



The Climate Action Regional Offices are an initiative of Local Government, funded by the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications, as a shared service for Local Authorities.

December 2024

Local Authority Climate Action Plans

Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) Sectoral Report



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1. Introduction

Section 16 of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 requires each Irish local authority to prepare a Local Authority Climate Action Plan (LACAP) for its administrative area. Each Local Authority went through a plan preparation process during 2023 and adopted their LACAP by the end of Quarter 1, 2024. The [31 Local Authority Climate Action Plans](#) have a five-year statutory remit. The LACAPs aim to deliver global and national climate targets and implement national climate policy at community level through local authority regulatory and strategic functions and relationships.

Additionally, action 165 of the Government’s Climate Action Plan 2019, requires Local Authorities to identify and develop plans for a Decarbonising Zone (DZ) where a DZ is defined as a "spatial area identified by the local authority, in which a range of climate mitigation, adaptation and biodiversity measures and action owners are identified to address local low carbon energy, greenhouse gas emissions and climate needs to contribute to national climate action targets". Subsequently, Action 80 of the Climate Action Plan 2021 required that DZ plans be integrated with the LACAP.

The Climate Action Regional Offices (CAROs), which coordinate the Local Authority response to climate change, have carried out an [analysis of the 31 Local Authority Climate Action Plans](#) that were adopted by Irish Local authorities in 2024. The analysis is useful in terms of providing an understanding of the scope and reach of the LACAPs as well as the focus of the local government sector’s climate action efforts for the next five years.

One element of the analysis identified the sectors that are relevant to each of the actions that have been adopted in the 31 LACAPs with most actions being relevant to more than one sector. For the purpose of the analysis, a sector is considered to be a distinct part of society or the economy with examples including health, transport, education, and others. Figure 1 shows the distribution of sectors across all LACAP actions. Given that the LACAPs are plans of local government, it is not surprising that the local government sector is listed as being relevant to almost all actions.

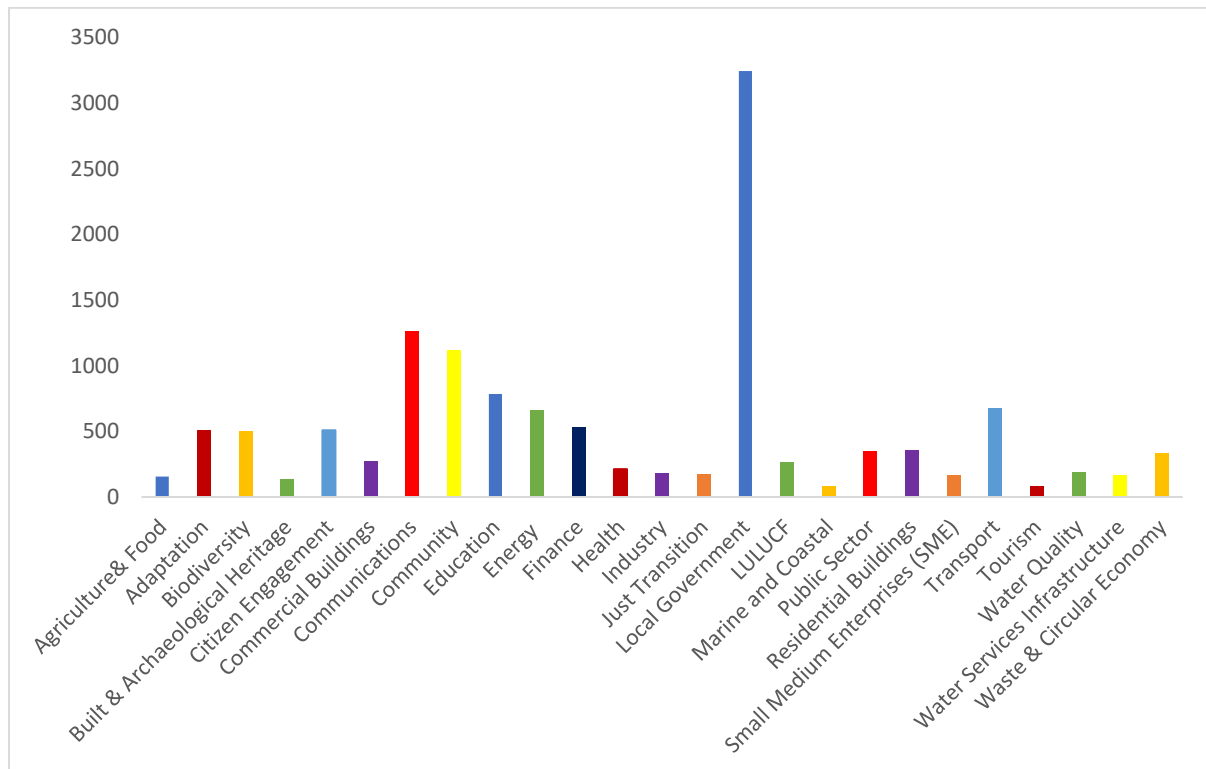


Figure 1: Breakdown of LACAP actions according to sector

Following on from the publication of the analysis of the 31 Local Authority Climate Action Plans, the CAROs have produced summary reports for each of the sectors that have been identified as being relevant to the delivery of LACAP and DZ actions. The aim of these [sectoral reports](#) is to steer sectors towards the local authorities and actions that are most relevant to them, to facilitate more informed sectoral engagement and to assist sectors in the preparation of their own plans.

This sectoral report has been prepared for the **Small and Medium Enterprise (SME)** sector which is understood to include enterprises that employ less than 250 people. There is a degree of overlap with the CARO Sectoral Report for Industry; however the focus of this report is on smaller enterprises.

Please note that this is a high-level assessment performed by the CAROs to inform the SME sector. If further information is required on any aspect of the report, please contact CARO@CorkCoCo.ie.

2. LACAP analysis

The methodology deployed for the LACAP analysis centred around the development of a database. A CARO project group was established to build and contribute to the database. The database was populated by the individual actions that were adopted by all 31 local authorities.

The CARO team assessed and categorised each individual action under pre-determined high-level classifications including thematic focus area, related sector, action type i.e. mitigation or adaptation, organisation or community focus, stakeholders identified, etc.

Actions were further categorised using a three-tier process. Each action was initially classified as one of 11 Tier 1 categories and then further classified by Tier 2 and Tier 3 sub-category (over 300 Tier 2 and Tier 3 sub-categories). The Tier 1 categories under which actions were initially classified were:

1. Local Authority Organisation
2. Local Authority Owned or Managed Buildings –including administrative buildings, social housing and other community buildings (e.g. libraries, swimming pools, etc)
3. Local Authority Owned or Managed Infrastructure –including assets such as roads, public lighting, land, parks, heritage assets, communication networks, EV charging infrastructure, draining systems, etc.
4. Local Authority Finance or Budgets
5. Planning
6. Community
7. Active and Sustainable Travel
8. Climate Impact Management
9. Waste and Circular Economy
10. Natural Assets and LULUCF
11. Tourism

The working group developed and worked to set criteria to ensure consistency in approach to action categorisation. Regular review meetings were held to maintain high levels of consistency in the data.

3. LACAP overview

The Local Authority Climate Action Plans (LACAPs) reinforce the commitment by the local government sector to lead on climate action at local and national levels. Each LACAP outlines the actions that the individual local authority will be taking to meet its responsibility regarding reduction of greenhouse gas emissions across its own assets and infrastructure as well as the actions that the local authority will take to influence, enable, and facilitate others to meet their own targets.

