



# FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN 2019-2024

*-ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT 2021*

Comhairle Contae  
Fhine Gall  
Fingal County  
Council



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This Annual Progress Report for the Climate Change Action Plan has been prepared by the Fingal County Council 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 Climate Action, Biodiversity, and Environment, Strategic Policy Committee and the Elected Members of Fingal County Council.

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**Foreward:**

Fingal County Council's Climate Change Action Plan 2019-2024 was developed by staff across all departments, in collaboration with regional colleagues and elected representatives; and contains an ambitious list of actions which Fingal County Council will undertake over the 5-year period.

This second annual report outlines progress which Fingal County Council has made to date on all the actions, working in collaboration with CARO, Codema, the Dublin Local Authorities and other stakeholders.

The National Climate Action Plan 2021 puts an emphasis on the importance of Local Authority Climate Action Plans. This report demonstrates the commitment Fingal County Council has shown in the first two years of this Plan, with a collaborative effort across all Departments. Through the ongoing implementation of the Climate Change Action Plan, and of supporting plans, Fingal County Council commits to deliver on its climate action targets and provide local level leadership in the climate emergency.

David Storey

Director of Services

Environment Climate Action and Active Travel Department

## 1. Introduction

### Background

Fingal County Council's Climate Change Action Plan 2019-2024 (CCAP) was approved in May 2019 in accordance with the National Adaptation Framework – Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland 2018 (NAF). The Plan was also completed in accordance with the requirements of the Covenant of Mayors (COM) for Climate & Energy to which Fingal County Council is a signatory.

The Plan sets out four key targets and 133 actions that the Council will undertake in the areas of energy & buildings, transport, flood resilience, nature-based solutions and resource management. The Plan has been developed by Fingal County Council 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. Annual progress reports are required as part of the NAF and COM processes. Fingal County Council has committed to reviewing and reporting on this Plan annually.

This is the second annual progress report and refers to the reporting period from 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020 to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021.

The four Dublin local authorities in conjunction with Codema and CARO organised '*Dublin Climate Action Week*' in September 2021. The overall vision of Dublin Climate Action Week 2021 was – 'to highlight Dublin's climate action progress to its citizens and demonstrate the leadership role of the four local authorities in conjunction with other partners'.

A steering group chaired by Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council worked together to devise a programme of events and promotional material to showcase the shared objectives of the initiative which were to:

- Demonstrate progress on the implementation of the four Dublin local authority Climate Change Action Plans, and a regional approach to climate action;
- Engage with a full range of partners to share knowledge on efforts and innovation across sectors;
- Make climate action a 'reality' allowing citizens to see what climate action looks like;
- Promote this initiative so as to fully engage with EU and international cities and our climate peers; and
- Create a legacy so that this initiative can carry forward to subsequent years in a variety of ways.

The website [www.dublinclimateactionweek.ie](http://www.dublinclimateactionweek.ie) was established as a portal for information and booking of events. In total over 75 in-person and on-line events were delivered across the CCAP theme areas of Energy & Buildings, Transport, Flood Resilience, Nature Based Solutions, Resource Management and Citizen Engagement. The website continues to be a repository of information containing recordings of events and links to local authority work in the area of climate action.

Fingal County Council hosted 14 events for Dublin Climate Action Week and contributed to others. An online Climate Action panel discussion with the Chief Executives of the four Dublin Local Authorities was one of the highlights, where shared and local approaches to Climate Action were discussed.

Several site visits were hosted including to St Ita's Wetlands and Turvey Nature Reserve and to Rogerstown Park in transition. A 'Re-Use and Repair Initiatives in Fingal' short film was produced. A 'Safe Routes to School' webinar highlighted the Safe Routes to school Programme by An Taisce and the National Transport Authority with panel members from the four Dublin local authorities providing examples of projects and plans in their area. Many of these webinars are available to view at [www.dublinclimateactionweek.ie](http://www.dublinclimateactionweek.ie)



DCAW21 logo sand raked at Portmarnock beach

This Second Annual Progress Report demonstrates progress to date in the implementation of the CCAP, and the Council's commitment to demonstrating local level leadership on climate action. Section 4, highlights in summary a sample of progress under each thematic action area. A more detailed progress update on each action can be found in section 5 of the report.

The CCAP will be reviewed and updated on an annual basis. At present 12 actions are complete; 118 actions are ongoing and 3 are not started and are due to start. The majority of actions are 'Ongoing'. These actions are broad-ranging and have a rolling duration and are generally greater than one year in life-span. It is envisaged that the majority of actions may remain ongoing for a number of years. Actions which have a maintenance requirement such as R4 'Remove all single use items from Council canteens' and T2 'Modernise the workplace to facilitate flexible working arrangements to reduce staff travel' are categorised as ongoing (see Appendix I for Action Status Categorisation definitions). Furthermore, implementation of climate actions, particularly adaptive actions, can be an iterative process, as learnings and success are built upon. For example, the Council will continually update its emergency response plans as per action F7. As such the progress of this CCAP should not be solely measured on the number of actions 'Completed', but rather the successful mainstreaming and enhancement of climate action across all LA functions and services. This report demonstrates that this mainstreaming is underway.

## Updates to policy and legislation since the adoption of the CCAP

The policy and legislative context relating to climate action has developed since the adoption of the CCAP.

**The Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021** was signed into law by the President of Ireland on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of July 2021 enacting the pursuit of a higher level of climate action targets and ambition over the next decades including for the local government sector. The Act provides for approval of plans, by the government, towards achieving the National Climate Objective. The National Climate Objective refers to the transitioning of the country to a climate resilient, biodiversity rich, environmentally sustainable, and climate neutral economy by no later than 2050. The Act introduces the development of carbon budgets and sectoral emission ceilings covering successive five-year periods up to 2050. The Act states that carbon budgets for the purpose of achieving the National Climate Objective shall be proposed by the Climate Change Advisory Council and approved by government for a five-year period with new budgets introduced for each subsequent 5-year period thereafter. The first two carbon budget cycles will be aimed towards achieving a 51% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by the end of 2030, using 2018 as the baseline year. The emissions to be taken into account in carbon budget will be determined by regulations introduced by government and will have regard to European Union rules in this area. Additionally, sectoral emission ceilings may differ between sectors and change over time based on performances against previous sectoral emission ceiling thresholds.

The Act also tasks the government with the development of a National Long-Term Climate Action Strategy, covering a minimum period of 30 years, and a National Adaptation Framework. The Long-Term Climate Action Strategy will be updated every 5 years taking account of how the country is progressing towards the National Climate Objective. Additionally, the government is required to update the Climate Action Plan 2019: To Tackle Climate Breakdown on an annual basis. The updated Climate Action Plan is expected to be published in November this year. The Act requires that government, in developing these strategies, plans and frameworks, have regard for climate justice and a just transition.

Within 12 months of the enactment of the Act, local authorities will be requested by the Minister to prepare and make Local Authority Climate Action Plans. These Plans are to highlight the mitigation and adaptation measures that will be adopted during the next 5-year period. Local Authority Climate Action Plans are to be consistent with the most recently approved Climate Action Plan and National Adaptation Framework and have regard for the most recently approved Long-Term Climate Action Strategy, the most recently approved Sectoral Adaptation Plans, the National Planning Framework and any current Climate Change Policies. Local authorities are to cooperate with adjoining local authorities in the development of their Climate Action Plans.

A further provision of the Bill provides that the Minister may issue guidelines in respect of the content and preparation of the local authority climate action plans and that local authorities shall comply with these guidelines.

To support local authorities in the preparation of their Local Authority Climate Action Plan and in response to the provisions of the Bill, Climate Ireland/EPA and the Climate Action Regional Offices

under the oversight of a project advisory group, are now working in partnership to advance a set of guidelines for local authorities. Dublin CARO, Codema and Dublin City Council are represented on this group. As the four Dublin Local Authorities have already prepared Climate Change Action Plans, comprising adaptation and mitigation actions, it is the intention that existing plans will be aligned with the requirement of this new national guidance and increased level of ambition stemming from the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 and forthcoming National Climate Action Plan.

The Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 also included an amendment of Section 10(2) (n) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 whereby, to reduce anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions as well as addressing adaptation requirements, County Development Plans will need to take account of Local Authority Climate Action Plans. The reviews of the four Dublin local authorities' development plans have involved input from Dublin CARO and cross-referencing of draft policies and objectives with the current Climate Action Plans.

**The Climate Change Action Plan 2021 (CAP 2021)** was published in November 2021 in line with the requirements of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021. This plan sets a roadmap for taking decisive action to halve Ireland's emissions by 2030 and reach net zero no later than 2050, in line with the Programme for Government. The Plan sets out indicative ranges of emissions reductions targets for each sector of the economy and actions to achieve these. In relation to local authorities, the Plan states:

The Climate Action Regional Offices will continue to play a central role in supporting and coordinating climate action by local authorities including: developing capacity through training; supporting behavioural change initiatives; identifying and sourcing funding opportunities; and measuring and recording performance.

- Each local authority will prepare a Climate Action Plan at least once every five years, containing both mitigation and adaptation measures
- Each local authority will develop a decarbonisation zone within its administrative area that will become the focus for a range of climate mitigation, adaptation and biodiversity measures. This process will include the identification of projects and their associated outcomes that will contribute to achieving our national climate targets

## **COP 26**

Ireland is a signatory to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) since 2016. For nearly three decades, the UN has been convening 195 signatory countries and 191 parties for Global Climate Summits called 'COPs' which stands for 'Conference of the Parties'. As an EU member state, Ireland is bound to targets for the EU-27 and will, therefore, be attending COP 26 in Glasgow in November 2021. At the Paris climate summit in December 2015 (COP 21), 196 nations agreed to hold global temperature rises to "well below 2° C (degree Celsius)," with an aspiration to limit rises to 1.5° C above pre-industrial levels. However, the pledges on emissions – known as nationally determined contributions, or NDCs – they brought were insufficient to fulfil either goal, and would have led to catastrophic heating of at least 3° C. Therefore, a "ratchet mechanism" was included

to require countries to return to the negotiating table every five years with fresh targets to meet the temperature goals. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change had earlier confirmed that unless there are rapid, sustained and large-scale reductions of greenhouse gas emissions, the goal of limiting global warming to 1.5°C will be beyond reach. COP26 is described by the UN as a “window of opportunity that gets smaller by the day”. A proposed “Glasgow pact”, would allow for future updates to emissions pledges in the next few years that could be sufficient for the world to stay within scientific advice on carbon levels. Each country can review and update its pledges on an annual basis, and, based on UN recommendations for this, there may be such updates proposed for the EU-27 to overcome the gap. The EU-27 are trying to achieve consensus on a common timeframe for emission-cutting pledges. The Irish Sustainable Finance Roadmap will be published in Q4 of 2021. In Ireland, significant progress has been made in terms of the passage of new legislation, governance and financial structures (the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021) as above).

The main outcome of COP26 was the agreement of the Glasgow Climate Pact, which includes the following:

- Agreement that the current NDCs, are inadequate to limit temperature rises to 1.5C, and a roadmap for more frequent revisions of NDC’s starting at COP27 next year in Egypt,
- Commitment to “phase down” coal-fired power generation. Unfortunately, this text was watered down from “phase-out”, at the last minute. Nevertheless agreement on this was important.
- Commitment to significantly increase funding for developing countries hardest hit by the effects of climate change.

In August 2021, the first of three Working Group reports from the **Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 6<sup>th</sup> Assessment report (AR6)** was released. The Working group 1 report: The Physical Science Basis addresses the most updated physical understanding of the climate system and climate change and drew the following conclusions:

- Recent changes in the climate are widespread, rapid, and intensifying, and unprecedented in thousands of years.
- It is indisputable that human activities are causing climate change, making extreme climate events, including heat waves, heavy rainfall, and droughts, more frequent and severe
- To limit global warming, strong, rapid, and sustained reductions in CO<sub>2</sub>, methane, and other greenhouse gases are necessary.
- This would not only reduce the consequences of climate change but also improve air quality.
- Climate change is already affecting every region on Earth, in multiple ways.
- The changes we experience will increase with further warming.
- There’s no going back from some changes in the climate system. However, some changes could be slowed and others could be stopped by limiting warming.
- Unless there are immediate, rapid, and large-scale reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, limiting warming to 1.5°C will be beyond reach.
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The **Climate Status of Ireland 2020 Report** was published in August 2021. The report prepared for the Environmental Protection Agency, Marine Institute and Met Éireann by MaREI, University College Cork confirms and updates findings from a 2012 report and details how global changes are being reflected in our atmosphere, oceans and our landscape. Key findings include:

- The annual average surface air temperature in Ireland has increased by over 0.9°C over the last 120 years, with a rise in temperature being observed in all seasons.
- Annual precipitation was 6% higher in the period 1989 to 2018, compared to the 30-year period 1961 to 1990.
- The concentration of the main climate driver: greenhouse gases - carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide - measured in Ireland, continued to increase since 2012 with long term implications for our climate.
- Satellite observations indicate that the sea level around Ireland has risen by approximately 2-3mm per year since the early 1990s.
- Measurements in the surface water to the west of Ireland indicate an increase in ocean acidity which is comparable to the rate of change in oceans around the world.
- The average sea surface temperature measured at Malin Head has been 0.47°C higher over the last ten years compared to the period 1981-2010.
- There is an increase in river flows across most of Ireland since the early 70s. However, there is evidence in recent years of an increase in potential drought conditions especially in the east.
- Land cover observations since 1990 show increases in the areas covered by artificial surfaces and forest whilst there is a decrease in wetland areas.

### **Decarbonising Zones**

The National Climate Action Plan 2019 contains 183 actions some of which are relevant to the Local Authority Sector. 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) 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.

Fingal County Council submitted a DZ Response to the DHLGH in April 2021 in which two areas of interest were outlined as potential DZ's. The Council is awaiting feedback from the Department and further guidance in the selection of DZ's. The Council will explore potential public private partnerships and opportunities to collaborate with communities and other groups in relation to DZ's and will continue to work with Codema, CARO and the DLA to ensure a consistent approach to identifying and developing DZ.

Climate action features prominently in the new **Housing for All - a New Housing Plan for Ireland** which was published in September 2021. The actions in Housing for All have been developed to support the targets and objectives of the National Planning Framework and the Climate Action Plan. Of particular relevance to the local authority sector is that *'to improve the quality of existing Local Authority owned*



*housing stock, Local Authorities will retrofit 36,500 Local Authority homes to a B2/cost optimal Building Energy Rating (BER) by 2030'.*

### **National Development Plan 2021 to 2030**

The National Development Plan (NDP) 2021 to 2030 was published on October 4<sup>th</sup> 2021. In relation to Climate Action and the Environment, extensive efforts have been made to ensure that the NDP will support the Government's climate ambitions. For the first time in Ireland, climate and environmental assessment of the NDP measures has been undertaken, along with an assessment of the alignment of the plan as a whole with the ideals of a green recovery plan. Significant funding commitments are detailed in relation to a range of areas relevant to climate action including investments in public transport, active transport such as walking and cycling, funding for retrofitting projects, investment in energy efficiency and renewable energy. The role of spatial planning is particularly important in driving climate action and low carbon development.

### **National Biodiversity Action Plan Audit 2021**

The National Biodiversity Forum audited the Interim Review of Ireland's National Biodiversity Action Plan, which expires in 2021. They have suggested that the Government can use the SDGs and the Climate Action Units established in some departments as frameworks for mainstreaming biodiversity across policy and beyond and that this should be complemented by establishing a cross-party working group on biodiversity. They have called for the extension of, and increased linkages between, protected areas to address migrations due to climate change. They have also sought for Government to stimulate and facilitate cross-disciplinary research between biodiversity, climate, water and economics. They state that nature and biodiversity can play a central role in achieving national and sub-national net-zero carbon targets.

### **COVID-19 impact**

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a huge impact on all levels of society. Local authorities continue to respond to the additional needs of businesses and citizens during this time in terms of adaptations to public realm including the provision of outdoor dining space, footpath space and cycling infrastructure to improve the liveability and mobility in areas and to support business to operating under COVID-19 restrictions. Some actions, such as cycling and pedestrian improvements included in Climate Change Action Plans were expedited due to the mobility requirements arising from the pandemic.

The use of and access to green space and other local authority facilities was important to Dublin citizens during times of restrictions. Lockdowns restricted movement of people to varying degrees and resulted in a respite for wildlife at certain locations from human disturbance. The restrictions on movement, including air travel, resulted in more people having "staycations" and foregoing foreign holidays. This resulted in increased numbers of people using local amenities, parks and beaches and also additional demands on car parking, access paths and visitor facilities.

