenue, Rathfarnham, Dublin D14 VY33.
- Clondalkin Library, Monastery Road, Clondalkin, Dublin D22 XPO3.
- Lucan Library, Lucan Shopping Centre, Newcastle Road, Lucan, Dublin K78 V295.
- North Clondalkin Library, Liscarne Close Rowlagh, Dublin 22.
- Castletymon Library, Tallaght, D24

Public consultation events were advertised on the Council website, SDCC Climate Action Website and through social media. The events took place at:

- Edge café, The Edge, Avonmore Rd, Tallaght, Dublin 24, D24 K07Y
- Lucan Presbyterian Church, 2 Hanbury Ln, Main St, Lucan, Co. Dublin, K78 AD90
- Clondalkin Civic Offices, Ninth Lock Rd, Clondalkin, Dublin 22, D22 E9X5
- Mansion House, Dublin city, the four Dublin local authorities will host a joint event, with lots of speakers and activities.

Pop-up library consultation events also took place at:

- Tallaght Library, Dublin D24A3EX
- Castletymon Library, Tallaght
- Ballyroan Library, Rathfarnham, D14 VY33
- Lucan library, Newcastle Road, Lucan, Dublin
- Clondalkin Library, D22 XPO3
- North Clondalkin Library, D22 E2Y2

Submissions could be made electronically through the Council's Online Public Consultation Portal - <http://consult.sdublincoco.ie> or in writing, addressed to the Senior Engineer, Climate Action, Environment, Water and Climate Change Department, County Hall, Tallaght, Dublin 24.

For the next steps, a Chief Executive Report is being prepared, following conclusion of the public

consultation. The Submissions are being reviewed and a Final Draft CAP will be prepared (including any necessary SEA or AA reviews). The Final Draft Plan, the SEA and NIR Reports, and the Chief Executive Report on Submissions Received will be provided to the Elected Members by January 3<sup>rd</sup> 2024.

The Elected Members will have up to 6 weeks to consider the Chief Executive's Report on Submissions Received, in accordance with the requirements of the Climate (Amendment) Act 2021.

Within this statutory timeframe, the Elected Members must decide by resolution, whether to: approve, or approve, subject to such modifications as they consider appropriate, the local authority climate action plan.

Given the statutory 12 month duration of the Plan making process, as set out in Section 16 of the Climate (Amendment) Act 2021, a Material Amendment public consultation phase, is not provided for under the legislation. As such, all local authorities are required to make and approve their Climate Action Plan, by 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024.

#### 4.4.2 Mini Woodlands projects

SDCC Public Realm have established a number of mini woodland projects in conjunction with community volunteers including Steppingstones Forests, the Pink Ladies and clients of Stewarts Hospital.

Site preparatory works carried out by SDCC in conjunction with community groups such as Steppingstones have been completed in Dodder Valley Park and in Tymon Park, which included clearing and removing debris, laying cardboard and spreading mulch to enrich the soil. Community groups will return in February to commence planting the mini woodlands. As well as being important ecological features these projects are a great way of involving communities in positive Environmental Actions. A similar Miyawaki Forest was completed in Sean Walsh Park in 2021. More information on this project can be found at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WTUdD2TdTlc>

#### 4.4.3 Dublin Climate Action Week

Dublin Climate Action Week was repurposed in 2023 to engage with the public through awareness events around the new Draft Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 and to encourage

citizens to engage in the Public Consultation process.

#### 4.4.4 Fast Fashion Video

Working with the other Dublin LAs, CARO and Eastern & Midlands Waste Region (EMWR), SDCC delivered a 30-40 minute documentary and resource pack reviewing the Irish Fashion Industry and its effect on the environment - mainly focusing on fast fashion, textile waste, waste prevention, microfibers and marine environment, how we care for our clothes care and a call to action.

The overall cost of the project is budgeted at €140,000. SDCC's Climate Innovation Fund is contributing €25,000 towards this Fast Fashion documentary to highlight the impact of the industry on the climate.

## 5.0 Dublin Region Energy Agency – CoDEMA Report for the DLAs

This section is an overview of some of the main activities Codema has undertaken in the last 12 months, **working** with the four different Dublin Local Authorities. Since the publication of the Climate Change Action Plan in 2019, Codema has continued its work as the energy advisor to SDCC and the other 3 Dublin Local Authorities (DLAs).

### 5.1 Energy Management

Codema assists in the direct energy management within SDCC, completing the SEAI Monitoring and Reporting to show the authority's progress towards its 50% energy efficiency improvement target for 2030. By the end of 2022, SDCC has improved its energy efficiency by 41.3% when compared to the baseline. In addition to this, a target of a 51% absolute reduction in energy related GHGs has also been set by 2030. This target will use a separate baseline to the energy efficiency target, taking an average of emissions from 2016-2018. Codema has begun to assess what additional actions will be required to achieve this target, using the latest Gap-to-Target tool developed by SEAI. By the end of 2022, SDCC had reduced its GHG emissions by 31.5% compared to this baseline. 19 Display Energy Certificates (DECs) were generated for public buildings in 2023. Codema helped to establish an Energy Management Team in SDCC in 2023.

Codema was awarded significant funding from the EU Horizon 2020 Programme in 2021 to develop a Project Implementation Unit for the development of renewable energy and energy

efficiency projects in Dublin over the next 4 years. Under this DeliveREE project, Codema has been working with SDCC to create a Building Decarbonisation Plan, which outlines the current gap to reaching the 2030 emissions targets and identifies facilities for potential energy projects to bridge this gap, subject to funding. In conjunction with this, Codema is working with the four Dublin Local Authorities to develop a Pathfinder funding application with SEAI, which could provide up to 50% capital funding for these projects.

Codema has completed an updated detailed appraisal of a potential Energy Performance Contract involving County Hall, Civic Theatre, Clondalkin Offices and Tallaght and Clondalkin Leisure Centres. A detailed appraisal has also been completed for a small to medium scale solar PV project at Arthurstown Landfill, and SDCC and Codema are currently discussing the next steps required for this project. Codema has advised SDCC on the procurement of a feasibility study which is currently near completion, assessing the feasibility of installing a larger commercial-scale PV project.

#### 5.1.1 Energy and Climate Awareness

Codema continued to support the Home Energy Saving Kit Scheme across SDCC's libraries. In 2023, Codema developed an additional two Home Energy Saving Kits for SDCC, bringing the total number of kits available in South Dublin's libraries to 11. With increased numbers, this means that the Home Energy Saving Kit is available to borrow from every public library branch in South Dublin County.

In February 2023, Codema also ran an energy awareness workshop in Ballyroan Library, where participants were informed about the Home Energy Saving Kits and engaged on the main areas in the home where they could save most energy.

In October, Codema also supported SDCC with its Climate Action Plan public consultation events in Lucan and Tallaght, where the Home Energy Saving Kits were on display, along with a range of additional energy saving information for citizens.

#### 5.1.2 Dublin Region Energy Master Plan

Codema has completed the development of the [Dublin Regional Energy Master Plan](#) in 2022, supported through the SEAI Research, Development and Demonstration (RD&D) programme. The aim of this project was to evaluate and outline the cost-optimal, spatially possible and technically feasible low-carbon scenarios for Dublin to meet its 2030 and 2050 CO<sub>2</sub> reduction targets from the perspective of society, energy consumers and the energy sector. It did this

through analysis of the 3 main energy sectors (heat, electricity and transport) and the synergies between them to deliver more cost-effective low-carbon pathways for the region. Following on from workshops held with SDCC to share findings from this work, Codema continues to build on this work to deliver analyses for SDCC, including supporting the analysis for the Clondalkin Decarbonising Zone.

#### 5.1.3 SDCC Climate Action Plan 2024 - 2029

Codema has supported SDCC on several aspects of the draft South Dublin County Council Climate Action Plan 2024 - 2029:

##### South Dublin County Council's emissions profile.

This reviews SDCC's own current energy and emissions, and the estimated current emissions of the SDCC administrative area. Additionally, it highlights key areas for action, both for SDCC's own emissions, and the emissions of the wider SDCC administrative area.

##### Clondalkin Decarbonising Zone.

A Decarbonising Zone (DZ) is a chosen area where local authorities and communities work together to reduce the amount of carbon produced by their everyday activities. Codema has carried out a detailed analysis of the Clondalkin DZ, highlighting the current emissions, and additionally key emissions reduction pathways for transport, residential buildings and commercial and public buildings. Following on from this a register of opportunities for the Clondalkin DZ across key strategic areas was developed. Codema also initiated local stakeholder mapping for the Clondalkin DZ, with a summary Local Engagement Plan and local stakeholder contact database developed.

#### 5.1.4 District Heating

The Tallaght District Heating Scheme in South Dublin is using waste heat from the Amazon data centre to provide low-carbon heating. It is now supplying low-carbon heat to South Dublin Council's County Hall building and library complex, along with buildings in the TU Dublin Tallaght campus. In its first phase, the scheme will also supply heat to the upcoming Innovation Centre and a nearby affordable apartment scheme, before connecting other customers in the Tallaght area to the network in subsequent phases.

The Tallaght District Heating Scheme will make a significant contribution to reducing carbon emissions in the area, saving almost 1,500 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> each year and establishing Tallaght as a leader in innovation in the area of climate change.

Trading as Heat Works, the scheme is fully owned and operated by South Dublin County Council as the first not-for-profit heat utility in Ireland. Heat Works intends to be an exemplar



heat network business in Ireland, delivering economic, environmental, and social benefits for residents and businesses.

#### 5.1.5 Sustainable Energy Communities SEC

Codema is the regional coordinator of the SEAI Sustainable Energy Communities (SEC) Programme for the Dublin and Mid-East region. The seven counties (four Dublin LAs, Kildare, Meath and Wicklow) are each provided with a mentor to help advise the SECs and move them along three tiers: learning about energy and climate change (the Learn stage), conducting an Energy Master Plan (EMP) and register of opportunities (the Plan stage), to finally undertaking projects (the Do stage). The aim is to upskill and educate but also to reduce energy consumption through behavioural change, energy efficiency, renewable and smart solutions. The current SEC programme is based on a four-year tender that will run until mid-February 2024.

In order to support and empower SECs to take action in achieving their energy goals, each of the seven LAs in the Dublin and Mid-East region signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with SEAI; these MoU's help a given area's SECs with bridge funding for their EMP when the community is doing their EMP through a framework run by Codema.

South Dublin has 15 SECs, including seven at the stage of Learn, two at the stage of Plan and two at the stage of Do. The other five SECs are currently inactive.

In 2023, the target for new SECs in South Dublin was achieved, with four new SECs joining the network:

- Action Community Enterprise CLG
- Blackthorn Hill Rathcoole Management Company CLG
- Dodder Hydro Community
- Tallaght Village Tidy Towns

#### 5.1.6 Decarbonising Zones

Codema has supported the Climate Action Regional Offices (CAROs) with the development of the guidelines for the implementation of decarbonising zones and has supported the Dublin Local Authorities (DLAs) with their decarbonising zone selection process and is also providing ongoing support to the Dublin local authorities with the development of their zone analysis and planning process for inclusion in future updates to the DLAs' Climate Change Action Plans (CCAPs).

## 5.2 EU Projects

Codema has extensive knowledge and experience in is the application and execution of EU projects across a range of funding streams, at present Codema have several active projects, namely:

### 5.2.1 Zero Together

Codema has made significant progress in relation to the Zero Together initiative, which sets out to create a collaborative roadmap and strategy for the whole of Dublin to ensure we meet our 2030 and 2050 emission-reduction targets. SDCC is a member of the Zero



Together Transition Team, which includes change agents across academia, transport, local authorities, community, energy and NGOs to work together collaboratively to develop a roadmap to reduce Dublin's emissions by 2030 and 2050. Over the past 12 months, Zero Together has achieved the following:

- Finalising the draft of the Zero Together roadmap, with input and feedback from the Transition Team
- Launch of the Zero Together website, to inform, engage and inspire citizens and stakeholders in Dublin.
- Commissioned a research report (carried out by TASC) to identify the most vulnerable groups (including groups in Tallaght and Clondalkin) and recommendations on how to ensure they are included in Dublin's energy transition.
- Extensive stakeholder outreach with key organisations such as SEAI, Eirgrid and ESB, as well as Minister Eamon Ryan and the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications

### Decarb City Pipes

Codema are partners in the Decarb City Pipes 2050 project which kicked off in September 2020 and will conclude in December 2023. This project is focused on the decarbonisation of heat through capacity building in cities. This project has helped Codema to explore pathways which address local challenges and build up local knowledge in the area of heat and district heating through:

- Participatory processes with key stakeholders in Dublin.

- Deep peer-to-peer exchanges with other cities also decarbonising heat, sharing knowledge to benefit from other perspectives, stages of advancement and planning traditions.

