Waterford and Wexford Education and Training Board

Climate Action Roadmap 2025

wwetb
Bord Oideachais agus Oiliúna
Phort Láirge agus Loch Garman
Waterford and Wexford
Education and Training Board

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Climate Action Roadmap 2025	SMT	Approved by SMT on 6/10/2025

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Dr. Karina Daly, Chief Executive WWETB

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1 Overview of Waterford and Wexford Education and Training Board

On 1st July 2013, the 33 Vocational Education Committees (VECs) were dissolved and replaced by 16 Education and Training Boards (ETBs). The ETBs are established under and governed according to the Education and Training Boards Act 2013. Each ETB is a statutory body with its own corporate structure. On Monday, July 1st 2013 Waterford and Wexford Education and Training Board (WWETB) was officially established.

Subsequently, on 1st January 2014, the then Minister for Education and Skills, Ruairí Quinn T.D., formally announced the transfer of seven SOLAS Training Centres to the recently established Education and Training Boards. In accordance with this, on 1st July 2014, the WWETB officially welcomed the addition of Waterford and Wexford Training Centres (formerly the SOLAS Training Centres), to its range of services.

WWETB provides a comprehensive range of education and training services throughout Waterford and Wexford and is the largest education and training provider in counties Waterford and Wexford.

WWETB's educational and training provision includes primary and post-primary schools, further education and training centres and a range of adult and further education centres delivering education and training programmes, Post Leaving Certificate courses (PLCs), Outdoor Education and Training and Youth Services.

2 Climate Action Mandate

The Climate Action Plan 2021 (CAP21) committed public sector bodies to complete a Climate Action Roadmap from 2022 onwards. The Climate Action Roadmap is a document to be produced by public sector bodies which communicates how each public body aims to meet the requirements of the Climate Action Mandate 2022 (the Mandate) and reach its 2030 carbon and energy efficiency targets. This requirement applies to all public bodies, other than Local Authorities, commercial semi-state bodies and schools, all of whom have their own requirements.

In the original 2022 roadmap, public bodies were advised to focus most attention on their plans for reducing total energy related emissions and fossil fuel related emissions from their operations in line with the targets in the Climate Action Plan 2021 (CAP21). Future iterations of the Roadmap Guidance were to expand the scope of the roadmap and potentially include other non-energy greenhouse gases, indirect emissions, and adaptation to climate change.

The Public Sector Climate Action Mandate 2025 was published in Climate Action Plan 2025. The Mandate requires public sector bodies to show leadership in climate action and to demonstrate how they are taking the required actions. The adoption of the Mandate supports public sector bodies like WWETB to lead by example in demonstrating the necessary climate action to reduce Ireland's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 51% by 2030.

3 Our Team

3.1 Leadership and Governance for Climate Action

The Climate Action Mandate requires that leadership and governance structures for climate action are set up, and that staff are engaged with climate action and have appropriate training.

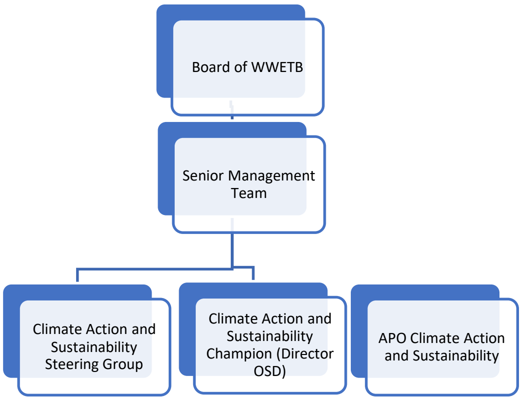
WWETB's Strategy 2023-2027, identifies a Strategic Goal (Goal 5) around Climate Action and Sustainability. In doing so, WWETB has established and resourced a Climate Action and Sustainability Steering Group, with associated terms of reference. Names and roles of individuals appointed to the Steering Group for Climate Action and Sustainability have been agreed. The Steering Group links in with the work of the ETBI Climate Action and Sustainability Steering Group. It has representation from students/adult learners' group and staff.

WWETB has nominated a Director as the Climate and Sustainability Champion with responsibility for implementing and reporting on the mandate. The Climate and Sustainability Champion for WWETB (at Director of OSD level) is part of this Climate Action and Sustainability Steering Group, thereby forming a direct link to the Senior Management Team and the WWETB Board.

WWETB has also hired an Assistant Principal Officer for Sustainability and Climate Action for the organisation. The APO is working closely with the Climate Action and Sustainability Steering Group.