The sector also redesigned existing business processes, provided enhanced internal I.T. services to support staff working from home, improved online service provision for public/businesses and developed enhanced internal I.T. capabilities to support internal services. Sectors were agile in moving

public consultation events on-line. These processes will continue to evolve as restrictions are relaxed and a hybrid work model is employed by the sector.

The decline of activities during the COVID-19 pandemic was found to have caused a 6.4% decrease of global GHG emissions, or 2.3 billion tonnes, in 2020. This was significant but was smaller than scientists expected and the United Nations Environment Programme estimates that the world would need to cut carbon emissions by 7.6% per year for the next decade to prevent the globe from warming more than 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels. Reductions on this scale would be even larger than 2020's drop in emissions. In Ireland, estimates prepared by the EPA and SEAI indicate a reduction in Ireland's total emissions of 5.9% in 2020 compared to 2019 levels, which is lower than the global average. There was wide variation in reductions between different sectors, with transport, notably aviation, emissions showing the greatest decreases both nationally and globally in both studies. A sustained reduction in GHG emissions is required to address climate change, as GHGs remain in the atmosphere for many years. Despite economic and travel restrictions in the first quarter of 2021, Ireland's GHG emissions in 2021 have risen compared to 2020 levels, according to a review by Friends of the Environment, as a return to "business as usual" happens. The UN Environment Programme warns that, despite the COVID-19 drop in emissions, the world is still heading for a temperature rise in excess of 3°C this century – far beyond the Paris Agreement goals of limiting global warming to well below 2°C and pursuing 1.5°C. However, a low-carbon pandemic recovery could cut 25 per cent off the greenhouse emissions expected in 2030, based on policies in place before COVID-19. UNEP estimates that this would achieve even greater savings than the original Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement, and put the world close to the 2°C pathway. The pandemic has highlighted that a global collective action on a sustained basis is necessary to achieve meaningful GHG reductions.



Extended store front in Main Street Swords as part of the outdoor dining scheme helping to support hospitality businesses through COVID-19 pandemic.

## 2. City of Dublin Energy Management Agency (Codema) Update

This section is a non-exhaustive summary of some of the main activities Codema has undertaken in the last 12 months.

### Energy Management

Codema assists in the direct energy management within Fingal County Council, completing the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) Monitoring and Reporting to show the authority's progress towards its 2020 33% energy efficiency improvement target, and now its revised 50% improvement target for 2030. By the end of 2020, Fingal County Council had surpassed its 2020 energy efficiency target by reducing its energy use by 39.9% compared to the baseline. In addition to this, a target of a 50% 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. The figures for 2020 indicate that GHG emissions have reduced by 31.8% compared to the baseline. Codema assists Fingal County Council in the implementation of their ISO 50001 Energy Management System (EnMS), to drive energy performance and energy awareness throughout the Council. A significant part of this role is attending the regular energy team meetings and preparing monthly energy reports for each of the SEUs identified in Fingal County Council. In 2021, seven DECs were generated for public buildings. Codema has guided Fingal County Council through the procurement process for its first Energy Performance Contract, for the Blanchardstown Civic Offices and Swords County Hall. The procurement process is now essentially complete and is awaiting contract signing with the ESCo. Codema regularly assists the DLAs in applications for national funding to assist in the development of low-carbon projects such as the SEAI Project Development Assistance grant. 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 four years. Under this DeliveREE project, 21 Fingal County Council facilities have been proposed for energy projects within the project pipeline. 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.

### Energy and Climate Awareness

As one of the organising partners, Codema worked very closely with Fingal County Council throughout the organisation and implementation of Dublin Climate Action Week 2021. There was excellent synergy and collaboration achieved across the Codema and Fingal County Council teams, resulting in a cohesive and informative week of events. Codema continued to support the Home Energy Saving Kit Scheme across Fingal County Council's libraries. Energy saving resources and social media content were provided to the libraries in order to maintain interest in the kits during the COVID-19 pandemic; when the kits were unavailable to borrow. Codema developed a recorded demonstration of the Home Energy Saving Kits in order for the council's libraries to promote the scheme during Dublin's first Climate Action Week in September 2021. A webinar focusing on saving energy in the home was also provided during Dublin Climate Action Week and was targeted at

library patrons as well as the general public. The Home Energy Saving Kit scheme has continued to expand nationally, with the kits now available to borrow from 116 libraries across Ireland.

### **Dublin Region Energy Master Plan**

Codema is developing the Dublin Regional Energy Master Plan through the SEAI Research, Development and Demonstration (RD&D) programme. The aim of this project is 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. This project looks at the three main energy sectors (heat, electricity and transport) and the synergies between them to deliver more cost-effective low-carbon pathways for the region. It will look at current and future policy impacts and shortfalls to targets needed to make Dublin net carbon neutral by 2050. This is the first master plan of its kind in Ireland to look at the County and indeed small area level and to assess which solutions will work best within local constraints. The finished plan will aid planners and other decision makers in all energy related plans in the future.

### **SEC**

Codema are the coordinators for the SEAI Sustainable Energy Communities (SEC) Programme for the Dublin and Mid East region. The seven counties (4 Dublin LAs, Kildare, Wicklow and Meath) are each provided with a mentor to help advise the SECs and move them along their progress from learning about energy and climate change, to conducting an energy master plan and registry of opportunities to finally undertaking projects. The aim is to upskill and educate but also to reduce energy consumption through behavioural change, energy efficiency, renewable and smart solutions. The seven local authorities are acting as lead applicants on behalf of the SECs for their energy master plans providing finance to activate grants and procurement expertise for hiring consultants. Work has been carried out to improve and streamline the energy master plan process, to make it more accessible for SECs, by reducing risk and highlighting Stakeholders throughout the energy master plan. The tender will last for four years and has already proved very popular with twenty-seven new SECs signing up this year, and a current total of one hundred and forty SECs.

### **EU Projects**

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

**HeatNet NWE:** The Interreg NWE HeatNet project aims to remove the policy, economic and technological barriers to fourth generation district heating in North-West Europe. It has six pilot projects and a budget of €11.5 million. The Tallaght District Heating Scheme in South Dublin, which is using waste heat from the Amazon data centre to provide low-carbon heating to several public and private buildings, is one of the pilots. HeatNet NWE will finish in the first quarter of 2021. All learnings will be used in the development of the Dublin Docklands District Heating Project. Findings from this project will help accelerate district heating in Fingal.

**TOMORROW:** With the support of the H2020 ‘TOMORROW’ project, Codema has made significant progress in relation to the Dublin Energy Transition Roadmap. Through an engaging workshop in April 2021, Codema and the four Dublin Local Authorities identified key “frontrunners” across a

diverse range of sectors to join the existing Transition Team. This team now consists of 18, highly motivated individuals tasked with developing a collaborative Transition Roadmap for the Dublin Region by the end of 2022, which will motivate citizens, local businesses, public authorities and transport groups to work together towards the same goal of developing Dublin as a sustainable, healthy, leading EU city by 2050. The Transition Team will be taking part in eight workshops. The first workshop took place in September 2021. The Transition Team has already been involved in the development of a brand name and visual identity for the roadmap process and successfully selected the name “Zero Together” which will be used to promote and engage stakeholders and the wider public in the development of the roadmap. As part of the wider public engagement campaign, Codema has developed and launched a survey to get the public's views on how to move Dublin away from fossil fuels. The responses to this will guide the Transition Team in how to better engage the public around the energy used at home, at work and while on the move, as well as inform actions for the Zero Together roadmap.

**Decarb City Pipes:** Codema are partners in the Decarb City Pipes 2050 project which kicked off in September 2020. This project is focused on the decarbonisation of heat through capacity building in cities. This includes creating local working groups (made up of key local stakeholders within the cities of Bilbao, Bratislava, Dublin, Munich, Rotterdam, Vienna and Winterthur) to outline gaps in knowledge and current practices (planning methodologies, tools, policy instruments, effective governance structures, etc.) and then go about addressing these gaps through deep peer-to-peer learning with input from an experienced advisory board. An in-depth engagement process will be adopted to develop these roadmaps, to build strong effective working relationships within each city, and ensure strong buy-in from stakeholders. As part of this engagement process Codema have 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. This group has agreed a heating outlook for Dublin as well as its members partaking in peer-to-peer knowledge sharing sessions in areas such as geothermal energy, example boiler replacement studies etc.

**REDAP (Regional Energy Demand Analysis Portal)** project, which was approved under the 2018 European Research Area Network (ERA-Net) Smart Energy Systems fund and is supported by the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland.

REDAP, which started in November 2019 and will continue till March 2022, presents a cross-sectoral approach to regional energy systems and will help end-users to spatially visualise and better understand the characteristics of urban energy demand. This project builds on the work Codema had previously done in developing the Spatial Energy Demand Analysis (SEDAs), similar to the SEDAs, this project gives insight into the building stock and additionally, also provides information on the transport sector. It combines GIS with urban energy planning data to provide an integrated approach to energy in both the building and transport sectors, and spatial planning. This in turn enables planners, policy-makers and investors to make more informed decisions relating to energy demand, energy efficiency and renewable energy alternatives, whilst also generating an increased evidence base to inform further project feasibility and implementation.

**QGasSP:** Codema along with Tallinn University of Technology (TalTech), Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) and Oivan were awarded the tender for QGasSP. This research is financed through the European Spatial Planning Observation Network (ESPON) Programme, which is an applied research programme aimed at supporting the formulation of territorial development policies in Europe. The objective of this research project is to produce a methodology that will allow planning authorities at national, regional and local administrative levels to quantify the influence of spatial planning policies on GHG emissions in a consistent manner. More specifically, the objective is to address the knowledge demands and technical requirements of the four stakeholders included within this Targeted Analysis Project, namely, the Eastern and Midlands Regional Authority (IE) who are the lead stakeholder in this project; Scottish Government – Planning & Architecture Division (UK); Department of Infrastructure, Northern Ireland (UK); and Regional Council of Kymenlaakso (FI).

The ESPON Targeted Analysis is a tool to develop cross-border evidence. For this project, the purpose of the targeted analysis is to identify robust methods for quantifying the relative impact on GHG emissions of alternative spatial planning policies to inform strategic alternatives. Codema's role in this project is to lead the case study pilots, building related GHG methodology and data collection. This project specifically targets the EMRA's RSES Regional Policy Objective (RPO) 3.6 - *City and county development plans shall undergo assessment of their impact on carbon reduction targets and shall include measures to monitor and review progress towards carbon reduction targets.*

**DeliveREE** will create an innovative project finance and delivery structure for EE projects in the Dublin region, across 4 municipalities, using various performance-based contracting structures. By creating a structured approach, DeliveREE will 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 will do 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

DeliveREE will test and develop the PIU with the roll-out of a pipeline of EE projects in public sector buildings and services across the 4 Dublin Local Authorities over 4 years. 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 will save an average of 24GWh energy savings over the contract lifetime, amounting to 3.8 ktCO<sub>2</sub> savings. The total CapEx of the pipeline is €19.5m, 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, we aim to have a financing split of 20% project owner, 30% grant and 50% private financing on average across the contracts.

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 four 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.

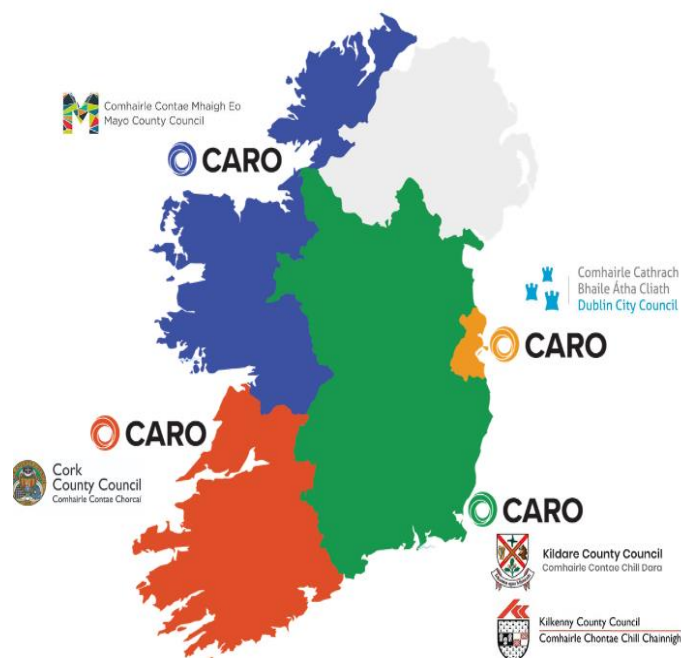
### **3. Climate Action Regional Office (CARO) Update**

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 four Climate Action Regions has been determined by the geographical and topographical characteristics, vulnerabilities and shared climate risks experienced across local authority areas. The four CARO regions, constituent local authorities and associated lead authorities are shown in Table 1.

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 1:** Climate Action Regional Offices



Map of The Climate Action Regional Offices (CAROs)

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. The Dublin CARO has a regional steering group comprising the four Director of Services of the Dublin Local Authorities, and colleagues from Codema and the Eastern Midlands Regional Assembly. Examples of projects across the six key areas of the CARO work programme are included below;

- **Management and Governance**
  - National, Regional and local climate team meetings
  - Participation in sectoral adaptation steering groups and working groups



- Preparation of detailed business case to support climate action for the local authority sector
- Participation in relevant CCMA/LGMA and Government working groups on Climate Action
- **Climate Adaptation**
  - Assisting local authorities with implementation and reporting of Climate Change Adaptation /Action Plans including implementation guidance
  - Preparation of guidance such as guidance document for adaptation of regional & local roads
  - Working with Government Departments and agencies on the implementation of sectoral adaptation plans
  - Collaborating with key climate actors such as Climate Ireland, 3<sup>rd</sup> Level Universities
  - Participation on National Working Groups such as new Coastal Change Strategy Steering Group
- **Climate Mitigation**
  - Preparation of guidance on topics such as Decarbonisation Zones, Sustainable Energy Communities, Carbon Offsetting etc.
  - Participation in Regional and National Electric Vehicle (EV) working groups
  - Collaboration with energy agencies (where in place) and SEAI on energy related projects
  - Identifying and assisting local authorities with projects eligible for the National Climate Action Fund
- **Communications and Citizen Engagement**
  - Presentations to Councils, Government Departments and Agencies, youth organisations and the general public
  - Supporting individual local authorities with community engagement events including climate action workshops
  - Collaboration with key stakeholders such as GAA on Green Clubs Programme, Comhairle Na Nóg, Age Friendly Ireland etc.
  - Use of CARO website and social media communication channels
  - Prepare submissions on climate relevant public consultations
  - Assist Local Authorities with 'Climate Conversations' with PPNs and Comhairle Na Nóg as part of public consultation to National Climate Action Plan 2021
- **Training and Education**
  - Preparation and rollout of a comprehensive Climate Action training plan for the LA sector across all levels (see below for further details)
  - Identification of external training and upskilling opportunities in climate action for the Local Authority Sector
  - Collaboration with expert organisations and representative bodies for tailored workshops and training seminars
- **Knowledge Development**
  - Development of online Weather impacts Reporting App (WIRE) for Local Authorities
  - Preparation of guidance and position papers on climate action areas

- Identification and communication of funding opportunities for climate action projects in local authorities and assistance with application process
- Participation in relevant climate action research projects from the Environmental Protection Agency research programmes and other funding programmes
- Engaging with and local authorities and Regional Assemblies on planning issues relating to climate action including the hosting of planning workshops

A key focus of the CARO work programme for 2021 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
- *Behavioral 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, and flood risk management.



Despite COVID-19 restrictions, the training programme advanced in interactive online formats and workshops throughout the year across all counties. Four of the six training pillars having commenced with over 6,500 staff completing the Raising Awareness training alone. Championing Leadership training has been completed by 560 senior staff and elected members across 15 local authorities and will be undertaken for Fingal, Dun Laoghaire Rathdown and South Dublin County Councils by the end of the year. Dublin City Council will complete this training in Q1 2022. Other key work areas for Dublin CARO throughout 2021 included:

**Strengthening communications.** This has been primarily by developing the CARO website and the CARO quarterly e-newsletter. The CARO website was launched in February 2021 and has had over 127,000 views since then. The most popular sections of the website include projects, research, local authority climate action, training and academic courses. The CARO newsletter has many subscribers

across a range of local authorities, agencies, government departments, academia and members of the public. Both the website and the newsletter are key tools for dissemination of information on climate policy, research, funding, events, training and examples of climate action work across the local authority sector.