As part of this project Codema:

- Set up a local working group of key stakeholders for Dublin which includes the ESB, Gas Networks Ireland, Dublin City Council, Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland, Commission for Regulating Utilities, representatives from the Department of Environment, Climate and Communication, and Geological Survey Ireland.
- Developed a Heating and Cooling decarbonisation plan for Dublin.
- Delivered a synthesis report - containing learnings from the heating and cooling plans of all project partners (Bilbao, Bratislava, Dublin, Munich, Rotterdam, Vienna and Winterthur).
- Developed a 'transition roadmap' - a strategic plan that provides a structured and phased approach to guide the transition away from fossil fuels in the heat sector, and a guide for stakeholders to achieve the desired sustainable outcomes.
- Collated local authority district heating policy learnings for Dublin, informing heat policy advocacy at a European level.
- Will deliver a national webinar in December 2023 to disseminate project learnings to Irish and Dublin stakeholders.

### 5.2.2 DeliveREE

The DeliveREE project involves the creation of an innovative project finance and delivery structure for EE projects in the Dublin region, across four municipalities, using various performance-based contracting structures. By creating a structured approach,

DeliveREE is looking to accelerate the formation of large-scale projects by standardising the project development process, allowing projects of various types and sizes to be aggregated to create scale. This enables the use of energy performance and energy supply contracts whose performance guarantees are both critical for achieving value for money and provide a mechanism for the involvement of private capital. DeliveREE is doing this by:

- Creating a 'one stop shop' Project Implementation Unit (PIU) for project owners to go



to for energy saving projects.

- Creating an innovative standardised central project delivery system for processing potential projects to achieve speed of assessment and give confidence and familiarity to clients & market players.
- Removing legal and administrative barriers through cooperatively designing approved assessment templates and procedures to ensure quality control and due diligence.
- Aggregating projects, bundling multiple small and medium projects together to attract ESCo market and private financing, and gain large scale impact on efficiency in the building stock.
- Using a range of performance-based contracts to ensure long-term guaranteed energy savings, and de-risk cash-flows.

Under DeliveREE, Codema has developed a PIU structure for the roll-out of a pipeline of EE projects in public sector buildings and services across the four Dublin Local Authorities over four years. The PIU is being continually tested and improved through the development of energy projects. The pipeline includes over 140 buildings and sites across the 4 municipalities, including a mix of building types such as leisure centres, fire stations, theatres, libraries, head offices, community buildings and landfill treatment facilities. The project is expected to save an average of 24GWh energy over the contract lifetime, amounting to 3.8 ktCO<sub>2</sub> savings. The total CapEx of the pipeline is €20.4m, with an estimated total contract value of these energy projects of circa €23.5m of which at least €9.75m will be privately financed. Based on the consortium's experience of delivering projects with a mix of financing sources, the project aims to have a financing split of 20% project owner, 50% grant and 30% private financing on average across the contracts.

Procurement for the first lot of aggregated projects with DLR began in mid-2023, and there are currently a number of projects ready to go to procurement. These projects include an Energy Performance contract for energy efficiency measures on five large buildings, small scale Solar PV at a landfill site operated by SDCC and solar and biomass projects with FCC.

The DeliveREE consortium consists of technical, facilitation, project management, communications, procurement, legal and financial experts, as well as project owners who will test the DeliveREE structure. In addition to the 4 Dublin Local Authorities and Codema consortium includes:

- Resourceful Futures Ltd (UK) bring their extensive experience in legal, commercial and finance, from developing and deploying energy transition (power, heat and energy efficiency) and circular economy projects to remove legal and administrative barriers and add bankability due diligence and project risk allocation.
- Philip Lee Solicitors Ltd has vast legal experience in large energy infrastructure projects and will provide expertise to ensure compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, including public procurement advice.
- Sustainable Development Capital LLC (SDCL) bring their in-depth experience of investing in EE; they manage the Irish Energy Efficiency fund and invest in EE retrofit projects and seek a return based on savings achieved.

## 6.0 CCAP 2019-2024 Action Updates 2023

### 6.1 Energy and Buildings - Actions Updates

<b>E1: Create energy master plan for the Dublin Region</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Website with e-Map
<b>Status:</b> Completed
<p><b>Update:</b> Action Complete. Phase 1 of the public lighting upgrade programme (2014-2020) is complete. 9,689 55w SOX lamps were replaced with energy efficient LEDs.</p> <p>Phase 2 (2020-2026) of the public lighting upgrade programme was initiated in Q4 2020. The target for 2023 is to complete 600 LED upgrades.</p> <p>The programme of upgrading ESBN legacy PL stock (Pre-1990) commenced in April 2023.</p>

<b>E2 - Develop public lighting master plan</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Plan developed, # of lights upgraded
<b>Status:</b> Completed
<p><b>Update:</b> Phase 1 of the public lighting upgrade programme (2014-2020) is complete. 9,689 55w SOX lamps were replaced with energy efficient LEDs.</p> <p>Phase 2 (2020-2026) of the public lighting upgrade programme was initiated in Q4 2020. The target for 2022 is to complete 1,700 LED upgrades.</p> <p>The programme of upgrading ESBN legacy (Pre-1990) was started in July 2022.</p>

<b>E.3 - Prepare South Dublin Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> SECAP Complete
<b>Status:</b> Completed
<p><b>Update:</b> In October 2019, CoDEMA submitted the Dublin LAs' SECAP to the CoM on behalf of the LAs. This was initially accepted. Since these plans do not address mitigation across the wider county area (outside the LAs' direct remit/control), pre-contacting messages concerning the mitigation pillar and the feedback reports were sent to the 4 local authorities informing the DLAs</p>

that the SECAPs were deemed not to meet the new CoM SECAP requirements to address county-wide mitigation targets.

Since then the CoM has also asked signatories to renew their commitment to the CoM, which would mean that signatories would need to submit a SECAP within 2 years of commitment renewal. A decision on whether SDCC will renew its commitment to the CoM will need to be made by the Local Authority.

#### **E.4 - Evidence-based Climate Change chapter in County Development Plan 2022-2028**

**Indicator:** Chapter with policies and development management standards

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** The SDCC County Development Plan 2022-2028 was adopted on 22nd June 2022 and came into effect on 3rd August. Climate change is a fundamental theme throughout the Plan, each chapter indicates where objectives are climate action positive and contain a climate action audit outlining how the objectives positively contribute to climate action.

Codema completed an energy and carbon assessment of the CDP 2022-2028. This report provides planners with an evidence base and planning policy options in line with the CDP, which consider local characteristics and spatial constraints in delivering the objectives set out in the Planning Development Act, National Planning Framework, and Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly's (EMRA) Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES).

The CARO have attended a number of meetings and assisted the climate and planning teams with the climate elements of the SDCC County Development Plan.

#### **E.5 - Evidence based Climate Change chapter in Tallaght Town Centre Local Area Plan**

**Indicator:** Climate change chapter in Local Area Plan

**Status:** Completed

**Update:** The elected members of South Dublin County Council resolved to adopt the Tallaght Town Centre Local Area Plan on 8th June, 2020. The Plan has been in effect since 20th July, 2020. Chapter 7 of the Tallaght LAP is dedicated to Climate Change. Both Mitigation and Adaptation measures considered.

**E.6 - Comply with obligations for local authorities under S.I. No. 426/2014**

**Indicator:** Compliant with S.I. No. 426/2014

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** Preliminary Energy Audits were completed for SDCC Buildings. Full Energy Audits were carried out by Energy Solutions on Clondalkin and Tallaght Leisure Centres to progress Energy Performance Contracts. Additional, detailed Energy Audit are required for County Hall and Clondalkin Offices. SDCC will extend Energy Solutions scope of works to include County Hall and Clondalkin Offices. It is anticipated that these will be part completed as part of SDCC's ISO 50001 certification procedure.

**E.7 - Display energy certificates for SDCC's public buildings**

**Indicator:** No. of D.E.C.s for Council buildings

**Status:** Completed

**Update:** Action Complete: Display energy Certificates For relevant locations completed and displayed.

**E.8 - Annual Monitoring and reporting to SEAI**

**Indicator:** SDCC's energy data uploaded to SEAI M & R system

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:**

All relevant energy consumption information has been reported by the Council, via Codema, using the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI)'s Monitoring and Reporting (M&R) System as laid out under the Irish Law as Statutory Instrument S.I. 426 of 2014. All information was input using procedures and calculation methodologies specified by SEAI.

**E.9 - Total emissions in South Dublin updated every two years in accordance with EU Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy**

**Indicator:** Publication of total emissions in South Dublin

**Status:** Completed

**Update:** As part the analysis undertaken for the Dublin Region Energy Masterplan (see action E1), total emissions for the South Dublin area have been calculated and can be viewed at the Dublin Region Energy Masterplan website.



**E.10 - The Council Energy Review will include a glide path illustrating the energy efficiency and Greenhouse Gas emission targets for the council up to and including 2030**

**Indicator:** Glide path included in review

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** A review of the council's energy consumption takes place on an annual basis. The Energy Review highlights the total amount of energy that the Council consumed throughout the year, along with the total cost and carbon emissions associated with this energy use in the same year. In this review, progress against both the 2030 50% Energy Efficiency and 51% GHG emissions targets are tracked. The review contains a glidepath demonstrating the Council's position against the Energy Efficiency target. The 2022 review is in progress with the expected completion time to be Quarter 1, 2024.

The Draft Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 sets out the path to achieving the emissions targets by 2030.

**E.11 - Development of yearly Energy Review for SDCC**

**Indicator:** Energy review published, # of recommendations implemented

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** The South Dublin County Council Energy Review 2022 is currently in development, with the expected completion time to be Quarter 1, 2024.

**E.12 - Development of the Tallaght District Heating Scheme**

**Indicator:** Number of buildings connected

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** Trading as Heatworks, Ireland's first publicly owned, not-for-profit energy company, is now providing low-carbon heat to public buildings in the area. The Energy Centre building works are now complete and District Heating is operational since June. TUD main campus, TUD sports building and SDCC County Hall and library are now running on DH. Adsil are supplying waste heat, and the heat pumps are operating as intended. Minister Eamon Ryan officially opened Tallaght District Heating Network and Energy Centre on the 6th April. The heat substation is now fully installed in the Innovation Centre, and the works to lay the pipework for the Catering college in TUD are ongoing. Construction of 133 Affordable apartments have commenced on site and house entry pipe is installed for connection in early 2025. Heat substation for TUD Catering college will be installed in November. Planning for Phase 2 of the TDHS is underway.

**E.13 - Retrofits of the Council's housing stock**

**Indicator:** Number of housing units upgraded

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** The purpose of the Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme is to bring properties with low energy efficiency rating to a building energy rating (BER) of B2. The works to each property can include combination of new window and doors, upgrading on existing building fabric insulation properties and the installation of energy efficient air to water heating systems. Funding and deliverable targets are provided by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. The target of 110 properties to be completed in 2023, was issued by the Department on 31st May 2023. The following is the current position of works.

- 183 properties have been issued to contractors for commencement and completion in 2023.

- Works complete on 52 properties in Cushlawn
- Works complete on 18 properties in Castletymon
- Works complete on 55 properties in Allenton
- Works complete on 8 properties in Limekiln \*
- Works in progress on 26 properties in Greenfort
- Works commencing on 16 properties in Sarsfield\* week of 18th September 2023
- Start date to be agreed on 4 properties at St Maelruans\*.
- Start date to be agreed on 4 properties at Willbrook\*.

- 138 properties surveyed and tender documents being finalised for tender.

- 8 units in Limekiln\*
- 34 units Kilmahuddricdrick Estate
- 14 units Oldcastle Drive Estate\*\* (traveller specific accommodation)
- 22 Shancastle
- 18 units in Tór an Rí
- 15 Saint Ronan's\*
- 16 Units Tymon North\*
- 39 Tymon North

\*Age friendly units

\*\* Traveller specific accommodation

<b>E.14 - Energy efficiency works in Council owned and operated buildings</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of upgrades carried out
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<p><b>Update:</b> Energy efficiency works in County Council owned buildings are progressing. Other projects include design and development of NZEB and installation of renewable energy systems at the Tallaght Innovation Centre and Lucan Swimming Pool. Tallaght District Heating Scheme now delivering low carbon heat to County Hall and Tallaght Library.</p> <p>The DeliveREE project is being progressed in conjunction with Codema, which sets out a pipeline of decarbonisation and energy efficiency projects in the Council's buildings, including proposed Energy Performance Contracts for the buildings with the highest energy consumption.</p>

<b>E.15 - Ongoing upgrading of lights in County Hall to LED's</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of LEDs installed
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
Phase 1 and 2 completed further LED upgrade of lights at County Hall to be part of proposed Energy Performance Contracts, as outlined in Action E14.