Work is ongoing to develop local Green Teams in every college, training centre, and office which in turn will develop partnerships with community groups. Green Teams will report to senior management and become integrated drivers of sustainability in the organisation.

Figure 1: WWETB Governance Structure for Climate and Sustainability



3.2 Staff Training and Engagement

The Climate Action Mandate states that the public body should incorporate climate action and sustainability training (technical and behavioural) into learning and development strategies for staff and that the public body should organise workshops (at least annually) to engage on climate issues, including a focus on decreasing the organisations carbon footprint.

The WWETB Climate Action and Sustainability steering group, together with the APO Climate Action and Sustainability is currently developing plans around:

1. Setting out a plan for at least one annual staff engagement workshop, focused specifically and initially on energy related emissions, and over time on wider climate issues and reducing organisational carbon emissions.
2. Setting out a plan, in conjunction with the WWETB HR department, to identify climate action training for staff that will be incorporated into ongoing staff learning and development (training needs analysis and plan for delivery).
3. Preparing information on any training needs analysis undertaken.
4. Recording information on relevant staff engagement and training already undertaken.
5. Developing and recording a skills matrix for all staff at every level with regard to climate action and sustainability, in association with the HR Department.

In addition, all members of the WWETB senior management team completed the IPA climate action leadership training course in Spring 2025.

4 Our Targets

The Climate Action Mandate sets emission reduction and energy efficiency targets for public bodies:

- Reduce Green House Gas (GHG) emissions by 51% in 2030

- Increase the improvement in energy efficiency in the public sector from the 33% target in 2020 to 50% by 2030
- Update Climate Action Roadmap annually within 6 months of the publication of the Climate Action Plan.

With the assistance of external expertise and resources, WWETB will continue to investigate opportunities to expedite the decarbonisation and energy efficiency of our organisation in line with the Climate Action Mandate.

4.1 Gap to Target

The non-electricity emissions must reach an emissions target of 448,579.25 kgCO_2 by 2030 which means based on its 2024 M&R figures must be reduced by 504,451.40 kgCO_2. Through the decarbonisation of the electricity grid, it is expected that electricity emission will reduce considerably by 2030. WWETB's total gap between actual emissions in 2024 and our 2030 target is 941,030.1 kgCO_2.

GHG Summary Table

Figure 2: GHG summary for WWETB

Greenhouse gas emission	Thermal emissions [kgCO2]	Transport emissions [kgCO2]	Subtotal non-electricity emissions [kgCO2]	Electricity emissions [kgCO2]	Total energy-related emissions [kgCO2]
2016-2018 baseline	866,489.6	30,668.9	897,158.5	3,586,327	4,483,485.6
Change between baseline & 2024	70,555.4	-14,682.9	55.872.5	-2,349,205	-2,293,332.6
2024 emissions	937,045	15,986	953,031.0	1,237,122	2,190,153
2024 gap to targets			-504,451.75	Target Achieved	-941,030.1
2030 targets			448,579.25	1,793,163.5	1,249,122.9

4.2 Building Stock Analysis and Significant Emitters

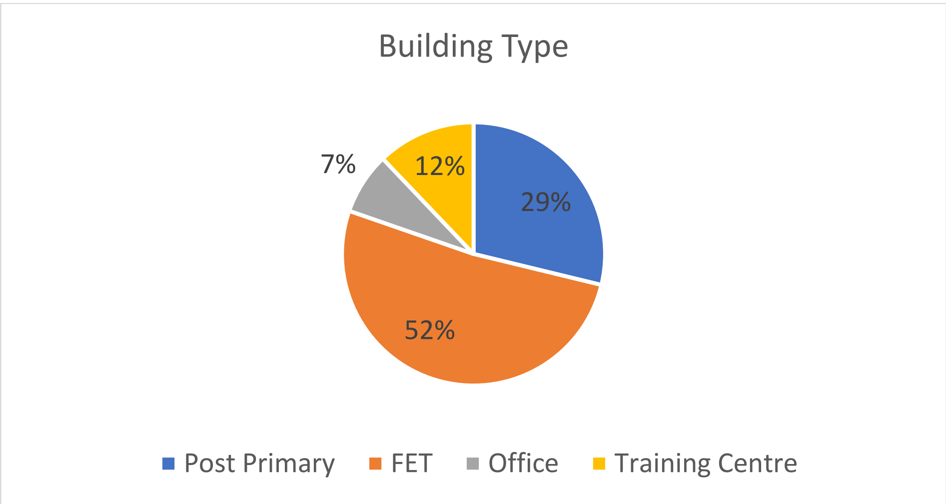
Under SEAI's M&R reporting structure all WWETB buildings are reported together irrespective of whether they are primary, post-primary, FET, training centre, or offices. For the purposes of this roadmap the significant emitters are considered to be the top energy consumers.