The Decarbonising Zone section of the Local Authority Climate Action Plans identifies the climate mitigation, adaptation and biodiversity actions to be taken by the Local Authority in the selected Decarbonising Zone (DZ) to test, pilot and demonstrate decarbonising at a local and community level.

High level analysis of the LACAPs including Decarbonising Zone reveals the following:

- In total, **3,935** actions have been adopted across all 31 LACAPs.
- **3282** of these actions relate to the whole local authority administrative area and are referred to as LACAP actions.
- **653** of these actions relate specifically to Decarbonizing Zones (DZs) that have been identified by the local authority and are referred to as DZ actions.
- There is a wide variation in numbers of actions across the 31 LACAPs reflecting a difference in approach to defining actions rather than a difference in level of ambition between local authorities.
- There is also a wide variation in numbers of DZ actions across the 31 LACAPs.
- 8 local authorities did not identify individual actions for their DZ. It should be noted that the approach that most of these local authorities have taken is to develop and adopt a Register of Opportunities which is a portfolio of projects, technologies and interventions from which individual actions will be identified during the implementation stage.

4. Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) Sector Actions:

This report has been prepared for the **SME** sector. An analysis of all 3282 actions in 31 LACAPs has concluded that:

- **163** of all 3282 actions relate to the SME sector.
- these are contained in **all** of the 31 LACAPs.

Furthermore, an analysis of all 653 DZ actions has concluded that:

- **77** of the total DZ actions relate to the SME sector.
- These are contained in **14** of the DZ plans (taking note that 8 local authorities did not list individual actions for their DZs).

Figure 2 shows the distribution of SME Actions across all local authority Climate Action Plans (LACAP) and Decarbonising Zones (DZ).

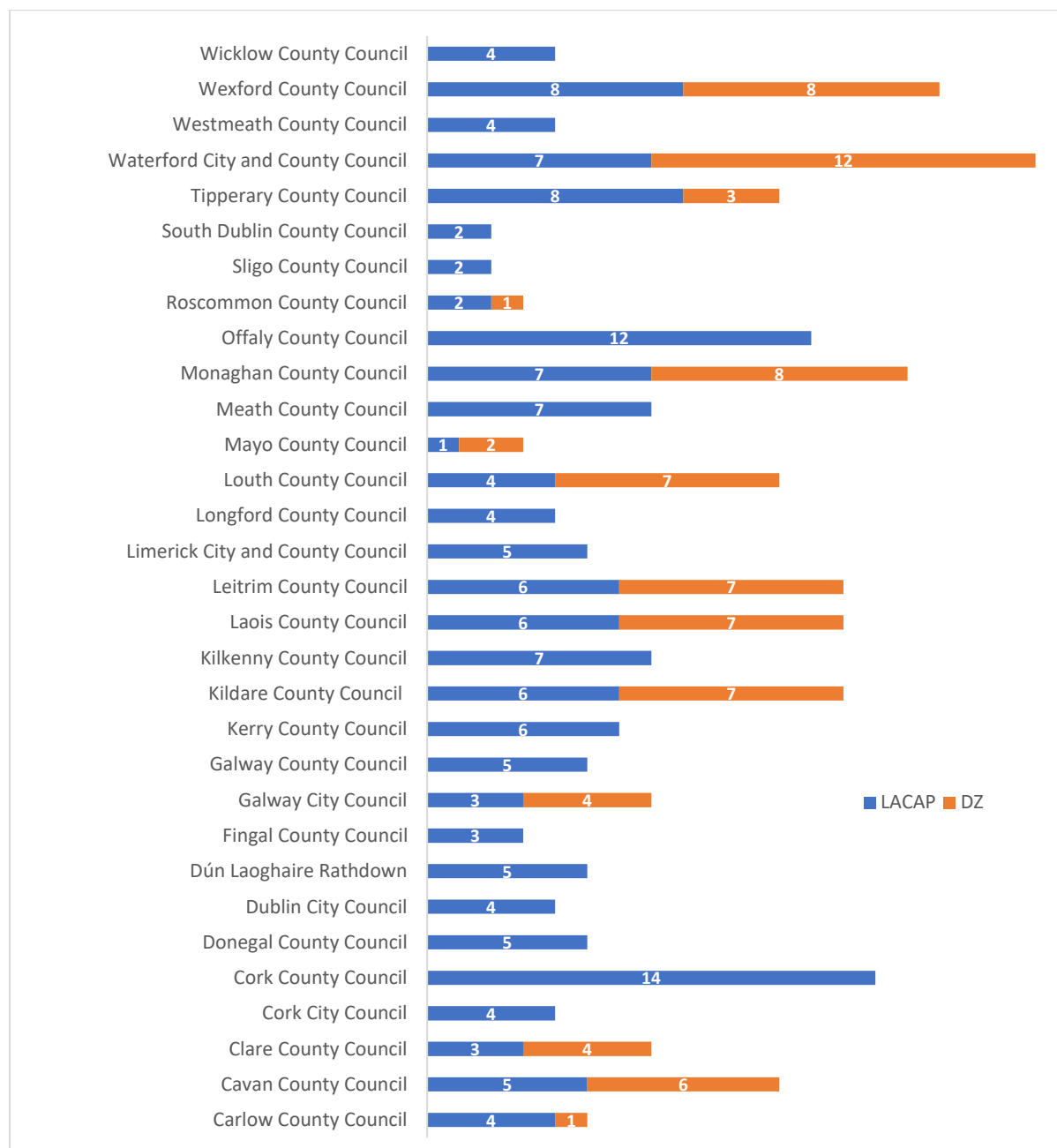


Figure 2: Breakdown of SME sector LACAP and DZ actions according to Local Authority

4.1. Adaptation/Mitigation

All LACAPs identify adaptation and mitigation actions that will be implemented by the relevant local authority to reach its climate targets. Mitigation actions include those that reduce the causes of climate change and those that serve to maintain and enhance carbon sinks while adaptation actions include those that increase resilience to current climate and weather conditions and those that involve planning for future climate impacts. Combined actions are those that address climate mitigation and adaptation. Figure 3 shows the breakdown of LACAP actions relating to the SME sector according to whether they are identified as mitigation or adaptation or combined. 51% of the total number of SME sector actions across all LACAPs address both mitigation and adaptation while 39% are specifically mitigation actions and 10% specifically relate to adaptation.

Figure 4 shows the breakdown of DZ actions relating to the SME sector according to whether they are identified as mitigation or adaptation or combined. 57% of the total number of SME sector actions across all DZs address both mitigation and adaptation while 43% are specifically mitigation actions.