**Community outreach.** Working with the four Dublin Local Authorities and Codema a significant amount of work and events were undertaken as part of the Dublin Climate Action Week in September to deliver a programme of in person and online events to showcase climate action. Additional outreach will be achieved through the delivery of recorded webinars on the CARO website for future use. Other events have include working with partners such as Age Friendly Ireland An Taisce Climate Ambassadors and 3<sup>rd</sup> Level universities to participate in events and workshops on climate action.

**Changing behaviour and empowering local adaptation.** CARO provided supports in completing successful applications on behalf of local authorities to the Creative Ireland ‘Creative Climate Action’ Fund, including the following of interest to Fingal:

Trinity College Dublin in conjunction with CARO and with support of a number of Local Authorities submitted a successful application to the Creative Ireland Climate Action Fund. The project entitled ‘*Línte na Farraige*’ is a collaborative project, with a team including scientists, based at TCD, Maynooth University , University College Cork , the Dublin CARO, local authorities, Irish creators, and Finnish artists Timo Aho and Pekka Niittyvirta. It seeks to connect the public visually and tangibly to the risks from future sea levels. Illuminated horizontal lines representing future sea levels will be installed across six Irish coastal sites in Dublin, Wexford and Galway. The planning phase of the project has commenced, and installations are due to be in place in spring 2022. Interactive educational resources provided on the project website and information boards, will encourage the participant to understand societies role in reducing carbon emissions and act accordingly. A selection of videos will be created to record the visual art for future generations. The planning phase of the project has commenced with installations due to be in place in Q2 2022.

**Providing expertise to national policy formation.** CARO contributed to policy development as a member of expert groups and for the following publications:

- Project Advisory Group on Local Authority Climate Action Plan Guidelines;
- Dublin Local Authority Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy;
- Local Authority Electrification of Fleet and EV Charging Guidance;
- Local Authority GPP Training Steering Group; and
- Dublin's Energy Transition Roadmap (Zero Together).

#### 4. Sample of Progress Under Each Thematic Action Area in Summary:

##### Energy & Buildings:

Improving the energy performance of buildings and residential housing stock across the country will be one of the big challenges in meeting our National Climate Targets. The Climate Action Plan 2019 set ambitious targets for energy retrofits and heat pump installations out to 2030. Improving the energy performance of a home can make it more comfortable and make long term economic sense, especially with rising energy prices forecasted for winter 2021-2022.

The Council continues to improve the energy performance of its social housing stock. All new homes are developed to Near Zero Energy Building Standard and the upgrade of existing social housing stock is well advanced with attic and wall insulation programmes complete and single glazed window replacement also complete.

The tenant induction programme has been expanded to include tenant energy awareness and all tenants are provided with energy savings tips.

The Government have launched a newly revised Energy Efficiency Retrofitting Programme 2021 in which the aim is for All local authority social housing stock to be brought to a minimum energy performance of BER B2 by 2030. This programme should provide increased funding levels to upgrade the fabric of homes and provide energy efficient heating systems. The approved allocation for Fingal County Council in 2021 is €1,759,475 with a target of 65 properties to be retrofitted to a B2/Cost Optimal standard. Works have been completed at 10 properties at Fortlawn Park Villas. Works have commenced on 55 properties in Greenridge Court, Windmill and Inbhir Íde and are expected to be complete in 2021. The revised programme provides for significant upscaling in the level of funding available and focuses works include external wall & attic insulation, windows & doors, heat pumps and solar PV panels as deemed necessary to bring properties to a B2/Cost Optimal standard.

The Council continues to work to achieve energy efficiency and emission reductions across its own buildings, facilities, functions and services, and influence climate action in the wider community.

The Council's Energy Management Team in collaboration with Codema have made energy efficiency improvements of 39.9% to December 2020, thereby exceeding the 33% target set by government. Fingal County Council's Draft Energy Review 2020 reports that Council has improved its energy performance by 39.9%, compared to 2006 - 2008. This amounts to an absolute saving of 15.8 GWh of primary energy or 6,297 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>. The figures for 2020 indicate that Council GHG emissions have reduced by 31.8% compared to the baseline.

The Energy Management Team, in collaboration with Codema will continue to drive energy performance and energy awareness throughout the Council through the implementation of its ISO 50001 Energy Management System. Work is underway to identify and prioritise energy efficiency planning programmes which will enable the Council to meet the more challenging 50% Energy Efficiency public sector target by 2030.

The conversion of streetlights to LED's has been expedited over recent years and is now 86% complete.

Energy Performance Contracts (EPCs) for energy upgrades for Fingal County Hall and Civic Offices in Blanchardstown are pending signing, and the energy service company will shortly begin providing energy efficiency measures at both sites. These contracts are for a period of up to 9 years and should deliver savings of 1.3GWh per annum. The 1.3 GWh saving from the EPC would be equivalent to the annual primary energy demand of 54 average homes. The energy management team will now examine the feasibility of a new EPC to cover libraries and depots, building on the learnings of the 1st EPC.

Fingal has accepted the role as Lead Partner Applicant for Sustainable Energy Communities (SEC's) in the Fingal area and works to actively promote & support this SEAI programme. There are currently 15 SEC's in Fingal, 5 of which were added this year. Council staff engage with the SEAI assigned mentor and with Codema who are the regional coordinator in facilitating the programme. An information evening for councillors was held in April 2021 and a public information webinar in May 2021. Codema hosted and SEC information webinar as part of Dublin Climate Action Week which can be viewed here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GfeUgjP7YB4>

Fingal Local Enterprise Office have approved the first batch of seven applicants for Green for Micro programme which is a new initiative from the Local Enterprise Offices to help prepare small businesses for the low carbon, more resource efficient economy of the future. This programme is available to companies with up to ten employees and provides these companies with two days mentoring support from a sustainability consultant. To apply visit: [www.LocalEnterprise.ie/Green](http://www.LocalEnterprise.ie/Green)

Home Energy Saving Kits which were developed by Codema and are available across Fingal County Council's libraries. Whether you own or rent accommodation, the Home Energy Saving Kit has been developed to help you understand your energy consumption and identify areas to reduce consumption and consider home for energy upgrades. It has five practical tools and six exercises which will help you conduct your own home energy audit and find the easiest and most effective areas to reduce your energy.

A number of Energy Awareness webinars were hosted by Codema for Dublin Climate Action Week, including a webinar focusing on saving energy in the home. Recordings are available at <https://dublinclimatechange.codema.ie/climate-action-week/event-resources/>



Rowlestown Estate. Completed in 2021, all units have a BER rating of A2 and achieved NZEB standards



Pinewood Housing Estate, Balbriggan. Completed in 2021, all units have a BER rating of A2 and achieved NZEB standards.



Solar panels being installed as part of the Social Housing retrofitting program.

## Transport:

Transitioning towards more sustainable transport systems is one of the major challenges facing Irish society as approximately 20 per cent of Ireland’s greenhouse gas emissions come from transport and it accounts for the largest share of energy-related CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (40% in 2018). Transport in Ireland remains almost entirely dependent on fossil fuels; and private cars are responsible for the largest share of transport emissions at 40%. Most of the modest emissions reduction throughout the COVID-19 pandemic were as a result of fewer car journeys undertaken during lockdowns.

Fingal County Council is planning for the future with a review of the current Development Plan and a focus on Connectivity & Movement in support of Climate Action. The Development Plan policies and objectives will plan to provide well serviced well connected towns & villages and promote sustainable travel options which will take cars off our roads, improve the quality of life of residents and enhance the attractiveness of Fingal for visitors.

The Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Department are focused on the integration of transport and land use planning, and on compact growth served by high quality public transport. The Council collaborates with other agencies to plan to deliver sustainable public transport options to new and existing developments. This includes collaboration with the National Transport Authority (NTA), Irish Rail, and Transport Infrastructure Ireland to deliver Metrolink, Dart Plus and Bus Connects.

The Transport Planning & Strategic Transport Projects unit is developing a network of high-quality greenways as part of our wider sustainable transport infrastructure programme. A number of projects at various stages of design, planning and construction and substantial progress is being made. The Broadmeadow Way has been granted planning permission by An Bord Pleanála and design and site investigation is ongoing. The Broadmeadow Way will be a 6km off-road cycling and walking route linking Malahide and Donabate across the scenic Broadmeadow Estuary. It will link to the Fingal Coastal Way which will be a 32km high-quality walking and cycling route stretching from Newbridge Demesne in Donabate to the county boundary, north of Balbriggan. Public consultation for the Fingal Coastal Way and the Royal Canal Greenway took place earlier this year. The Sutton-Malahide Cycle Route will undergo stakeholder consultation before the end of the year. The Harry Reynolds Road Cycle Route was granted planning permission in 2020 and is due to be tendered before the end of the year.

The delivery of these greenway projects is a key priority for the Council as they offer multiple benefits including improved quality of life for our residents providing active travel /sustainable transport and recreation options; resulting in cleaner air, improved public health, reduced carbon emissions, and further boosting the attractiveness of the county for tourism.

The Council has further prioritised the promotion of Active Travel with the creation of a dedicated Active Travel Unit within the Environment, Climate Action and Active Travel Department, which is responsible for the promotion of Active Travel and the delivery of infrastructure and initiatives to facilitate a significant modal shift towards Active Travel. This section is developing a programme of works across various pillars including the enhancement and delivery of a protected cycle network across the county, the roll out of the safe routes to school programme, delivering infrastructure improvements that will enhance connectivity, reviewing and delivering in towns and village to make active travel more accessible and the support of mobility and behavioral change.

The Active Travel section is developing and delivering protected cycle lanes under the NTA five year programme. A number of schemes are under construction across the county. An initial programme of works was delivered as a stimulus package during the early stage of the COVID-19 pandemic. This programme of works is now expanding and the original projects are kept under performance review and safety enhancements are made where needs be.

The Active Travel Section is working in close collaboration with Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Dept with a view to ensuring quality connectivity between the larger strategic projects and the residential, commercial and amenity areas by way of appropriate infrastructure. The team is also tracking and evaluating connectivity suggestions from various stakeholders and will work to deliver projects on the ground where possible. This also includes for the provision of secure bike racks, which is already being delivered. The number of bicycle stands provided at key locations across the county is increasing steadily. The aim is to deliver a total of 500+ bike locking facilities by the end of

December 2021 across the 7 Fingal Local Electoral Areas. Locations include town and village centres, sports clubs, schools, playgrounds, skateparks, and beaches.

The Safe Routes to School Programme (SRTS) is currently being rolled out nationwide on foot of a pilot project run in Malahide, Fingal. The nationwide programme is being administered by An Taisce on behalf of the NTA and rolled out by the local authorities. Local solutions are designed to encourage the whole school community to walk or cycle to and from school wherever possible, by improving the safety and making these options more attractive. The programme has three aims:

1. To accelerate the delivery of walking and cycling infrastructure on key identified access routes to schools;
2. To provide “front of school” treatments which will emphasise the importance of the school-going children accessing the school;
3. To expand the amount of bike parking available at schools.

Eleven Fingal schools were selected for the first phase of the programme and these are being rolled out over the next year. Design options are being prepared and the Active Travel unit is engaging with school management and parents. The Active Travel unit continues to work with schools throughout the county with a view to inclusion in the second phase of the programme.

The “Gearing up for Training” Initiative has been shortlisted for the Excellence in Local Government Awards 2021. This scheme aims to encourage sports club members to cycle to their club for training and matches. Practical cycle training is being provided to parents and children by the Irish centre for cycling in partnership with Fingal County Council. The scheme was launched at St Finians GAA club and a second round will ensure clubs from across the county partake.

Both School Streets and Gearing up for training initiatives encourage cycling from a young age and may help develop a life-long love of cycling.

The Active Travel unit is also working to provide and facilitate a number of shared mobility options and to encourage behavioural change and increase the uptake of cycling, bike share, car share and community car; and to improve road safety for pedestrians and cyclists.

Temporary COVID-19 measures have been put in place to expand public realm and allocate more space to pedestrians and cyclists.

The Bleeper Bike Share Scheme has been supported to expand to North County Fingal to include Balbriggan, Skerries, Rush, Donabate, and Portrane with an additional 70 bikes across these locations totalling a minimum of 120 bikes available across the County. The scheme allows cyclists with the Bleeper app to ‘grab & go’. There has been an increased uptake through COVID-19 lockdowns. GoCar have been supported to operate car-share in Fingal have 26 cars/vans available for rent at present.





Fingal County Council Chief Executive AnnMarie Farrelly, David Storey Director of Services Environment Climate Action and Active Travel Dept. & former Fingal County Council Mayor David Healy promoting the expansion of Bleper bike sharing scheme to five coastal towns in the north of the county.

A number of free events promoting cycle safety were laid on as part of Bike week.

The 4 Dublin LAs, CARO and Smart Dublin in conjunction with consultants have prepared a Dublin Region Electric Vehicle Charge Point (EVCP) Strategy. The strategy is currently in a stakeholder engagement phase to inform the location of potential EVCPs by LAs in the Dublin Region. Fingal County Council have installed 8 public EV chargers to date in Blanchardstown, Howth, Skerries, Swords and Malahide.

The Council is transitioning to an Electric Vehicle (EV) fleet and currently has 50 fully electric road vehicles or 33% of light commercial vehicles are now fully electric. EV charge points have been provided in staff carparks and in depots for operational vehicles. Smart Mobility Hubs have been delivered at Swords County Hall and Blanchardstown staff carparks with two EV's and four electric bikes available to staff for use during work hours, through an innovative smart phone booking app. Microsoft teams rollout is complete. All office staff now have laptops enabling remote working through the COVID-19 pandemic. Various digital solutions enable staff to meet virtually reduced the need to travel to meetings.

The sum of these actions will encourage a modal shift away from private cars to more sustainable alternatives. This will ultimately result in a reduction in the number of journeys taken by car, taking cars off the roads, reducing congestion and emissions across the County.

In 2021, the four Dublin Local Authorities prepared a Draft Dublin Region Air Quality Plan, to reduce levels of Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) in ambient air in Dublin. The Draft Plan was on public consultation from Monday 18th October to Monday 15th November 2021. Once finalised, the Plan will be submitted for consideration by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications, in advance of final approval by the European Commission.



A charging station at Seatown Road Staff Carpark with a mobility hub EV available for staff use. Also pictured are some of The Council's current electric fleet, which is currently at 33% for light commercial vehicles with the transition to a complete EV fleet ongoing.



Glow in the Dark cycle training delivered as part of Bike Week 2021.



Kerb protected cycle lane at Rivervalley, Swords.



New Bike Racks installed at Balrothery-Glebe Park Playground

## Flood Resilience:

Fingal County Council is active across all aspects of flood risk management, from prevention to emergency response, through to infrastructural investment following extreme weather events. This includes actions that consider flood risks arising from climate change through development policies, collaboration with the Office of Public Works (OPW) as the lead state agency in relation to flood risk management in Ireland on flood defence projects, own delivery of minor flood defence projects, use of nature-based solutions to manage flood risks, activation of flood emergency response plans; and rebuilding infrastructure in the aftermath of extreme weather events.

Fingal has been and continues to be impacted by coastal erosion. The National Coastal Change Management Strategy Steering Group was set up and had its first meeting in September 2020. The group is tasked with considering the development of an integrated, whole of Government coastal change strategy. A Coastal Erosion working group has also been set up to inform the Steering Group and assist in forming national recommendations. These recommendations, when published, will play an important part in any Coastal Change Management Policy of the Council.

Fingal County Council has progressed an Options Report for the Coastal Protection of Portrane, Rush and Rogerstown outer estuary with the assistance of RPS Consulting Group. The installation of specially designed Y-shaped groynes structures combined with beach supplementation and flood embankments at the Burrow and a floodwall in Rush are considered the preferred coastal defence options. Community engagement is ongoing, and a detailed ground investigations are being carried out to inform the design work and environmental impact assessment. Submission of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report EIAR and Natura Impact Statement NIS is currently anticipated to be late summer 2022.