WWETB completed and issued our five step Stage 1 Building Stock Plan to SEAI in January 2024. This identified our building stock, quantified their respective energy and emissions at that time and highlighted where specific buildings had been earmarked for exit as part our built estate.

WWETB are currently working on developing the updated and expanded stage Building Stock plan stage 2 document for the end of 2025. This will allow for identification of high-level pathways of actions that need to be implemented on specific buildings within our estate. To develop options for how these identified actions can be implemented and a detailed plan documenting a process and timeline for same where appropriate.

The figure below outlines the split amongst WWETB building stock. As can be seen 52% of its building stock by number are FET buildings, 12% are training centres and 29% are post-primary schools.

Figure 3: Breakdown by % of Building Types



A breakdown of percentage kgCO_2 emitted by fuel type is given for all buildings under the remit of WWETB and is outlined below.

Based on 2024 M&R data the top 10 electricity consumers are as follows:

Table 1: Top 10 WWETB Electricity Consumers

Location	**Unit**	**2024**	**kgCO2 (2024)**
WWETB TC, Industrial Estate, Waterford	kWh	1,010,703	267,471
Techniform, Unit 219, Industrial Estate, Waterford	kWh	340,300	90,057
Creagh College, Gorey, Co Wexford	kWh	226,800	50,290

Enniscorthy Community College, Milehouse Road, Enniscorthy	kWh	207,050	54,794
St Declan’s Community College, Kilmacthomas	kWh	168,500	44,592
WWETB TC, Whitemills Industrial Estate, Wexford	kWh	161,900	42,845
St. Paul's Community College	kWh	159,800	42,289
Wexford College of Further Education and Training, Wexford	kWh	154,500	40,887
Bridgetown College, Bridgetown	kWh	153,050	40,503
Coláiste Abbáin, Adamstown, Wexford	kWh	145,320	38,457

Based on 2024 M&R data the top 10 natural gas energy consumers are as follows:

Table 2: Top 10 WWETB Natural Gas Consumers

Location	Unit	2024	kgCO2 (2024)
Waterford Training Centre & Admin Office, Unit 100 Industrial Estate, Cork Road, Waterford	kWh (Gross)	695,397	142,405
St. Paul's Community College	kWh (Gross)	349,502	71,557
WCFE, Parnell Street	kWh (Gross)	220,212	45,086
Unit 12 Kilcohan Industrial Estate, Waterford	kWh (Gross)	51,198	10,482
Units 8A, 9 & 10, Kilcohan Industrial Estate, Waterford	kWh (Gross)	46,721	9,566
Unit 22 Johnstown Industrial Park	kWh (Gross)	40,392	8,270
Unit 14 & 15 Kilcohan Industrial Estate, Waterford	kWh (Gross)	28,113	5,756
105A Eurobase, Industrial Estate, Cork Road, Waterford	kWh (Gross)	20,589	4,215
Unit 11 Kilcohan Industrial Estate, Waterford	kWh (Gross)	17,267	3,535
Youthreach SUBLA,M Unit 3, Lacken Road Business Park, Waterford	kWh (Gross)	14,675	3,005

A breakdown of individual sites that use kerosene, oil, bulk LPG is not available yet. New reporting systems are being put in place to capture this information.

4.3 Achieving the carbon emissions reduction targets (51% reduction by 2030)

WWETB is evaluating all buildings through detailed SI426 energy audit reports to identify a pipeline of energy efficiency projects through to 2030 and beyond to 2050 to ultimately achieve nearly Zero Energy Buildings (nZEB).

WWETB will continue to utilise inhouse expertise available through the nZEB training courses in Waterford and Wexford to advise and assist in WWETBs own journey to nearly Zero Energy Buildings. The delivery of these courses is bridging a knowledge gap and skills shortage in the construction industry which in turn is helping other sectors achieve their Climate Action Mandate and GHG reduction targets.

WWETB is also engaging with SOLAS, SEAI and other agencies for funding mechanisms relevant to the organisation and utilise the various funding streams such as Green Devolved Capital, Pathfinder, Microgen scheme, Energy Communities Grant, Support Scheme for Renewable Heat (SSRH).

4.4 Achieving the energy efficiency target (50% improvement by 2030)

WWETB's energy efficiency indicator (EnPI) in 2009, as recorded by the SEAI's Monitoring and Reporting (M&R) system identified a baseline of 210.21 kWh/Floor Area (m^2). By the end of 2024 this EnPI was 112.0 kWh/Floor Area (m^2). This equates to a 46.7% energy efficiency improvement on our 2009 baseline.