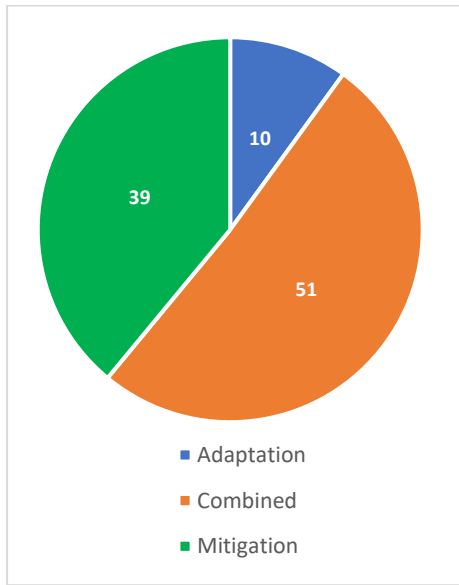


Figure 3: Percentage Adaptation/Mitigation breakdown of LACAP actions relating to the SME sector

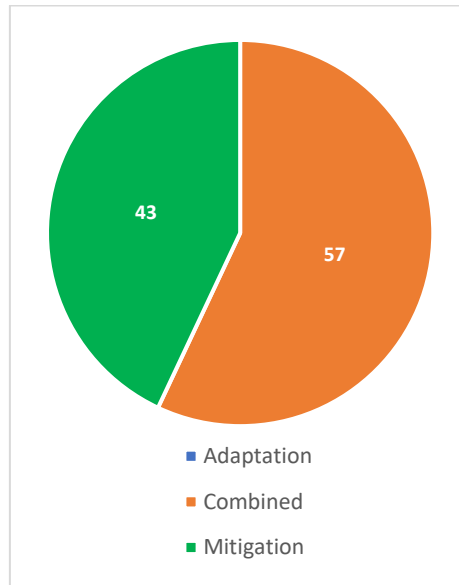


Figure 4: Percentage Adaptation/Mitigation breakdown of DZ actions relating to the SME sector

4.2. Classification of Actions

Each action underwent a three-tier classification process, with 11 possible categories in Tier one, being further broken down into Tier 2 and Tier 3 categories.

Figure 5 shows the breakdown of all LACAP and DZ SME sector actions according to Tier 1 Category with actions classified into 8 of the possible 11 categories.

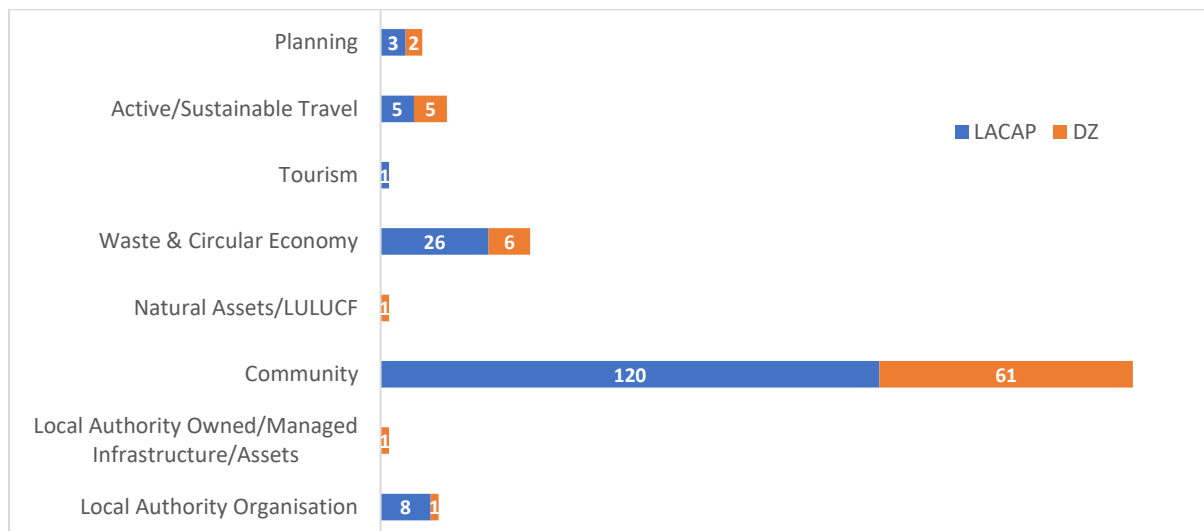


Figure 5: Tier 1 classification of LACAP and DZ SME sector actions

It is apparent that most SME sector actions are associated with the theme of community with smaller numbers of actions classified as aligning with the themes of waste and the circular economy, local

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authority organisation and active and sustainable travel. The types of actions that are listed under each of these categories are as follows:

Community:

- Provide green & climate-based mentoring and training (e.g. Climate Ready training, Climate Toolkit, Green Procurement, Energy Management, etc.) for SMEs.
- Inform Industry, Business and Enterprise of applicable funding sources available to them to assist with GHG reduction or implementation of energy upgrades
- Deliver programmes and initiatives (e.g. Green for Micro, Greenstart, Energy Efficiency Grant, LEAN programmes, etc) to assist business to transition to sustainable practices.
- Provide grants and incentives to Enterprises in their investment in green equipment & technologies.
- Promote educational opportunities on green skills.
- Promote efficient water use by businesses and the wider community and create a business case for rainwater capture.
- Liaise with relevant stakeholders e.g. clusters and business networks
- Support community-based social enterprises in climate action.

Waste and the Circular economy:

- Support the establishment of 'Circular Economy Hubs' that act as physical material hubs for the drop-off and recirculation of materials and products from and for both commercial and residential activities.
- Support circular initiatives such as prevention, reuse, repair and recycling of resources. Support the development of cooperative, community-owned and other collaborative ventures to foster more effective use and sharing of resources.
- Promote the circular economy to businesses.
- Develop an engagement/education plan for businesses on the circular economy i.e. how to better design, reuse and remake.
- Assessment of commercial premises to ensure compliance with the Waste Presentation Bye-Laws and the Waste Management (Food Waste) Regulations 2009 in terms of waste segregation and in particular food waste.

Local Authority Organisation:

- Establish network of stakeholders and ensure ongoing communication.
- Establish an integrated network of remote working hubs.
- Work with partners to research, pursue and support opportunities in the bio-economy.
- Align climate actions with the Local Economic and Community Plan.

Active and Sustainable travel:

- Explore zero/low carbon models of transporting goods.
- Establish cargo-bike loan scheme for businesses.

All 163 LACAP and 77 DZ actions that have been identified as being relevant to the SME sector are listed in Tables 1 and 2.

Table 1: LACAP actions that relate to the SME sector

Local Authority	Action no	Action
Carlow County Council	SRM 1.4	Develop and provide a series of green & climate-based workshops for owner managers of indigenous Carlow companies
Carlow County Council	SRM 1.5	Provide assistance to Enterprises in their investment in equipment & technologies to reduce their impact on the environment
Carlow County Council	SRM 1.6	Provide Energy Management Training programmes to businesses in Carlow to help them reduce their carbon footprint
Carlow County Council	SRM 1.7	Deliver programmes to assist businesses in Carlow improve the environmental profile of their business in the marketplace
Cavan County Council	G21	Inform Industry, Business and Enterprise of applicable funding sources available to them to assist with GHG reduction or implementation of energy upgrades, having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as local human receptors, European sites and biodiversity, and the need to appropriately protect and conserve protected structures in accordance with relevant protected structures regulations.
Cavan County Council	S 9	Develop a climate toolkit for Business to assist Business and Enterprise in the improvement of their environmental profile, reduce GHG's emissions and energy use and transition to the Circular economy model.
Cavan County Council	S 10	Support the establishment of 'Circular Economy Hubs' that act as physical material hubs for the drop-off and recirculation of materials and products from and for both commercial and residential activities.
Cavan County Council	S 11	Promote greater community and business engagement on climate action, circular economy, energy, water conservation, sustainable mobility and biodiversity through the Community Climate Action Officer, Climate Team and support tools to enable the required behaviour change. The LEO will promote Green Micro, Lean programmes, focused Energy Efficiency Briefing Series and capital programmes demonstrating circular economy. principles with a focus on SMEs.
Cavan County Council	S 12	Support business in their transition via government initiatives e.g. green for micro.
Clare County Council	C 2.2	Support small enterprises with investment in energy efficient technologies and equipment through the Energy Efficiency Grant
Clare County Council	C 2.3	Support businesses with consultancy services towards the development of sustainability management plans
Clare County Council	N 3.5	Continue to support circular economy and waste-management community-based schemes
Cork City Council	2.12	Support small enterprises with investment in energy efficient technologies and equipment through the Energy Efficiency Grant, whilst promoting - through control or influence as appropriate - adherence to environmental protection requirements during development projects.
Cork City Council	2.13	Support micro-SMEs with Consultancy services towards the development of sustainability management plans (Green for Micro & Greenstart).