Fingal County Council is a partner in 'Coastal Communities Adapting Together' (CCAT) project. The project has run from 2019-2021 with partners including University College Dublin and MaREI/University College Cork and in Wales - Cardiff University, Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum and the Port of Milford Haven. The project aims to support coastal communities in Fingal and Pembrokeshire in understand how climate change is affecting their local area, and to support communities in becoming more resilient to the effects of climate change. Fingal County Council has hosted and facilitated two engaging webinars in 2020 & 2021. The CCAT project will issue its findings and outputs in early 2022. These can be viewed at <https://www.ccatproject.eu/past-events/>

Nature-based solutions such as integrated wetlands, green infrastructure and Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS), are being considered in response to flood risk. Measures that include nature can have multiple benefits beyond flood defence, such as providing new spaces for recreation and habitats for wildlife.

The Council is preparing a county wide Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (sFRA) to be included in the County Development Plan 2023 to 2029 and as part of this, the Tolka River is being modelled to provide more up-to-date and accurate flood information. Surface Water Management Plans (SWMPs) are undertaken by consultants for all Local Area Plans managed by Fingal County Council's Forward Planning division on an ongoing basis. These plans incorporate a Flood Risk Assessment and SuDS Strategy and are carried out at an early stage of the forward planning process. Several SWMPs have been completed in the past year.

Fingal County Council's Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Department have, through a multidisciplinary team effort, drafted The Green Blue Infrastructure for Development Guidance Note. The document is aimed at providing advice and guidance with regard to SuDS design, 'Taking in charge' and maintenance requirements, to prospective planning applicants. This is currently being updated for inclusion in the draft Fingal County Development Plan 2023-2029. This document forms part of the specification for all new developments. These systems are designed to replicate the natural characteristics of the land and ultimately slow the post development discharge rate of surface water to reduce the potential for downstream flooding. SuDS is being promoted on an ongoing basis by the Water Services Forward Planning Section including site workshops as well internal cross departmental training. A public engagement site visit was delivered as part of Dublin Climate Action Week 2021 aimed at providing a greater understanding of SuDS. Representatives from Fingal County Council's Water Services Forward Planning section described how the systems work during a walkthrough of residential developments incorporating SuDS.

The Fingal Cultural Heritage & Climate Change Risk Assessment was undertaken with input from CARO, Geological Survey Ireland, and others, and report launched in July 2021. This assessment has brought together, for the first time in an Irish context, datasets pertaining to the risk posed to the Counties heritage assets from identified climate change hazards such as flooding and coastal flooding and coastal erosion. These assets include archaeological monuments, built heritage, historic gardens and demesnes and geological heritage sites. Changing climatic processes may have detrimental and differing effects on this historic resource. This assessment will inform follow-on monitoring programmes and the Council will consider beneficial multifunctional climate adaptations locally. The assessment can be downloaded here: <https://www.fingal.ie/fingal-cultural-heritage-climate-change-risk-assessment>

A Weather Station for Schools initiative was launched under the Chief Executive's Innovation Fund. One hundred primary schools around Fingal have been granted basic rain gauges which can be used as teaching and learning tools. These may be used on studies about the water cycle and measuring and monitoring climatic trends. A further 16 schools have been invited to host an automatic weather station which will provide real-time weather data which will be visible on Met Eireann's Weather Observations Website <https://wow.met.ie/about-wow/welcome-to-wow>. This website is a useful resource for weather education and for climate observers: <https://www.met.ie/education>



A recent SuDS site walk in Rush with staff from various section of the Council involved in the delivery and maintenance surface water systems.



An example of an integrated constructed tree pit which can be installed to absorb surface water runoff.



An example of a natural watercourse that was retained, through a new residential development, which allows for attenuate water to be discharge into.

## Nature Based Solutions:

Fingal County Council continues to undertake a variety of nature based solutions as a means of protecting and enhancing local ecosystems and biodiversity and also delivering a variety of climate benefits. Fingal is fortunate to have an abundance of high quality public parks and open spaces and is working to enhance this network year on year. These have been of particular benefit to local communities and visitors throughout the COVID-19 pandemic as people increasingly enjoyed the benefit of time outdoors closer to nature, both for physical and mental health and wellbeing. One notable addition which is being progressed at present is the development of Bremore Park in Balbriggan as a regional park. This new outdoor amenity will be a recreational hub hosting numerous facilities and biodiversity friendly zones. The Council manages all parks and open spaces in a sustainable manner to ensure that future generations can enjoy the benefits of these amenities and so that they can be a haven for biodiversity.

Fingal County Council's 'Space for Play' Policy was approved in October 2021. This policy highlights the importance of the natural environment for children and the need for development and investment in safe and inclusive children's play infrastructure across Fingal which incorporates the natural environment. As urban areas continue to expand, the Council recognises the need for providing outdoor natural green open spaces for children and teens to play and develop in. Through playing, particularly in natural environments, children benefit physically, socially and emotionally, form enduring memories and friendships and acquire a lifelong affinity for nature. *"Playing in nature can improve a child's concentration and supports self-discipline."* Fingal County Council Senior Parks Superintendent Kevin Halpenny commenting on the 'Space for Play' Policy.

The Forest of Fingal Tree Strategy was approved by Council in November 2021 following an extensive non statutory public consultation. The vision is to protect and enhance Fingal's trees, to maximise the multifunctioning benefits they offer capitalising on the character they bring to the county and ensuring Fingal is a green diverse and a healthy county for everyone now and for future generations to come. The strategy aims to provide a net increase in tree canopy cover, maximise the benefits of trees as a resource and improve the appreciation of trees. Trees are an essential part of our multifunctional green infrastructure, providing valuable ecosystem services whilst also acting as natural carbon sinks which can soak up excess rainwater. Strategic targeted planting programmes, community tree planting schemes, proactive management of trees and an integrated tree webpage are objectives of the strategy. Various small woodland development sites have been identified at local level and various tree planting initiatives have been supported this year. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, Fingal were sadly unable to have an in person public event to mark National Tree Week 2021. In light of this the Council planted native specimen oak trees to commemorate lost loved ones during these challenging times, at numerous public parks across Fingal.

Consultation for the new draft Fingal Biodiversity Action Plan 2022-2030 will start in January. The aim of the plan is to halt biodiversity loss by 2030 as required under the EU Biodiversity Strategy. The action plan will focus on the delivery of a climate change resilient ecological network throughout the county, making urban areas and farmland more biodiversity friendly while also improving water quality and will also include several wetland restoration projects to make space for flood water and create carbon sinks. Restoration of the marine environment and the potential for blue carbon capture will also be explored.

Community support through the Tidy Towns programme, and through grant programmes is ongoing, with an increasing focus on Biodiversity awareness. Numerous community initiatives supporting biodiversity and tree planting have been supported. As part of Dublin Climate Action Week 2021 an online webinar was run by CARO on 'The All-Ireland Pollinator Plan, this webinar can be viewed at <https://www.caro.ie/news/all-ireland-pollinator-plan-2021-2025> This includes a focus on a community led project in Skerries. This year, the Council launched a fantastic initiative to assist Tidy Town groups across the county to develop local Biodiversity Action Plans for each Tidy Town location. The Council has appointed an ecologist to assist in this process and help develop plans which can then be implemented by the Tidy Town with the assistance of the Council. This has already been a hugely successful initiative with almost every Tidy Town in the county showing an interest. These plans will include up to 10 biodiversity actions and will provide benefits the natural environment, wildlife and biodiversity.

Swifts are a migratory species of bird that are in decline in part due to climate change impacts. To assist in the conservation of Swifts, all new council buildings and social housing developments will undergo an assessment to see if they are suitable locations for Swift nesting sites. A number of developments have been selected and will incorporate 'Swift Brick Nests' when developed. Swift bricks provide safe, permanent and low-cost nesting sites for Swifts and will help to conserve the species. Also, this year, the Council hosted a webinar with Birdwatch Ireland on actions communities can take to assist bird populations within the county. A recording can be viewed at <https://www.fingal.ie/birdwatch-ireland-video>

Fingal County Council has rewetted wetlands at St Ita's wetland & Turvey Nature Reserve. Developing wetlands as part of a multifunctional green infrastructural network provides multiple benefits including carbon sequestration, providing space for (flood) water and creating important habitats for wildlife and biodiversity. The site at St Ita's has seen the introduction of highland cattle. These cattle were selected to graze here as they are smaller and lighter than other breeds enabling them to roam around without sinking into the waterlogged clay. Having the cattle graze means larger vegetation is cleared, ensuring smaller plants can gain a foothold which in turn increases the diversity of flora and insects on the site helping to provide a thriving habitat. Wetland development works at the Turvey Nature Reserve in Donabate were also completed this year. Four acres of new wetland have been created next to an existing wetland site in the park. In addition, a new Sand Martin Hut was installed, which is the first of its kind in Ireland. It is envisaged that the new wetlands will attract a wider range of plants and animals to the park as well as allowing the natural hydrology of the site to re-assert itself. Site visits to both these sites were delivered as part of Dublin Climate Action Week allowing members of the public to experience the wetlands first hand.

In efforts to prevent and manage wildfires, as well as protecting and enhancing biodiversity in Howth Head a number of projects have been implemented this year. Wildfire breaks have been established at a number of strategic locations to try limit future wildfires. These strategic fire breaks have been created by removing gorse vegetation with the aim of ensuring that any future fires will run out of fuel and not spread uncontrollably across the heathland landscape. In addition, Old Irish Goats have been placed on Howth Head to graze the wildfire breaks and reduce the cover of Gorse and Brambles. They offer a more sustainable solution to managing the landscape compared to using heavy machinery or doing it by hand.

The acreage of wildflower meadows and long grasses in parks, open spaces and on roadside margins is increasing steadily, with an approximate increase of 10 hectares per year over the last 5 years. Hay

has been cut from a number of sites this year and has been provided to Newbridge Farm, and to local horse owners.

Fingal County Council provides and supports the use of over 800 allotments and aims to facilitate people growing their own food. The 'Grow it Forward' campaign was a collaborative programme between the Irish Public Library Service and the Grow It Yourself organisation. The goal of the campaign was to promote more sustainable and healthy lifestyles by helping people to grow their own fruit and vegetables. Fingal libraries supplied the at home seed kits to those interested in taking part and people were asked to share their seedlings with others to help 'grow it forward' and spread the message.

This summer Fingal County Council partnered with Clean Coasts to pilot the first Restore & Protect project at Donabate Beach. The aim of the project was to remove litter by hand rather than by mechanical rake, and in doing so help to preserve the beaches natural material 'beach wrack'. Beach wrack are natural materials that wash up on the beach such as seaweed, kelp, sea grasses and algae. Leaving beach wrack in place helps support the marine life's food chain, fertilises the beach and supports dune build up by giving plants a place to grow. The success of the Pilot was based on the partnership between Clean Coasts, community volunteerism and the application of additional cleansing resources by the Council's Operations Department.



The Mayor of Fingal Seána Ó Rodaigh with Shephard Melissa Jeuken, pictured at the introduction of 'Old Irish Goats' to Howth Head.





Fingal County Council Biodiversity Officer Hans Visser hosting a site visit at St Ita's Wetland during Dublin Climate Action Week.

A newly re-wetted area at Turvey Nature Reserve.



The Forest of Fingal tree strategy aims to protect and enhance the trees of the county.

## Resource Management:

National climate action policy emphasises the need to take climate action across all sectors of society and the economy. In the waste sector, policy on climate action is focused on a shift towards a more circular economy, emphasising the need to design out waste and keep materials and resources in use.

The Government's Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy is a roadmap for managing waste in Ireland to 2025. The aim of the plan is to minimise the amount of waste we produce, maximising the value of materials that are already in use and reuse as much as possible. The Plan identifies plastics as a key priority and sets out measures to reduce plastic packaging waste which is a significant problem in Ireland. The EPA report that less than one third of Ireland's plastic packaging waste was recycled in 2019. In July 2021 the Single Use Plastics Directive was introduced banning the most commonly littered plastic items such as straws, cotton buds, cutlery, plates, polystyrene cups etc, from being placed on the Irish market. These items often ended up in the marine environment. In September 2021 soft plastics were re-introduced into household recycling bins. Soft plastics such as crisp and sweet packets, plastic bags, bubble wrap and other plastic film can now be placed in the green bin along with rigid plastics providing they are clean, dry and loose.

Fingal County Council aims to promote, encourage and facilitate high levels of recycling and reuse and currently operates 60 accessible 'Bring Centres' where the public can bring glass bottles and aluminium cans for recycling. 6700 Tonnes of glass was recycled in Fingal in 2020. In addition, there are 29 textile banks throughout the county where the public can bring unwanted clothes and other textiles for collection for reuse or recycling. On average 240 tonnes of textiles are recovered annually in Fingal from these textile banks. The range of materials accepted at Estuary Rd, Swords and Coolmine Civic Amenity Sites have been expanded. These centres accept paper and cardboard, clean plastic packaging, aluminium food trays, tins and cans, glass bottles and jars, plastic bottles, textiles, WEEE, fluorescent tubes and energy saving bulbs, car and household batteries and cooking and engine oil. Other items such as, bulky waste (furniture, carpets, mattresses), wood, metal, green waste, soil and stone, and household hazardous waste (herbicides, cleaners etc) are accepted with a small charge. In addition, bicycles can be left at the Estuary site where Rediscovery Cycling, a social enterprise that is part of the Rediscovery Centre puts life back into unwanted bicycles. These bikes are redistributed to individuals or groups or they are sold in the Eco Store located in the Rediscovery Centre. Rediscovery Paint also part of the Rediscovery Centre collects paint from the civic amenity sites for recycling. The Re-Paint project has distributed recycled paint to communities in Fingal for estate walls and mural projects.

The Fingal instruments Project accepts musical instruments at the Civic Amenity sites. They are then cleaned and repaired and offered to individuals and groups in Fingal who will benefit. The Play it Again Musical Instruments Project was shortlisted by Chambers Ireland for the Excellence in Local Government Awards 2020.

A significant number of Dublin Climate Action Week events focused on resource management. Fingal County Council in partnership with the Rediscovery centre produced a short film titled 'Reuse and Repair Initiatives in Fingal' featuring Bicycles, Instruments and Paints and two communities in Fingal - Dublin 15 and Balbriggan. This can be viewed at: [https://youtu.be/Gi8xzp\\_33tU](https://youtu.be/Gi8xzp_33tU)

Fingal County Council has now installed Contactless Drinking Water Fountains for public use in all Regional Parks and plans to expand this network to other parks and towns over the lifetime of this plan. To date contactless water fountains have been installed at Newbridge Demesne, Santry Demesne, Ward River Valley, St. Catherine's Park, Millennium Park, Hartstown Park and Malahide Demesne. See Refill Ireland's TAP MAP at <https://refill.ie/tap-map/> to search for free water refill points in your local area.

Disposable coffee cups are a significant waste problem, not just in Ireland but globally. Takeaway cups are not recyclable in Ireland and many other countries. 22,000 single use coffee cups are disposed of in Ireland every hour. The Conscious Cup Campaign, has prepared a Café Map where you can search for cafés in your local areas which welcome reusable cups <https://www.consciouscup.ie/cafe-map.php> Fingal County Council continue to work with Conscious Cup and hosted a Conscious Cup webinar for Dublin Climate Action Week which can be viewed at: <https://youtu.be/htaQTIXg2oQ>

In addition to Dublin Climate Action Week, several Climate Action and Environmental Awareness campaigns have been carried out in 2021 along with several Climate and Environmental Awareness training course provided to community groups and tidy towns. These include Green Schools, Anti-Litter Anti-Graffiti Grant Scheme, Community Environment Action Fund, Relove Fashion, Stop Food waste campaign, Reuse & Recycle, Picker Pals, Community Clean Ups. Our Environmental Awareness Officer presents to schools and communities across the county and ensures a sustained social media campaign in relation to sustainable living, environmental and climate awareness. Council supported events are becoming greener. Fingal News has a Climate Action tip in each issue.

Fingal County Council, the DLA and CARO are also partners in Phase 1 of the GAA Green Clubs programme involving 45 clubs nationwide including St Finian's GAA club in Swords. As part of the programme a Green Club Toolkit will be developed to allow clubs to improve sustainably in the areas of energy, water, waste, biodiversity and travel and transport. For more see: <https://www.gaa.ie/my-gaa/community-and-health/green-clubs-sustainability/>

Fingal County Council has partnered with the Dublin Local Authorities the Regional Waste Plan Office and Composting Ireland in a 'Composting for Schools' initiative which aims to assist schools to introduce measures to address food waste and also garden and landscape waste within schools. A suite of resources has been developed and teachers will receive online training and guidance. Several Fingal schools have signed up and will receive two visits from a composting expert; along with food wormeries, compost bins, leaf mould cages, garden tools and accessories. Composting workshops continue to be rolled out to Fingal community groups.