WWETB hopes to achieve the 50% 2030 energy efficiency improvement target of 105 kWh/m^2 by upgrading the building fabric and mechanical, electrical, and plumbing (MEP) systems within our biggest energy consuming buildings along with running intensive energy awareness programmes across all levels of WWETB staff and students.

4.5 Planned energy related & carbon reduction activities

Projects identified include but are not limited to:

1. WCFE Waterford - Replacement of existing Fossil Fuel fed boiler heating system with a turnkey modern High Temp Heat Pump system, with back up only by means of natural or L.P. gas. With all associated changing of the existing radiators and zone controls within the existing building.
2. Dungarvan FET Centre, Waterford - Replacement of existing Fossil Fuel fed boiler heating system with a turnkey modern High Temp Heat Pump system, with back up only by means of natural or L.P. gas. With all associated changing of the existing radiators and zone controls within the existing building.
3. Design and install new photovoltaic panel system to the existing roofs of 3no. FET centres. WCFE Waterford, Gorey FET Centre Wexford and Dungarvan FET Centre, Waterford.
4. Replacement of existing Fossil Fuel fed boiler heating system with a turnkey modern Heat Pump system, with back up only by means of natural or L.P. gas. With all associated changing of the existing radiators and zone controls within the existing building. To 4no. Post Primary School locations – Colaiste Abbain, Wexford, Colaiste An Atha, Wexford, Dungarvan College, Waterford and Kennedy College, Wexford.
5. Enniscorthy Community College, Wexford - replacement of existing Fossil Fuel fed boiler heating system with a turnkey modern Bio Mass fed heating system. With all associated changing of the existing radiators and zone controls within the existing building.
6. Waterford Training Centre has been included on the shortlisted FET Pathfinder project for Sustainability and climate action upgrade works within the ETB Sector. SOLAS and SEAI are co funding these projects to allow for feasibility studies to be undertaken and a register of opportunities for this location. The funding is in place from SOLAS to allow for a selection of

Fabric, heating System and Control upgrades to the location. To achieve the highest return on investment to cut our overall greenhouse gas emissions.

7. Upgrade all old lighting technology such as incandescent lights, T12, T8 and T5 fluorescent with LED technology in accordance with the EU's directive on the Restriction of Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment (RoHS). This has already been undertaken in WCFE, Waterford, Gorey FET Centre, Wexford, Dungarvan FET Centre, Waterford and Wexford Training centre, Wexford.
8. Investigate the feasibility of converting all bulk LPG heating systems to biogas heating systems.
9. Investigate the feasibility of converting all oil / kerosene heating systems with biogas or biomass heating systems.
10. Where fossil fuel boilers are being used to heat our buildings, we will make sure that these boilers operate as efficiently as possible.
11. Upgrade insulation on all duct and pipework serving boilers or AHUs to minimise heat loss and improve on energy efficiency.
12. Install building energy management systems (BeMS) and heating controls is all our major facilities to allow for effective control of our thermal and electrical systems.
13. Investigate the feasibility of upgrading our IT systems particularly older desktop PCs to laptops and/or tablets where possible to allow for PC shutdown policy across all colleges, training centres and offices.
14. WWETB will carry out research into the feasibility of installing solar PV on all WWETB owned buildings the scale of which will be outlined in further iterations of this Climate Action Roadmap. This action has already been undertaken and new PV panels installed on all DoES Primary and Post Primary locations within the WEETB Building Stock.
15. Increase staff engagement and awareness programmes across our network of training centres, schools, offices, and FET centres in line with our Strategy Statement 2023-2027. Utilise existing programmes such as 'Reduce Your Use' to engage with all staff and students. WWETB will make use of its own intranet for building awareness campaigns.
16. Make every building manager responsible for their building's energy performance and report back through the newly appointed Energy Officer on their progress.

If there is a gap, WWETB will identify additional energy efficiency pathway options including proposed actions to achieve energy efficiency targets, by detailing specific projects and timelines through engagement with all relevant stakeholders.

4.6 Update Climate Action Roadmap

Through this 2025 Climate Action Roadmap Update we are looking to align with the requirement that we review our roadmap annually within 6 months of the publication of the Climate Action Plan.

5 Our Way of Working

WWETB reports on progress in reducing GHG emissions and sustainability activities in our annual report. Climate Action is an ongoing agenda on WWETB Management and Board agendas.

