



**KILKENNY**  
COUNTY COUNCIL



# Kilkenny County Council

## Extract from the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy **Draft Actions & Sub-Actions**

2019-2024

Kilkenny County Council

Partner Authority with

The Eastern & Midlands Climate Action Regional Office



**2019/2020 Sub-Actions Highlighted Green**

DRAFT

# Energy & Buildings Actions

Energy & Buildings	
Energy Planning	
1	Create climate adaptation and energy master plan for Kilkenny
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2019/2020 Energy masterplan for the councils own energy usage 2020/2030</li> <li>• 2019/2020 Seek funding to develop energy masterplan for the city/county</li> </ul>
2	Integrate climate adaptation and energy actions in the new Kilkenny City & County Development Plan 2020-2026
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2019/2020 Ongoing in consultation with the Planning Department</li> </ul>
3	Continued support and lead applicant for the SEAI Better Energy Communities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2019/2020 Ongoing with support from KCC for two applications in 2019</li> </ul>
4	Communicate and adhere to statutory requirements relating to the architectural interests of historic buildings and impacts of service upgrades, when assessing for suitable solutions to increasing energy performance of a building
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2019/2020 - Ongoing as this is taken into account when carry out an energy audit on the councils building stock.</li> </ul>
5	Undertake Energy Audit of Historic structures in the ownership of the Local Authority, providing a common template for audit or assessment of works
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2019/2020 Currently ongoing in consultation with the Architectural Conservation Officer</li> </ul>
6	Develop policy in the City & County Development Plan to promote local materials and use of sustainable, low carbon footprint materials instead of those that require intense high temperature and carbon emissions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For inclusion/consideration in new Kilkenny City &amp; County Development Plan 2020-2026</li> </ul>
7	Develop policy in the City & County Development Plan to promote and advise for the use of environmentally friendly material and appropriately designed new buildings, which utilise orientation, shelter, sun, light, etc. in design details.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2020 For inclusion/consideration in the next city &amp; county development plan</li> </ul>
8	Encourage further research and pilot schemes for the deep retrofit of historic properties while assessing whole life durability of products and embodied energy of historic buildings.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2019/2020 Currently ongoing with consultation with the Architectural Conservation Officer/Council Architect</li> <li>• 2019 KCC have applied to SEAI for ISO 50 0001 training and support. Application accepted SEPT 2019</li> </ul>
9	Undertake feasibility study and gap analysis of development of ISO 50001 compliant energy management system
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ISO50001 Application accepted feasibility study to be undertaken 2019/2020</li> </ul>
10	Annual Monitoring & Reporting to SEAI on energy and carbon use.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2019/2020 Publishing Display Energy Certificates for public buildings</li> </ul>
11	Publish Climate Action and Energy Review annually
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2019/2020 SEAI carried out an external review (advanced diagnostic) of the council's energy management practises in 2019. The Energy team are currently working on implementing these recommendations.</li> </ul>