Fingal County Council's Economic, Enterprise, Tourism and Cultural Development (EETCD) Department have launched the Sustainable Fingal initiative which aims to encourage SMEs across Fingal to embrace sustainable measures in their businesses. A webpage and digital brochure provide businesses with practical sustainability ideas and highlight the benefits they can expect from incorporating sustainability into the day-to-day running of their businesses under the key headings of Energy, Water & Waste. A Sustainable Fingal webinar was held as part of Dublin Climate Action Week 2021 which included a panel discussion with representatives from EETCD, Fingal LEO, Fingal Leader, and Fingal Chamber; and included a video showcasing sustainable business initiatives in Fingal. This webinar can be viewed at: <https://youtu.be/-2Vh5bxICXc>

Fingal County Council's Community Facilities network 'Keen to be Green' Initiative was launched in September 2021. By signing up to a new Keen to Be Green Facilities Charter, the community facilities in Fingal are demonstrating their commitment to environmental and climate action. The project aims to improve the environmental sustainability of the community facilities and create greater awareness around environmental sustainability in local communities across Fingal. A video outlining the initiative can be viewed here: <https://youtu.be/pUJLQIPNvwY>



September 2021 launch of the Keen to be Green Initiative

The Council's Central Procurement Unit is increasingly incorporating green procurement principles in major procurement processes and evaluation criteria. The CARO, in conjunction with a range of partners are working to devise a training programme on green public procurement for the local authority sector to operationalise the recently published EPA 'Green Public Procurement Guidance for the Public Sector'.

The social housing tenant induction programme has been expanded to include information and advice regarding environmental awareness, waste management and energy conservation. A new virtual tenant induction video is in preparation by our Communications section which will incorporate tenant awareness under the various headings



Bottle banks and textile banks being monitored and maintained by Council staff during COVID-19.



Contactless water fountain at Malahide Castle

## 5. Action Tables

### Energy & Buildings Action Updates:

No.	Action	Time-Frame	Lead	Indicators	Progress Report 2021	Status
E1	Create Energy Master Plan for the Dublin Region	In the next 5 years	Codema	Website with e-Map	The Dublin Region Energy Masterplan analysis has now been completed and will inform a spatially-led, cost-optimal pathway for Dublin towards our 2030 and 2050 targets in the areas of heat, electricity and transport. As part of this project online maps and tools have also been produced and are available on Codema's GitHub webpage.	Ongoing
E2	Prepare Fingal Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan	In the next 5 years	Codema	SECAP complete	FCC SECAP was completed in Q3 of 2019. The CoM SECAP is based on the Fingal CCAP and the Fingal Baseline Emission Report 2016, the actions, energy and emission baseline inventory, adaptation baseline, the risks and vulnerability assessments, were extracted from the CCAP and uploaded to the CoM SECAP web template. The Fingal SECAP overview can be found on the CoM website <a href="https://www.covenantofmayors.eu/about/covenant-community/signatories/action-plan.html?scity_id=19779">https://www.covenantofmayors.eu/about/covenant-community/signatories/action-plan.html?scity_id=19779</a> This was submitted to CoM and accepted. Following later reviews by CoM and as 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 that the SECAPs were deemed not to meet the new CoM SECAP requirements to address county-wide mitigation targets. A decision will be made on the development of new SECAPs.	Complete
E3	Prepare Local Authority Renewable Energy Strategy	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	Strategy prepared	The Council supports the development of Renewable Energy projects through objectives in the Development Plan, the review and preparation of a new one has commenced. We will engage with the DLA & Codema to determine the most advantageous timeframe for the development of an overarching strategy document, and will be informed by the work to date on Codema's Energy Masterplan.	Ongoing

No.	Action	Time-Frame	Lead	Indicators	Progress Report 2021	Status
E4	Outputs and recommendations from the Fingal Spatial Energy Demand Analysis (SEDA) 2016 to inform the review of the Fingal Development Plan 2017-2023	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	Content in Development Plan review	Development Plan review has commenced and will have sufficient regard to SEDA.	Ongoing
E5	Complete the roll out of LED public lighting by 2021 (27,000 units remaining)	In the next 5 years	Operations	100% of lighting converted to LED by 2021	86% complete and should be complete in 2022.	Ongoing
E6	Fingal Energy Management Team established	In the next 5 years	Corporate Affairs	Team established	Team established and meet monthly	Complete
E7	Develop ISO 50001 compliant energy management system	In the next 5 years	Corporate Affairs & Codema	System developed and ISO 50001 compliant	FCC has developed and implemented an energy management system and is now certified to the ISO 50001:2018 Energy Management System standard. Surveillance Audit completed 21st July 2020.	Complete
E8	Comply with S.I. 426 under the EU (Energy Efficiency) Regulations 2014	In the next 5 years	Corporate Affairs & Codema	Compliant	Compliant under ISO certification.	Ongoing
E9	Procure upgrades through an Energy Performance Contract for County Hall (Swords) and Civic Offices, Draíocht Arts Centre and public library in Blanchardstown	In the next 5 years	Corporate Affairs	EPC awarded, measurement and verification of energy savings	Tender process completed and the contract has been awarded to the preferred bidder. Preparations are in progress for contract signing to be completed in October 2021. Works will begin on the energy efficiency measures Oct 2021.	Ongoing

No.	Action	Time-Frame	Lead	Indicators	Progress Report 2021	Status
E10	Participate in the SEAI Energy Public Partnership Programme	In the next 5 years	Corporate Affairs	Signed up to programme	FCC has completed this programme with the SEAI	Complete
E11	Annual Monitoring & Reporting to SEAI	In the next 5 years	Codema	FCC's energy use monitored and reported	Ongoing. 2021 M&R process complete	Ongoing
E12	Publish Fingal County Council's Energy Review annually	In the next 5 years	Codema	Review published, # of recommendations implemented	2019 review process completed in September 2020. The aim of this Energy Review is to highlight the total amount of energy FCC consumed in 2019, along with the total cost and carbon emissions associated with this energy use. This Energy Review also aims to clearly demonstrate where energy is used in the Council, what drives its consumption, and where the greatest energy-saving potential is to be found; this will help FCC to identify its current status in relation to public sector energy targets, and what areas it needs to prioritise in order to meet these targets between now and 2030. The 2020 Energy Review document is currently being prepared.	Ongoing
E13	Display Energy Certificates for public buildings	In the next 5 years	Codema	# of DEC's generated for public buildings	DECs for all relevant buildings have been completed and published. 7 in total. Display Energy Certificates are required for public buildings over 250m2 and frequently visited by the public. DEC's for all relevant buildings have been completed and published.	Ongoing
E14	All new Council buildings built to nZEB standard	In the next 5 years	All Departments / Architects	All new builds nZEB standard	National Building Regulations to achieve nZEB standard applied and met on new buildings commissioned by the Council	Ongoing
E15	Refurbishment programme for Fingal Corporate buildings to include energy reviews and retrofits as standard	In the next 5 years	All Departments / Architects	# of buildings upgraded	Energy monitoring of Fingal Corporate buildings by Building Facilities Team is ongoing. Energy Performance Contracting progressing on large civic buildings. Refurbishment works on Corporate buildings achieving energy savings through internal reorganisation changes, fitout and building envelope improvements. Reroofing works at Fingal County Hall in 2021 provided for energy saving insulation to current standards.	Ongoing



No.	Action	Time-Frame	Lead	Indicators	Progress Report 2021	Status
E16	Boiler replacement programme in social housing stock underway	In the next 5 years	Housing	150 boilers upgraded annually	The Boiler Replacement Programme now falls under the 2021 Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme and boiler replacements are only carried out on an emergency basis as a result of heat loss or a H&S risk. This action will now be closed out as the Energy Efficiency Retrofit Action is in line with current Government Policy.	Completed
E17	Insulation of all council owned social housing stock; extended to include acquisitions and long term leasing where feasible	In the next 5 years	Housing	All Council owned social housing insulated by 2019	Social housing stock and acquisitions complete. Under the terms of the LTL Scheme, the property owner has responsibility for the structure of the property. This action will now be closed out. Ongoing Social Housing Energy Efficiency Upgrades under the Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme.	Completed
E18	LED lighting changeover of social housing voids and tenant changeover	In the next 5 years	Housing	100% of all voids and re-lets upgraded	100% of voids and re-lets upgraded as standard.	Ongoing
E19	Complete single glazing replacement programme in social housing stock and extend to include long term leases and acquisitions	In the next 5 years	Housing	All single glazing replaced by 2019	100% complete for council owned social housing stock and acquisitions. Under the terms of the LTL Scheme, the property owner has responsibility for the structure of the property. This action will now be closed out. Ongoing Social Housing Energy Efficiency Upgrades under the Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme.	Completed
E20	Conduct a pilot to deep retrofit social housing voids to inform potential for roll out for all stock	In the next 5 years	Housing	Pilot underway	Ongoing Social Housing Energy Efficiency Upgrades under the Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme 2021 with the upgrade of 65 dwellings across 4 sites to be completed Q4 2021 with a minimum B2 building energy rating delivered.	Ongoing
E21	Automatic shutdown of computers and lighting in all of Fingal's offices and depots	In the next 5 years	I.T., Facilities Management	# of systems installed	Automatic shutdown of computers is complete. Lighting in County Hall is already under the control of localised motion detection. Lighting in Grove Rd is manually shutdown by Security Staff and automatic lighting motion detection is being installed as part of the EPC process. Lighting in Libraries is manually shutdown by local staff. A feasibility study can be undertaken to retrofit lighting with localised motion detection. Lighting in Depots is manually shut down by security staff.	Ongoing

No.	Action	Time-Frame	Lead	Indicators	Progress Report 2021	Status
E22	Study potential for viable district heating projects within Fingal	In the next 5 years	Codema / Climate Action	Study complete	A potential project based around waste heat from a data centre which could serve sites such as the national sports campus, TUD Blanchardstown, HSE buildings and other potential customers in Fingal has been identified. Early engagement with the key stakeholders has begun with a view to developing a detailed techno-economic analysis of the the potential network and determining its viability, potential business models and financing options	Ongoing
E23	Study potential for viable renewable energy projects on a temporary/permanent basis, on council controlled lands	In the next 5 years	Climate Action / EETD	Study complete	Consultants appointed to undertake a feasibility study of installing Photovoltaic panels on the former Balleally landfill site, in compatibility with the masterplan for the Park. Some progress made. A Grid Connection Review has been commissioned and proposals for inclusion in next County Development Plan and in Park Master Plan being discussed.	Ongoing
E24	Work with SMEs in partnership with SEAI to promote energy efficient adaptations	In the next 5 years	LEO / EETD	# of SMEs availing of funding from SEAI	<p>LEO/SEAI collaboration continues to examine initiatives to promote sustainable business.</p> <p>During Climate Action Week in September 2021 a webinar was produced targeted to SME's &amp; business community to promote the circular economy with panel from EETCD/LEO/Fingal Leader/Fingal Chamber. FCC produced video case study of a new SME to illustrate circular economy thinking.</p> <p>The CCMA with CAROs and other partners organised the 'Climate Action Economic Opportunities conference 2021 on 12th and 13th October. This conference facilitated sharing of the latest research undertaken by the local government sector to explore how local authorities can, through their economic remit, support, encourage and nurture new and existing business and enterprise as they transition to a net-zero economy through innovation, digitalisation and the adoption of more sustainable practices</p>	Ongoing

No.	Action	Time-Frame	Lead	Indicators	Progress Report 2021	Status
E25	Engage with SEAI to help develop education programme for SME sector	In the next 5 years	LEO / SEAI	# of programmes developed/delivered	A committee of LEO Heads with Enterprise Ireland has been established (Sept 2020) to examine options and develop new initiatives in this area. In addition, the SEAI Energy Academy is a free online training resource offering a wide range of courses and modules focussed on all areas of energy efficiency and management. They are designed to help business save energy and lower costs which can in turn help businesses grow. FCC will aim to promote this course amongst SMEs in Fingal. <a href="https://www.seai.ie/energyacademy/">https://www.seai.ie/energyacademy/</a> Seven Fingal businesses approved for the Green for Micro programme in the period up to September 2021.	Ongoing
E26	Support Small Business Innovation & Research (SBIR) programme	In the next 5 years	Corporate / IT	Energy and climate change challenges identified for SBIR programme	The Council utilised the SBIR programme as a mechanism for innovative approaches under the Digital/Smart Fingal programme. However, opportunities to participate in the SBIR programme can be limited by the process which requires the approval of and funding by Enterprise Ireland. The Council has therefore expanded the mechanisms used for innovation re Digital/Smart Fingal including other national programmes and internal programmes. The following initiatives have been progressed via the various innovation mechanisms - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Weather Station Rain Gauges for Schools, 2021 pilot funded by FCC Chief Executive Innovation Fund.</li> <li>* Digital Beach Signage, 2021-2022 pilot part-funded by FCC Chief Executive Innovation Fund.</li> <li>* Smart Mobility Hub, 2021 -2022 pilot funded by the SBIR Programme.</li> <li>* Smart Ring Buoys, 2020-2021 pilot supported by Dublin Local Authorities Innovation Challenge.</li> <li>* Mobility as a Service (MaaS), 2020-2021 paper funded by DPER Public Service Innovation Fund.</li> </ul>	Ongoing

No.	Action	Time-Frame	Lead	Indicators	Progress Report 2021	Status
E27	Work with CARO / Codema on research and project proposals for grant funding	In the next 5 years	Climate Action / CARO / Codema	# of research projects initiated	<p>In 2020 funding was secured for the H2020 DeliveREE project to help with the project development aspects to deliver over €20m worth of energy efficiency and renewable energy projects across all four DLAs. The projects will fund work to establish a replicable project delivery system that will facilitate the production of procurement and legal templates, audits and aggregation of projects.</p> <p>CARO and Codema continue to work together to identify other research opportunities and funding streams that are available for climate and energy related projects. However participation and submission of applications for these projects is resource and staff dependant at an LA level. The CARO website <a href="http://www.caro.ie">www.caro.ie</a> and the CARO / Codema newsletters are repositories for this information.</p> <p>CARO worked on behalf of FCC and other councils to submit a successful application to the Creative Ireland Climate Action Fund. The project entitled 'Línte na Farraige' is a collaborative project which seeks to connect the public visually and tangibly to the risks from future sea levels.</p> <p>FCC is participating in a research project coordinated through Kildare County Council to trial methods pesticide-free maintenance programmes for public green spaces in collaboration with NUIM and other local authorities.</p>	Ongoing
E28	In all Council building projects, new build or retrofit, Swift Bricks or other nesting sites for swifts will be provided where practicable.	In the next 5 years	All Departments / Architects	# of nesting sites provided	<p>Swift bricks or nesting boxes have been included at Cappaghfinn Housing Phase 3 (69 dwellings) on site and due for completion Q3 2022. Church Fields 2B (67 dwellings) Mulhuddart due to commence on site with completion Q4 2022. Revisions to standard Social Housing Specification include requirement. Assessment completed by Bird Watch Ireland and provision made to include on Skerries Library refurbishment due to commence on site Q4 2021</p>	Ongoing

No.	Action	Time-Frame	Lead	Indicators	Progress Report 2021	Status
E29	Monitor and develop the Home Energy Saving Kits scheme in Fingal Libraries	In the next 5 years	Community, Codema	Borrowing rates from libraries	In 2020, an additional four Home Energy Saving Kits were added to Fingal Libraries, due to ongoing public demand and success of the scheme within the library network. These new kits were made available in Balbriggan, Malahide and Rush Libraries. 15 kits are available within Fingal Libraries for the public to borrow free-of-charge. Although the libraries were closed for a significant proportion of the COVID-19 pandemic, Codema continued to provide energy saving resources and social media content to maintain interest in Home Energy Saving Kit scheme.	Ongoing
E30	Annual energy awareness event	In the next 5 years	Climate Action / Codema	Annual event held	A Sustainable Energy Community information webinar was held for councillors in April 2021, followed by a public information webinar on the evening of 26th May 2021. A number of Energy Awareness webinars were hosted by Codema for Dublin Climate Action Week. Recordings are available at <a href="https://dublinclimatechange.codema.ie/climate-action-week/event-resources/">https://dublinclimatechange.codema.ie/climate-action-week/event-resources/</a>	Ongoing
E31	Promote and support SEAI's Better Energy Communities and Sustainable Energy Communities	In the next 5 years	Climate Action / All Departments	# of communities supported	Fingal has accepted the role as Lead Partner Applicant for SEC's in the Fingal area and works to actively promote & support the programme. There are currently 15 SEC's in Fingal, 5 of which were added this year. Council staff engage with the SEAI assigned mentor and with Codema who are the regional coordinator in facilitating the programme. An information evening for councillors was held in April 2021 and a public information webinar on 26th May 2021.	Ongoing