WWETB is aiming to work collaboratively with key partners to deliver on our sustainability agenda. For example, we are working closely with strategic partners, such as Waterford City and County Council and Wexford County Council, to support the strategic climate action agenda of WWETB.

WWETB will continue to present at conferences and seminars on elements of Climate Action and Sustainability. We will continue to promote and roll out the WWETB/Biodiversity Data Centre modules on Citizen Science and Hedgerows, highlighting and sharing success stories.

In the area of Green Skills, we are currently looking at the skills and training needs required to the support the shift to a greener economy and society. In particular, we are working closely with key partners such as SOLAS, Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science and the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government, to ensure that WWETB is to the forefront in delivering the skills needed for existing and new occupations in a greening Irish economy. This is in full alignment with the SOLAS Green Skills 2030 report, where WWETB is identified as lead actor or partner in a number of important actions across areas such as the Built Environment, Renewable Energy, Sustainable Agriculture and others.

5.1 Energy and Environmental Management Systems and Accreditation

WWETB, through its Climate Action and Sustainability Steering Group, is investigating the most appropriate form of an energy management system to be put in place. In conjunction with SOLAS and ETBI, WWETB are preparing a tender for market for suitable supplier to undertake the provision of integrated smart energy meters, network and data management system.

Having cognisance of the new Recast Energy Efficiency Directive 2023, organisations with and energy consumption of 100 TJoules (27.8 GWh) will have to embark on an energy management system such as ISO 50001. Organisations with an energy consumption of 10 TJoules (2.78 GWh) will have to undertake energy audits on their buildings in line with SI 426 standards.

WWETB will continue to report on energy usage through SEAI's Monitoring and Recording (M&R) system.

6 Green Procurement

Green Public Procurement (GPP) is defined as a process whereby public bodies seek to procure goods, services and works with a reduced environmental impact throughout their life-cycle when compared to goods, services and works with the same primary function that would otherwise be procured. Sustainable Public Procurement is a wider concept than GPP, in that it includes economic considerations as well as socially responsible public procurement. Public sector bodies are encouraged to consider the scope for including wider sustainable considerations, including socially responsible public procurement (SRPP), in their procurement. SRPP and GPP can be used in tandem or separately, depending on the subject matter of the contract and the outcome of the preliminary market consultations. The Green Public Procurement Strategy and Action Plan 2024-2027 (Buying Greener) sets out new Green Public Procurement (GPP) obligations. An updated Circular Updated Green Public Procurement Instructions for Public Sector Bodies (Circular 17/2025) provides updated instructions to government departments and the public sector regarding 11 of the 54 actions included in Buying Greener.

The EPA has published GPP guidance[1] and accompanying criteria sets that support the inclusion of sustainable and green practices into public sector procurement procedures. The criteria published are:

- Road transport, vehicles and services
- ICT products and services
- Food and catering services
- Indoor cleaning services
- Office buildings, design construction and management
- Indoor and Outdoor Lighting
- Heating Equipment
- Energy-related Products
- Paper products and printing services
- Textile products and services
- Furniture and related services

Waterford and Wexford Education and Training Board will, on a continuous basis, review different procurement processes and circulars to promote the green and social procurement considerations, use as an award criterion and what is available under the circular economy and promotion of reuse and repair. WWETB's Climate Action and Sustainability Steering Group and WWETB's Procurement Team are committed to investigating opportunities to introduce green criteria in procurement to support climate action ambitions including:

- improved energy efficiency standards.
- Reference SEAI's Triple E register for energy efficient products when purchasing new electrical equipment.

[1] https://www.epa.ie/our-services/monitoring--assessment/circular-economy/green-public-procurement/

- green criteria for selection and award criteria when procuring all goods and services (reference Circular 17/2025), using the published GPP guidance and criteria sets.
- Set up a system to gather and record data on GPP implementation, using a reporting template and guidance developed for government department reporting as a reference.