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Cork City Council	3.24	Work with stakeholders to promote effective energy management in SMEs in Cork, e.g. SME Energy Champions.
Cork City Council	4.6	Establish a cargo-bike loan scheme for businesses and public- sector bodies. Explore alternative models, e.g. public cargo-bike hire scheme.
Cork County Council	4.6.1.1.2	Work with stakeholders to monitor the needs of businesses in terms of developing new programmes to assist businesses in their growth and how they will deliver lower carbon goods and services.
Cork County Council	4.6.1.1.5	Promote and support small enterprises with investment in energy efficient technologies and equipment through grants such as the Energy Efficiency Grant.
Cork County Council	4.6.1.1.6	Support micro-SMEs with consultancy services and mentoring towards the development of sustainability management plans through programmes like Green for Micro and Greenstart.
Cork County Council	4.6.1.1.9	Encourage the development of locally sustainable enterprises in the County as well as a culture for shopping locally, including shops and farmers markets.
Cork County Council	4.6.1.1.10	Explore zero/low carbon models of transporting goods in Cork County e.g., the use of cargo-bike hire schemes, ensuring due regard is had to the sustainability and potential life-cycle impacts of other transport modes.
Cork County Council	4.6.1.2.1	Support climate action implementation as part of all local economic development policies, programmes and initiatives, including providing incentives and support for local enterprises to operate on a sustainable model, in collaboration with partners. Assist rural enterprises to transition to a low carbon model is core to this.
Cork County Council	4.6.1.2.2	Support European and national programmes such as LEADER that enable enterprises to transition to low carbon / zero carbon models.
Cork County Council	4.6.1.3.2	Liaise with relevant stakeholders e.g. clusters and business networks etc throughout the County to raise awareness, promote and explore initiatives to encourage the business community to reduce their carbon footprint and adapt to climate change.
Cork County Council	4.6.1.3.4	Promote the circular economy to businesses.
Cork County Council	4.6.1.3.5	Provide information and raise awareness to Cork County enterprises and business groups to promote supports to undertake retrofits, energy efficiency and renewable energy installation on commercial buildings, whilst promoting the need to consider environmental protection requirements during such energy projects.
Cork County Council	4.7.1.5.1	Support and develop the existing Community Enterprise Centres (Hubs) network.
Cork County Council	4.8.3.1.2	Support provision of information on grant aid for homes and businesses, whilst promoting the need to consider environmental protection requirements during such projects.
Cork County Council	4.8.3.1.3	Encourage energy efficiency improvements for buildings. Advise and educate businesses, residents on energy efficiency, whilst promoting the need for projects to conform with relevant planning policy environmental protection criteria.
Cork County Council	4.9.1.4.4	Support roll out of 3 bin collection to commercial sector and all domestic customers.

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Donegal County Council	SR 2.1	Develop and provide a series of green & climate-based workshops for owner managers of indigenous Donegal companies.
Donegal County Council	SR 2.2	Provide assistance to Enterprises in their investment in equipment & technologies to reduce their impact on the environment.
Donegal County Council	SR 2.3	Provide Energy Management Training programmes to businesses in Donegal to help them reduce their carbon footprint.
Donegal County Council	SR 2.4	Deliver programmes to assist businesses in Donegal improve the environmental profile of their business in the marketplace.
Donegal County Council	SR 2.5	Support Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and Social Enterprises in the tourism sector to embrace sustainability practices in their businesses through the EU funded Turbo Project.
Dublin City Council	RF 4.1	Establish network of centres to enable the scaling out of social and circular small and medium enterprises
Dublin City Council	EP 16	Create Stop Food Waste campaign for businesses and schools.
Dublin City Council	EP 24	Engage with relevant stakeholders and deliver an energy efficiency, circular economy and sustainability training programme targeting micro and small enterprises.
Dublin City Council	EP 26	Continue to develop SoCircular as an initiative to encourage social and circular economy models among businesses in the city and to promote social and circular enterprises.
Dún Laoghaire Rathdown	T 11	Support private operators in developing County bike and e-Scooter sharing schemes
Dún Laoghaire Rathdown	R 7	Promote and deliver Climate Action supports to help businesses reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and transition to net zero, circular enterprises
Dún Laoghaire Rathdown	R 10	Develop a vision for Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown to become a circular County including the feasibility of setting up blue/circular economy hubs in the county
Dún Laoghaire Rathdown	C 14	Promote and support Circular Economy Initiatives with businesses and the community including the feasibility of setting up of blue/circular economy hubs in the county
Dún Laoghaire Rathdown	C 23	Facilitate Uisce Éireann's delivery of water demand/ conservation campaigns for schools, households and businesses
Fingal County Council	E 30	Work with SMEs to promote energy efficient adaptations through Local Enterprise Office initiatives including Green for Business and the Energy Efficiency Grant.
Fingal County Council	R 12	Assessment of commercial premises within Fingal to ensure compliance with the Waste Presentation Bye-Laws and the Waste Management (Food Waste) Regulations 2009 in terms of waste segregation and in particular food waste.
Fingal County Council	R 15	Broaden the scope of the Sustainable Fingal initiative to include businesses, communities and organisations, explore the concept of the circular economy, and lead on a Just Transition to Net Zero and a climate-resilient economy.

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Galway City Council	15	Establish climate ambassador programme and forum to facilitate knowledge sharing, capacity building and just transition on climate, energy and nature based solution (NBS) initiatives and actions across the city. programme to include climate/ energy/ NBS leaders and pioneers from throughout the city including businesses and community groups.
Galway City Council	20	Encourage climate action and energy efficiency throughout the Galway City business community
Galway City Council	29	Encourage businesses that can deliver low-carbon goods and services to continue development in or relocate to the city, delivered in conjunction with execution of the Galway City Council Local Economic Community Plan (LECP).
Galway County Council	GL 4.1	Establish a network of stakeholders and ensure ongoing communication. Cultivate and actively participate in partnerships with regional local authorities and public bodies, enterprise, community, voluntary sectors, third level institutions and the research community. Maximise on potential funding streams for the county and work in partnership to develop and implement Climate Action projects and initiatives. Continue to support existing projects including LEAP, CONNECTED, Cities4Forests etc.
Galway County Council	CP 1.10	Support businesses to become more aware of their climate responsibilities and risks, as well as the commercial opportunities arising from sustainability and evolving consumer sentiment. Support businesses to carry out energy assessments and complete sustainability plans.
Galway County Council	CE 1.1	Support circular initiatives such as prevention, reuse, repair and recycling of resources. Support the development of cooperative, community-owned and other collaborative ventures to foster more effective use and sharing of resources.
Galway County Council	CE 1.3	Implement initiatives to continue to reduce, reuse and recycle waste across the county in partnership with the private sector e.g. increased number of public recycling bins and Civic Amenity sites, increased number of water fountains, expanded textile/glass collection.
Galway County Council	CE 2.2	Identify households who currently don't have a standard waste collection service in place, and determine how they are managing their waste. Inspect commercial premises to ensure compliance in relation to waste segregation and in particular food waste.
Kerry County Council	3.3.7	Work with partners to research, pursue and support opportunities in the bio-economy, whilst promoting the need for bio-economy related activities and development to be planned and implemented appropriately in accordance with planning and environmental protection requirements.
Kerry County Council	4.2.4	Support community-based social enterprises in climate action.
Kerry County Council	4.4.6	Support small enterprises with investment in energy efficient technologies and equipment through the Energy Efficiency Grant.
Kerry County Council	4.4.7	Support micro-SMEs with Consultancy services towards the development of sustainability management plans (Green for Micro & Greenstart).
Kerry County Council	4.4.8	Promote educational opportunities on green skills through collaboration with industry and academia.
Kerry County Council	5.5.5	Facilitate the roll-out of climate action training to business and other sectors.

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Kildare County Council	G4	Promote greater community and business engagement on climate action, circular economy, energy, water conservation, sustainable mobility and biodiversity through events such as Earth Hour and the Community Climate Action Officer, Climate Team and support tools to enable the required behaviour change. The LEO will promote Green Micro, Lean programmes, focused Energy Efficiency Briefing Series and capital programmes demonstrating circular economy principles with a focus on SMEs
Kildare County Council	G6	Create and support formal linkages between key community, business, defence and education bodies to facilitate collaborative climate action within the County.
Kildare County Council	B28	Establish a comprehensive and integrated network of remote working hubs throughout the County to support remote working and reduce commuter travel in line with the National Remote Work Strategy and Kildare Hub Strategy, ensuring such hubs are located and planned in a manner that does not cause unintended, negative local traffic and transport related impacts.
Kildare County Council	R21	Support innovation in rural economic development and enterprise through the diversification of the rural economy into new sectors and services, including those addressing climate change and sustainability.
Kildare County Council	S16	Promote and enable industrial symbiosis between commercial operators to minimise waste and increase circularity.
Kildare County Council	S17	Support the introduction of bioeconomy infrastructure and initiatives that align with the policies of this Plan and the National Bioeconomy Action Plan 2023-2025.
Kilkenny County Council	4.13	Provide information and advice to communities, businesses and other stakeholders to support local climate action, via Council networks
Kilkenny County Council	5.1	Develop and integrate a new Sustainable Start-Up Business Module to the LEO Flagship 'Start Your Own Business' programme
Kilkenny County Council	5.2	Develop and deliver a series of Business Showcase/Conference events, and positive Case Studies regarding decarbonisation/climate initiatives.
Kilkenny County Council	5.3	Provide climate and energy efficiency advice, training/mentoring and grants to the business sector
Kilkenny County Council	5.4	Investigate the feasibility and cost of implementing a climate action focussed financial incentive scheme for the business sector, such as a rates reduction scheme
Kilkenny County Council	5.5	Support local businesses and social enterprises to optimise opportunities in the green tech and circular/green economy
Kilkenny County Council	5.16	Explore the potential to repurpose, upcycle and/or to use waste collected at Civic Amenity Sites, and other appropriate locations, to generate new products and enterprises, having due regard to the need to comply with relevant provisions of the Waste Management Act
Laois County Council	86	Laois County Council will work closely with representatives of business organisations to assist those groups to develop their own climate actions.
Laois County Council	93	Laois County Council will continue to promote climate action and green skills in training and education in partnership with Laois Offaly Education and Training Board (LOETB) and Local Enterprise Offices (LEOs).

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Laois County Council	105	Laois County Council will increase awareness of climate action initiatives and energy efficient grants to SME's.
Laois County Council	106	Laois County Council will support micro SMEs with consultancy services towards the development of sustainability management plans (Energy Efficiency Programme & Greenstart)
Laois County Council	107	Laois County Council will provide Green Procurement Training for Businesses, enabling them to effectively adhere to Green Public Procurement (GPP) principles when participating in tender processes.
Laois County Council	113	Laois County Council will conduct a pilot for improving accessibility to waste streams at the Kyletalesha Landfill
Leitrim County Council	GL 20	Inform Industry, Business and Enterprise of applicable funding sources available to them to assist with GHG reduction or implementation of energy upgrades.
Leitrim County Council	CRT 2	Adhering to sustainability principles for corporate events supported, facilitated, and organised by Leitrim County Council.
Leitrim County Council	SR 11	Develop a climate toolkit to assist Business / Enterprise in the improvement of their environmental profile, reduce GHGs emissions and energy use and transition to the Circular economy model.
Leitrim County Council	SR 12	Support the establishment of 'Circular Economy Hubs' that act as physical material hubs for the drop-off and recirculation of materials and products from and for both commercial and residential activities.
Leitrim County Council	SR 13	Promote greater community and business engagement on climate action, circular economy, energy, water conservation, sustainable mobility and biodiversity through the Community Climate Action Officer, Climate Team and support tools to enable the required behaviour change. The LEO will promote Green Micro, Lean programmes, focused Energy Efficiency Briefing Series and capital programmes demonstrating circular economy principles with a focus on SMEs.
Leitrim County Council	SR 14	Support business in their transition via government initiatives, e.g. Green for Micro.
Limerick City & County Council	T 8	Prepare a freight strategy to support last mile logistics
Limerick City & County Council	B 8	Partner with the Chamber of Commerce to encourage businesses to carry out energy efficiency upgrade works to their premises and to reduce their carbon emissions.
Limerick City & County Council	B 11	Support the implementation of the Shannon Estuary Taskforce Plan sets out recommendations for the delivery of up to 30GW of Atlantic Offshore Wind through the Estuary by 2050, and measures to maximise the industrial development opportunities arising from this whilst advocating and exerting influence to ensure supported projects promote climate action co-benefits and do not contravene relevant environmental protection criteria or cause significant negative environmental effects.
Limerick City & County Council	E 6	Promote efficient water use by businesses and the wider community and create a business case for rainwater capture.
Limerick City & County Council	E 7	Explore initiatives to significantly reduce the quantity of single-use plastics used in LCCC premises and wider commercial establishments.

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Longford County Council	35	Longford County Council will work towards a just transition for all by greening the economy in a fair and inclusive way.
Longford County Council	39	Longford County Council will align its climate actions with the Local Economic and Community Plan.
Longford County Council	42	Longford County Council will support local businesses with climate projects and initiatives.
Longford County Council	43	Longford County Council will support the regional climate change objectives outlined in the Midlands Regional Enterprise Plan (MREP) with reference to relevant projects in the European Just Transition Fund.
Louth County Council	CRT 8	Improve Circular Economy Awareness among the people and business of Louth
Louth County Council	CRT 12	Promote connectivity to allow for remote working and reduce commuting
Louth County Council	CRT 13	Continue LEO Green for Business programme
Louth County Council	SRM 3	Deliver a series of energy efficiency and management workshops for small and medium businesses in County Louth to help them meet their sectorial targets under the nation's decarbonising plan
Mayo County Council	29	Support businesses to become more aware of their climate responsibilities, as well as the commercial opportunities arising from sustainability, energy efficiency, circular economy, nature-based solutions, and evolving consumer sentiment.
Meath County Council	SR 3	Support the establishment of 'Circular Economy Hubs' that act as physical material hubs for the drop-off and recirculation of materials and products from and for both commercial and residential activities.
Meath County Council	SR 4	Engage with businesses and residents to support adoption of reused and recycled materials.
Meath County Council	SR 6	Provision of a 2 Day Green for Business Environmental Audit amongst small businesses in the County (1-50 employees).
Meath County Council	SR 7	Support business in their transition via Government initiatives e.g., green for micro.
Meath County Council	SR 8	Encourage and promote projects that will contribute positively and grow the circular and bio economy to promote sustainable rural and urban low carbon economic development.
Meath County Council	SR 9	Promotion of local jobs and local workspaces to reduce the amount of commuting outside of the county.
Meath County Council	SR 10	Support development of enterprise hubs to facilitate remote working.
Monaghan County Council	T 9	Promote transport modal shift and increase awareness of Smarter Travel programme to encourage local employers and communities to participate.
Monaghan County Council	CRT 9	Promote Remote Working/Digihub campaign to assist the stimulation of balanced regional sustainable development.

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Monaghan County Council	CRT 10	Use the Green Efficiency Grant to empower businesses to implement green technology solutions, whilst advocating and exerting influence to ensure supported renewable energy development does not contravene relevant environmental protection criteria or cause significant negative environmental effects.
Monaghan County Council	CRT 11	Expand the Green Business support scheme enabling businesses to measure their existing carbon footprint and obtain recommendations.
Monaghan County Council	CRT 12	Develop and deliver environmental sustainability programmes for the LEO client/portfolio base with a particular focus on circular economy, the green agenda and/or carbon reduction.
Monaghan County Council	CRT 13	Include Climate Action as a theme during Enterprise Week.
Monaghan County Council	CRT 14	Raise Awareness of Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive reporting requirements for companies.
Offaly County Council	GL 4.2	Implementation of Offaly Economic and Development Strategy, in particular Green Technology
Offaly County Council	T 3.3.1	Expand Public Transport networks in partnership with public transport operators and large employers
Offaly County Council	C 5.3.1	Support the North Offaly Development Fund to promote Rhode Business Park – 13 serviced sites with access to National Grid and encourage energy companies and companies testing new technologies to avail of the facilities.
Offaly County Council	C 5.3.2	Support the Junction Business Innovation Centre, Tullamore – Coworking hub for businesses developing Green Energy Technologies, Software and Design businesses.
Offaly County Council	C 5.3.3	Support Green for Business programme assisting enterprises to improve sustainability in their businesses
Offaly County Council	C 5.3.4	Support LEAN Programmes, assisting enterprises to improve efficiencies and reduce waste in their businesses
Offaly County Council	C 5.3.5	Local Enterprise Office Offaly are assisting businesses in Offaly to increase their digitalisation via the Digital Start programme, the Trading Online Voucher and the You're the Business scheme. We support Offaly businesses in enabling economic activities to go digital resulting in the reduced need for travel/transport, cutting carbon emissions.
Offaly County Council	C 5.3.6	Support the vision of Offaly as an alternative to Dublin, promote Offaly as a place offering a work life balance.
Offaly County Council	C 5.3.8	Promoting and Supporting Green Business Practices in County Offaly - LEO Offaly encourage and educate local businesses on adopting sustainable practices such as energy efficiency, waste reduction, and resource conservation. This is done through workshops, training programmes, and providing access to resources and information on eco-friendly practices
Offaly County Council	C 5.3.9	Offering Grants and Incentives - LEO Offaly can provide financial support through grants to local businesses to implement climate-friendly measures. This can include funding for energy-efficient equipment, eco-friendly product development and contribution to the circular economy.

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Offaly County Council	S 6.2.6	Offaly County Council to collaborate with relevant stakeholders in supporting and promoting local bioeconomy initiatives through existing structures such as Just Transition Fund and others in line with national Bioeconomy Action Plan 2023-2025 and future plans over the life of the LACAP.
Offaly County Council	S 6.3.3	Offaly County Council to promote a move away from “single use” cups for hot beverages towards “Bring Your Own” and collaborate with relevant stakeholders such as Chambers of Commerce, Tidy Towns, Credit Unions and others to support local businesses to move towards sustainable alternatives i.e. 2GoCup or similar.
Roscommon County Council	CRT 3	Engage with the business community to progress Climate Action initiatives
Roscommon County Council	SRM 4	Develop and implement multi-faceted campaigns on the practical need for behavioural change at all levels, work, home and recreation in order to achieve Climate Action ambitions.
Sligo County Council	13	Continue the provision of climate friendly schemes like Green for Business and Energy Efficiency Grant schemes and provide information, training & support to new & existing businesses to improve sustainability & energy efficiency
Sligo County Council	43	Liaise with key employers in Sligo to promote 'Smarter Travel for workplaces'.
South Dublin County Council	CE 3	Engage with communities and businesses across South Dublin through workshops/presentations. To increase understanding of climate change.
South Dublin County Council	CE 15	Strengthen existing networks and create new climate change links to encourage businesses to engage with climate action.
Tipperary County Council	20	Collaborate with stakeholders in Tipperary through the Strategic Policy Committees (SPC) to assist in an outreach to embedding climate action practices.
Tipperary County Council	55	Prepare a Master Plan for the National Bioeconomy Campus located at Lisheen, Co. Tipperary in line with the objective of the County Development Plan 2022 – 2028 (and as reviewed).
Tipperary County Council	69	Increase awareness of emissions reduction initiatives and energy efficient grants to small and medium enterprises. This will take the format of marketing and promotion via media advertising, social media platforms, press releases and attendance at workshops and seminars.
Tipperary County Council	70	Through the ‘Energy Efficiency Grant’, support investment in technologies and equipment for enterprises following a production of ‘Green for Micro’ Report by enterprises.
Tipperary County Council	71	Maintain a business network to offer support too small to medium local business and that offers a platform for training and support for climate action.
Tipperary County Council	86	Through the ‘Lean for Micro’ programme support the implementation of the first steps to Green Competitiveness by examination and elimination of wastes in a business
Tipperary County Council	87	Through the ‘Green for Micro’ programme assist businesses in lowering their carbon footprint, reducing costs and improving the environmental profile of the business in the marketplace.

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Tipperary County Council	100	Seek to actively support the development of the bioeconomy in Tipperary, including new and emerging technologies, both in the Decarbonising Zone (National Bioeconomy Campus) and elsewhere in the county in line with the National Bioeconomy Action Plan 2023 – 2025, whilst advocating and exerting influence to ensure bioeconomy related development and activities promote climate action and adaptation co-benefits, and do not contravene relevant environmental protection criteria or cause significant negative environmental effects.
Waterford City & County Council	2.18	Deliver a Mobility Plan for the Council and work with large employers in the City and the County to encourage them to do the same
Waterford City & County Council	2.43	Bicycle Delivery trial for business in Dungarvan and Kilmacthomas
Waterford City & County Council	4.5	Engagement/education plan for businesses about city centre transport & pedestrianisation using case study
Waterford City & County Council	4.1	Develop an engagement/education plan for businesses on the circular economy i.e. how to better design, reuse and remake
Waterford City & County Council	4.17	Deliver a Carbon Neutral Waterford Business programme with businesses across the County
Waterford City & County Council	4.2	Support the delivery of business actions in the LECF such as the creation of a sustainable business competition, supports for businesses transitioning to the green economy and collaboration with large employers in the County
Waterford City & County Council	5.14	Ensure market engagement with GPP and circular economy principles (where feasible)
Westmeath County Council	4.5	WCC Climate Action Section shall align actions and initiatives with the Local Economic and Community Plan.
Westmeath County Council	4.8	WCC LEO will actively promote hot desking and e-working facilities in the county and will work in conjunction with providers of these facilities.
Westmeath County Council	4.1	WCC will work with local businesses to assist them to transition to a low carbon business model.
Westmeath County Council	5.6	Develop a strategy to encourage a circular economy in Westmeath in partnership with Social Enterprise/Community Enterprise, whilst ensuring waste management activities are undertaken in accordance with the Waste Management Act and in a manner that does not result in negative environmental impacts or nuisance.
Wexford County Council	GL 8	Support County Wexford in achieving climate action targets for the built environment by enabling access to training for the required skills for the green workforce, through the High Performance Building Alliance's (HPBA) network and partners
Wexford County Council	NEGI 18	Promote Water Conservation in the community and businesses by liaising with Uisce Eireann Stewardship programme and the Local Enterprise Office as well a Public Participation Network

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Wexford County Council	CRT 8	Opening of the Enterprise Centre in Enniscorthy to encourage startups of enterprises in the sustainability sector and support innovation
Wexford County Council	CRT 9	Develop the green cluster in the South East by organising and hosting a regional sustainability awareness event with expert speakers and case studies
Wexford County Council	CRT 10	Convene bi-annual meetings with the Green Cluster to showcase innovative products and services designed to address climate actions.
Wexford County Council	CRT 11	Increase the number of Wexford businesses who have a documented sustainability plan by linking the drawdown of funds for priming and business expansion grants to the completion of the Local Enterprise Office Green for Micro Sustainability Programme
Wexford County Council	CRT 12	Reduce emissions of Local Enterprise Office client enterprises in Wexford by assisting clients to improve productivity and efficiencies through the measurement of same using new productivity metrics outlined by Enterprise Ireland and implementation of lean manufacturing and digitalisation practices supported by Local Enterprise Office national programmes.
Wexford County Council	CRT 14	Collaborate with Uisce Eireann on initiatives to reduce water consumption in the enterprise community in County Wexford
Wicklow County Council	2 CRT	Liaise with renewable energy developers on the Community Benefit Fund to ensure a climate focus in funding to communities. Learnings from the Ballinagran community fund.
Wicklow County Council	4 SRM	Support SME's through the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green for Micro programme • Climate Toolkit for businesses • Green Start programme with Enterprise Ireland • Climate Ready Training with Skillnet Ireland • Energy Efficiency grant.
Wicklow County Council	5 SRM	Promote uptake of energy performance measures in business and agricultural sectors through the promotion of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SEAI programmes and Energy Audits • support scheme for renewable heat • micro and small-scale renewable energy generation • anaerobic digestion • energy efficient and heating control technology. Whilst advocating and exerting influence to ensure supported renewable energy development does not contravene relevant environmental protection criteria or cause significant negative environmental effects.
Wicklow County Council	8 SRM	Develop remote working hubs in existing enterprise centres and support the development of working hubs in other strategic locations where space permits.

Table 2: DZ actions that relate to the SME sector

Local Authority	Action no	Action
Carlow County Council	DZ1.1	Establish a Decarbonising Zone working group comprising of representation from Public Bodies/ Government Agencies, Business, Utility/ Infrastructure providers, Transport providers, Education Facilities, Private Sector.
Cavan County Council	DZ-G4	Support the development of formal links between community, business and education (Cavan Institute) bodies to facilitate collaborative climate action
Cavan County Council	DZ-BE7	Identify, incentivise, and support the provision of co-working facilities within the DZ.
Cavan County Council	DZ-TR6	Work with businesses to promote climate friendly transport, e.g., last kilometre delivery.
Cavan County Council	DZ-C3	Identify, train, and resource ‘Sustainability Champions’ who can act as ambassador businesses for their sectors to encourage other companies within the DZ.
Cavan County Council	DZ-S4	Support the development of sustainable and circular economy infrastructure whilst ensuring such infrastructure is appropriately located and designed, and operates in accordance with the provisions of the Waste Management Act and in a manner that does not cause negative environmental impacts or localize nuisance.
Cavan County Council	DZ-S8	Engage with local industrial sector regarding the impact on air quality from industrial emissions.
Clare County Council	DZ-C1	Support the development of local food production and farm enterprises in the DZ (e.g. Loop Head Farm to Fork)
Clare County Council	DZ-C2	Promote remote working and uptake of Clare Digi Hubs in the DZ.
Clare County Council	DZ-C3	Support micro and small enterprises (1-50) in the DZ access investment and support to advance energy efficiency and sustainability through the Green for Business program.
Clare County Council	DZ-C4	Support businesses to prevent, reduce and separate waste generated through Kilkee Green Business Hub.
Galway City Council	DZ 13	Policy to provide enabling infrastructure and support schemes for households and local businesses.
Galway City Council	DZ 16	70% reduction in electricity, primarily due to reductions by large electricity users.
Galway City Council	DZ 19	Provide a resource and technical support scheme for local businesses and SMEs within the zone.
Galway City Council	DZ 38	Implement a resource and technical support scheme for businesses in the DZ to increase circularity (reuse, repair, supply chain, procurement).

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Kildare County Council	1.1	Resource a dedicated and trained Green Business Officer within Maynooth to support the county Local Enterprise Office, the Community Climate Action Officer and Town Green Teams.
Kildare County Council	1.2	Create and support formal linkages between key community, business and education bodies to facilitate collaborative climate action
Kildare County Council	1.4	Undertake a study to assess the use of financial instruments to stimulate climate action in the business and community
Kildare County Council	2.7	Support remote working through the development of office hubs and co-working spaces in Maynooth to aid in reduced daily commuter travel outside the town.
Kildare County Council	2.13	Work with businesses to promote and implement climate friendly transport options such as last kilometre delivery in the town or HGV ban/restrictions in the town centre
Kildare County Council	4.3	Identify, train, resource and promote community, education and sectoral business champions in climate action.
Kildare County Council	4.4	Develop a central digital platform for climate action guidance for communities and businesses within Maynooth.
Laois County Council	1.5	Facilitate a systems innovation approach to drive innovation in sustainability.
Laois County Council	4.2	Support development of "The Cube" as a hub for sustainable innovation.
Laois County Council	4.5	Promote sustainability programs for businesses in partnership with the Local Enterprise Office (LEO).
Laois County Council	4.6	Collaborate with Laois Chamber to support and advocate for decarbonization initiatives.
Laois County Council	4.8	Showcase environmentally responsible businesses and organisations in our community as role models and sources of inspiration for others.
Laois County Council	4.9	Develop office hubs and co-working spaces in Portlaoise to facilitate remote working and reduce commuting.
Laois County Council	4.11	Provide training programs for businesses on decarbonization strategies.
Leitrim County Council	DZT6	Work with businesses to promote climate friendly transport, e.g. last kilometre delivery.
Leitrim County Council	DZCRT3	Identify, train, and resource 'Sustainability Champions' who can act as ambassador businesses for their sectors to encourage other companies within the DZ.
Leitrim County Council	DZCRT7	Promote and raise awareness of the climate action related activities of local businesses.
Leitrim County Council	DZCRT9	Host two 'Sustainable' sector specific business events within the DZ.
Leitrim County Council	DZCRT10	Undertake a feasibility study to determine the need for a 'Green Accreditation' scheme for micro and small businesses.

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Leitrim County Council	DZCRT12	Investigate an incentive scheme for businesses to support and award them for positive climate action.
Leitrim County Council	DZSRM5	Support the development of sustainable and circular economy infrastructure, whilst ensuring such infrastructure is appropriately located and designed, and operates in accordance with the provisions of the Waste Management Act or Industrial Emissions related legislation, and in a manner that does not cause negative environmental impacts or localised nuisance.
Louth County Council	DZ 1	Bring together a specific decarbonising zone working group comprising the main stakeholders from the public and private sectors
Louth County Council	DZ 2	Identify a specific list of opportunities to deliver detailed carbon reduction projects for the DZ, ensuring integrated environmental protection requirements are appropriately considered.
Louth County Council	DZ 3	Develop a voluntary climate action charter for businesses, community groups, state bodies and members of the public to sign and adopt
Louth County Council	DZ 4	Develop and roll out a comprehensive communication strategy for the Dundalk Blackrock DZ and update this plan annually
Louth County Council	DZ 9	Engage with and promote the DKIT CREDIT Technology Gateway
Louth County Council	DZ 10	Promote the best practice examples and learnings from the Dundalk Blackrock DZ to the wider county with the aim of rolling out these actions to other towns within Louth.
Louth County Council	DZ 14	Build on the Green for Business support from the LEO to develop a regional leading ecosystem of sustainable business practices where new green markets and products are prioritised.
Mayo County Council	DZ 9	Focused measures to support social economic anchor institutions i.e., education, social care, social enterprises, regenerative tourism, and farming
Mayo County Council	DZ 16	Support and promote the uptake of Energy audits for SMEs, community centres, GAA clubs etc to identify measures that reduce energy use
Monaghan County Council	DZ GL 4	Support the development of formal links between community, business, and education bodies (inc. Monaghan Institute) to facilitate collaborative climate action.
Monaghan County Council	DZ T.7	Work with businesses to promote climate friendly transport, e.g., last kilometre delivery.
Monaghan County Council	DZ T.12	Engage with local businesses in the DZ to participate in the Park and Stride programme.
Monaghan County Council	DZ CRT.3	Identify, train, and resource ‘Sustainability Champions’ who can act as ambassadors for their sectors to encourage other companies within the DZ.

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Monaghan County Council	DZ CRT.7	Promote and raise awareness of the successful climate action initiatives undertaken by local businesses.
Monaghan County Council	DZ CRT.8	Host two 'Sustainable' sector specific business events within the DZ.
Monaghan County Council	DZ CRT.9	Undertake a feasibility study to determine the need for a 'Green Accreditation' scheme for micro and small businesses.
Monaghan County Council	DZ CRT.11	Investigate an incentive scheme for businesses to support and award them for positive climate action.
Roscommon County Council	DZ 14	RCC will examine investment in electric vehicles (EVs), the potential for increased charging facilities and optimum location for these in association with local businesses and communities, having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as heritage, biodiversity, European sites, sensitive human receptors, and available grid capacity.
Tipperary County Council	1	Support and promote the development of the National Bioeconomy Campus located at Lisheen, Co. Tipperary.
Tipperary County Council	4	Enable sustainable renewable energy development, research and development in the area both at the commercial and community scale.
Tipperary County Council	8	Help to support and build overall awareness (community, public and businesses) and capacity around positive and effective climate actions that they can undertake in the area.
Waterford City & County Council	DZ 1.1	Facilitate a number of city groups to encourage collaboration on meeting the City's Decarbonisation goals - Centre of Excellence - these will include large employers, the Chambers, SETU, Retailers
Waterford City & County Council	DZ 5.7	Create and deliver the Commerce for a Carbon Neutral Waterford scheme where businesses can play their part in reducing emissions in Waterford City
Waterford City & County Council	DZ 5.8	Continue to engage with businesses encouraging them to save energy with the Commercial Energy Rates Discount Scheme
Waterford City & County Council	DZ 5.9	Reward scheme for pro environmental behaviours - Gamify action in conjunction with Waterford businesses/museums/
Waterford City & County Council	DZ 9.1	Set up a Zero Waste Waterford Campaign to coincide with the changing Waste Management Law. The campaign will work with businesses to reduce paper waste, single use plastics, disposable cup waste etc.
Waterford City & County Council	DZ 9.3	Investigate the possibility of creating a Repair Hub in the city centre
Waterford City & County Council	DZ 10.5	Deliver a cycle parking initiative with large employers in the City

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Waterford City & County Council	DZ 10.7	Work with the City's large employers on achieving the Smarter Travel Mark and participate in the Mark as a Council
Waterford City & County Council	DZ 10.9	Work with postal and delivery companies to set up a "Last Mile Delivery" trial in Waterford
Waterford City & County Council	DZ 10.18	Deliver a car pooling app for the City and a campaign to encourage individuals to car pool - this will be done in conjunction with the large employers in the city
Waterford City & County Council	DZ 10.23	Investigate Low Emission Zones in the City Centre and Demand Management
Waterford City & County Council	DZ 10.31	Facilitate a bike delivery trial in the city
Wexford County Council	DZ GL3	Aid businesses in Enniscorthy to become aware of their carbon footprint and what they can do to reduce it
Wexford County Council	DZ BET10	Investigate the technology available to promote car-pooling for workers in Enniscorthy Town
Wexford County Council	DZ BET12	Liaise with the District Heating Steering Group on the possible identification of potential sites for a Sustainable District Heating System in Enniscorthy, whilst advocating and exerting influence to ensure the project is suitably located having regard to planning and environmental constraints and considerations
Wexford County Council	DZ BET17	Investigate the feasibility of companies co-funding a high speed electric vehicle charger for use by companies within their own industrial estate having due regard to environmental sensitivities such as the receiving water environment, biodiversity, European sites, local air quality, cultural heritage
Wexford County Council	DZ CRT1	Create and promote a Register of Actions, which communities and businesses within Enniscorthy DZ could update, listing all climate actions they have completed
Wexford County Council	DZ CRT5	Work with Local Enterprise Office in running a 'Climate Business Leader' competition
Wexford County Council	DZ CRT6	Work on the feasibility of an Electric Vehicle taxi co-operative
Wexford County Council	DZ SRM3	Work with Enniscorthy businesses, Enniscorthy Chamber, Enniscorthy SEC in promoting climate action initiatives such as Go-Cups, low-level lighting in shops, championing new business initiatives on energy reduction

**Oifig Réigiúnach um
Ghníomhú ar son na hAeráide
Rialtas Áitiúil**

Climate Action
Regional Offices
Local Government