12	Reduce the need for "Grey adaptation" measures, for example, identifying sites for trialling renewable energy projects
	• 2019/2020 Ongoing and assessed as opportunities arise
13	Produce a Climate Adaptation and Energy Efficiency Plan for all council owned and operated buildings (e.g. Fire, Library, Sports, Roads and Transport and Corporate Buildings)
	• 2019/2020 Currently in progress, with focus on 2030 target of 50% energy reduction and 30% carbon reduction.
14	Develop a Public Lighting Upgrade Plan
	• 2019/2020 Currently underway, will be reviewed in 2020 in context of national public lighting upgrade programme - Noted Kilkenny Led Authority
15	Complete feasibility study on district heating systems for Urban Regeneration projects
16	Investigate rolling out the installation of PV panels on all KCC buildings
	• 2019/2020 Energy audits currently being carried out by the council include opportunities for solar PV if applicable/feasible
17	Investigate potential for BioEnergy projects in Dunmore Civic Amenity Site
	Await finding of national CAS Review & undertake feasibility study to expand service to process green waste on site.
	Establish a carbon saving register
18	• 2020 Currently happening on an ad hoc basis, formalise approach in 2020
19	Encourage the development of anaerobic digestion and renewable gas infrastructure in County Kilkenny
	• For inclusion/consideration in new Kilkenny City & County Development Plan 2020-2026
<b>Research &amp; Innovation</b>	
20	Work with CARO on research and project proposals for grant funding
	• 2019/2020 Collaboration currently ongoing with Eastern and Midlands CARO. Noted Kilkenny designated Partner Authority with CARO Office.
21	Work with third level institutes on climate adaptation research projects
	• 2019/2020 In progress, 3cea and WIT/TSSG collaborating on Interreg North West Europe RegEnergy project
22	Develop research and funding opportunities for climate adaptation, renewable and energy efficiency projects
	• 2019/2020 In progress and as further opportunities arise
<b>Energy Awareness</b>	
23	Engage with students on climate change through CPD programme/Engineers Week/Science Week
	• 2020 Develop the current programme further with stronger links to Kilkenny Library Service, Secondary and Third level students
24	Provide citizens with energy awareness material in public buildings. Also providing the Home Energy Saving Kits in KCC's public libraries to help members improve energy efficiency in their homes.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2019 This initiative is currently being piloted in Loughboy and Callan library with public demonstration events held in both libraries. 2020 Plan to roll-out initiative to all Libraries within the County</li> </ul>
25	Provide County Council tenants with climate adaptation awareness materials at home, particularly at time of taking up new tenancy
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2020 This initiative will commence by Q4 2020</li> </ul>
26	Provide sufficient guidance to the Kilkenny City & County Development Plan (2020-2026) to ensure renewable energy projects, including projects for wind-, solar- and bio-energy can be progressed throughout the County without significant impacts on the landscape, amenity, heritage and the environment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2019/2020 This consultation and support process is still ongoing</li> </ul>
27	Organise Deep Retro fit training for staff in various sections of KCC
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2020 Action to be carried out in early 2020</li> </ul>
28	Noted objective under Climate Action Plan 2019 to establish a number of pilot 'climate action community engagement' offices in a number of Local Authorities
	Kilkenny County Council will proactively seek to become one of these pilot office to further develop our community engagement role

DRAFT

# Flood Resilience Actions

No.	Action
<b>Flood Resilience</b>	
1	Continually update the Emergency Response Plan
	Ongoing
2	Liaise, collaborate and work in partnership with OPW, with regard to Flood Awareness Campaigns
	• 2020 Make contact with OPW regarding a flood awareness campaign
3	Monitoring of flood forecasting and warning system
	• Continuation of Text Alert system and provide media bulletins (Traditional & Social)
4	Implement Sustainable Urban Drainage Guidelines in council buildings where feasible
	• 2020 Incorporated within Brewery Site design
5	Liaise, collaborate and work in partnership with OPW, with regard to flood protection schemes
	2019 -Setup Flood Relief Project Office to advance 6 funded Projects
	2019/2020 - Procure Design Service, commence planning and design process and stakeholder engagement
6	Assess the potential of soft engineering methods in future flood defence schemes
	• 2020 -to be assessed as part of design process for 6 OPW funded Projects
7	Carry out yearly risk workshops to assess impacts on council services
	Workshop to be carried out with lead stakeholder in the LA in Q2 of 2020
8	Encourage the development of integrated constructed wetlands within County Kilkenny
9	Monitoring of flood & storm damage to historic structures in collaboration with National Monuments Services and other national & local agencies.
	• Database currently being maintained by the Heritage Department
	2019 - 2020 Undertake structural risk assessment and cost works with respect to historical burial grounds. Commence rehabilitation works in 2020 (Subject to funding)