6.1 Resource Use

As part of WWETB's Strategy Statement 2023-2027, Section 5.6, the organisation has outlined and is delivering on its strategic position on Resource Use and Waste Reduction. Some of the key policy highlights are as follows:

- We have initiated a ban on the use of single use plastics and all schools/centres were advised of this. We continue to roll out water dispensers in schools and centres and actively encourage use of recyclable cartons.
- A review of printing output under the Print Management contract was undertaken with a reduction of printed machines entered under the new contract. We will continue to work with schools and centres to reduce the volume of printing and the number of printing machines in our ETB.
- We have reviewed paper-based processes and evaluated the possibilities for further digitisation within the organisation so it becomes the default approach. In addition, where paper must be procured, we are committed to ensuring that it is 100% recycled which is being done through the OGP contract.
- We are engaging with food supply companies around the use reusable containers where possible. For our school meals tenders we request that packaging/containers are reusable or recyclable. Where possible, we will look at a minimum value of 10% for certified organic foods.
- New contracts for food services and canteens include conditions around the treatment of food waste, in line with Ireland's commitment to reduce food waste by 50% by 2050. This is in line with SAI 508 of 2009 Waste Management Regulations (Food Waste) 2009 and all applicable legislation including relevant EU Directives.
- Compost bins for food waste have been rolled out which can be used in local anaerobic digesters to generate biogas and in turn that biogas to be reused as an alternative fuel source to heat schools encouraging the circular economy. Our contract waste collection services are segregated into 3 streams.
- We are engaging with waste and recycling companies with regard to waste reporting in line with EPA guidance and analysis of same so that a system for the management and minimising of wasted can be developed for the organisation. Our waste management supplier can provide reports on usage and give recommendations to minimise waste. This will be further enhanced by training and awareness campaigns for staff and students/adult learners on how to dispose of waste correctly, including campaigns to build awareness with students/staff. We are also committed to supporting Ireland's Producer Responsibility Initiatives, including the Deposit Return Scheme.
- We are currently exploring options to incorporate rainwater harvesting, where possible, into all new buildings and existing buildings.

- We have stipulated in our central cleaning contract that all cleaning products must be environmentally compliant. We have trialled the use of non-chemical cleaning products at colleges, training centres and offices and use reusable/non-harmful alternative products with programmes such as beauty, hairdressing, and construction.
- In the area of future new capital projects, we will specify low carbon construction methods and low carbon cement material as far as practicable as per guidance issued by Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment.
- We are undertaking a strategic review of our estate to highlight opportunities for the installation of medium scale renewable energy projects. Such as Photovoltaic Solar system installation over existing roofs, Carparks or ground based unused land where appropriate.
- We drawdown ICT products under the OGP frameworks for laptops/desktops and ICT Consumables. With our ICT Team, we will explore the procurement requirements of a minimum of 80% of new ICT end user products being EPEAT gold standard (or equivalent), in line with national guidance.
- In the area of water, we are working to roll out water drinking refill points across our buildings for all staff and in any premises accessed by the public. We are measuring water use and consumption across the organisation.

7 Our Buildings and Vehicles

WWETB will display an up-to-date Display Energy Certificate (DEC) in every public building that is open to the public to clearly show energy use. WWETB have prepared a tender for market issue to bring on board suitable external provider for these DEC certs.

WWETB has committed to not installing heating systems that use fossil fuels in (1) new buildings, and (2) "major renovation" retrofit projects as defined in the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD) unless at least one of the following exceptions applies:

- the fossil-fuel use is only through the use of electricity from the grid
- there is no technically viable non-fossil alternative (generally only related to applications for a purpose other than space heating)
- the installation of a renewable space heating system would increase final CO2 emissions
- the fossil-fuel use is provided for backup, peaking, or operational purposes (and makes up less than 10% of annual heating energy)
- where the direct replacement of existing fossil fuel heating is required for an emergency maintenance purpose.

We are committed to promoting active travel and the use of public transport. We have commenced rollout of a plan for the provision of pay as you go electric charging points in specific colleges, centres, and offices as an enable for the switch to zero emissions vehicles and meeting national Climate Action Plan targets.

A new WWETB staff travel policy was developed in 2023. It encourages online meetings (e.g., via MS Teams) where possible instead of face-to-face meetings. Where possible WWETB and its staff will explore ‘green’ travel options such as e-vehicles, hydrogen powered or biogas buses for staff and student travel. We will review the use of parking in buildings that have access to a range of public transport services and active/shared mobility options for the majority of staff/visitors, while providing that sufficient accessible parking is maintained for those with physical mobility issues.

WWETB has a supportive remote working/learning culture, whereby staff can work up to 20% of their working time at home or remotely helping to reduce CO_2eq from the sector by 2030.

WWETB continues to promote the use of bicycles through the development of bicycle friendly facilities for employees, students, staff, and visitors which are secure, accessible, and easy for cyclists to recognise and use within the limitations of its building’s boundaries. WWETB encourages staff and students to bike-to-work and make available the Bike-to-work scheme available to its employees.

WWETB has committed to purchasing only zero-emission vehicles, if required, where available and operationally feasible. We wish to support Ireland to go beyond the requirements of the Clean Vehicle Directive and act as an international leader in this area.