No.	Action	Time-Frame	Lead	Indicators	Progress Report 2021	Status
E32	Develop and encourage CPD training in energy awareness amongst Fingal staff	In the next 5 years	All Departments / Architects	Ongoing programme	<p>The Local Authority Climate Action Training Programme is being progressed by the Climate Action Regional Offices (CAROs) under the management of the Local Authority Services National Training Group (LASNTG). To date staff in Fingal County Council have completed training in Building Awareness (which is targeted at all staff); building capacity (which is targeted at staff working within the Climate Action Team) and championing leadership (which is targeted at Senior Management and Elected officials). Training has also taken place on climate action and planning and is due to take place on flood risk management and green procurement in the coming months</p> <p>Energy awareness training is ongoing across a number of Departments:  Architects: Annual in house CPD Programme, target min 25% seminars with energy/sustainability focus. Membership of Irish Green Building Council with monthly bulletins circulated including CPD opportunities for staff to see best practice. Building Facilities Staff have participated in SEAI Energy Public Partnership Programme and associated training. Codema have provided lunchtime lectures on home energy awareness in pre COVID-19 for all staff.</p>	Ongoing
E33	Expand tenant induction programme to include tenant energy awareness	In the next 5 years	Housing / Architects	100% of tenants provided with energy saving tips	The tenant induction programme has been expanded to include tenant energy awareness and all tenants are provided with energy savings tips.	Complete
E34	Install high visibility PV panels on suitable Council roofs such as libraries and community buildings	In the next 5 years	Facilities Management	Panels installed	The EPC proposes to install PV panels on the two main Council offices. The DeliverEE project contains proposals to install PV panels in smaller premises and consideration regarding this project is ongoing at present.	Ongoing

No.	Action	Time-Frame	Lead	Indicators	Progress Report 2021	Status
<b>E35</b>	Conduct research and case studies on appropriate and sensitive retro-fitting/energy upgrading of traditional buildings to inform works to Council owned properties and to guide private owners.	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	Case studies completed	The Conservation Officer has undertaken CPD on Fundamentals of energy renovations for traditional buildings and is engaging with regional colleagues to develop case studies. DCC are due to publish "Built to Last" document so potential to utilise DCC template. It is intended to carry out case studies of Council owned historic properties in 2022/2023 to determine accurate data on existing energy performance levels of the buildings and to then identify appropriate and sensitive interventions to increase levels where required.	Ongoing

## Transport Action Updates:

No.	Action	Time-Frame	Lead	Indicators	Progress Report 2021	Status
T1	Install quality teleconferencing facilities between Blanchardstown and Swords	In the next 5 years	I.T	Facilities installed	Microsoft Teams has been rolled out to all staff. Also, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, laptops have been issued to all staff who require the use of computers for their work. Accordingly, all office staff now have videoconferencing services available to them. Meeting room technology upgrades which will provide video-conferencing facilities in every meeting room in the Swords and Blanchardstown offices are currently planned for implementation in Q4 2021.	Completed
T2	Modernise the workplace to facilitate flexible working arrangements to reduce staff travel (e.g. Skype)	In the next 5 years	Human Resources & I.T.	Modernisation programme underway	Digital Workplace Programme is continuing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Office365 implementation (including MS Teams) is complete;</li> <li>* All office staff have been issued with laptops;</li> <li>* Telephony system replacement is complete;</li> <li>* Sharepoint Online project in progress - 8 out of 15 Departments completed;</li> <li>* CRM Online project has commenced;</li> <li>* Fieldwork and Asset Management in planning;</li> </ul>	Ongoing
T3	Implement carbon offset programme for official flights and investigate an appropriate offsetting scheme for the Council's other business travel emissions.	In the next 5 years	Corporate & Climate Action	Programme implemented	It is proposed that Business Travel by will be included as a reportable area under the revised SEAI M&R system for the Public Sector which is currently being finalised. Whilst offsetting will not be allowable as a mechanism to achieve Public Sector targets, some organisations have used it to invest in local and international environmental projects such as tree planting and eco cooking stoves. CARO is working with a sustainability consultant to prepare a short guidance document on Carbon offsetting for Local Authorities. This report will be finalised in Q1 of 2022.	Ongoing
T4	Promotion of Cycle-to-Work Scheme for Council staff	In the next 5 years	Human Resources	# of staff availing of scheme	Ongoing - advertised on staff messages Feb 2020 and Sept 2021.	Ongoing



No.	Action	Time-Frame	Lead	Indicators	Progress Report 2021	Status
T5	Provide an electric vehicle in County Hall courtyard and Blanchardstown for use by staff travelling to site visits and meetings	In the next 5 years	HR & Operations	EVs provided	The Fingal County Council Smart Mobility Hub phase two pilot was launched in September 2021. The six-month pilot will have two electric cars and 4 electric bikes available to staff for use during work hours. The mobility hubs will be based in Swords County Hall and Blanchardstown Civic Offices staff car parks. Through an innovative booking application staff will be able to book to use the electric cars or the electric bikes using their smart phone.	Ongoing
T6	Continued electrification of the Council's vehicle fleet as market technology develops	In the next 5 years	Operations	% of total fleet converted to EVs	There are 50 fully electric vehicles in the fleet ie 20% of the transport fleet or 33% of light commercial vehicles are now fully electric.	Ongoing
T7	Expand availability of EV charging points for Council staff and operational vehicles	In the next 5 years	Operations	# of charging points	Adequate provision relative to EV coverage. 12 provided for Council staff, 50 for fleet across 7 sites.	Ongoing
T8	Electric vehicle charge points to be provided in car parking for new Fingal Corporate buildings and social housing where technically feasible	In the next 5 years	All Departments & Architects	# of EV charge points provided	EV charging Infrastructure (ducting and cabling), is included on social housing construction to allow for fitting unit if occupant has EV vehicle. EV charging infrastructure included in design briefs for new Corporate and Community buildings and assessments of feasibility requested on refurbishment briefs.	Ongoing
T9	Provide eco driving training to Council drivers	In the next 5 years	Human Resources	# of staff trained	Our training section is engaging with commercial trainers on this. Also, the CCMA CATN committee have established a working group to examine the requirements on local authorities to reduce their fleet emissions by 51% by the year 2030. This working group will examine all aspects of local authority fleet operations.	Ongoing

No.	Action	Time-Frame	Lead	Indicators	Progress Report 2021	Status
<b>T10</b>	To plan spatial development patterns which reduce transport demand and encourage low carbon transport modes. E.g. consolidation of the existing communities already served by public transport and close to established social and community infrastructure and the creation of new communities serviced by high quality transport links	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure & Operations	Kms of cycle routes, # of schemes completed	Planning for Action is set out in Development Plan and is enacted in Development Management. Reporting of indicator is tied into actions T12, T13, T15, T17, T18, T24..	Ongoing
<b>T11</b>	Promote the installation of EV charge points in curtilage, for all new house constructions in Fingal	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	Policy adopted	Policy in relation to the installation of EV charge points will be incorporated into the new Development Plan. Promotion of EV charging points takes place during pre-planning.	Ongoing
<b>T12</b>	Build out Fingal's cycle network offering direct routes to local destinations and public transportation hubs. Develop linked cycling trails, greenways and green belts for recreation and biodiversity protection	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure / Operations	Kms of cycle routes, # of schemes completed	Large number of projects ongoing. Substantial progress being made. See action T13 & T15 for projects and T17 for link ups.	Ongoing

No.	Action	Time-Frame	Lead	Indicators	Progress Report 2021	Status
<b>T13</b>	Advance the provision of new cycle networks across the County such as the Fingal Coastal Way, the Sutton to Malahide Cycleway, the Broadmeadow Way, the Harry Reynolds Road Cycle Route and the Royal Canal Urban Greenway, etc.	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure / Operations	Kms of cycle routes, # of schemes completed	A number of projects at various stages of design, planning and construction. Substantial progress is being made. For example: the Broadmeadow Way has been granted planning permission by An Bord Pleanala and design and site investigation is ongoing. Public consultation took place in 2021 in the Royal Canal Greenway and the Fingal Coastal Way. The Harry Reynolds Road Cycle Route was granted planning permission in 2020 and is due to be tendered in 2021. The Sutton-Malahide Cycle Route will undergo stakeholder consultation in 2021. The Church Field Road and Cycle Network has been tendered and will move to site in 2021. The bridge agreement for the Donabate pedestrian and cycle bridge has been signed off by the board of CIE.	Ongoing
<b>T14</b>	Support the Greater Dublin Cycling Network Plan	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure / Operations	Kms of cycle routes, # of schemes completed	Support of the Plan is incorporated into the Development Plan and is a part of P&SI Dept ongoing programme of projects and plans.	Ongoing
<b>T15</b>	Advance the construction of the following road schemes which will include a high quality cycle network - Donabate Distributor Road, Rathbeale Road Upgrade and Snugborough Interchange and Ongar - Barnhill Link Road, etc.	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure / Operations	Kms of cycle routes, # of schemes completed, map produced	Donabate Distributor Road complete. Rathbeale Road complete. Ongar-Barnhill Road Scheme bridge agreement due to be signed in 2021, land acquisition being finalised. Snugborough Interchange Scheme is currently under construction. Park Road Upgrade completed in 2021.	Ongoing

No.	Action	Time-Frame	Lead	Indicators	Progress Report 2021	Status
<b>T16</b>	Implement traffic calming programme including provision of new signalised pedestrian crossings	In the next 5 years	Operations	# of traffic calming measures	Ongoing. Within works programme, approx 26 provided in 2019 - 2020. For example - a new 4 armed roundabout has been provided in Carpenterstown with Zebra crossing improving access for school children. Likewise, a mini roundabout has been provided in Skerries at the Barnageenagh Road Jn with Dublin Road. 2021: Balbriggan Swords: 1 toucan x-ing, 1 ped x-ing. 16 ramps, 5 VAS. Castlenock Mulhuddart Ramps replacements, Footpath buildouts, 4 VAS, 2 zebra x-ings. Howth Malahide 3 ped x-ings upgraded, 3 calming schemes, 2 footpath buildouts, 3 VAS.	Ongoing
<b>T17</b>	Regular maintenance of regional and local roads to encourage modal shift to cycling	In the next 5 years	Operations	Km of roads maintained that facilitates modal shift	Active Travel measures consider in co-ordination with the yearly Area Work Programmes and the 3 year Capital Roads Programme. Installation of pedestrian crossings, speed ramps, junction improvements, vehicle activated signage.	Ongoing
<b>T18</b>	Improve conditions and uptake of cycling through public realm / local area plans	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure / Operations	# of projects implemented, # of and kms of planned cycle paths	Local Area Plans, Public Realm have been undertaken in accordance with agreed P&SI programme of plans and projects; and contain requirements for cycling infrastructure.	Ongoing
<b>T19</b>	Re-organisation of allocation of space to pedestrians in the public realm	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure / Operations	Pre and post surveys of pedestrian numbers	This is implemented as part of Urban Framework Plans, Public Realm Projects and other local plans. Fingal recognises the importance of vibrant urban centres, and associated quality of life and wellbeing, and acknowledges that a greater balance between users is required with the emphasis on an improved pedestrian environment, and aims to deliver through these plans.	Ongoing
<b>T20</b>	Increase the quantity of bicycle stands in the public domain	In the next 5 years	Operations	Projects implemented, # of bike stands	Contractor is currently installing new bike stands in north Fingal which will allow a further 120 bicycles to securely park. Once works are complete in North Fingal, focus will shift to East & Central Fingal and then onto South & West Fingal. The aim is to deliver a total of 500+ bike locking facilities by the end of December 2021 that are distributed across the 7 Fingal Local Electoral Areas. Locations are a variety of playgrounds, skateparks, beaches, town and village centres, sports clubs, schools and shopping amenities. Ongoing work will continue with assessing suggested locations to include in future work packages to be delivered in 2022.	Ongoing

No.	Action	Time-Frame	Lead	Indicators	Progress Report 2021	Status
T21	Expand Bike Sharing Schemes in urban areas	In the next 5 years	Operations	# of bikes provided	Blepper Bike Share Scheme was expanded to North County Fingal to include Balbriggan, Skerries, Rush, Donabate, Portrane for 3 months in Summer 2021 with an additional 70 bikes spread across these locations totalling a minimum of 120 bikes available across the County at all times. This pilot expansion has now been extended up to 31st December 2021.	Ongoing
T22	Promote and facilitate additional car sharing schemes	In the next 5 years	Operations	# of cars provided	FCC in partnership with Louth and Meath CoCo's submitted an application for funding from DRCD under the Digital Initiative Programme 2021 for the provision of a Community Car Scheme without success. We are currently engaging with stakeholders on the re-commencement of this initiative with a view to having it in place by end of first quarter 2022. GoCar, who operate car-share in Fingal and currently have 26 cars/vans available for rent, have requested permission to expand to a further 18 locations across the County in 2021 and permission has been sought from the Operations Department on these locations.	Ongoing
T23	Develop a policy with NTA for the provision of Park & Ride facilities across the County	In the next 5 years	Operations, Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	Policy developed and sites identified	Ongoing. FCC Active Staff are engaging with NTA / TII on policy formation and to identify potential sites.	Ongoing
T24	Support the development and expansion of existing public transport services including MetroLink, BusConnects and DART expansion to Balbriggan	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	Public transport supported	Ongoing liaison and consultation with Irish Rail and the NTA in the design and integration of these projects.	Ongoing

No.	Action	Time-Frame	Lead	Indicators	Progress Report 2021	Status
<b>T25</b>	Expand the availability of EV charge points in towns and villages in line with national policy as it develops	In the next 5 years	Operations	<i># of charging points</i>	The 4 Dublin LAs, CARO and Smart Dublin in conjunction with consultants have prepared a Dublin Region Electric Vehicle Charge Point (EVCP) Strategy for the Dublin LAs. The strategy is currently in a stakeholder engagement phase to inform the location of potential EVCPs by LAs in the Dublin Region. FCC have installed 8 public EV chargers to date.	Ongoing
<b>T26</b>	Identify and put in place the resources necessary to develop and implement a cycling strategy	In the next 5 years	Operations	<i>Resources assigned</i>	Resources are now in place to prepare and publish an Active Travel Strategy. This action will now be closed out as it has now been expanded to include all forms of Active Travel, including cycling.	Complete

### Flood Resilience Action Updates:

No.	Action	Time-Frame	Lead	Indicators	Progress Report 2021	Status
<b>F1</b>	Implement The Planning System and Flood Risk Management - Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2009)	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	# of projects following guidelines	The Guidelines are implemented on every planning permission which requires input from the Water Services Forward Planning Section.	Ongoing
<b>F2</b>	Undertake Strategic Flood Risk and SuDS Assessments for all LAPS, SDZs and development plans	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	Assessments completed	All the FRAs are now either complete or will be complete shortly. Once the County Development Plan for 2023 to 2029 is complete, FRAs for the new LAPS will be tendered and completed in line with the Planners LAP priorities.	Ongoing
<b>F3</b>	Finalise a SuDS policy in collaboration with all Fingal departments	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	SuDS policy finalised	The FCC SuDS policy is now part of the Blue/Green Infrastructure specification for all new developments.	Completed
<b>F4</b>	Mid-term review of the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) for the County Development Plan	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	Review complete	County Development Plan SFRA is ongoing and will be completed by Q4 2021.	Ongoing
<b>F5</b>	Protect and conserve floodplains, wetlands and coastal areas subject to flooding through available policy instruments	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	Map of areas to be protected, # of hectares protected	Identification of areas undertaken through Strategic Planning Process in SFRA of Plans and Projects	Ongoing