# Resource Management

No.	Action
<b>Resource Management</b>	
1	Encourage staff to reduce paper usage through an awareness campaign.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2020 - Paper usage awareness campaign to be rolled out in Q3</li> <li>• 2020 - All staff members to receive a monthly report informing them of their paper usage</li> </ul>
2	Run an ongoing recycling awareness campaign for council staff
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2019 Removal of Single-Use Plastic from LA buildings</li> <li>• 2019 Provided Reusable Coffee Cups to staff members</li> </ul>
3	Promote recycling to householders through a range of workshops, talks and programmes
	Provide Environment Tent at appropriate events to engage and raise awareness with the public
4	Develop a climate change awareness procedure code for all new staff
	• 2020 - An info leaflet/procedure list shall be developed informing all staff regarding waste management procedure within KCC
5	Investigate waste prevention measures to decrease waste generation within the LA offices
-	• 2020 - Assessment of current waste segregation methods across KCC and explore improvement opportunities
6	Promote recycling & waste prevention to householders through a range of workshops, talks and programmes
	• 2019 Circulate Waste Bye-law Leaflet to households and collaborate with the SEWMO media campaign to raise awareness of requirements
	• 2019 - 2020 Door to Door Inspection ensuring compliance with waste bye laws
	• 2019 -2020 Continual update of the Repair Directory website
7	Reducing litter pollution in watercourses throughout Kilkenny in association with the Local Authorities Water Programme
	• 2019-2020 Support provided through Community Litter Pick initiatives - Pickers Bags Supplied
8	Assess the practicality of introducing environmentally friendly waste containers in Kilkenny City
	• 2019 - Trial of compactor bins on James St. until Christmas 2019
9	Developing pilot recycling projects
	• 2019 Bikes For Africa - Currently 220 recycled for reuse.
	• 2019 Bulky Furniture Day - 35ton taken in and recycled
	• 2019 WEEE days - <i>Approx. 50ton</i>
10	Develop guidelines for "sustainable low carbon events" to inform and guide event organisers
11	Phase out single use food and beverage containers in KCC buildings and at KCC events
	• 2019 Ban of single use plastic cups, cutlery & straws in KCC buildings.
12	Examine methods of conserving water in KCC buildings

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incorporated in Brewery Site design</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2020 Proposal to install half flushes systems in cisterns in county hall (Subject to budget)</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RWHT in other KCC Buildings</li> </ul>
<b>13</b>	Ensure newly implemented waste collection systems are utilised in high population areas around Kilkenny
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Continue to inform public of requirements to various channels and commence door to door inspections</li> </ul>
<b>14</b>	Liaise with LAWPRO to evaluate water quality issues around Kilkenny
	Environment Section Water Quality Team to continue to work in partnership and cooperation with LAWPRO Office
<b>15</b>	Expand the use of Green Public Procurement and aim to seek to procure goods, services and works with a reduced environmental impact throughout their life cycle.
	To advance through the Procurement Section of Kilkenny County Council
<b>16</b>	Develop an environmental advertisement campaign to promote awareness among all age groups of ongoing and future waste reduction and recycling projects
	Apply for funding to advance action through the Anti-dumping Initiative Fund
<b>17</b>	Compliment the practical implementation of actions arising from the National Climate Action Plan – to tackle climate breakdown (as revised and updated annually), across the broad range of functions of the local authority to achieve the national climate ambition
	To be monitored on ongoing basis
<b>18</b>	Continue to identify suitable locations to extend the existing bring centre recycling facilities
	2019 - 3 no. new bring centre sites delivered bringing the total number to 46



# Transport Actions

No.	Action
<b>Transport</b>	
1	Develop strategy to convert fleet to low emission vehicles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2019 - Purchased electric vehicle for use by the Public Realm Warden (Pilot Initiative)</li> </ul>
2	Explore the potential for expanding the KCC fleet with electric amenity vehicles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2020 - Proceed with a review to assess the suitability and feasibility of the use of electric vehicles within KCC's Fleet</li> </ul>
3	Investigate ways to carry out a modal shift of staff within Kilkenny County Council from private car to more sustainable modes of transport to reduce emissions from private car <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2020 Carry out a staff survey on distance from home to work and methods of transportation. Redevelop Recommendations Report on finding to achieve action goal.</li> <li>• 2019 carry out internal staff survey to determine level of interest for Bike Scheme to facilitate staff travelling within the City and Environs whilst undertaking their duties.</li> </ul>
4	Investigate the feasibility of a hot desk policy in Council offices to reduce travel to work by commuting staff <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2019 - Hot desk policy currently in place</li> </ul>
5	Promote carbon friendly modes of transport to work <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate Action Awareness Officer</li> <li>• Through Council social media platforms</li> </ul>
6	Provide welfare facilities at KCC offices to encourage alternate modes of transport to work <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2020 - Funding to be confirmed for the development of welfare facilities in County Hall.</li> </ul>
7	Identify gaps in the cycle route provision for the full extent of the cycle network up to the city centre gateways to make it safer and easier to cycle within the city <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2020 Introduction of a 1 way system in Ormond Street &amp; Vicar street to allow additional cycle-lanes provision</li> </ul>
8	Continue the upkeep of cycle/walkways around County Kilkenny and encourage the development of same <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2019 - Kilkenny shall appointed a Cycling Officer in partnership with WIT. The cycling officer will be tasked to encourage the use of cycling within the City and County Kilkenny and identify gaps on the cycle network that need to be addressed to encourage the modal shift.</li> </ul>
9	Promote World Car Free Day and European Mobility Week to increase awareness of climate friendly modes of transport <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2020 Advertisement through Council social media platforms.</li> </ul>
10	Accommodate where possible the provision of additional EV charging points <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2020 Installation enabling infrastructure for 2No EV charging points in Graiguenamanagh at Tuft-market Carpark (Subject to funding)</li> <li>• 2020 Installation of infrastructure for 4No EV charging points in Fairgreen Callan (Subject to funding)</li> <li>• 2020 Installation of infrastructure for 2No EV charging points Quays in Thomastown (Subject to funding)</li> </ul>
11	Re-establishing Smarter Travel Committee to ensure continued development of transport facilities in Kilkenny

	• 2020 Smarter Travel Plan to be reviewed by Q4
<b>12</b>	Prepare mobility management plans for the district towns to encourage more climate friendly sustainable modes of transport
	To be considered / included as part of development of Local Area Plans
<b>13</b>	Develop mobility management plans with the schools in the city and environs.
	To commence once resources allow
<b>14</b>	Investigate the feasibility to increase the number of public bike parking facilities in County .Kilkenny
	• 2020 This action will be administered by the new cycle officer.
<b>15</b>	Liaise, collaborate and work in partnership with NTA in the implementation of Kilkenny public transport schemes where feasible.
	• 2019 - Work in partnership with NTA and develop infrastructure for the new Kilkenny City Bus Service.
	• 2019 - City bus scheme to commence operations in Q4.
<b>16</b>	Implement policy to increase modal shift to public transport.
	• For inclusion/consideration in new Kilkenny City & County Development Plan 2020-2026
<b>17</b>	Promote pedestrian priority within the city centre
	• 2020 Introduction of a one- way system in Ormond Street & Vicar street to increase level of service for pedestrians.
<b>18</b>	Investigate the feasibility of enhancing public bus facilities in rural areas
	Continue with the roll-out the Bus Shelter Programme.
	Consideration to given to public transport current/future requirements during the design process of town and village enhancement schemes.

## 5.5.7 Nature-Based & Communities Actions

No.	Action
<b>Nature Based &amp; Communities</b>	
<b>Community</b>	
1	Continued commitment to Community Environment Action Fund through supporting the work of Tidy Towns and Amenity Grants. (Priority given to biodiversity and climate change initiatives )
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2019-2020 Support is ongoing through the works of the environmental awareness officer.</li> <li>• 2020 - New category in 2020 to award higher grants to biodiversity projects.</li> </ul>
2	Support of litter awareness and litter clean-up through supporting the National Spring Clean with An Taisce.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2019-2020 Support is ongoing through the works of the environmental awareness officer.</li> </ul>
3	Support climate change adaption in schools with the Green Schools Flags and Biodiversity initiatives and pollinator friendly plans.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2019-2020 Support is ongoing through the works of the environmental awareness officer.</li> </ul>
4	Support the greening of businesses, festivals and agricultural practices through workshops and campaigns
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2020 Support the greening of business through workshops and campaigns.</li> </ul>
5	Develop and support programmes which encourage active participation in identifying, recording, protecting, communicating and enjoying Kilkenny's heritage.
<b>Green Infrastructure</b>	
6	Continue to develop public-use amenity trails throughout Kilkenny county
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2019- Rehabilitation works for rural trails in Woodstock estate in partnership with Coillte.</li> <li>• 2020 Assess feasibility of installing an amenity trail in Dunmore civic amenity site.</li> <li>• 2020 - Commence works in the New Ross - Waterford Greenway.</li> <li>• 2020 Undertake remediation/enhancement works at Woodstock and Silaire Wood (Graig) under ORIS Programme ( Subject to funding)</li> </ul>
7	Investigate the potential of implementing public open space projects
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2020 Explore opportunities in conjunction with Tidy Towns, residents and community groups who have excellent local knowledge.</li> <li>• 2019/2020 Continuation of amenity grants currently fund many new planting projects.</li> </ul>
8	Investigate the feasibility of using a green roof concept for a Council building where appropriate .
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RRDF Application submitted for reconfiguration of the public toilets to Men's Shed (Graig) which incorporates a green roof (Subject to funding)</li> </ul>
<b>Tree Management</b>	
9	Development and implement a tree management plan for Kilkenny City
	2020 to be prepared by Parks Section
10	Assess and encourage, where possible, pollinator friendly and native tree planting throughout Kilkenny

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2019-2020 Proposal to look at use of planting in the County, Inc. new planting, and encouraging Tidy Towns and residents and Community groups</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2020 KCC will be review grass cutting regime to identify areas that are suitable pollinator friendly grass maintenance.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2019 Tree Planting Programme</li> </ul> <p>Support pollinator/biodiversity actions by groups through the amenity grant process</p>
11	Encourage educational institutions to adopt policies in accordance with National Tree Week and National Tree Day
12	Investigate the use of the DAFM NeighbourWood Planting scheme for use in suitable urban areas
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2020 Parks to investigate same</li> </ul>
13	Explore the potential of tree planting in areas of hard landscaping
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2020 Parks Section to engage with Sections developing medium to large scale infrastructure projects to advise and develop landscaping proposals</li> </ul>
<b>Nature Conservation</b>	
14	Develop a cross-section Kilkenny County Council Invasive Alien Species Action Plan
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2020 Workshops to be developed to raise awareness about invasive species</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2019 Environment Section to develop app to aid in recording and identification. Develop strategy to manage treatment programme on public land.</li> </ul>
15	Investigate the feasibility of composting on a large scale at Dunmore Recycling and Waste Disposal Centre
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2020 Environment Section to complete feasibility study in 2020.</li> </ul>
16	Explore the possibility of increasing the number of air monitors in the county
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2019 - Air monitor installed in Thomastown in 2019</li> </ul>
17	Incorporate climate adaption policies into the Kilkenny City & County Development Plan 2020-2026
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2020 - City and County Development Plan to incorporate climate change into the policies which will influence the development management process and future development in the county</li> </ul>
18	Explore the opportunities within County Kilkenny to create, improve and enhance ecosystems through nature based solutions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For inclusion/consideration in new Kilkenny City &amp; County Development Plan 2020-2026</li> </ul>
19	Build expertise, capacity and increase the knowledge base through relevant training programmes on Climate Change and its implications on the operations/functions of Kilkenny County Council. Training courses/ modules/programmes may include:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate Change awareness training to staff, elected members and communities</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invasive species awareness and management training</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relevant safety training</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Service delivery of training for outdoor staff in flooding situations</li> </ul>
	2020 Training programme to be developed.
20	Collaborate with the National Biodiversity Data Centre in collating biodiversity and invasive species data in Kilkenny to inform future policy decisions

	2020 Data transfer of information once App is up and running.
21	Tree and hedgerow protection policies to be reviewed of the City & County Development Plan to ensure they support the CCAS and are adequately implemented and enforced
	• For inclusion/consideration in new Kilkenny City & County Development Plan 2020-2026
22	Review relevant wetland policies in the review of the City & County Development Plan to ensure they support the CCAS and are adequately implemented and enforced
	• For inclusion/consideration in new Kilkenny City & County Development Plan 2020-2026
23	In accordance with the objective in the Climate Action Plan 2019, to establish a number of pilot 'climate action community engagement' offices in a number of Local Authorities, Kilkenny County Council will proactively seek to become one of these pilot

DRAFT