In future tenders for the public procurement of energy-related products, heating equipment, or indoor and outdoor lighting, we will include a requirement for tenderers to specify recommendations and options for the product, when the product or components of the product comes to the end of life, that consider environmental sustainability, including options for reuse, repair, and recycling, whilst ensuring compliance with SI 626 of 2016 to procure Triple E registered products or equivalent.

Similarly, future tenders for the public procurement of indoor cleaning services will include a requirement for tenderers to specify the training that will be put in place to ensure that all staff involved in delivery of the contract have the knowledge and skills to apply cleaning methods, which will reduce the environmental impact of the services.

8 Our Wider Climate Action Plans

WWETB as an organisation is committed to achieving its sectorial targets. Our own Strategy Statement 2023-2027 will complement this Climate Action Roadmap.

In terms of our strategic estate management, 53% of WWETB useable floor area is for Post Primary education. WWETB are aligning with Climate Action Mandate for the Schools sector, including g

Energy Reporting annually, Waste management and sustainability based choices around procurement and consumables. Including undertaking sector specific fabric and systems upgrades in line with Department or Education and Youth funding routes and pathfinder programmes.

47% of our floor area is for further education, training centres, offices etc. and of our available 74,361 m2 area, 41% of it is leased or rented from third parties. If WWETB are to continue leasing/renting premises from third parties, we will have to engage with landlords to improve the efficiency and building fabric of those buildings. This will create its own hurdles which will have to be overcome.

WWETB has a high dependency on fossil fuels for thermal use across its portfolio of buildings. Through comprehensive audits on our buildings, we will identify a pipeline of projects for capital investment over the next number of years. We will prioritise WWETB owned buildings for investment.

Our work programme will be developed over the coming months, using the strategic priorities outlined in our Strategy Statement as a guide. WWETB's strategic priorities are outlined in the appendices below.

9 Appendices

9.1 Strategic Climate Action and Sustainability Priorities from WWETB Statement of Strategy 2023-2027

5.1 Strategic Priority: Foundations/Structure

Actions:

	Actions
5.1.1	Develop appropriate structure for the implementation of Climate Action and Sustainability strategy – Climate Action and Sustainability Steering Group, with representation from students/adult learners' group, staff and external expertise. Develop local Green Committees in every college, centre, and office. Develop partnerships with community groups to support the strategic agenda.
5.1.2	Appoint an Energy Officer for WWETB.
5.1.3	Training for Steering Group, Green Committees, Managers, caretakers, and maintenance staff – project and programme management structure to achieving objectives across all strategic priorities.
5.1.4	Research opportunities for strategic partnerships and seek to engage with bodies that can support the strategic agenda of WWETB.
5.1.5	Identify resource to support the applications process for funding and grant awards to support the strategic agenda of WWETB.
5.1.6	Communication of details of any projects undertaken and benefits to all staff and students/adult learners. Survey staff and students/adult learners for any change in understanding and attitudes on Climate Action and Sustainability. Highlight and share success stories – branding the campaign.

5.2 Strategic Priority: Renewable Energy

Actions:

	Actions
5.2.1	Undertake a desk research exercise into appropriate solutions across the WWETB sites. Identify possible locations and undertake site survey - with support from teachers and external experts. Implement any recommendations.
5.2.2	Business case created with costs and revenue including displacement.
5.2.3	Identify potential funding streams (i.e., payback or investment) and apply for relevant grants.
5.2.4	Install solar panels on roofs of WWETB-owned buildings and buildings with long leases.
5.2.5	Develop and implement an awareness campaign around energy efficient behaviours, using intranet, website, and social media to engage with staff and students/adult learners.

5.3 Strategic Priority: Energy Efficiency

Actions:

	Actions
5.3.1	Carry out regular energy audits.
5.3.2	Establish an energy use baseline for each building within WWETB.
5.3.3	Exceed building regulations - Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)/Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREAAM).
5.3.4	Retrofit suitable buildings to bring them up to appropriate efficiency including heating controls.
5.3.5	Invest in energy efficiency visual apps/information screens for buildings.
5.3.6	Put in place a league table for WWETB buildings Display Energy Certificates (DECs)
5.3.7	Plan for the elimination of all incandescent and halogen lights.

5.3.8	Develop an energy awareness campaign around PC shutdown in all colleges, centres, and offices - behavioural change by individuals.
5.3.9	Embed the *Take 1* programme and the Sustainable Development Goals into the sustainability strategy for WWETB and encourage school participation in same.
5.3.10	Development of specific Climate Action plans for FET and for Schools, in line with DoE/DFHERIS/SOLAS and broader government strategies.

5.4 Strategic Priority: Travel

Actions:

	Actions
5.4.1	Develop an awareness campaign (for staff, students and their parents and adult learners) around encouraging walking and cycling to colleges, centres and offices, car-pooling and increased usage of school and public transport. To include campaign for park and cycle facilities in a close radius of schools with dedicated cycle lanes and installation of bike racks in every WWETB site.
5.4.2	Develop a clear policy on staff travel – online (MS Teams) V face-to-face meetings.
5.4.3	Make provision for electric charging points at all colleges, centres, and offices.

5.5 Strategic Priority: Biodiversity

Actions:

	Actions
5.5.1	Develop an awareness campaign around biodiversity, including the development and implementation of an e-Learning module and introductory training for staff and students/adult learners.

5.5.2	Create an organisation-wide system of biodiversity ambassadors and a champion within the Senior Management Team, including assigning allocated hours for a biodiversity role (i.e. coordinator).
5.5.3	Put in place a Community of Practice forum to focus on the area of Biodiversity.
5.5.4	Develop materials relating to the strategic focus on Biodiversity for all schools - handbooks and induction programmes for new staff and students/adult learners.
5.5.5	Assess college, centre, and office sites for suitability to establish wildlife zones/areas and establish zones in all possible areas.
5.5.6	Carry out annual Biodiversity audits and develop associated pollinator plans at each site.
5.5.7	Work with partner organisations with expertise in biodiversity programmes and carry out site visits to other locations to gather best practice ideas for implementation.

5.6 Strategic Priority: Waste Reduction

Actions:

	Actions
5.6.1	Reduce, then eliminate single use plastics (e.g., plastic bottles in canteens) in all colleges, centres, and offices.
5.6.2	Reduce the use of photocopying to essential purposes only (e.g., tests) – utilise online resources such as teams for sharing documents.
5.6.3	Food pre-ordering system in colleges to reduce excess food being prepared and subsequently wasted.
5.6.4	Develop a protocol for the donation of unused food to food banks/charities.
5.6.5	Introduce compost bins for food waste/renewable energy.

5.6.6	Ensure college canteens are using reusable containers where possible (recyclable and compostable less favourable).
5.6.7	Review of current waste position to determine baseline and compare to best practice. Develop system for management and minimising of waste.
5.6.8	Develop incentive schemes for colleges, centres and offices to support them in achieving targets with regard to waste reduction.
5.6.9	Develop campaigns and provide training for staff and students/adult learners on how to dispose of waste correctly for maximising recycling rates.
5.6.10	Rainwater harvesting incorporated into all new buildings and review of feasibility to harvest rainwater at existing buildings. Implement rainwater harvesting where possible.

5.7 Strategic Priority: Circular Economy

Actions:

	Actions
5.7.1	Build a circular economy movement across the WWETB community using various engagement and communication methods.
5.7.2	Ringfence resources for a post-primary initiative. Create a sustainability section/team to audit, log and enforce the initiative until circular economy model becomes the norm.
5.7.3	Procurement to move away from cost to sustainability as a measure of value.
5.7.4	Highlight connections and partnerships with organisations outside WWETB – (e.g., sustainability sourcing)
5.7.5	Trial use of non-chemical cleaning products at colleges, centres, and offices.
5.7.6	Use reusable/non harmful alternative products (non-chemical) within programmes (e.g., beauty, hairdressing, construction)

5.7.7	Develop a WWETB protocol to encourage second life for uniforms and books in WWETB Colleges.
5.7.8	Create awareness of value of 'waste'.
5.7.9	Develop plan to provide training in NZEB fundamentals across a wide variety of programmes and courses. Embed in training programmes and in post-primary modules where feasible.

5.8 Strategic Priority: Curriculum Integrated with sustainability for classroom-based assessments

Actions:

	Actions
5.8.1	Publish a set of guidelines to embed Sustainability as an integral element of curriculum delivery. Assign a co-ordinator to this task and include all stakeholders, including students/adult learners. Set up a Community of Practice as a matter of course.
5.8.2	Explore the classroom-based assessment model and advocacy with National Council for Curriculum Assessment (NCCA), particularly in subjects such as Maths, Geography and Sciences. Map current activity in schools as baseline.
5.8.3	Access resources that already exist and build stronger partnerships for specific purposes (e.g. Environmental Protection Agency, National Biodiversity Centre, green schools, leave no trace campaign, local authorities).
5.8.4	Sustainable courses integrated across multiple FET programmes, including the Green Skills module.