No.	Action	Time-Frame	Lead	Indicators	Progress Report 2021	Status
F6	Assess the feasibility of green roofs on all new Fingal public, operational and social buildings and provide where viable and appropriate	In the next 5 years	All Departments / Architects	Assessments completed and provided	External funding source budgetary constraint on social housing programme limits installation of green roofs on social housing schemes. Assessment of Green Roof provision ongoing on new public buildings and included on planning stage proposals for Community Centres at Meakstown and Baldoyle Racecourse Park.	Ongoing
F7	Update Council Emergency Response Plans to include flood event response	In the next 5 years	Corporate / Operations	Plans completed and updated yearly	Plans in place and kept under review	Ongoing
F8	Develop template for extreme weather events to capture details, response and costs (including ecosystem services/natural capital costs) for all major climate events	In the next 5 years	Corporate / Finance	Template developed and issued	Underway. FCC trialed the WIRE (Weather Impacts Register) app, which has been developed by Atlantic Seaboard North CARO, for data collection and reporting of extreme weather events. This app will be rolled out nationally through the 4 CAROs in 2022.  A system to capture & record the LA response & associated costs is being examined and internal consultations with Departments underway.	Ongoing
F9	To engage with the Fingal Coastal Liaison Group with the integration of adaptation strategies into planning policies, etc.	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	# of meetings held each year	Public Information Process relating to the Rogerstown Outer Estuary Coastal Flood/Erosion management process is completed. Detailed design/planning process for project ongoing for submission to ABP in 2022.	Ongoing



No.	Action	Time-Frame	Lead	Indicators	Progress Report 2021	Status
<b>F10</b>	Develop a climate change impact GIS risk map with scenarios for the Dublin Region	In the next 5 years	Climate Ireland / Environment / All Departments	GIS map developed	The CAROs are currently working with Climate Ireland to develop a common methodology for local authorities to carry out semi-quantitative risk assessments that will provide a key adaptation planning tool for the sector, as well as other sectors. The methodology will inform climate change adaptation planning based on current and projected future risks, and the effectiveness of adaptation strategies and actions in reducing climate impacts to acceptable levels. The risk assessment methodology will be trialled across the local authorities in the ASBN region in Q3-2021 before being rolled out nationally in 2022.	Ongoing
<b>F11</b>	Archaeological and heritage assets to form part of all climate risk assessments including opportunities for integration of cultural heritage in adaptive mitigations e.g. green infrastructure, cycle ways, nature-based solutions etc.	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	Assets included in risk assessments	Heritage Officer has inputted on opportunities for integration of cultural heritage into the Fingal Coastal Way and other strategic initiatives	Ongoing
<b>F12</b>	Identify projects and opportunities for collaboration with relevant stakeholders to assess and prioritise cultural heritage sites vulnerable to climate change	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	# of projects participated in	The results of the Fingal Cultural Heritage Climate Risk Assessment will inform priority actions. Protection of the burial site DU011-090 in the Ward River valley from riverine erosion and increased fluvial flooding took place in September 2021. The Heritage Officer worked with Inland Fisheries Ireland and the National Monuments Service. The project was funded by the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage's Community Monument Fund 2021.	Ongoing

No.	Action	Time-Frame	Lead	Indicators	Progress Report 2021	Status
<b>F13</b>	Develop and implement Coastal Protection Plan for Portrane	In the next 5 years	OPW / Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	Plan produced and actions implemented	Work is ongoing on the completion of the Ground Investigations and Environmental Assessments required for the submission of a planning application for the proposed Coastal Protection Works during 2022.	Ongoing
<b>F14</b>	Progress OPW flood protection scheme at Mill Stream Skerries	In the next 5 years	OPW / Water Services & Environment	Project completed	The flood schemes with the OPW, Malahide , Portmarnock bridge, and Skerries are being evaluated with other OPW schemes (scheme viability review) prior to committing to the engaging consulting engineers for the full scheme design, planning and construction. This review by the OPW was due to be complete by the end of 2021 but has been delayed.	Ongoing
<b>F15</b>	Progress OPW flood protection scheme at Bissett Strand and The Green Malahide Village	In the next 5 years	OPW / Water Services & Environment	Project completed	The flood schemes with the OPW, Malahide , Portmarnock bridge, and Skerries are being evaluated with other OPW schemes (scheme viability review) prior to committing to the engaging consulting engineers for the full scheme design, planning and construction. This review by the OPW was due to be complete by the end of 2021 but has been delayed.	Ongoing
<b>F16</b>	Progress OPW flood protection scheme at Portmarnock Bridge	In the next 5 years	OPW / Water Services & Environment	Project completed	The flood schemes with the OPW, Malahide , Portmarnock bridge, and Skerries are being evaluated with other OPW schemes (scheme viability review) prior to committing to the engaging consulting engineers for the full scheme design, planning and construction. This review by the OPW was due to be complete by the end of 2021 but has been delayed.	Ongoing
<b>F17</b>	Continued engagement with the OPW to progress further studies of areas within Fingal at risk of flooding, and development of suitable schemes such as Strand Road Sutton and Santry	In the next 5 years	OPW / Water Services & Environment	Schemes identified	Dublin City are in the process of engaging consulting engineers for the Santry river restoration project.	Ongoing

No.	Action	Time-Frame	Lead	Indicators	Progress Report 2021	Status
<b>F18</b>	Develop a coastal monitoring programme to measure coastal erosion along the Fingal coast	In the next 5 years	Coastal Liaison Group, Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	Monitoring programme set up	Pilot monitoring work by OPW in Rogerstown Park ongoing with topographical and bathymetric information provided to FCC. Council will introduce weather stations in the Estuary to correlate weather data with other Coastal Change information.	Ongoing
<b>F19</b>	Identify sites where flood defence features can be removed or relocated to increase flood capacity of rivers and estuaries	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	# of sites identified	First three sites identified, but more detailed analysis required to determine potential impacts of embankment removal	Ongoing
<b>F20</b>	Restore St Ita's wetlands to maximise water attenuation capacity and nature conservation benefits	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	% of wetland restored	First phase of wetland restoration complete and grazing introduced. DDR restoration works also completed. Haul road removal from wetland planned for Q4 2021	Ongoing
<b>F21</b>	Record on a GIS layer the council surface water system and make it available to all relevant staff from Operations & Planning. This must include all SuDS systems and flood embankments	In the next 5 years	Water Services, Operations, Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	Surface water system recorded on GIS layer	FCC Water Services department are currently working with FCC IT to establish a functional GIS system and are training staff to update and maintain the GIS system. This is an ongoing process. Once the GIS infrastructure is in place, establishing the layer for the stormwater network and updating this will commence, followed by liaison with other departments to include layers for SuDS systems and flood embankments.	Ongoing

No.	Action	Time-Frame	Lead	Indicators	Progress Report 2021	Status
<b>F22</b>	Prepare a maintenance register for the entire surface water system within the county, including SuDS, pipes and culverts to aid proactive maintenance, alleviate flooding and maintain water quality	In the next 5 years	Water Services, Operations, Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	Maintenance register created	A Maintenance Register for the stormwater pipe network has been established and is currently being developed, with the aim to supplement the reactive maintenance with further proactive maintenance in 2022.	Ongoing
<b>F23</b>	Identify and put in place the resources to develop and promote SuDS, including: Promote and encourage community involvement in the retrofit of SuDS in existing developments, maintaining community rain gardens, discourage hard paving in gardens and retrofit raingardens / water butt installations	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	Resources and programme in place	SuDS is being promoted on an ongoing basis by the Water Services Forward Planning Section including site workshops as well as training for the other Departments in Fingal. A public engagement site visit was delivered as part of Dublin Climate Action Week aimed at providing a greater understanding of SuDS.	Ongoing
<b>F24</b>	Create a case study of SuDS at Local Area Plan level	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	Case study complete	Proposed for the development of Barnhill LAP. The LAP will include a variety of SuDS measures including planter gardens, downpipe planter gardens, swales, wetlands etc. Also proposed are metrics for measuring effectiveness of implemented SUDS systems. This development has not yet started but funding for part of the Case study has been secured.	Ongoing

No.	Action	Time-Frame	Lead	Indicators	Progress Report 2021	Status
<b>F25</b>	Carry out a Climate Change Risk Assessment of Fingal's Cultural Heritage to identify and survey the architectural and archaeological heritage sites and designed landscapes.	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	Risk Assessment completed	The Fingal Cultural Heritage & Climate Change Risk Assessment was undertaken with input from CARO, GSI, and CHERISH and report launched in July 2021. The report is available on <a href="https://www.fingal.ie/fingal-heritage-x-climate-2021">https://www.fingal.ie/fingal-heritage-x-climate-2021</a> and the interactive map at <a href="https://luc.maps.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=d3ab54100756429e803104c490f8131e">https://luc.maps.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=d3ab54100756429e803104c490f8131e</a> . As the first of its kind in Ireland the process and results are informing other projects including the Transboundary Adaptation Learning Exchange (TaIX) project and the Sectoral Plan for Climate Change Adaptation of the Archaeology & Built Heritage sector.	Completed
<b>F26</b>	Develop maintenance and condition survey programmes for Council owned historic buildings and ancient monuments that are informed by climate change impacts.	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	Programmes completed	Fingal's Sites & Monuments at Risk group continue to develop a programme of vegetation management, survey, specification and works for priority sites. Currently five heritage sites are being assessed to improve climate resilience through the Community Monuments Fund 2021.	Ongoing

### Nature Based Solutions Action Updates:

No.	Action	Time-Frame	Lead	Indicators	Progress Report 2021	Status
N1	Engage with sectoral adaptation plan on biodiversity to identify key habitats and species at risk from climate change impacts	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	Workshop carried out, risks and responses identified	Identification of key habitats and species at risk from climate change impacts will be incorporated into the Biodiversity Plan.	Ongoing
N2	Engage with regional working group on nature-based solutions once set up	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	Working group established	Regional engagement ongoing including studying effectiveness of green roofs. A pilot study on the effectiveness of green roofs to reducing storm water flows and in relation to sustaining Biodiversity is planned for the Skerries Library extension.	Ongoing
N3	Develop Green Infrastructure Strategy that incorporates climate change mitigation and adaptation to increase climate resilience	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	Strategy completed	This will be undertaken as part of the development plan review in 2021.	Ongoing
N4	Map access to green space in County to identify areas of need and integrate green infrastructure in access considerations	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	Map showing green space and projects	Open Space maps are on a dedicated GIS layer and this is being updated regularly with facilities added to the relevant database.	Ongoing

No.	Action	Time-Frame	Lead	Indicators	Progress Report 2021	Status
N5	Engage with the agri-food sector to gain an understanding of how Fingal might better support more sustainable farming practices	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	Sector engaged	No progress made to date, due to resource constraints & prioritisation of actions included here under NBS theme.	Not started
N6	Develop climate change initiatives in partnership with local farmers and other stakeholders	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	Initiatives developed	No progress made to date, due to resource constraints & prioritisation of actions included here under NBS theme.	Not started
N7	Review and implement the Tree Strategy to protect existing trees, increase tree cover, establish guidelines on tree maintenance and investigate feasibility of urban orchards	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure / Operations	Tree Strategy implemented, online map of trees and plants across the County	Revised Forest of Fingal Tree Strategy due for presentation to Full Council Meeting in October 2021.	Ongoing
N8	Identify sites for woodland planting that promotes an appropriate native species mix	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	# of sites and acreage of potential woodland identified	Woodland Management Programmes and woodland creation as part of a targeted strategic annual tree planting programme are being developed and proposed as part of the revised Fingal Tree Strategy, which will go to Council meeting in Nov 2021. Targeted woodland creation involves identifying and mapping priority locations within FCC's landbank suitable for woodland creation and expansion. These may be delivered in part through Development Management Process and Open Space levies. In addition, various small woodland development sites have been identified at local level. Council will take advantage of government funding programmes such as the New Woodland Creation Scheme on Public Lands. FCC are participating as an active working group member with CARO, in developing guidance documents for this scheme.	Ongoing

No.	Action	Time-Frame	Lead	Indicators	Progress Report 2021	Status
N9	Map and protect strategic agricultural land for national food security purposes	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure / Teagasc	Resource mapped	No progress made.	Not started
N10	Incorporate SuDS into Constructed Tree Pits provided by the Council and in requirements for Constructed Tree Pits conditioned by the Council in Planning Permissions	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	SuDS incorporated	Ongoing, through development management and forward planning. SuDS are being incorporated into Constructed Tree Pits provided by the Council in paved areas (example outside Star Pub Swords) and conditioned in Planning Permissions.	Ongoing
N11	Develop a map of habitats and species at risk of climate change	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	Map completed	Identification of key habitats and species at risk from climate change impacts will be incorporated into the Biodiversity Plan currently in preparation.	Ongoing
N12	Develop a monitoring programme of the habitats and species considered at risk of climate change	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	# of monitoring programmes set up for habitats and species	This will be incorporated into new Biodiversity Plan which is under development at present. EPA funding call advertised for Rogerstown estuary risk assessment, but no proposals submitted.	Ongoing
N13	Prepare a climate proof biodiversity plan	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	Complete review for climate relevant actions and amend accordingly	Draft Biodiversity plan to be published by December 2021	Ongoing
N14	Support and promote National Biodiversity Data Centre All-Ireland Pollinator Plan Actions for Councils	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure / Operations	Actions implemented	FCC is a formal council partner of Pollinator plan since March 2019. Pollinator Plan supported by numerous initiatives, including: Bee Positive Garden at Bloom 2019, Bulb planting initiatives, wildflower meadows in Regional Parks & Larger open spaces. Reduction of herbicides in public parks. See action N15 for long grass open spaces.	Ongoing



No.	Action	Time-Frame	Lead	Indicators	Progress Report 2021	Status
N15	Increase pollinator areas in public parks and open spaces	In the next 5 years	Operations	Increased pollinator area	Ongoing throughout the County with additional areas each year. It is not always possible but the preference is long grass pollinator areas.	Ongoing
N16	Support the use of allotments as a way communities can grow their own food, and lower food miles and food waste	In the next 5 years	Operations	Increased awareness	800 allotments provided across 4 Fingal sites.	Ongoing
N17	Prepare a heathland management plan for Howth with ecological input	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	Plan produced	Supporting studies complete but preparation of the Heathland management plan to be postponed to 2021 to allow for the impact assessment of grazing with goats on the heathland vegetation. No further progress made, due to other priorities on Howth SAAO	Ongoing
N18	Prepare a fire management plan for heathland on Howth that includes environmental considerations	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	Plan produced	Strategic wildfire breaks created all over Howth, Goat grazing project started to graze wildfire breaks. No progress made with wildfire operational plan due to lack of staff time	Ongoing
N19	Create multi-functional master plans for Rogerstown and Baldoyle Estuaries and their surroundings	In the next 5 years	Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	Master plans produced	Racecourse Park takes up most of the buffer zone of the Baldoyle Estuary. An application has been made to ABP for Racecourse Park in September 2021. Rogerstown Estuary Masterplan is at the early stages and once the coastal protection study is complete it will progress.	Ongoing

## Resource Management Action Updates:

No.	Action	Time-Frame	Lead	Indicators	Progress Report 2021	Status
R1	Implement green procurement where feasible, starting with office consumables	In the next 5 years	Corporate	Green procurement implemented	<p>Incorporation of green principles in major procurement processes and evaluation criteria is ongoing.</p> <p>The Council includes on all tender documentation issued to suppliers the Councils commitment to sustainable procurement, green policies, climate action and energy management.</p> <p>Energy efficiency incorporated as part of the ISO 50001 Certification.</p> <p>Stores buying off OGP green office consumables contract list.</p> <p>CARO in conjunction with a range of partners are working to devise a training programme on green public procurement for the local authority sector to operationalise the recently published EPA 'Green Public Procurement Guidance for the Public Sector'.</p> <p>Commencement of training across the local authority sector is expected in Q1 of 2022 under the management of the Local Authority Services National Training Group (LASNTG).</p>	Ongoing
R2	Implement green procurement at Council supported events where feasible, including reduction of single use plastics	In the next 5 years	EETD	Green procurement implemented at events	<p>All Requests for Tenders and RFQ's detail FCC's policy for single use plastics at events and request tenderers to provide documentation of their sustainability policies. Vendors asked to minimise single use plastics, use bio degradable serving products and plastic straws are banned. However, very few events have run this year so far to make use of the updated policies due to COVID-19.</p> <p>In addition, the Events Section has produced a document 'How to Make Your Event a Green One' with Advice on Environmental good practice for Festivals &amp; Events in Fingal. This is ongoing and all requests for Events tenders and RFQs request that vendors to minimise single use plastics, use bio degradable servicing products.</p>	Ongoing