<b>E.16 - Energy Performance Contract carried out in Tallaght and Clondalkin Leisure Centres</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> EPC awarded, measurement and verification of savings
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<p><b>Update:</b> Ongoing led by Codema. Project is ready to proceed to procurement. The Dublin Local Authorities are currently working with the SEAI to finalise agreements to access Pathfinder Funding from the SEAI for these projects.</p>

<b>E.17 - Replace 4000 SOX lamps with LEDs</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of SOX lamps replaced with LEDs
<b>Status:</b> Completed
<p><b>Update:</b> Action Complete. Target upgrade for 2022 is 1700 units to LED. Current PL asset report for January 2022 states that we now have 16,404 LED lights in the county out of a total stock of 30,777 lights in charge. 9,380 SOX fittings remaining for upgrade in this phase (2020 - 2026).</p>

<b>E.18 - Expand and develop Small Business Innovation and Research (SBIR) programme</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Energy and climate change challenges identified for SBIR challenges
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<b>Update:</b> South Dublin County Council has partnered with DCC and Smart Dublin on the delivery of Phase 2 of Smart Mobility Hub. The initiative was developed in association with SBIR and Enterprise Ireland.

<b>E.19 - South Dublin County Council is committed to participating with the RIAI in particular the Sustainability Task Force in seeking new and innovative approaches to Climate action in the built environment</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> To Be Confirmed
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
South Dublin County Council continues to be committed to participating with the RIAI in seeking new and innovative approaches to Climate Action in the build environment. SDCC will continue to incorporate relevant recommendations from the RIAI’s ‘Sustainable Design Pathways Guide to Prioritise Sustainability in the Build Environment’, when applicable.

<b>E.20 - Identify sites for trialling renewable energy projects, including solar PV and Geothermal</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of sites identified
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<p><b>Update:</b> Sout Dublin County Council have progressed the Tallaght District Heating Scheme, which had its first phase commissioned in 2023.</p> <p>A pipeline of SDCC buildings for decarbonisation has been prepared and projects are underway to address energy efficiency and carbon emissions, including the introduction of renewable energy sources. As part of this, a number of community centres have been identified for the installation of Solar PV on the roofs.</p> <p>Arthurstown landfill site is also being progressed in relation to the potential for two Solar PV schemes to be addressed. Procurement documents are being finalised for a small-scale solar PV plant to provide energy to the site itself and the energy requirements for the treatment of landfill leachate. A consultant has been appointed by SDCC to undertake a feasibility study to assess the suitability of the site for a commercial solar PV plant.</p>

<b>E.21 - The Council will investigate the Lifecycle Assessment of traditional and new construction methods for residential projects in Dublin</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> To Be Confirmed
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<p><b>Update:</b> SDCC considering and reviewing emerging systems and tools for LCA. This work will continue under the proposed Draft Climate Action Plan 2024-2029.</p>

<b>E.22 - In all building projects, new build or retrofit, Swift Bricks or other nesting sites for swifts will be provided where practicable. The presence of swift breeding sites will be identified to ensure that known breeding sites are not lost as a result of construction work.</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of projects with provision of Swift Bricks
<b>Status:</b> Completed
<p><b>Update:</b> Action Complete. South Dublin County Council's Architectural Services department has installed boxes and roosting sites for bats, birds of prey and smaller garden birds on several building conservation projects. Additional sites will be assessed as projects come progress. Bird boxes will only be acceptable on new build elements/ additions to protected structures/historic buildings or where the requirements have arisen under NPW legislation to insert one i.e. Grange Castle owl boxes where inserted on the upper level of the structure as owls were identified as part of the ecology report completed prior to works being carried out. The insertion of boxes on Protected Structures require agreement and approval with the Architectural Conservation Officer. Boxes will be included as part of Rathcoole Courthouse and Saggart Community Centre refurbishments.</p>

**E.23 - Monitor and develop the Home Energy Savings Kit scheme in SDCC libraries**

**Indicator:** # of kits in branches, borrowing rates in libraries

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** Twenty Home Energy Savings Kits are available for members of South Dublin Libraries to borrow ((4 x Ballyroan, 2 x Castletymon, 3 x Clondalkin, 4 x Lucan, 1 x Mobiles, 1 x North Clondalkin, 1 x Palmerstown, 4 x County Library). To date, in 2023 the kits have been issued 140 times, which is a large increase on 2022.

**E.24 - Assess feasibility of additional low carbon district heating networks: Clonburriss and Grange Castle**

**Indicator:** Study Completed

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** Through Codema's heat planning work which informs the new county development plan and the Regional Energy Masterplan, it is clear that Grange Castle and Clonburriss area represents a significant opportunity in terms of DH. More detailed feasibility work, including assessment of potential heat loads, and further stakeholder engagement is required in order to ascertain viability, and progress planning of this network.

**E.25 - Expand Housing Assistance Programme (HAP) to include tenant energy awareness**

**Indicator:** # of tenants provided with energy saving tips

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** SDCC's Climate Action Website hosts guidance on energy saving tips for the public, including SDCC tenants and HAP. Demo videos have been obtained from one of the contractors in relation to the heat pump and control operations. Work is ongoing to address challenges in preparing specific guidance with the variance of heat pumps and digital controllers across the various suppliers utilised .

**E.26 - Develop maintenance and condition survey programmes for Council owned historic and ancient monuments that are informed by climate change impacts**

**Indicator:** # of monuments surveyed, # of maintenance programmes implemented

**Status:** Ongoing

DHLGH Architectural Protection Unit are currently working on new guidance (Improving the energy efficiency of traditionally built buildings) under Action 50d of the Climate Action Plan 2019 to provide clear and robust advice to the professional users while being accessible to interested groups and will include modelled case studies.

<p><b>E.27 - Conduct research and seek to develop Council based case studies on appropriate and sensitive retrofitting / energy upgrading of traditional buildings to inform works both to Council owned properties and to guide private owners.</b></p>
<p><b>Indicator:</b> # of case studies</p>
<p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing</p>
<p>Under the Architectural Conservation, LUPT Capital Fund a number of conservation and repair projects have been completed – This work is emergency remedial repairs and conservation work to the original built fabric to prevent any further deterioration to ruinous structures which otherwise would be lost through weathering and conditions brought about by climate change.</p> <p>Other Architectural Conservation Projects funded under Community Department or Economic Development – Kiltalown House, Grange Castle &amp; Court of Petty Sessions, Rathcoole have been completed which includes remedial repair and adaptive reuse. Under the National Architectural Conservation Grant Schemes, a number of projects are completed yearly.</p> <p>The County Development Plan (2022-2026) also contains a number of new policy objectives within the Architectural Conservation Section including energy upgrades and adaptive reuse of buildings in line with National Policy. Other actions will be progressed through the engagement of suitable consultants etc. to be agreed The Department (DHLGH).</p> <p>The Architectural Protection Unit are currently working on new guidance (Improving the energy efficiency of traditionally-built buildings) under Action 50d of the Climate Action Plan 2019, to provide clear and robust advice to the professional users while being accessible to interested groups and will include modelled case studies. The former St. Mary’s School, Saggart may be considered as a suitable case study for energy upgrading/retrofit of a protected structure. Part 8 has been completed and it is proposed to adapt the existing building for use as a community facility. Once a commencement date is available for this project the Architectural Conservation Officer will ensure a record is being kept of the works.</p>

<p><b>E.28 - Identify register of opportunities to improve Green profile of Tallaght Stadium</b></p>
<p><b>Indicator:</b> Audit/Report complete</p>
<p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing</p>
<p><b>Update:</b> Works to Tallaght Stadium ongoing with a new 2,500 seat North Stand is under construction which is due for completion this year. It is an external concrete stand structure with associated circulation, and ancillary facilities. 2 Associated commercial units are being provided in the stand under-croft. One of which is fitted out as the Shamrock Rovers shop and offices. This has been done to current standards of energy efficiency (are Part L of the Building Regulations - Conservation of Fuel and Energy). The concrete structure of the stand uses GGBS content which is a less carbon intensive form of concrete.</p> <p>To further examine the potential to take climate action at Tallaght Stadium, SDCC sought quotes to identify a register of opportunities across the energy, water and waste resource streams. A single tender was returned but was deemed not to meet the minimum requirements of the project and could not proceed.</p>

<b>E.29 - Support CoDEMA with the development and progression of the DeliveREE project</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of projects completed
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<p><b>Update:</b> South Dublin County Council are working with partners including CoDEMA to deliver projects under DeliveREE. Projects in the pipeline include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy Performance contracts at Leisure Centres</li> <li>• Arthurstown Landfill PV Project</li> <li>• Solar PV on SDCC buildings and facilities</li> <li>• Public and LA EV charging infrastructure</li> </ul>

<b>E.30 - Procure Energy Audits on County Hall, Clondalkin Office, Tallaght and Clondalkin Leisure Centres</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Audit complete
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<p><b>Update:</b> Energy Audits have been completed for Clondalkin and Tallaght leisure centres. Preliminary Energy Audits were developed for Clondalkin and Tallaght Civic Offices. Detailed Audits are required for Tallaght and Clondalkin Civic Offices.</p>

<b>E.31 - Develop Implementation Plans for Clondalkin and Tallaght Decarbonising Zones</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Plans completed and updated annually
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<p><b>Update:</b> South Dublin County Council identified Clondalkin and Tallaght as Decarbonising Zones under Action 165 of the National Climate Action Plan (2019). Subsequently, under Section 16 of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021, LAs were required to include one Decarbonising Zone in the statutory Climate Action Plan 2024-2029. An assessment was undertaken and Clondalkin was selected as the Decarbonising Zone. Work on the DZ has progressed in conjunction with Codema. Completed to date is: the baseline emissions inventory, stakeholder identification, climate pathways, and a register of opportunities. The consultation stage is currently being planned.</p>

<b>E.32 - Align Objectives of Clondalkin Decarbonising Zones with Local Area Plan</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Plans Aligned
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<p><b>Update:</b> SDCC is currently progressing the initial stages of the Local Area Plan (LAP) for Clondalkin. SDCC Climate Action Team have established regular meetings with the SDCC Planners to ensure alignment between the two plans. Input was received from the planners on the draft Decarbonising Zone Chapter in the Draft Climate Action Plan 2024-2029. It is planned that coordinated consultation will be held for the LAP and DZ.</p>



## 6.2 Transport - Action Updates

<b>T.1 - Implement transport energy management system</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> System implemented
<b>Status:</b> Completed
<b>Update:</b> South Dublin County Council has implemented a fuel management system to monitor fuel consumption associated with fleet. GPS monitoring also provides information relating to vehicle activity. SDCC has also initiated an Eco Driver training programme to educate council drivers on fuel management techniques reducing emissions and improving road safety. SDCC have engaged Energy Elephant to set up a portal as a pilot scheme to monitor and report on energy consumption across the organisation. When fully adopted, the system will monitor and report on electricity use in buildings, facilities and public lighting, fuel consumption for heating buildings and fuel use for transportation.

<b>T.2 – Ongoing replacement of Council vehicles with more energy-efficient alternatives, including EVs</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> # of vehicles replaced
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
SDCC are finalising the Fleet Transition Strategy, which sets out the approach for both a 5 year period and 10 year period. An implementation plan for this strategy is being developed also, along with procurement for a new Fleet Management System. Procurement for EV replacements of vehicles is due to begin in 2024.

<b>T.3 - Use mobile canteens with operational crews</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of canteens trialed
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<b>Update:</b> A total of 9 mobile canteens are in use by Public Realm across the county minimising the amount of travel to/from depots and reducing fuel consumption. Efforts are continuing to identify any opportunities to increase the use of this type of facility.

<b>T.4 - Promotion of Cycle-to-Work Scheme to Council staff</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of staff availing of scheme
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<b>Update:</b> SDCC encourage staff to participate in the Cycle to Work Scheme. Promotional events are run where possible, including a 'Bike to Work' morning in May 2023 as part of Bike Week. SDCC Active travel have developed a webpage dedicated to active travel. Currently a total of 28 SDCC staff have availed of the bike to work scheme so far for 2023.

**T.5 - Strengthen traditional villages by improving the public realm through enhancement of green infrastructure and sustainable transport linkages**

**Indicator:** Number of village improvement schemes

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** Lucan Village Improvement Scheme to commence construction in Q4 of 2023 to enhance the village green, promenade and demesne entrance. Tree planting and landscaping will be a major part of the scheme.

Clondalkin Village LAP is currently underway which will review and remodel the public realm space of the village

**T.6 - Regular maintenance of regional and local roads**

**Indicator:** Number of complaints regarding obstructions, blocked gullies, etc.

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** This action continues on annual programme. Contractors are engaged to sweep 890km of roadway and clean 4,000 gullies each month.

**T.7 - The Council will undertake an assessment of the number of existing and potential future Electric Vehicle Charge points in its jurisdiction**

**Indicator:** Assessment completed

**Status:** Complete

**Update:** SDCC, in collaboration with the other DLAs and CARO, commissioned a report and strategy for the rollout of Electric Vehicle charging infrastructure across the Dublin region to ensure that a uniform approach is adopted when considering suitable locations, to match the needs of our communities, to ensure adequate facilities to keep ahead of the demand and equipment that will be compatible with existing technology and back-office software. Element Energy were engaged to develop the report and strategy.

The Dublin Regional Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Strategy was presented on Monday 13th June 2022. The strategy outlines the Dublin Regions expectation for public charging infrastructure to 2030 and presents various models for deployment. The report also includes a stakeholder engagement study that helps identify potential obstacles to the deployment of chargers, including availability of grid capacity. The report makes recommendations including the continued engagement with stakeholders including ESB networks.

The strategy identifies the likely need for over 1,600 public charge points in the Dublin Region by 2025 mainly Residential and Destination. The DLAs are currently identifying suitable locations to meet this need. Our role is envisaged to be to facilitate the roll out of Rapid Hubs and on-street equipment through planning and licensing, and to ensure that our public sites including sports centres, parks and admin buildings have public charging facilities.

The Department of Transport have also produced an Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Strategy 2022-2025, setting out the national long-term structures and frameworks that need to be put in place to deliver a comprehensive national EV charging network to meet the needs of citizens to 2030.

**T.8 - Improve road safety at schools with additional school wardens**

**Indicator:** Number of school wardens

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** More schools are to be assigned school wardens as part of the Workforce plan, plus a School Warden Supervisor. Schools' projects will be rolling out to three schools in 2023 and hopefully more in 2024. Schools that do not have school wardens are being examined for 30kph Periodic Speed Limit zones as part of the Speed Limit Review.

<b>T.9 - Organised walks to promote healthy lifestyles, i.e. Clondalkin Route</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of walks organised, Number of people participating
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<p>South Dublin County Sports Partnership organise and promote activities and events around the county. A number of marked routes are listed on the SDCSP website.</p> <p>Several walking groups were established in South Dublin in February / March 2023, facilitated by Active Cities . These are:</p> <p>Knockmitten          Dodder Valley          Walkinstown          Rathcoole/Newcastle          Adamstown</p>

<b>T.10 - Develop cycle network strategy</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Strategy developed
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<p><b>Update:</b> The Cycle South Dublin (CYSD) Programme has now been in place for almost 3 years and SDCC currently have over 30 CYSD projects in development, many of these will be completed between 2023-2024 while others will be delivered over the 8-year programme. A number of significant projects including Wellington Road Cycling and Walking Scheme and Phase 5 of the Dodder Greenway received Part 8 planning approval in 2022 and initial works on the scheme will start in 2023. The D24 Neighbourhood network scheme, which is part of the DoT sponsored Pathfinder Programme, commenced in July 2023 and will deliver 11km of new protected cycle tracks through road space reallocation.</p> <p>A Lot of progress has been made to date on CYSD schemes adding significant cycling infrastructure for South Dublin County Council and making cycling and walking clear, viable and preferable options for shorter journeys to work, leisure or school.</p>

<b>T.11 -Development of cycle/pedestrian greenways</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of cycle / pedestrian greenway paths added
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<p><b>Update:</b> SDCC has committed to making the County a national leader in providing a quality network of cycle routes. The following County cycle network schemes recently completed or currently under construction will provide important strategic links for cyclists;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dodder Greenway - 10km from Bohernabreena to the Grand Canal Dock, including the construction of three bridges at Bolbrook Centre, Kilvere bridge and Bushy Park bridge.</li> <li>• Part 8 on Bluehaven Firhouse Road approved, works to commence Q4 2023.</li> <li>• Belgard Square North to Cookstown Link Road (Complete).</li> <li>• Upgrade to pedestrian and cyclists facilities at N81 Jobstown Junction (Complete)</li> <li>• Grange Road, Rathfarnham (Complete).</li> <li>• Avonbeg Road, Tallaght (Complete).</li> <li>• D24 Neighbourhood Network.</li> <li>• Castletymon Road, Tallaght.</li> <li>• Templeville Road. &amp; Limekiln Lane, D12 Bike Bus route.</li> </ul>

<b>T.12 - Build out County Cycle Network</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of kms of cycle routes added
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<p><b>Update:</b> The following cycle/pedestrian routes are being progressed through planning or construction stages in 2023:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Dodder Greenway (1 - 5)</li> <li>2. N81 Jobstown Active Travel Scheme</li> <li>3. Monastery Road Walking Route</li> <li>4. Wellington Lane Active Travel Scheme</li> <li>5. Grand Canal to Lucan Urban Greenway</li> <li>6. N81 Integrated Transport Planning Strategy</li> <li>7. Grange Road Walking and Cycling Scheme</li> <li>8. Tallaght to Knocklyon Active Travel Scheme</li> <li>9. Castletymon District Enhancement (Active Travel)</li> <li>10. D12 Bike Bus</li> <li>11. Templeville Road Active Travel Scheme</li> <li>12. Castletymon Active Travel Scheme</li> <li>13. Avonbeg Road Active Travel Scheme</li> <li>14. Tallaght to Clondalkin Active Travel Scheme</li> <li>15. Rapid Deployment Pedestrian Facilities</li> <li>16. Airton Road Extension</li> <li>17. Esker Permeability Scheme</li> <li>18. Killinarden Park and Greenway</li> <li>19. Citywest to Rathfarnham Active Travel Scheme</li> <li>20. Clonburris Southern Link Street (Active Travel)</li> <li>21. Clondalkin Movement Study</li> <li>22. Corkagh Park to Grand Canal Active Travel Scheme</li> <li>23. D24 Neighbourhood Cycle Network</li> <li>24. St. Dominic's N.S. and Scoil Maelruain SRTS Phase 2</li> <li>25. Rapid Deployment Cycle Facilities: Taylors Lane, Doddsborough Road, Glendown Road, R136 Lucan, and Airton Road</li> <li>26. Rapid Deployment - junction safety measures</li> </ol>

<b>T.13 - Increase number of public bicycle facilities</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of bicycle facilities added
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<p><b>Update:</b> SDCC received funding from the NTA for Bike Parking and opened our applications in the summer of 2021 to Schools and Sports Clubs, a contractor was appointed in Nov 2021 to manufacture Bike Racks. In January 2022, SDCC began the process of supplying and installing Bike Stands across SDCC based on the applications received. To date we have installed Bike Stands in over 40 sports clubs/Schools and 5 public parks across Tallaght, Knocklyon, Templeogue, Rathfarnham, Bohernabreena, Clondalkin and Lucan. We have created over 450 new bike parking spaces and have seen the uptake in cycling increase at a lot of these locations where there were no facilities previously in place. Stage 2 of our Bike Parking roll plan and roll out has started in 2023 with 10 Bike Shelters now installed, there will be 30 Bike Repair Stations and another 300 Bike Parking Spaces across the full year. These will be installed at locations such as Firhouse Community College, Coláiste Eanna, Ballyroan, St Mac Dara's College Templeogue, Loreto High School Beaufort Rathfarnham, Schools in Clondalkin and a list across SDCC that we will allocate out to our installers.</p>

<b>T.14 - Extend public bicycle scheme</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of bicycles available in County
<b>Status:</b> Complete
<b>Update:</b> Action complete. The Current pilot on Public Ebike Rental Scheme with ESB has not been successful in South Dublin and all Bikes have now been removed due to Vandalism. SDCC will review the appropriate approach for a new action in 2024, under the proposed Climate Action Plan 2024-2029

<b>T.15 - SDCC will continue to seek new and expand on existing partnerships to encourage sustainable travel for safer travel behaviours.</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of new and expanded partnerships
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<b>Update:</b> Waiting on legislation to be published formally for e-bikes and e-scooters before the scope of what can be delivered at SDCC can be determined.

<b>T.16 - SDCC will establish a portal dedicated to communication and promotion of active travel within existing platforms</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Portal launched
<b>Status:</b> Completed
<b>Update:</b> The Active Travel Website <a href="https://www.sdcc.ie/en/active-travel">https://www.sdcc.ie/en/active-travel</a> went live in July. The Website is a one stop shop for Active Travel and an informative resource for all stakeholders to use to check on our current and future plans. Interactive route maps will be available on the site. <a href="https://www.sdcc.ie/en/active-travel">https://www.sdcc.ie/en/active-travel</a>

**T.17 - SDCC will engage with local communities to develop a vision for the future of their neighbourhoods with a strong focus on local living, sustainable mobility and quality of life.**

**Indicator:** Number of citizens engaged

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** SDCC is in the process of delivering the District Centre Enhancement Programme (DCEP) which aims to enhance local communities to make them more accessible, sustainable, and attractive for residents, businesses, and visitors. The various schemes look to improve the sense of place, add climate resiliency, and provide facilities to encourage people to make healthy, sustainable choices in how they get to and from the District Centre. A key part of DCEP is early and ongoing stakeholder engagement to identify problems faced locally and to develop options which best serve the needs of the local community.

Some of the measures being implemented across the DCEP Schemes include:

- Rationalisation and improvements to car parking in terms of land use and to improve ease of use and safety and provision of EV charging and Age Friendly dedicated bays.
- Promotion of active travel through the construction of active travel links and facilities (cycle tracks, shared surfaces, bike stands/parking etc.) to provide safer and more direct access to the centres while promoting alternative modes of transport.
- Incorporation of additional soft landscaping and SuDS features in the form of bioretention areas / rain gardens which promote increased biodiversity and climate resilience.
- Improvements to the hard landscaping to provide visually aesthetic and inviting public spaces which include seating and other street furniture and artistic elements.

SDCC have undertaken public consultation to engage with communities under the Draft Climate Action Plan 2024-2029, with events and library pop-ups around the County to discuss climate action and sustainable living. The Climate Team has also attended other events such as the Clondalkin LAP engagement and Repair Cafes to further engage.

The Community Climate Action Officer is progressing the roll out of engagement with communities under the Community Climate Action fund.

<b>T.18 - Facilitate the delivery of public transport routes</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of kms of route added
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<p><b>Update:</b> Bus Connects:</p> <p>SDCC has assisted on the planning phase of the 4no. Core Bus Corridor Schemes in the SDCC Local Authority Area by participating in the public consultation and contributing to the NTA development of the preferred Design options for each scheme.</p> <p>Bus Connects Orbital Routes:</p> <p>Assisted in the approval of new Bus Stops on the C Spine, and W Spine Routes in our county. SDCC are assisting in the public consultation and the development of the preferred design option for the Hazelhatch bridge works for the W6 route.</p> <p>SDCC have and are assisting in the development of Bus Hubs at Liffey Valley Shopping centre, Tallaght Square, and the Red Cow Interchange.</p> <p>SDCC is assisting the NTA in developing a Bus layover and welfare facility at Belgard Road South and at Whitestown Road in Tallaght.</p> <p>Dart + Southwest:</p> <p>SDCC has assisted in the planning phase of the Dart + South West scheme. SDCC is continuing to assist the NTA and Iarnród Éireann in the upgrade and redevelopment of Kishogue Train Station.</p> <p>SDCC continues through our planning function to ensure there are well designed sustainable walking and cycling connections and permeability to Public Transport nodes from any proposed new development planning applications.</p>

<b>T.19 - Cycle training programme for 6th Class students/pedal power labs</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of students participating
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<p><b>Update:</b> This work has been delayed due to the vacant position of Road Safety Officer.</p> <p>Once the new road safety officer is in place further schools for cycle right training will be progressed.</p>



<b>T.20 - Pilot VMS on Naas Road</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Pilot established
<b>Status:</b> Complete
<p><b>Update:</b> The TII installed two new Variable Message Signs on the N7 either side of Newland’s Cross in 2022.</p> <p>Messaging is controlled by TII’s Motorway Traffic Control Centre. Messages displayed will include weather alerts and to support An Garda Síochána road safety campaigns.</p>

<b>T.21 - Expand availability of EV charging points and other facilities for non-fossil fuelled powered vehicles in the County</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of charging points in the County
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<p><b>Update:</b> South Dublin County Council, in collaboration with the other three Dublin LAs published the Dublin Regional EV charging Strategy in 2022. The strategy identifies a range of types of EV charging services required across the County to keep up with demand up to 2030. The range of services include Destination Charging, On-Route Charging, Residential Charging and Rapid Hub Charging.</p> <p>A pilot scheme is currently at tender stage for the installation and operation of public EV charging points at Destination charging locations. This is being progressed in conjunction with Codema and the four Dublin Local Authorities.</p> <p>A pilot scheme for residential charging is being progressed and is currently at procurement strategy stage.</p> <p>SDCC is engaging with ZEVI in relation to public consultation for the Draft Guidance documents published in 2023.</p>

<b>T.22 - Development of Draft Dublin Regional Air Quality Plan</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Pilot established
<b>Status:</b> Complete
<b>Update:</b> Action Complete: The Dublin Regional Air Quality Plan is in place for the next four years.

**T.23 - Preparation of Interim Urban Traffic Related Air Pollution (UTRAP) Report**

**Indicator:** Plan Developed

**Status:** Complete

**Update:** Air quality management plan in place. Air pollution monitoring being extended to correlate with the noise monitoring locations.

**T.24 - Participate in Clean Air Together air quality monitoring pilot project**

**Indicator:** Report Submitted

**Status:** Complete

**Update:** The pilot has been completed in Dublin and is now running in Galway. Full update to be finalised.

**T.25 - Support School Streets projects (Safe Routes to Schools)**

**Indicator:** Number of participants

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** SDCC Active Travel team support the Safe Routes To School programme, with the objectives;

- To accelerate the delivery of walking, scooting and cycling infrastructure on key access routes to schools.
- To provide 'front of school' treatments which will enhance access to school grounds.
- To expand the amount of bike parking available at schools.

The programme recognises that if more school children choose active travel to schools, it will have significant benefits for their health and wellbeing, the environment around them and make school entrances safer for all.

Safe Routes To School projects are currently being progressed. Schemes will be delivered at 3 schools in 2023 and another 3 will be delivered in 2024.

**T.26 - Support 'WeCount/I-Change' Air quality monitoring project**

**Indicator:** # of schools participating

**Status:** Complete

**Update:** South Dublin County Council have collaborated in the 'WeCount / I-Change' project with UCD, by funding air quality monitoring equipment at schools in the county, through the Climate Innovation Fund. The 'WeCount' project empowers citizens to measure road traffic and air pollution in their own neighbourhoods.

'WeCount' is a European citizen engagement project with case studies in six cities: Dublin, Cardiff, Barcelona, Madrid, Leuven, Ljubljana. Citizens and community groups within each city are provided with low-cost sensors that count heavy vehicles, cars, bicycles, pedestrians and air pollution at the street level.

Data collected is used to provide evidence of the need of sustainable mobility policies around schools, such as the 30km/h speed limit around schools, the School Zone initiative, etc. <https://we-count.net/networks/dublin>

**T.27 - Support South Dublin Sports Partnership on community active travel projects**

**Indicator:** Number of projects implemented

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** Sports Partnership assisted Active Travel with some of Bike Week events for 2023 in May of this year, and planned further engagement is planned for Walktober and also Bike Week in 2024

**T.28 - Include/Support active travel options for travelling for Work**

**Indicator:** Number of initiatives launched

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** South Dublin County Council supports the Cycle to Work scheme. Work is progressing to develop a mobility hub to facilitate staff who wish to use active travel to commute to the office, but who also require the use of a car or an electric bike to carry out their duties during the work day.

## 6.3 Flood Resilience - Action Updates

### F.1 - Transpose national Legislation and regulation on Climate Change adaptation and flood management into SDCC development guidelines

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** National Legislation and regulation on Climate Change adaptation and flood management is being transposed into SDCC policy and guidelines. The County Development Plan 2022 -2028 strongly addresses climate action as part of the core strategy, with a climate action audit in each of the key chapters, including looking at Flood Risk Management.

SDCC are also implementing the Sustainable Drainage Explanatory Design and Evaluation Guide, for the improved management of surface water in future developments.

The Draft Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 strengthens this approach, with actions to mitigate the predicted effects of climate change.

### F.2 - Implement Flood Risk Management Guidelines

**Indicator:** Number of projects following guidelines

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** South Dublin County Council SuDS guidance documents were launched on 7th February 2022 and is available on SDCC website. The guidance documents were updated in 2023 to include example details. The SuDS guidance is being implemented with Developers through the planning process, in conjunction with assessments of flood risk mapping etc.

SDCC's Major Emergency Management Plan includes a sub plan for emergency flood events.

### F.3 - Cross-boundary flood management with neighbouring local authorities

**Indicator:** Quarterly meetings with neighbouring Local Authorities

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** The Whitechurch Stream FAS commenced in February 2023 and the Poddle FAS is to commence in 2024. As part of both schemes extra cross boundary telemetry and pre flood event measures will be introduced.

<b>F.4 - Flood event emergency plans</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Plans completed and updated yearly
<b>Status:</b> Complete
<b>Update:</b> SDCC's Major Emergency Management Plan includes a sub plan for emergency flood events. A Severe weather sub-plan is in place for SDCC.

<b>F.5 - Support the development of flood forecasting and warning system</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> System developed
<b>Status:</b> Complete
<p><b>Update:</b> The Flood forecasting service within Met Eireann has been established and rolled out to Local Authorities. To support and input into developing this service. SDCC continuing to liaise with Met Eireann, via an appointed Severe Weather and Flood Liaison Manager (SWFLM).</p> <p>Met Éireann continue the trial of the Flood Forecasting Centre (FFC) with daily forecast, Flood Alerts and Flood Advisories being issued to Local Authorities.</p>

<b>F.6 - Implement and demonstrate SuDS guidelines in own buildings and Land, SDZs and LAPs</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Case studies completed and reports prepared
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<p><b>Update:</b> SDCC has developed a Sustainable Drainage Explanatory Design and Evaluation Guide which sets out the implementation of SuDS in South Dublin. This is being implemented with Developers and SDCC are progressing the implementation of SuDS in Council projects: examples of SuDS can be found in Clonburris and Adamstown, including bioretention raingardens at Adamstown Station.</p>

<b>F.7 - Undertake strategic flood risk assessment of all LAPs, SDZs and Development Plans</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Assessment Complete
<b>Status:</b> Complete
<p><b>Update:</b> A Strategic Flood Risk Assessment was completed by Roughan O'Donovan to support the South Dublin County Development Plan 2022-2028. A tender process has been undertaken for the SFRA as part of the preparation for the Clondalkin Local Area Plan.</p>

**F.8 - Tree planting for water attenuation**

**Indicator:** # of trees planted

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** Tree planting schemes with pits for water attenuation are being included in projects where possible.

For example a landscaping plan has been developed for the Poddle Flood Alleviation Scheme and Whitechurch Flood Alleviation Scheme in conjunction with SDCC Public Realm.

**F.9 - Develop demonstration sites to show how to combine SuDS/flood attenuation systems with existing land uses**

**Indicator:** # of demonstration sites developed

**Status:** Complete

**Update:** South Dublin County Council has developed a number of demonstration sites to show how to combine SuDS and flood attenuation into existing land use. Examples include Integrated Constructed Wetlands at Griffeen and Dodder Valley, Permeable paving at Kiltipper Car park and Lucan Demesne. Green Roofs on Community Centres and Sports Pavilions and a Swale at Tymon Park.

**F.10 - Protect and conserve floodplains, wetlands, rivers and watercourses subject to flooding**

**Indicator:** Map of vulnerable areas and species habitats

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** A Strategic Flood Risk Assessment and Hydrological Assessment was completed by Roughan O'Donovan to support the County Development Plan 2022-2028. Included in the Risk Assessment is a review of riparian zones with definitions, mapping and objectives are included within the written statement. The policy requires hydro morphological assessments where proposed development lands are wholly or partly within riparian corridors.

A strategy is being developed for the sequential removal of culverts along watercourse routes and allowing adjacent land areas to flood water while minimising the risk of flooding to properties.

The project is being carried out in cooperation with neighbouring LAs to ensure that the removal of restricting structures is done in an appropriate sequence.

**F.11 - Integrated constructed wetlands for water attenuation and purification**

**Indicator:** # of wetlands created

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** Integrated Constructed Wetlands currently in development as part of the Life project and the Flood Alleviation Schemes will also demonstrate how to combine nature and biodiversity with existing land use. A contractor was appointed in 2022, construction of the project is underway. Three ICW's have been completed by 2023, including at Griffeen park and on the Dodder.

**F.12 - Develop a Climate Change impact GIS risk map with scenarios for the Dublin Region**

**Indicator:** GIS Map Developed

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** SDCC maintains detailed flood risk mapping on GIS. Updated assessments were completed as part of the County Development Plan 2022-2029. Modelling on the stormwater network for Newcastle, Rathcoole, Saggart is being undertaken and a applies a climate risk factor. Work is progressing on mapping flooding hotspots to monitor and track.

**F.13 - Develop template to capture impacts, response and costs (including ecosystem services/natural capital costs) for all major climate events**

**Indicator:** Template developed and issued

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** For all weather events classified as an Orange weather event by Met Eireann, SDCC undertake a data collection exercise to capture the impacts after the event.

The CARO mobile data collection App named WIRE (Weather Impact Register) for local authority staff to record the impacts of weather events is also used where possible and work is ongoing to embed this data collection tool into operations. The data collected by the App can be accessed via an online Map Viewer and Data Dashboard with spatial analysis and reporting functionality to assist climate adaptation planning.

**F.14 - Update DLA (Dublin Local Authorities) urban drainage and flooding policies for current knowledge of flood risk and the latest best practice in drainage design, promoting natural flood measures as a priority.**

**Indicator:** Policies updated

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** Policies have been developed in the County Development Plan 2022-2026 on Riparian Corridors based on a hydromorphological assessment and Flood Risk Assessments carried out. The SDCC Sustainable Drainage Explanatory Design and Evaluation Guidance Document is being implemented to promote natural flood measures.

**F.15 - Establish a Working Group to deal with the issue of pluvial flood risk. This shall include;**

- How to manage Urban Creep and the increase in impermeable surfaces
- Promotion of SUDs early in design process
- Development of pluvial flood forecasting through use of point rainfall forecasting

**Indicator:** Working group established

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** SDCC is establishing a new team called 'Water Protection and Flood Management' to build on the progress made to date in the management of flood risk including pluvial flooding. Urban creep and promotion of SuDS in the design process are managed through the planning process, supported by the County Development Plan and SDCC's SuDS Guidance. Pluvial flooding in the Camac catchment is being assessed as part of the Camac Flood Alleviation Scheme. Implementation of the WIRE app continues.

**F.16 - Risk workshops to assess impacts on Council services**

**Indicator:** Risks identified

**Status:** Completed

**Update:** As part of the development of the Draft Climate Action Plan 2024 to 2025, SDCC procured a consultant, KPMG, to undertake a comprehensive Climate Change Risk Assessment for the Council and for South Dublin. As part of this assessment, the impact of climate change on the Council Services was examined using historical data and workshops with staff across key departments. The Risk Assessment sets out the risk profile for Council services.



<b>F.17 - Whitechurch Flood Alleviation Scheme</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Project completed
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<b>Update:</b> Whitechurch Stream Flood Alleviation Scheme has moved to construction stage. The scheme is to be constructed in a number of stages, with Stage 1 from St Enda's Park to St Gaten's Court has expected to be completed by Q4 2023. The overall scheme is currently scheduled to be completed in Q3 2025.

<b>F.18- Poddle Flood Alleviation Scheme</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Project completed
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<b>Update:</b> Planning approval for the Poddle FAS was received from An Bord Pleanala on June 7th following a Part 10 planning application made by South Dublin County Council in February 2020. No Judicial Review Application was made during the allotted time which has allowed the scheme to proceed. The project Steering Group has reconvened, and indications are that scheme will commence in Q1 2024. The scheme is expected to take 36 months to complete.

<b>F.19 - River Camac Flood Alleviation Scheme</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Project completed
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<b>Update:</b> The River Camac Flood Alleviation Scheme is currently in Stage 1 – Preliminary Design. Hydraulic modelling has been completed and has proceeded to Optioneering, which is scheduled to be completed in Q4 2023. Stage 1 is currently scheduled to be completed in Q2 2024 with a Part 10 Planning Application expected to be made to An Bord Pleanala in Q4 2024.

<b>F.20 - Minor flood schemes and general maintenance that are designed and implemented to promote nature-based solutions where practical.</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of projects completed
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<b>Update:</b> Works completed in 2023 include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Extensive desilting and root cutting carried out in the stormwater network at Newcastle Rathcoole and Saggart.</li> <li>- Channel Clearing carried out in September 2023 and removal of fallen trees on the River Dodder, Tymon and Camac.</li> <li>- Currently removing gas pipelines that impeded on the stormwater network in Rathcoole.</li> <li>• - Progressing an assessment of flooding issues at Whitehall Road Surface Water Flooding Improvement scheme to preliminary design stage.</li> </ul>

<b>F.21 - Communication and awareness campaigns on flood risk management and natural flood management measures</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of households reached
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<p><b>Update:</b> SDCC have prepared a Householders guide to Sustainable Drainage Systems, which is available online. Websites are being maintained for the three Flood Alleviation Schemes and a number of public engagement events have been organised as part of the Whitechurch Flood Alleviation Scheme in 2023.</p> <p>Flood Resilience is a key topic in the Draft Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 and the associated public consultation events have provided opportunities to engage and communicate on flood risk management.</p>

<b>F.22 - Promote and encourage community involvement in the retrofit of SuDS in existing developments</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of communities involved
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<p><b>Update:</b> The SDCC SuDS householders guide informs and supports individuals and communities on the implementation of SuDS projects at a local community level.</p> <p>Work has commenced on the promotion of the Community Climate Action Fund following the appointment of the SDCC Community Climate Action Officer and aims to promote sustainable drainage retrofits.</p>

#### 6.4 Nature Based Solutions - Action Updates

<b>N.1 - Establish regional working group to identify areas and priorities for action</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Working Group Established
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<p><b>Update:</b> This action requires further progress.</p>

**N.2 - Establish a cross departmental SuDS Working Group to promote and pilot water-sensitive urban design (WSUD) incorporating urban tree planting**

**Indicator:** Working Group Established, Number of urban tree pits used as attenuation systems

**Status:** Complete

**Update:** Action Complete: A cross departmental SuDS working group has been established to promote and ensure consistency in the application of the SuDS guidance by Developers. This group has a representative from the departments who review planning applications on the design aspects that relate to SuDS (Roads, Water Services, Green Infrastructure/Parks) and meets weekly to ensure that the requirements communicated are consistent and maximise the adoption of SuDS and planting.

**N.3 - Workshop to develop Dublin Risk Assessment for nature and Climate Change**

**Indicator:** Workshop conducted, assessment developed

**Status:** Complete

**Update:** In collaboration with the Climate Action Regional Offices (CARO), Climate Ireland has developed a semi-quantitative climate risk assessment methodology for use by local authorities. The main objective of the work was to develop a robust, replicable and transparent set of guidelines that can be used to assess the risks of climate impacts across different local authority assets and functions. The impacts investigated are some of those that local authorities have already been facing. The semi-quantitative climate risk assessment (SQCRA) methodology developed is aligned with the IPCC climate risk framework. The SQCRA methodology has six stages that must be implemented to produce the final risk assessment. The stages are: Stage 1 - Risk Screening Stage 2 - Impact Chain Development Stage 3 - Indicator Identification and Ranking Stage 4 - Combining Risk Components Stage 5 - Risk Outputs Stage 6 - Interpreting and Evaluating the Findings. In addition to developing guidelines for implementing a semi-quantitative climate risk assessment, three illustrative case studies were prepared to illustrate its practical implementation. The case studies investigated were (1) risk of road degradation during heatwave events, (2) risk of flooding to social housing, and (3) risk of fluvial flooding to heritage assets.

Workshops were held on 11th November 2021 followed by a webinar on 10th June, 2022.

**N.4 - Workshop on NBS, green infrastructure and Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS)**

**Indicator:** Workshop undertaken, report of outcomes

**Status:** Complete

**Update:** Workshops on Nature Based Solutions were delivered including SuDS guidance (delivered in modules by McCloy Consultants), County Development Plan, Hydromorphological Assessment and Riparian Corridor Designation CPD workshop was presented in association with Roughan & O'Donovan on the 18th August, 2022.

KPMG delivered a workshop on Greening Factors (a measurement that describes the quantity and quality of green space and green infrastructure interventions on a site) on the 18th January 2022. Planning Section are working with KPMG on developing a Greening Factor tool for use on future developments.

**N.5 - Produce regional floodplain management guidelines**

**Indicator:** Guidelines produced

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** South Dublin County Council is working with LAWPRO and the OPW to implement CFRAMS. Ireland's Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAMS) Programme is central to the medium and long term strategy for the reduction and management of flood risk throughout Ireland. It delivers core components of the National Flood Policy whilst also meeting the requirements of the EU Floods Directive. The programme is funded and managed by the Office of Public Works who, as competent authority, are responsible for reporting, coordination and consultation under the Floods Directive. A Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management study was commissioned in each River Basin District. Data collection included historic flood event and rainfall records, high resolution floodplain surveying, and detailed channel/structure surveys of selected rivers. Hydraulic models determined flood hazard and flood risk (the impact on people, the economy and the environment).

**N.6 - Finalise Draft Biodiversity Action Plan**

**Indicator:** Plan published

**Status:** Completed

**Update:** The South Dublin County Council Biodiversity Action Plan was adopted by the elected members of SDCC at the November 2020 Council Meeting. Implementation of the actions contained with the Biodiversity Action Plan is ongoing and has been identified as a new action in the CCAP.

**N.7 - Develop Green Infrastructure Strategy that identifies areas and priorities for green infrastructure and investment**

**Indicator:** Strategy Developed

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** A team of consultants including Future Analytics, Mary Tubridy, Nicholas de Jong & Curtins were appointed in 2020 to develop SDCC's Green Infrastructure Strategy. The Green Infrastructure Strategy is incorporated into Chapter 4 and Appendix 4 of the County Development Plan 2022-2028.

**N.8 - Develop Public Open Space and Parks Strategy that incorporates climate change mitigation and adaptation**

**Indicator:** Strategy Developed

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** A team of consultants including Future Analytics, Mary Tubridy, Nicholas de Jong & Curtins were appointed to develop SDCC's Parks and Open Space Strategy. The Parks and Open Space strategy is currently being finalised and expected to be completed by year end.

**N.9 - Incorporate natural play space into existing parks for recreation and as SuDS**

**Indicator:** Number of spaces developed

**Status:** Completed

**Update:** The programme to incorporate natural play areas into existing parks has been completed. Policies in the CDP will support developers installing natural play spaces. Ongoing meetings with other LAs to mentor and share knowledge on natural play spaces.

**N.10 - Implement policies in the development plan avoiding artificial underground storage of water where possible in favour of nature-based solutions**

**Indicator:** Reduction in the number of artificial attenuation systems as a % of developments

**Status:** Partially Complete

**Update:** Action Partially Complete: SuDS Guidance and new policies contained in the County Development Plan requires natural solutions to managing water on site in favour of underground attenuation. Implementation is ongoing. This will continue to be embedded through the proposed establishment of a Water Protection and Flood Management Team in SDCC>

**N.11 - Develop a hedgerow plan for the County, with actions to map, protect and develop hedgerows county-wide**

**Indicator:** Map produced, Number of Hedgerows maintained and added

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** This action is ongoing. Recommendations from the Tymon Park Survey are being assessed to forward plan management of hedgerows and woodland. Will be looked at in more detail in the draft climate action plan 2024-2029.

**N.12 - Develop urban woodland management strategy and action plan**

**Indicator:** Plan produced

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** This management strategy is currently In development.

**N.13 - Implement tree management policy**

**Indicator:** Annual programme of tree maintenance implemented

**Status:** Completed

**Update:** Ongoing, utilised and applied in all aspects of tree management work.

<b>N.14 - Increase tree canopy cover in the County through annual planting and maintenance</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> % increase in tree canopy cover
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<b>Update:</b> Ongoing, tree planting listed have been generated and priced for the various regions across the county helped along by the implementation of Mini Woodlands.

<b>N.15 - Develop coordinated regional planning approach to prevent the removal of healthy, established trees.</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Protocols agreed and implemented, % annual reduction in tree removal by local authorities
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<b>Update:</b> SDCC have implemented the Green Infrastructure Strategy to assess developments in relation to factors including the retention of established trees on the site.  South Dublin County Councils Tree Management Policy ' Living With Trees 2021-2026' supports the action.

<b>N.16 - Measure and maintain species diversity in urban tree population</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Reduction in diseases attacking trees
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<b>Update:</b> Surveying of trees is continuing. Tree surveying is being managed by Arbortrack. This will inform how to address the ash dieback process.

<b>N.17 - Develop and promote establishment of tree trails in public parks across the County</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> # of trails established
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<b>Update:</b> Currently under way via 'Have Your Say' projects. Recently a Nature Trail was developed in Rathfarnham Castle Park and 2 Tree Trails are planned for installation before the end of the year in Sean Walsh Park Phase 3 and Carrigmore Park.

<b>N.18 - Develop demonstration projects for successful planting and establishment of trees in urban hardscapes</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Pilot area identified and trial solutions designed
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<b>Update:</b> Being conducted as part of the Mini Woodland projects.

<b>N.19 - Provide opportunities for community engagement, involvement and activities to raise awareness</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of events
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<p><b>Update:</b> Eco-Week was delivered to schools between 28th March and 1st April. More than 180 workshops offered to schools on a range of topics. Following the successful delivery of the pilot Composting for Schools project the Environmental Awareness Office continues to work with partners to offer the programme to 12 schools annually.</p> <p>Through our Social Credits Scheme (Minor Landscaping) communities can access a horticulturalist to provide advise and support on planting. In 2023 to date 24 communities have applied for plants and expert support under the Minor Landscaping Scheme. At Halloween every year groups can apply for pollinator friendly bulbs to plant in their green areas to discourage bonfires.</p>

<b>N.20 - Review and climate-proof Biodiversity Action Plan, Invasive Alien Species Plan, and Tree Management Policy</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Complete review for climate relevant actions carried out and amended accordingly
<b>Status:</b> Complete
<p><b>Update:</b> SDCC Biodiversity Action Plan has been reviewed and climate-proofed. Invasive alien species will continue to be mapped and a management plan will be developed as part of the Biodiversity Action Plan. SDCC developed an Invasive species information video for public realm staff.</p>

<b>N.21 - Develop list of species native to County and map of habitats that are at risk for use in EIAs</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Map of species, completion of list and baseline numbers established
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<p><b>Update:</b> A list of unusual species for South Dublin is being prepared.</p>



<b>N.22 - Include native species into local authority plans as a key nature-based measure where appropriate</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of plans including native species
<b>Status:</b> Complete
<p><b>Update:</b> Native species are included in plans where appropriate. Advice re native/appropriate species is also included in Tree Management Policy, SDCC Pollinator Plan, CDP and Biodiversity Action Plan. Planning advice to developers includes advice on planting native species. GI Strategy and Parks and open spaces strategy will support this action. Implementation of this action is ongoing.</p> <p><a href="https://www.sdcc.ie/en/services/planning/heritage-and-conservation/connecting-with-nature-a-biodiversity-plan-for-south-dublin-county.pdf">https://www.sdcc.ie/en/services/planning/heritage-and-conservation/connecting-with-nature-a-biodiversity-plan-for-south-dublin-county.pdf</a></p>

<b>N.23 - Survey, map and implement control of invasive species</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Reduction of M2 of IAS and # of IAS
<b>Status:</b> Complete
<p><b>Update:</b> Action 1.1 in the SDCC Biodiversity Action Plan includes mapping and managing the spread of non-native invasive species. List of invasive species is under development. Mapping of invasive species is an ongoing process as new areas are identified. The process is in place and being implemented.</p>

<b>N.24 - Incorporate actions from national pollinator plan into Green Infrastructure Strategy</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Plan implemented
<b>Status:</b> Complete
<p><b>Update:</b> A Countywide Green Infrastructure Strategy is included as a Chapter of the County Development Plan. The SDCC Green Infrastructure Strategy was developed to support and incorporate actions from National Pollinator Plan.</p>

<b>N.25 - Manage and monitor identified 'pollinator protection sites'</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> % of pollinator species increased
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<p><b>Update:</b> Pollinator monitoring sites have been developed, with a process to manage the grasslands correctly.</p>

<b>N.26 - Maintain and expand allotments for local food production</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> # of sites across the County
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<b>Update:</b> A review of the South Dublin County Councils allotment strategy was delivered in 2023. An allotment policy is in place and the strategy falls into the policy as well as our parks and open spaces strategy which is currently being finalised. Current allotments have been reviewed and any unworked allotments are being reallocated. New allotments are being developed in Newcastle as part of development management and will be available in 2024.

<b>N.27 - Support local communities with biodiversity education</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of participants, yearly reports
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<b>Update:</b> Eco-Week 2023 was delivered to schools between 28th March and 1st April. More than 180 workshops offered to schools on a range of climate/environmental topics.  SDCC continues to deliver the Minor Landscaping element of the Social Credits Scheme. This includes the provision of a horticulturist who advises groups what to plant, when to plant it and how to look after it.

<b>N.28 - Sustainable gardening workshops</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of workshops held, # of attendees
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<b>Update:</b> SDCC continues to deliver the Minor Landscaping element of the Social Credits Scheme. This programme includes the provision of a horticulturist to advise groups on suitable plant species, planting schedules and aftercare. To date 25 applications for the Minor Landscaping element SCS have been processed.  Funding was allocated for 12 new schools to participate in the Composting for Schools project 2023/24. ac.

<b>N.29 - Develop demonstration sites to show how to combine nature conservation with existing land uses</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Demonstration sites implemented
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<b>Update:</b> Three Integrated Constructed Wetlands have been constructed and become established in 2023 to successfully demonstrate the impact and benefits of these sites for the natural habitat and water quality in our water bodies.  SDCC has over 1,750 hectares of parks and open spaces that host protected and rare species.

**N.30 - Deliver green roofs on Civic Buildings**

**Indicator:** Number of council buildings with Green Roofs

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** Green roofs are being incorporated in new schemes where feasible, incl; Clonburris. A green roof has been developed at Saggart Reservoir.

**N.31 - Maintain and increase Green Schools Programme participation**

**Indicator:** Number of schools participating

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** The Green Schools Programme is ongoing in South Dublin. 16 Schools were awarded green flags in May 2023.

**N.32 - Engage with residents and relevant stakeholders on climate change and biodiversity to incorporate their ideas into Council strategies and plans**

**Indicator:** Number of participants, # of interactions

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** Residents associations and Tidy Towns Groups are supported financially and by providing training and workshops to deliver climate action on a local level. A Tidy Towns Webinar was delivered to all groups on 24th May and a Repair Café was delivered in conjunction with Clondalkin TT on 30th September 2023.

The Social Credits Scheme rewards community groups and individuals who take ownership of their environment and improve their local area by carrying out pro-environmental actions such as community clean-ups, maintenance of community gardens, graffiti removal, weeding of footpaths etc. 89 new groups signed up for the scheme up to Q3 2023.

**N.33 - Assess the benefit of increasing buffer distance of 10m from water courses to protect biodiversity and provide greater flood attenuation for distances of 20m, 50m, and 100m.**

**Indicator:** Comprehensive assessment completed

**Status:** Completed

**Update:** As an addition to the development of strategic flood risk assessment for the CDP, the consultants were engaged to carry out a hydro-morphological assessment at a strategic level. The Plan includes mapped riparian corridors for the first time and associated policy which has been developed following the hydro-morphological assessment.

The mapped riparian corridors and associated policy in the new County Development Plan are now established. The County Development Plan 2022-2028 came into effect in August 2022.

<b>N.34 - Implement actions from the Biodiversity Action Plan</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of actions complete
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<b>Update:</b> Actions are being implemented under the Biodiversity Action Plan. An implementation plan of projects is developed each year, which are approved by the Steering group.

<b>N.35 - Carry out wetland surveys of lakes and ponds in South Dublin</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of actions progressed
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<b>Update:</b> A initial survey has been completed of various sites in South Dublin.

## 6.5 Resource Management - Action Updates

<b>R.1 - Monitor and enforce waste regulation</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Environmental Performance Assessment from EPA
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<p><b>Update:</b> Monitoring and enforcement of waste regulation in South Dublin is ongoing. SDCC Waste Enforcement Officers engage with business and communities to help manage waste and prevent illegal dumping. CCTV monitoring of bottle banks and high-risk dumping sites is ongoing. To date in 2022:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1167 inspections have taken place</li> <li>• 316 warning/ enforcement notices have been issued</li> </ul>

<b>R.2 - Introduce measures to reduce waste in Council Buildings</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> 10% reduction in waste in Council HQ building by 2021
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<p><b>Update:</b> Measures to reduce waste in SDCC County Council buildings are ongoing. SDCC work in partnership with waste management contractors to reduce waste. Climate Change and Environmental Awareness Officer engages with building managers to further reduce waste. SDCC are actively engaged with office contractors including canteen management to reduce waste. SDCC discourage the use of single use plastics at County Council supported events. New waste management contractor appointed and to commence service shortly</p>

<b>R.3 - Introduce measures to increase recycling in Council buildings</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> % Recycling Rate
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<p><b>Update:</b> South Dublin County Council have introduced several measures to increase recycling in Council buildings, including;</p> <p>Removal of single use cups and cutlery from the canteen and coffee dock.</p> <p>Introduction of segregated bins and composting facilities in the offices and canteen.</p> <p>Collection and recycling of old used batteries.</p> <p>Promotion of WEEE collection schemes annually in County Council buildings.</p> <p>CCEAO working with facilities management to improve food waste segregation in kitchenettes.</p> <p>Implementing best practice will be the responsibility of the new waste management contractor.</p> <p>New waste management contractor appointed to commence service shortly.</p>

<b>R.4 - Civic amenity waste stations</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of civic amenity sites that include reuse
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<p><b>Update:</b> Work is ongoing on the reuse schemes.</p>

<b>R.5 - Apply for Local Authority Prevention Network grants</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of grants for waste related projects
<b>Status:</b> Completed
<p><b>Update:</b> LAPN Grants are no longer made available to local authorities.</p>

<b>R.6 - Create 'Stop Food Waste' campaign for businesses and schools</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Campaign developed and implemented, # of people, businesses and schools engaged
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<p><b>Update:</b> South Dublin County Council continues to promote the Stop Food Waste messages over our social media channels. SDCC supports and shares campaigns managed by EPA. We also develop and deliver campaigns with our neighbouring local authorities.</p>

<b>R.7 - Promote Eco-week</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of events held, Number of people reached
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<p><b>Update:</b> Eco-Week 2023 was delivered to schools between 28th March and 1st April. More than 180 workshops offered to schools on a range of climate/environmental topics.</p>

**R.8 - Promote Re-use month annually**

**Indicator:** Number of Council run events

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** Reuse Month did not take place in 2023.

**R.9 - Promote programmes to advise businesses on reducing waste, e.g. EcoMerit**

**Indicator:** Number of businesses participating

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** South Dublin Local Enterprise Office has approved 18 businesses to receive consultancy support under the Green for Business Programme (formerly Green4Micro) to date in 2023. GreenStart is a grant for a training/consultancy/advisory project of up to 7 days carried out by an external Green Service Provider directly with an eligible business. South Dublin LEAO is also delivering Green Start, which aims to improve the environmental performance of the business thereby increasing the agility and resilience of clients to climate change impacts. To date one company is receiving support under this programme.

**R.10 - Eliminate single use plastics at Council organised events**

**Indicator:** Reduction on non-recyclable / non-compostable material used at events

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** South Dublin County Council prohibit the use of single-use plastic items at County Council organised and licensed events. SDCC managed events will allow compostable materials to be used as substitutes for SUP. Actions in the SDCC Climate Action Plan 2024-29 will assist in expanding on this action.

**R.11 - Ongoing support of the Conscious Cup Campaign / promotion of reusables over disposables**

**Indicator:** Number of buildings in SDCC supporting CCC, Number of staff using reusable mugs

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** While the Conscious Cup Campaign no longer exists, South Dublin County Council continues to investigate and implement ways we can reduce our single use plastics e.g. single use cups have been removed from the main canteen in South Dublin County Council. While they are still available in the Coffee Dock a 30-cent levy applies. Reuseable cups are also sold at cost price at the Coffee Dock.

**R.12 - Ongoing support of the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR)**

**Indicator:** Trialed solution

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** South Dublin County Council supports SBIR through projects delivering on climate action and waste management. Opportunities for small business to engage with SDCC have been promoted through the LEO and Chamber.

<b>R.13 - Run anti-dumping / anti-litter campaigns</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of campaigns implemented
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<p><b>Update:</b> SDCC Environmental Awareness Office runs anti-dumping/anti-litter campaigns throughout the year. These include but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dublin Canvas 2023: anti-graffiti initiative which sees local artists painting traffic light control cabinets across the county to discourage graffiti.</li> <li>- The Anti-Litter Anti-Graffiti Grant is used to deliver radio and Cinema Campaigns are run throughout the year on issues such as dog fouling, litter and vaping/cigarette butts. Through ALAG communities and schools are provided funding to deliver their own anti-litter initiatives.</li> </ul> <p>SDCC Environmental Awareness Office and Waste Enforcement unit are progress an Anti-Dumping Initiative ADI project, including a mattress amnesty and household hazardous liquid takeback scheme.</p>
<b>R.14 - Waste Prevention Fund</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> # of programmes implemented
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<p><b>Update:</b> SDCC Waste Prevention Fund projects in 2023 included;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a mattress amnesty (913 mattresses) and household hazardous liquid (6.503t) takeback scheme.</li> <li>• WEEE collection.</li> <li>• Cleanup of Whitestown Stream</li> <li>• Provision of Drones to assist SDCC Waste Enforcement activities</li> </ul>
<b>R.15 - Introduce measures to reduce waste and increase recycling</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Reduced waste tonnage and increased rates of recycling
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<p><b>Update:</b>        Operation of CA facility ongoing with 12,010.32 tonnes of material recycled or recovered to end of Sept 2023.</p> <p>Provision of mobile collections of materials organised again in 2023 for mattresses (913) and household hazardous waste (6.5 tonnes).</p>
<b>R.16 - Provide more glass recycling in public realm</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Areas of need identified, # of glass banks added
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<p><b>Update:</b> 3 number additional glass recycling sites provided to date in 2023.</p> <p>3783.89 tonnes of waste recycled through public bring banks to end of Sept 2023.</p>

**R.17 - Introduce leaf composting programme**

**Indicator:** # of residents' associations participating

**Status:** Completed

**Update:** Leaf collection forms part of the road sweeping contract held by Oxigen. Leaves from this are sent for composting.

SDCC procured heavy duty compostable bags for leaf collection and distribution to members of the public, and for Oxigen to collect.

**R.18 - Support and promote tidy towns initiative in County**

**Indicator:** # of initiatives supported annually

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** In January 2023 the Environmental Awareness Office took over management of the Tidy Towns Programme in South Dublin. Groups are supported through funding and training, community workshops on Climate Change and local initiatives are delivered to interested community groups and Tidy Towns committees throughout the year. For example a Repair Cafe was delivered in association with Clondalkin Tidy Towns on September 30th.

**R.19 - Examine the potential of Arthurstown Landfill for development of green energy uses**

**Indicator:** Zero GHG emissions by 2030

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** South Dublin County Council have been working with Codema to establish two potential solar PV facilities at Arthurstown Landfill:

1. A small scale solar PV plant to deliver a PV array capable of supplying sufficient energy to manage current operations on the site, pumping and treating leachate. Tender documents are being finalised and preliminary discussions regarding planning permission are being held.
2. SDCC have appointed a consultant to undertake a feasibility study to develop a commercial PV facility at the site. Kick off meeting has been held.

**R.20 - Implement water conservation campaign in civic buildings**

**Indicator:** % reduction in water consumed

**Status:** Ongoing

**Update:** A project to install automatic shut off faucets in the WCs in County Hall was carried out. Phase 2 of the water conservation project to install low flush toilets will commence in 2023 as part of a refurbishment project.



<b>R.21 - Identify pilot locations for water access points.</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Sites identified
<b>Status:</b> Completed
<p><b>Update:</b> Project Complete, 15 Public drinking water fountains were installed in South Dublin County Councils' public realm, as a measure to reduce Single Use Plastics and to encourage active travel. Details of use are tracked on a web portal. To date, almost 210,000 (equating to over 4,500kg) plastic bottles have been averted from circulation. Additional Water fountains will be considered for inclusion at public facilities as developments and upgrades are planned. Water fountains were installed at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rua Red</li> <li>• Griffeen Park</li> <li>• Lucan Village</li> <li>• Tymon Park North</li> <li>• Tymon Park (Rangers Station)</li> <li>• Clondalkin Village</li> <li>• Rathfarnham Village</li> <li>• Rathfarnham Castle</li> <li>• Waterstown Park</li> <li>• Corkagh Park North</li> <li>• Corkagh Park South</li> <li>• Dodder Valley Park</li> <li>• Clondalkin Community Park</li> <li>• Collinstown Park</li> <li>• Ballycragh Park</li> </ul>

<b>R.22 - The Council will work with the Local Authority Waters Programme in its support of communities and stakeholders in the delivery of local water quality projects and initiatives</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of projects delivered
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<b>Update:</b> South Dublin County Council supported LAWPRO with the River basin Management Plan.

<b>R.23 - Trial of low-flush toilets in Council headquarters and social housing</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of Council buildings and social housing units with low flush toilets
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<b>Update:</b> Trial to be rolled out in future refurbishment project

<b>R.24 - Research feasibility of rainwater harvesting in Council Buildings</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Study completed
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<b>Update:</b> Rainwater harvesting opportunities at county hall were investigated as measures to reduce consumption of treated water and to aid attenuation. The project was deemed to be not economically viable in County Hall or Clondalkin offices. The proposal is being considered on other Council buildings, including the development of green and blue roofs at SDCC depots and facilities.

<b>R.25 - Promote recycling and the circular economy to householders through a range of workshops, talks and programmes</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of events held, # of people reached
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<b>Update:</b> South Dublin County Council continue to promote recycling, sustainable living and the circular economy to households and community groups through the delivery of workshops and discussions.

<b>R.26 - Explore collaboration with stakeholders such as Refill.ie to reduce single use items</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of collaborations established
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
SDCC works with several organisations to promote sustainable behaviour among the citizens of the county. Public drinking water fountains installed in the public realm have distributed 146,737 liters of water and have effectively kept 293,474 (equivalent to 6,456 kg) single-use plastic bottles from ending up in landfills up to the end of Q3 2023.

<b>R.27 - The Council will strengthen existing networks and create new climate change links to encourage all business community stakeholders to engage with Climate Change action and enhance existing projects and initiatives. Interest areas could include energy efficiency measures, renewable energy opportunities, climate adaptation and resilience measures, access to funding sources, etc.</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of updated network material
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<b>Update:</b> The Climate Team continues to strengthen its existing networks and developing new partnerships to encourage the business community to engage with Climate Action initiatives.

<b>R.28 - Investigate sustainable solutions to the management of grass cuttings</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of collaborations established
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<b>Update:</b> SDCC have appointed XD Sustainable Energy Consulting Ltd to undertake SDCC anaerobic digestion (AD) feasibility study. The project is broken down into 5 main work packages (WP) and is progressing with an expected completion date in Feb 2024.

<b>R.29 - Provide Climate Awareness training for all staff</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of collaborations established
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<p><b>Update:</b> SDCC continues to roll out climate action related training to all staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 143 outdoor staff have completed the Delivering Action Training in 2023</li> <li>- 14 indoor staff have completed the Raising Awareness Training in 2023</li> </ul> <p>Both of the above courses are still ongoing in 2023, more dates booked in for Delivering Action and the deadline for Raising Awareness is 27th October for staff to complete.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As part of the delivery of the Draft Climate Action Plan 2024-2029, relevant staff completed the training and workshops facilitated by LASTNG, CARO and LGMA.</li> </ul>

<b>R.30 - Establish Green Procurement working group</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of collaborations established
<b>Status:</b> Completed
<p><b>Update:</b> A number of staff have attended green procurement training. The SDCC Tender Request form requires green procurement to be considered in all tenders issued by SDCC and the procurement team are tracking this implementation. Further actions are planned under the Draft Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 to develop the understanding of green procurement and increase opportunities across the organisation, with more detailed tracking.</p>

<b>R.31 - Investigate option to replace fossil fueled hand tools with battery powered alternatives</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> # of trialed solutions
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<p><b>Update:</b> South Dublin County Council is continuing to replace fossil fueled handheld equipment with rechargeable battery alternatives, including;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chainsaws; • Lawnmowers; A number of electric tools are in place. Plans to further this transition are outlined in the SDCC Fleet Transition Strategy, which is currently being finalised.</li> </ul>

## 6.6 Citizen Engagement - Action Updates

<b>CE.1 - Develop SDCC Climate Change website</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Website developed
<b>Status:</b> Complete
<b>Update:</b> South Dublin County Council has developed a Climate Action Website. The Climate Change Website <a href="http://www.southdublinclimate.ie">www.southdublinclimate.ie</a> was launched on 20th June, 2022. The website will inform citizens of the ongoing efforts on managing Climate Change in South Dublin County Council, and act as a portal and resource for communities to access Climate Action information and updates on related events taking place in the County. <a href="https://sdcc.ie/en/climate-action/">https://sdcc.ie/en/climate-action/</a>

<b>CE.2 - Produce Climate Action newsletters</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of editions issued
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<b>Update:</b> Three editions of the South Dublin County Council Climate Change Newsletter are published annually. The newsletter is sent to all staff, Cllrs and members of the public who sign up.

<b>CE.3 - Support the SEAI Sustainable Energy Communities (SEC) project</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of SECs participating
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<b>Update:</b> SDCC continues to support the Sustainable Energy Communities, working closely with local SEC Mentor. In 2023 the mentor worked with several new groups and helped to reengage with inactive SECs. There are 9 No. SECs that are considered active, with varying levels of engagement.

<b>CE.4 - Support GAA Green Clubs project</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of clubs participating
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Update:</b> The Environmental Awareness Officer is the Point of Contact for the GAA Green Clubs Project. Clubs are offered the support of the EAO and the new Community Climate Action Officer in seeking funding and delivering climate projects.</li> </ul>

<b>CE.5 - Support/Participate with DLAs Climate Action Awareness Campaign Climate Action Week</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of events supported
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<b>Update:</b> Dublin Climate Action Week was repurposed in 2023 to engage with the public through awareness events around the new Draft Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 and to encourage citizens to engage in the Public Consultation process.

<b>CE.6 - Support local schools and universities on Climate Change awareness projects and studies</b>
<b>Indicator:</b> # of schools participating
<b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<p><b>Update:</b> The Environmental Awareness Office in SDCC runs a comprehensive environmental education campaign for students of all ages. This includes participation in the Green Schools Programme, delivery of programmes, projects and competitions on a range of climate/environmental issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Relove Fashion Competition for 2nd Level students</li> <li>- Composting for Schools Programme</li> <li>- Eco-Week</li> <li>- Competitions including Recycled Christmas Decoration Competition, Anti-Litter Poster Competition</li> </ul>

## Appendices

### Appendix I: References

1. <https://www.dccae.gov.ie/documents/National%20Adaptation%20Framework.pdf>
2. <https://www.covenantofmayors.eu/en/>
3. <https://www.oireachtas.ie/en/bills/bill/2021/39/>
4. gov.ie - Sectoral Emissions Ceilings ([www.gov.ie](http://www.gov.ie))
5. Climate Change Advisory Council - ANNUAL REVIEW 2022 ([climatecouncil.ie](http://climatecouncil.ie))
6. EPA-Ireland's-GHG-Projections-Report-2021-2040v4.pdf
7. Circular Letter LGSM01-2021 from the Department of Housing & Local Government & Heritage provides a working definition of a Decarbonising Zone (DZ) as a "spatial area identified by the local authority, in which a range of climate mitigation, adaptation and biodiversity measures and action owners are identified to address local low carbon energy, greenhouse gas emissions and climate needs to contribute to national climate action targets".
8. Green Clubs Programme ([gaa.ie](http://gaa.ie))
9. [www.lintenafarraige.com](http://www.lintenafarraige.com)[www.lintenafarraige.com](http://www.lintenafarraige.com)
10. [www.sdcc.ie/en/climate-action/](http://www.sdcc.ie/en/climate-action/)

## Appendix II: Climate Action Charter for Local Authorities

The Climate Action Charter for Local Authorities was co-signed by each LA in 2019, committing them to actions around climate change.

The Charter is a key action in the National Climate Action Plan to ensure that each local authority embeds decarbonisation, sustainable development and climate resilience into every aspect of the work they do.

The Charter acknowledges that local authorities will, with the support of Central Government:

- a) Be advocates for Climate Action in our own policies and practices, and in our many various dealings with citizens and to underpin this role through the corporate planning process.
- b) Adhere to the UN Sustainable Development Goals, in particular Goal 13 Climate Action.
- c) Aim to measure the carbon impact of our various activities as accurately as possible and report as required so as to inform relevant local, regional and national policies.
- d) Implement, in so far as is practicable, measures which reduce our carbon emissions in line with national objectives, and develop a method for planning and reporting on these actions.
- e) Deliver a 50% improvement in energy efficiency by 2030 (on the 2009 baseline);
- f) Ensure that policies and practices at local government level lead us towards low carbon pathways and put in place a process for carbon proofing major decisions, programmes and projects on a systematic basis, including investments in transport and energy infrastructure moving over time to a near zero carbon investment strategy.
- g) Ask suppliers as part of the procurement process to provide information on their carbon footprint and on the sustainability practices and steps they plan to reduce its impact.
- h) Implement green public procurement strategy and procedures across all business areas.

- i) Support our employees to undertake changes in their lifestyles both at work and at home, to reduce carbon impact and encourage work-based employee-led groups to identify and implement ideas for improvement.
- j) Put in place, and resource, a long-term training strategy (technical and behavioural) for LA staff to provide appropriate capacity for the sector to deliver on climate action.
- k) Encourage clients/customers/service users to undertake lifestyle changes to reduce their carbon impact, with a particular emphasis on supporting those clients/customers/service users who may face difficulties in funding such measures.
- l) Cultivate and actively participate in partnerships with enterprise, community and voluntary groups, so as to improve the use of resources and reduced climate impact.
- m) Play a key role in helping to build and implement a sustained localised citizen engagement model in supporting the various initiatives under the National Dialogue on Climate Action.
- n) Exercise our planning and regulatory roles to help improve climate outcomes in the wider community and beyond the public sector, by developing and implementing robust evidenced based policy and standards on climate action, through appropriate and relevant adaptation and mitigation measures.
- o) Continue to identify and develop specific actions to be taken to reduce the risks associated with negative climate change impacts and build resilience to these impacts through effective implementation of climate adaptation strategies/ Climate Change Action Plans.
- p) Support elected officials in ensuring all council led activities are climate proofed in terms of achieving effective low carbon and climate resilient outcomes.
- q) Explore opportunities to partner or collaborate on climate action initiatives across the public, private and education sectors.
- r) Support Enterprise through LEO/LCDC offices to exploit opportunities which will arise from meeting the challenges of Climate Change;
- s) Work with relevant stakeholders to source funding for implementing climate action projects.
- t) Liaise with 3<sup>rd</sup> level institutions & the research community both nationally and internationally with a view to developing centres of excellence where appropriate.



- u) Develop links with young citizens to give voice to their understanding and concerns on climate change and to enhance their awareness and the actions that they can take.
- v) Continue to develop and strengthen links with both central government (relevant departments and agencies) and regional bodies to help ensure a coordinated and coherent approach to the delivery of the national climate action agenda.
- w) Monitor, evaluate and report annually.

## Appendix III: List of Acronyms

ABP – An Bord Pleanála

AD – Anaerobic Digester

AIPP – All Ireland Pollinator Plan

BER – Building Energy Rating

CAF – Community Climate Action Fund

CARO – Climate Action Regional Office

CCAC – Climate Change Advisory Committee

CCAP – Climate Change Action Plan

CCMA – County & City Management Association

CDP – County Development Plan

CFRAMs – Catchment Flood Risk Assessment & Management

CO<sub>2</sub> – Carbon Dioxide

CO<sub>2e</sub> – Carbon Dioxide equivalent

CoDEMA – City of Dublin Energy Management Agency

COM – Covenant of Mayors

COP – Conference of Parties

CSO – Central Statistics Office

DAFM – Department of Agriculture, Food & Marine

DCAW – Dublin Climate Action Week

DCC – Dublin City Council

DEC – Display Energy Certificates

DECC – Department of the Environment, Climate & Communications

DHLGH – Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage

DLAs – Dublin Local Authorities

DLR – Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council

DTTAS - Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport

DURL – Dublin Urban Rivers Life Project

DZ – Decarbonising Zone

EIA – Environmental Impact Assessment

EMP – Energy Masterplan

EMRA – Eastern and Midlands Regional Authority

EMWR – Eastern & Midlands Waste Region

EnPi – Energy Performance Indicator

EPA – Environmental Protection Agency

EPC – Energy Performance Contract

ESB – Electricity Supply Board

ESCO – Energy Service Company

ESPON - European Spatial Planning Observation Network

ESRI – Economic & Social Research Institute

EU – European Union

EV – Electric Vehicle

EWCC – Environment, Water and Climate Change

FAS – Flood Alleviation Scheme

FCC – Fingal County Council

GAA – Gaelic Athletic Association

GGIA – Greenhouse Gas Impact Assessment

GHG – Greenhouse Gases

GI – Green Infrastructure

GIS – Geographical Information System

GTS – Good Travel Software

ICW – Integrated Constructed Wetland

IPCC – Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

ISO – International Organisation for Standardisation

LAP – Local Area Plan

LASNTG – Local Authority Services National Training Group

LEADER - Liaisons entre actions de developement de Léconomie Rurale

LEO – Local Enterprise Office

LGMA – Local Government Management Agency

LUPT – Land Use, Planning and Transportation

M & R – Monitoring and Reporting (SEAI)

NAF – National Adaptation Framework

NBS – Nature Based Solutions

NGO – Non Governmental Organisation

NZEB – Nearly Zero Energy Building

NTA – National Transport Authority

NPWS – National Parks & Wildlife Services

NEW – North-western Europe

OPR – Office of Planning Regulator

OPW – Office of Public Works

POS – Public Open Space

PV – Photovoltaic

QGasSP – Quantitative Greenhouse Gas Impact Assessment for Spatial Planning Policy

RD&D – Research, Development & Demonstration

REDAP - Regional Energy Demand Analysis Portal

RMCEI – Recommended Minimum Criteria for Environmental Inspections

SDCC – South Dublin County Council

SDCL - Sustainable Development Capital LLC

SDZ – Strategic Development Zone

SEA – Strategic Environmental Assessment

SEAI – Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland

SEC – Sustainable Energy Community

SECAP – Sustainable Energy & Climate Action Plan

SEI - Stockholm Environment Institute

SEU – Significant Energy User

SFRA – Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

SPC – Strategic Policy Committee

SuDS – Sustainable Drainage Systems

SUP – Single Use Plastic

TPER – Total Primary Energy Requirement

TUD – Technological University of Dublin

UCD – University College Dublin

UK – United Kingdom

WEEE – Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment

WHO – World Health Organisation

WMO – World Meteorological Organisation

WIRE – Weather Impacts Register

WSUD – Water Sensitive Urban Design

ZEVI – Zero Emission Vehicles Ireland