

Update on Dublin City Council Climate Change Action Plan

Progress report for DCC Environmental SPC, 26/09/2018

Since the Environment SPC was last updated, work has progressed well on the action plan.

Peer Review and New EPA Guidelines

There are new guidelines due from the EPA for adaptation planning for local authorities to update EPA report 164. As a result of this it was decided to delay the publication of the plan until these guidelines have been finalised and the plan can be adjusted to reflect them. The plan has been sent to Dr Barry O Dwyer of MaREI to ensure compliance with the new draft guidelines; a report on this has been received and Codema are updating the draft plans to ensure compliance with the new guidelines.

Editing

The plans have been sent for final design and are expected back by mid September.

Public and Stakeholder Engagement

A web platform to provide the public and other stakeholders with information about the plans to inform the public consultation process is progressing well. The BETA version is currently being populated with the plan information. The platform will be tested in advance of the statutory public consultation. The platform will allow the public to read the plans but also to filter to areas of particular interest or groups of actions, it also allows them to make submissions directly from the site.

Plans targets

The plan sets out a number of targets:

- A 33% improvement in the council's energy efficiency by 2020
- A 40% reduction in the council's greenhouse gas emissions by 2030
- To make Dublin a climate-resilient region, by reducing the impacts of future climate change-related events
- To actively engage and inform our citizens on climate change

Some initial findings are:

- The council are well on track to exceed their 33% EE target, presently they are at 29.8% compared to the baseline
- The council have reduced their CO₂ output by 24% over the last 10 years
- The 40% target is achievable and will be almost double the national target
- The plan provides risk initial assessments of climate impacts on the City and actions planned to lessen these and the projected worsening impacts
- Through the CARO office and numerous actions the council will engage and educate citizens on the CC impacts and solutions

Codema will work closely with the new CARO office to provide expertise in policy, research, awareness raising and funding opportunities. It will also update and manage the obligations related to the Covenant of Mayors.

Funding has been secured for Codema to carry out Irelands first ever regional energy masterplan. which will create evidence-based, realistic, and costed pathways for the Dublin region to achieve its carbon emission reduction targets to 2030 and 2050. The scenario analyses will include all areas of energy use in the Dublin region, and will be evaluated based on the socio, economic and environmental impacts. The resulting scenarios will give local authority and regional level planners, architects, engineers and other policy-makers the tools to create effective, low carbon policies and make strategic decisions to influence the use of energy in Dublin. The plan will focus on the areas where actions can be taken to introduce energy efficiency measures and reduce CO2 emissions, such as district energy systems and renewable energy technologies.

Next Steps

- The plan will be sent to DCC by the end of September for a final round of issues that need to be addressed
- SEA and AA scoping is being investigated
- A final draft will be available for the SPC on the 26th of October, with a view to a January public consultation
- Final sign off after public consultation and inclusions is projected for a Feb/March 2019 SPC and the subsequent available council meeting.