No.	Action	Time-Frame	Lead	Indicators	Progress Report 2021	Status
R3	Implement Environmental Management System for Council buildings including reduction in waste and water usage, and increased recycling	In the next 5 years	Facilities Management / Environment	EMS implemented	Underway. Managed print & digital filing. New Bin Storage and compactor awaiting tender package in Corporate Projects 2021, Item 25 - aiming to deliver first quarter of 2022.	Ongoing
R4	Remove all single use items from Council canteens	In the next 5 years	Facilities Management	100% removal	Complete, and kept under review.	Ongoing
R5	Apply for Local Authority Waste Prevention Network grants	In the next 5 years	Water Services and Environment	# of grants for waste-related projects	The four Dublin local authorities made a joint application to the LAPN towards the production of a documentary which will tell the story of fast fashion and its impact on the climate to an Irish audience. We await the outcome of the application.	Ongoing
R6	Promote Conscious Cup Campaign	In the next 5 years	Climate Action / Communications	# of activities, # of people reached	The Conscious Cup Campaign has been promoted by our Environmental and Climate awareness officers routinely on social media and when engaging with community groups. Representatives from Conscious Cup Campaign are facilitated with opportunities for engagement with the public and business leaders at events and, were also invited to host a webinar as part of Dublin Climate Action Week in September 2021 - a recording can be viewed at <a href="https://dublinclimatechange.codema.ie/climate-action-week/event-resources/">https://dublinclimatechange.codema.ie/climate-action-week/event-resources/</a> All Fingal staff have been issued with keep cups and all new staff members receive a reusable cup when joining Fingal County Council.	Ongoing

No.	Action	Time-Frame	Lead	Indicators	Progress Report 2021	Status
R7	Promote 'Reuse Month' annually	In the next 5 years	Climate Action / Communications	# of Council events	Ongoing promotion & support of campaigns run by the Regional Waste Office and rediscovery centre each October, and also promotion of MyWaste.ie Re Use Challenge. Initiatives in Oct 2019 included the launch of the highly successful Fingal Instruments Project (Instruments handovers on an ongoing basis), and a ReUse Bus Shelter Add campaign. Initiatives in Oct 2020 included the relove fashion competition run through the rediscovery centre in cooperation with the DLA's. A short ReUse film was recorded for Dublin Climate Action Week featuring Paint, Bicycle, Instrument Reuse & Repair Initiatives in Fingal. This film can be viewed at: <a href="https://dublinclimatechange.codema.ie/climate-action-week/event-resources/">https://dublinclimatechange.codema.ie/climate-action-week/event-resources/</a>	Ongoing
R8	Promote recycling centres and expand the range of materials accepted where possible	In the next 5 years	Operations / Environment	Tonnage of materials accepted	Range of materials expanded in Estuary & Coolmine recycling centres to include Instruments, and in Estuary recycling centre to include Bicycles and household items for charity incl furniture & toys.	Ongoing
R9	Promote and support circular economy initiatives	In the next 5 years	EETD	# of initiatives undertaken	Sustainable Fingal Initiative launched February 2021 with video case studies produced with SME's to illustrate the concept of the circular economy. Competition to stimulate business engagement on the circular economy to be announced September 2021 - prize is to win a Sustainability Assessment and Action Plan. During Climate Action Week in September 2021 a webinar was held on Sustainable Business & Green Economy in September 2021 and showcased a video case study illustrating circular economy thinking.	Ongoing
R10	Trial recycling bins in regional parks	In the next 5 years	Operations	# of Bins	The Council have rolled out a pilot with segregated waste bins being placed in all the Council's regional parks in early summer 2021. The outcome of this pilot will be used as the basis for deciding on the viability of rolling out segregated public bins in other locations across the County.	Ongoing

No.	Action	Time-Frame	Lead	Indicators	Progress Report 2021	Status
R11	Implement a programme for the installation of big belly bins across the County to reduce collection frequencies and emissions	In the next 5 years	Operations	# of Bins	Total of 49 installed as at Sept. 2021. An additional 100 compactor bins on order for installation throughout the Council.	Ongoing
R12	Support and promote the inclusion of climate change initiatives in tidy town, green schools and cleaner communities	In the next 5 years	Climate Action	# of initiatives supported by the Council each year	Climate Action training provided to tidy towns and community groups. Ecologists have been employed to engage with tidy towns and community groups to produce local ecological development plans which the groups can implement with council support. Plans to engage community groups with tree planting initiatives in Nov / Dec 2021.	Ongoing
R13	Support marine litter clean-up initiatives	In the next 5 years	Environment / Operations	# of initiatives supported by the Council each year	Ongoing through support of An Taisce Clean Coasts, the All Dublin Clean Up day which was in partnership for the Dublin LA's, An Taisce and the Canals groups, and support to schools through the An Taisce Green Schools Project and the Picker Pals Project. Ongoing support (litter picking equipment) given out through community centres and to sailing and yacht clubs for clean-ups.	Ongoing
R14	Explore collaboration with Refill.ie to reduce single use drinking water bottles	In the next 5 years	Water Services and Environment	Feasibility assessed	Council contactless drinking water fountains are on the Refill.ie app. <a href="https://refill.ie/tap-map/">https://refill.ie/tap-map/</a>	Ongoing
R15	Maintain landfill gas collection and reuse system at Dunsink and Balleally Landfill	In the next 5 years	Water Services and Environment	Practically Zero GHG emissions by 2030	This is being maintained.	Ongoing
R16	Look at feasibility of planting trees on Dunsink Landfill	In the next 5 years	Water Services and Environment	% increase in tree coverage in line with future Master Plan	The Feasibility Assessment with the Parks Department for tree planting at Dunsink Landfill was completed and locations for tree planting have been selected. It is envisaged that tree planting could commence next year subject to EPA approval in advance.	Ongoing

No.	Action	Time-Frame	Lead	Indicators	Progress Report 2021	Status
R17	Provide a water butt retrofit programme for council owned housing on a cost benefit basis, starting with voids and tenant changeovers	In the next 5 years	Housing	# of water butts installed	Water butts to be included at new build Monastery Court, Lusk (5 dwellings) as a pilot project which is currently at detail design stage and due on site Q1 2022.	Ongoing
R18	Assess the feasibility of including rainwater harvesting on all new Fingal public, operational and social buildings and provide where viable and appropriate	In the next 5 years	All Departments / Architects	# assessed and provided	Assessments on projects at preliminary stage and requirement for assessment feasibility incorporated in design team briefs when commissioning new projects.	Ongoing
R19	Incorporate low flush toilets into Council buildings, depots and housing, in line with refurbishment programmes	In the next 5 years	Facilities Management	# of low flush toilets incorporated in Council buildings, depots and housing	Low flush toilets are provided in main buildings & social housing already. Depots will be assessed in line with refurbishment programmes.	Ongoing

No.	Action	Time-Frame	Lead	Indicators	Progress Report 2021	Status
R20	Develop and implement an ongoing public Climate Change Awareness Programme	In the next 5 years	Climate Action / Comms / CARO	Programme implemented	<p>Fingal County Council partnered with the other 3 Dublin local authorities and CARO &amp; Codema to produce the first Dublin Climate Action Week in September 2021 which consisted of a range of over 75 on-line and in person events relating to the themes of the Climate Change Action Plans. Fingal hosted site visit and webinar events. The webinars and other resources can be viewed at <a href="https://dublinclimatechange.codema.ie/climate-action-week/event-resources/">https://dublinclimatechange.codema.ie/climate-action-week/event-resources/</a> Several Climate and Environmental awareness training course have been provided to community groups and tidy towns.</p> <p>Our Environmental Awareness Officer presents to schools and communities across the county and ensures a sustained social media campaign in relation to sustainable living, environmental and climate awareness. Council supported events are becoming greener. Public consultations in relation to projects and plans are ongoing. Our Communications team highlight the climate action message in the promotion of all plans and projects. Fingal News has a Climate Action tip in each issue. Fingal, the DLA and CARO are also partners in Phase 1 of a new the GAA Green Clubs programme involving 45 clubs nationwide including a GAA club in Fingal. <a href="https://www.gaa.ie/my-gaa/community-and-health/green-clubs-sustainability/">https://www.gaa.ie/my-gaa/community-and-health/green-clubs-sustainability/</a></p>	Ongoing
R21	Implement a Climate Awareness Programme for staff	In the next 5 years	HR / Comms / Climate Action	Programme implemented	<p>All staff are being invited to undertake Climate Action Awareness training which CARO and Climate Ireland have developed across 6 pillars and is being delivered through the Local Authority Training Services Group. Grades 7 to 3 have undertaken General Raising Climate Awareness Training; Grade 8's DoS and cllrs have been invited to a Championing Leadership pillar; and Planners have been invited to a planning module. More training for other disciplines to follow. Climate Awareness &amp; Environmental Sustainability messaging routinely on staff messages. All staff have received a keep cup. Recycling bins &amp; signage are maintained throughout council offices. Cycle to work scheme promoted. Codema have held Lunch n Learn Home Energy information sessions. Home energy savings kit available for staff use. EV charge points available in carparks.</p>	Ongoing

No.	Action	Time-Frame	Lead	Indicators	Progress Report 2021	Status
R22	Develop and implement a Climate Change Awareness Grant Programme for schools and communities	In the next 5 years	Climate Action	Programme implemented	A number of grant programmes increasingly have a Climate Action, Biodiversity and Sustainable awareness focus, including Community Environment Fund and Anti-Litter & Anti-Graffiti Fund which are administered by FCC Environmental Dept. Sustainable sports competitions were held in 2019 & 2020. Grant funding is being made available to Sustainable Energy Communities from 2021. It is also anticipated that the new Government CAP 2021 will have a significant Climate Action Fund which communities can avail of.	Ongoing
R23	As part of an emerging 'Green City' concept to produce A Guide to Sustainable Business in Swords	In the next 5 years	Economic & Tourism	Guide produced	Sustainable Fingal Initiative launched February 2021 with digital brochure and sustainable business webpage. Provides information for business on how to reduce energy, water and waste and provides information on available funding streams. Some video case studies produced with local businesses and available on website. Podcast produced to promote the initiative with targeted campaign on LinkedIn. Competition launched to stimulate business engagement with deadline of 28th May 2021 - prize is to win a Sustainability Assessment and Action Plan.	Complete
R24	Expand tenant induction programme to include tenant energy, water, waste and environmental awareness	In the next 5 years	Housing / Architects / Climate Action	# of tenants reached	The Programme has been expanded to include information and advice regarding environmental awareness, waste management and energy conservation. 265 households attended tenant induction during 2019. COVID-19 restrictions impacted in 2020. A new virtual tenant induction video is in preparation by Communications which will incorporate tenant awareness under the various headings.	Ongoing
R25	Pilot Climate Action workshops with Tidy Town committees to promote awareness of climate action at a local level.	In the next 5 years	Climate Action	# of workshops	A number of virtual climate action / environmental sustainability workshops have been provided to tidy towns and other groups throughout COVID-19. These include Sustainable gardening and wildflower masterclasses. A birdwatch Ireland webinar was held in May 2021 on what communities can do to assist declining bird species. Composting workshops were provided as part of Dublin Climate Action Week in Sept 2021.	Ongoing



No.	Action	Time-Frame	Lead	Indicators	Progress Report 2021	Status
R26	Establish a network of public drinking water fountains to help reduce plastic waste	In the next 5 years	Operations	# of points installed	Public Drinking Water Fountains have been installed in the Regional Parks. Provision has been made in the 3 year capital programme for the roll out in all other parks and possibly town centres.	Ongoing
R27	Examine the feasibility of retrofitting rainwater harvesting measures in existing council buildings, particularly for vehicle washing, toilet flushing and landscaping	In the next 5 years	Facilities Management / Architects	Feasibility study complete	Underway. Retrofitting RWH has not been viable on existing buildings on a cost benefit assessment. RWH will be considered for all new buildings and included in design team briefs.	Ongoing

## 6. Conclusion:

This second annual progress report has outlined the progress Fingal County Council has made to date on the implementation of its CCAP and demonstrates the commitment the Council has shown in providing local level leadership on climate action. The Council continues to main-stream its efforts and collaborate across departments, to deliver on the Plan.

At the time of drafting this report the National Climate Action Plan 2021 was launched. Building on the CAP 2019, the Plan sets out sectoral emissions reduction targets and actions to help achieve these. The Plan reinforces the CARO role in coordinating LA climate action activity, and tasks LA's to develop Decarbonisation Zones within their administrative areas, these zones should contain a range of climate mitigation, adaptation and biodiversity measures.

The local authority sector is upskilling through the CARO / Climate Ireland led development and roll out of Climate Action training programmes for local authority staff. Fingal County Council staff at all levels have undertaken Climate Action training over the past year. This will help build capacity across teams and departments to deliver on future iterations of this Plan.

Fingal County Council has met and exceeded its 2020 energy efficiency target for Council operations, and with the assistance of Codema, is working towards achieving more onerous 2030 targets for energy efficiencies and emissions reductions.

The Council continues to develop flexible working arrangements which have enabled the continued delivery of services through the COVID-19 pandemic and reduced the need for staff travel.

The Council has greatly enhanced its efforts in relation to the provision of Active Travel infrastructure across the county and promoting behavioural changes to more active travel modes, particularly in relation to walking and cycling, with the creation of the Active Travel Section within the Environment, Climate Action and Active Travel Department.

A review of the Fingal County Council Development Plan 2017-2023 is underway including a review and strengthening of Climate Action, Connectivity & Movement and Green Infrastructure policies. The draft Plan is due to be presented to Council and the public in early 2022.

The Council has continued to engage citizens and other stakeholders on a range of issues and partnered with regional colleagues in the delivery of Dublin Climate Action Week in September 2021. The Council continues to promote and support the SEAI Sustainable Energy Community Programme and has supported SEC's in the Fingal area. Several other notable initiatives have been outlined across the thematic areas in section four of this report.

The public are seeing progress on the ground through the sum of our actions and particularly in the form of the provision of active travel infrastructure and greenways, planning for public transport, energy efficiency improvements to social housing, conversion of streetlights to LED's, transition to an EV fleet, emergency response, coastal protection, management of open spaces, provision and management of bring centres, and greening of events and competitions.

The continued implementation of the DLA CCAP's, in collaboration with the CARO, Codema and other stakeholders, supported by Government policy, can provide a pathway to ensure a climate resilient region by 2030, and assist in laying the foundations for a carbon neutral society.

## APPENDIX I: Action Status definitions

### **Not started:**

Action is set to start at a later stage but within the timeframe as set out in the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy/Action Plan.

### **Ongoing:**

Action is currently being implemented in that there is a clear implementation plan in place with a member of staff assigned responsibility for its completion. Ongoing will also encapsulate actions that require continual maintenance, such as, gulley maintenance, road maintenance etc. Actions that by their nature, can't be categorised as 'completed' due to continual maintenance requirements.

### **Postponed:**

Action whose start time has been postponed compared to the timeframe as set out in the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy/Action Plan.

### **Completed:**

Action has been fully implemented and no further work on this action is required.

### **New:**

Action is new and has not been previously stated in the current Local Authority Climate Change Adaptation Strategy/Action Plan. It is now included as new action based on either;

- An action in the latest publication of the All of Government Climate Action Plan that highlights local authorities as a stakeholder
- Joining in on a regional climate action project in collaboration with other local authorities (which may be subject to screening and approval by members of the local authority)

## Appendix II: References:

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### **Appendix III: List of Acronyms:**

BER – Building Energy Rating

CARO – Climate Action Regional Office

CCAC – Climate Change Advisory Committee

CCAP – Climate Change Action Plan

CCMA – County & City Management Association

CSO – Central Statistics Office

CO2 – Carbon Dioxide

DAFM – Department of Agriculture, Food & Marine

DECC – Department of the Environment, Climate & Communications

DHPLG – Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government

DLAs – Dublin Local Authorities

DTTAS - Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport

EMWR – Eastern & Midlands Waste Region

EnPi – Energy Performance Indicator

EPA – Environmental Protection Agency

EPC – Energy Performance Contract

ESRI – Economic & Social Research Institute

EV – Electric Vehicle

FCC – Fingal County Council

GHG – Greenhouse Gases

ISO – International Standards Organisation

LAP – Local Area Plan

LEADER - Liaisons entre actions de developement de Léconomie Rurale

LED – Light Emitting Diode

LGMA – Local Government Management Agency

NAF – National Adaptation Framework

NBS – Nature Based Solutions

NZEB – Nearly Zero Energy Building

NTA – National Transport Authority

OPW – Office of Public Works

PV – Photovoltaics

SEAI – Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland

SEC – Sustainable Energy Community

SPC – Strategic Policy Committee

SuDS – Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems