



An Roinn Forbartha
Tuaithe agus Pobail
Department of Rural and
Community Development

Resource Efficiency Action Plan

2019-2021



Acronyms

Acronym	Organisation
BTS	Build To Share system
CRA	Charities Regulatory Authority
DCCAE	Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment
DHPLG	Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government
DPER	Department of Public Enterprise and Reform
DRCD	Department of Rural and Community Development
EPO	Energy Performance Officer
ePQ	Electronic Parliamentary Question system
HSO	Head Service Officer
ICT	Information and Communication Technologies
IWS	Irish Water Safety
MFP	Multi-Function Printer
PSB	Public Sector Body
REAP	Resource Efficiency Action Plan
SEAI	Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland
SUP	Single Use Plastics
WDC	Western Development Commission
WEEE	Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment

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1 Background and Context

The Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD) was established in 2017 to facilitate economic development in rural areas through a range of programmes, and to support communities, in urban and rural areas, to become sustainable and desirable places to live, work and raise families. The Department has 146 staff (Full Time Equivalent) located in Trinity Point, South Leinster Street, Dublin, and at the Government Offices in Ballina, Co. Mayo. The Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (DHPLG), is the anchor tenant for the Ballina offices, and as such acts as the primary driver for resource efficiency across that building with DRCD involvement.

The Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD) is committed to developing a more sustainable environment-centric approach to the disposal of waste and the management of resource amenities, such as energy and waste.

The Department of Rural and Community Development supports the initiatives set out in the Government decision of 3 January 2019 which was put in place for Government Departments and Public Sector Bodies to lead the way in reducing the usage of Single Use Plastics, to demonstrate commitment to encouraging sustainable development and to influence and persuade other agencies on the changes necessary to reduce their environmental impact going forward.

Encouraging resource efficiency needs a combination of behavioural change, targeted investment in facilities and more enabled infrastructure. To date, the Department's focus has been on two areas: improving our energy efficiency and better physical waste management. This action plan describes actions taken to date and actions we intend to take for the future.

2 Green Government Initiative and Resource Efficiency Action Plan

2.1 Green Government Initiative

Under the Green Government Initiative, a number of practical measures have been identified in order to encourage and accelerate the adoption of a more 'green' approach by government Departments and agencies. The Department of Communications, Climate Action and the Environment (DCCA) are responsible for co-ordinating these issues within Government. The main points under the Initiative are as follows:

- Government Departments will not supply, directly or indirectly, single use plastic beverage containers, cutlery or straws. This restriction will also apply to all Public Bodies including State Agencies and schools from the 31st of March 2019 unless specific public health/hygiene or safety issues arise.
- By the 31st of March 2019, the Department will work with the Office of Government Procurement to bring forward proposals on the implementation of green public procurement.
- Each Government Department is required to develop a resource efficiency action plan for publication by the end of June 2019. These plans are designed to help staff make savings in water, materials and energy use as well as preventing food waste and maximising recycling within their work environment.
- By 30th November 2019, all Public Bodies are required to provide a report to their respective Minister on the measures they are taking to minimise waste generation and maximise recycling.¹

¹ DCCA - <https://www.dcca.gov.ie/en-ie/environment/topics/sustainable-development/green-government/Pages/default.aspx>

2.2 Resource Efficiency Action Plan

This Resource Efficiency Action Plan (REAP) is an audit and review of the department's 'greening' practices. The REAP provides an opportunity to assess where improvements could be made in waste reduction, management and prevention, in reducing energy bills and charges, heat recovery, equipment use, lights and water use etc. It also provides opportunities to improve the awareness of management and staff in relation to these matters².

Each Department has been mandated to produce a REAP, arising from the Government decision on 3 January 2019. The DRCD recognises the strategic and environmental importance of producing, implementing and monitoring, a REAP and is committed to better managing its waste and energy efficiency going forward.

The DRCD shares premises with the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (DHPLG) in Government Offices, Castle Road, Ballina, Mayo, F26 E8N6. DHPLG has primary responsibility for facilities management in respect of these premises for both Departments through its Facilities Management Unit. A link to the DHPLG's REAP can be found below³. The DHPLG's aims for improving resource efficiency in the Ballina offices can be found in Appendix 1.

² Gov.ie - <https://www.gov.ie/en/organisation-information/341988-departmental-resource-efficiency-action-plan/>

³ DHPLG REAP - <https://www.housing.gov.ie/corporate/other/resource-efficiency-action-plan>

3 Promoting Energy Efficiency, Better Waste Management and Green issues

3.1 Co-ordination of REAP

The Rural Fund and Corporate Support Unit within DRCD are responsible for accommodation and organisational matters through its Facilities Management Team. The Facilities Management Team will establish a Committee (“The GEO Committee”) during 2019 to co-ordinate efforts on energy efficiency, waste reduction and other Green initiatives. It is expected that this Committee will lead on implementing the REAP within the Department. It is also envisioned that the Committee will work with relevant officials, as well as the OPW and other Departments, on best practice to maximise and extend efforts under the REAP and explore the scope for more synergistic approaches to resource management multilaterally and interdepartmentally.

As the Department shares office space with DHPLG, there will be the requirement for a co-ordinated approach to energy efficiency in shared locations. To this end, the DRCD has been actively engaging with the Facilities Management Unit (FMU) in Ballina in order to align the aims of both Departments going forward.

The DRCD has four separate agencies which fall under its aegis, as follows:

- Western Development Commission (WDC)
- The Charities Regulatory Authority (CRA)
- Pobal
- Irish Water Safety (IWS)

In accordance with the guidelines set out by the DCCAE, agencies under the aegis of Departments are encouraged to produce their own REAP. The DRCD is committed to supporting its agencies, where necessary, in aligning their respective REAPs with that of the parent Department.

3.2 Communication, Training and Awareness

The DRCD is committed to ensuring that its staff are aware of the issues around Climate Change, environmental efficiency and dedicated waste management, both at work and at home. To this end, the Department will be active participants in the Green Government Workshops organised by DCCAE.

Staff from the Facilities Management Team and the Committee will avail of training opportunities provided by DCCAIE and the Green Team Programme, as they will provide an opportunity to share best practice within the Public Sector, and to give staff the opportunity to network, share their experiences and to feed into what happens as Departments plan for Green Government in 2020.

The DRCD has a Staff Newsletter, the “DRCD Feature”, which is used for internal communication purposes. We will utilise this communication channel to raise awareness about Green issues and initiatives with staff.

The DRCD has a very active programme of “Lunch n’ Learn” events in both the Trinity Point and Ballina offices, addressing a wide range of social and work-based issues. We will use this format to inform staff about Waste Management, Energy Efficiency and Climate Change issues in both the office environment and at home.

The DRCD will also be organising an annual Energy Awareness Day for staff with Optimising Power @ Work. In addition, the Department aims to facilitate an additional four presentations for staff on Energy Efficiency topics at work and in the home.

4 Support Mechanisms for Implementation

4.1 The Green Team

A green team consists of a nominated 'leader' and is supported by a multidisciplinary team of officials who represent different sections of the Department. The purpose of the green team will be to act as a primary driving force and co-ordinating body for the implementation of the REAP. To achieve its remit, the Green Team will:



- gather relevant data on environmental aspects of the Department
- identify and prioritise actions for delivery
- delegate actions to relevant stakeholders
- actively seek the necessary resources for implementing actions identified under the plan and,
- organise internal communications and awareness campaigns events.

The DRCD “GEO Committee” will act as the Green Team for this Department. It includes staff from the Facilities Management Team, and staff volunteers from other units who are interested in working on Green issues and improving Energy Efficiency in the workplace.

4.2 Energy Performance Officer (EPO)

The Governance Structure of the Public Sector Energy Efficiency Strategy requires all public sector bodies to designate an Energy Performance Officer (EPO) from among their senior management team.

In order to be accountable for energy management and performance, the EPO should have decision making powers with regard to facilities management, corporate budgets and procurement, along with responsibility for corporate and financial reporting. EPO's will be responsible for providing leadership on structured energy management in their organisation. EPO's appointed in Government Departments will:

- Exercise oversight, in the context of corporate governance functions, of the discharge by the bodies under the aegis of their Department (their "Group") of their obligations under this Strategy, to include the setting of a combined (aggregated) annual target for energy saving by their organisation and bodies under its aegis
- Ensure that the bodies under the aegis of their Department provide timely and quality input for the annual strategic report, to be provided by their Minister, for the annual Memorandum for Government on the implementation of this Strategy and progress to the 2020 target
- Brief the Cabinet Committee on Infrastructure, Environment and Climate Action, as required, on progress towards energy efficiency goals in their Group⁴.

The Departmental Energy Performance Officer for DRCD is Sheenagh Rooney, Assistant Secretary General.

An annual consultation will take place between the Department and the Energy Performance Officers of our agencies, to monitor how targets are being met. The first such meeting took place in November 2018.

⁴ DCCAE - <https://www.dccae.gov.ie/en-ie/energy/topics/Energy-Efficiency/public-sector/energy-performance-officers/Pages/default.aspx>

5 Energy

5.1 Overview

During 2018, the Department's Facilities Management Team engaged with the Office of Public Works to join the "Optimising Power @ Work" campaign. The core principal of this campaign is to work with staff to encourage behavioural change to reduce energy waste.

This campaign is assisting the Department to address the public service commitment to reduce energy consumption by 33%. The Department has also appointed an Energy Performance Officer who meets with representatives from bodies under our aegis to ensure that there is a concerted strategy to achieve our energy efficiency commitments.

The Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) have conducted a preliminary analysis of the Department and its agencies for 2018, and are satisfied that the DRCD is in compliance with their energy performance guidelines⁵. SEAI energy performance figures for 2018 can be found in Appendix 2.

5.2 Restroom Hygiene

The Department, through the Facilities Management Team, will investigate the feasibility of reducing reliance on paper towels in restrooms and introduce more energy efficient hand drying units.

It is the intention of the Department to reduce dependence upon paper towels by encouraging staff to utilise drying units, pending investigation of scope to do so. This has also been discussed in the context of the Ballina offices.

The Department is also currently investigating the feasibility of introducing cut-ply paper, as opposed to 3 ply paper. It was noted by the Facilities Management Team, through liaising with the Head Service Officer, that 3 ply paper is used heavily in restrooms while cut-ply would reduce the quantity of paper consumed.

As the DRCD is a tenant of the Trinity Point building, however, any infrastructural works must be assessed, with both landlord and building management agency, in advance of works being actioned or implemented.

⁵ <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/4977ca-2018-annual-report-department-of-rural-and-community-development/> - Department of Rural and Community Development's Annual Report 2018

5.3 Lighting

The Trinity Point building was surveyed for energy efficiency by the OPW and the Optimising Power @ Work scheme in 2019. Arising from this, the DRCD aims to investigate the introduction of low energy lighting in the Trinity Point offices. Energy efficient LEDs (420 Unit) have replaced less efficient lighting in the Ballina offices, as per the energy saving initiative lead by the DHPLG in 2019.

As an energy efficiency measure, the Trinity Point offices now have automatic motion sensing lights on all floors with lights timed to go out when there is no activity in the premises. This is also the case in the Ballina offices. (As referenced in Appendix 1)

Staff are reminded by the Facilities Management Team to switch off their ICT equipment when leaving the premises or before taking any extended period of leave. Optimising Power @ Work infographics are located throughout the Trinity Point building to act as an *aide-mémoire* for staff to encourage enhanced resource efficiency.

5.4 Heating

The heating system used by the DRCD in its Trinity Point offices is controlled centrally. This approach ensures that energy is not consumed excessively and encourages maximum efficiency. Discussions have taken place in-house on the feasibility of introducing additional hand drying Units in the Ballina offices in an effort to reduce paper towel usage in bathrooms. This is currently under review.

In addition, following on from liaising with the Building Management Company and landlord, installation of 'heat readers' and gas monitors on the 4th and 5th floor of the Trinity Point building has been formally agreed. The installation of this infrastructure will allow the Department to better monitor temperature levels and gas consumption levels. It is expected that these infrastructural works will be completed before Q4 2019.

5.5 Internal ICT

The DRCD has led the way on managed print services in respect of the Department's Dublin and Ballina offices. In order to achieve enhanced energy efficiency, and reduce costs associated with toner replacement and energy consumption, the DRCD encourages staff to set printing to monochrome. This ensures that excess colour printing is kept to a minimum.



Enhanced resource efficiency is achieved through the print release function. Savings on paper, toner and in energy usage are achieved as documents are only printed when the user manually authorises the printer to release it (which must be done at the printer). Documents not released can be deleted in the event of an error in sending the information to the printer.

Furthermore, all printers default to double-sided printing to reduce paper wastage and reduce the usage of toner. In addition, DRCD office policy supports the use of Network printers rather than individual printers, which are more efficient to run.

Network Multi-Function Printers (MFPs) are operated using a Managed Print Service. As part of this, print jobs are only held on the queue for a maximum of 24 hours. The Department of Public Enterprise and Reform (DPER) have estimated that combined savings in respect of paper, toner and energy usage on foot of this initiative being implemented in their offices has the potential to amount to savings of over 30%.⁶

Training and instructions were provided to staff in July 2019 on how to maximise the efficiency of the MFPs situated in the DRCD, and further training sessions are planned for late 2019.

5.6 Centralised ICT

The Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) provides the managed ICT service for DRCD. The OGCIO "Build to Share" (BTS) suite was partially rolled out to staff in Ballina and Trinity Point in 2018. This included the computer network, email, office productivity suite, and SharePoint. During the course of 2018, other core elements of the Build to Share Suite were also rolled out or upgraded, including Hive sites, ePQ and eCorrespondence. Other core elements of the BTS will be rolled out in the DRCD in the near future.

⁶ DPER REAP suggests average savings - <https://assets.gov.ie/25066/e58fe2058c504a7f97ef909f1cef795a.pdf>

The OGCIO managed ICT service approach eliminates the requirement for individual departments and agencies to have large, localised ICT infrastructures, which can be very wasteful. This greatly reduces the physical server footprint, and facilitates the move away from older legacy systems and the early adoption of new and emerging technologies which are more resource and energy efficient.

The DRCD's commitment to engaging with the Build To Share programme has ensured that staff are more actively engaged with online processes, are more confident in engaging with work-related material electronically and, as a result, there have been reductions in paper consumption across the Department as a whole. More dedicated buy-in to paperless work will pay dividends across the board in the context of waste paper efficiency and the DRCD will continue to support the rollout of the full suite of BTS applications.

The use of Video Conferencing is key to the DRCD's aim to minimise the number of staff journeys between its offices. Video Conferencing is available between conference rooms and training rooms in Trinity Point and Ballina. In addition, the DRCD in conjunction with the OGCIO is establishing external Video Conferencing links with our Agencies, the DHPLG and Northern Ireland. Training has been provided to staff on how best to use the Video Conferencing facilities.

6 Waste

6.1 Recycling and Waste – Overview

In 2018, the DRCD Facilities Management Team established recycling stations in Trinity Point. Utilising email and Posters, the Team have encouraged and educated staff about recycling. This has seen our general waste drop by more than 80%. ⁷



The Team have installed battery and fluorescent light recycling boxes in the offices which were supplied by WEEE Ireland, and also recycle all toners from printers.

The Department also introduced a policy of encouraging staff to use re-usable water bottles in order to reduce plastic waste. All single use plastics have been eliminated from use in the Department. In advance of the Government decision on Single Use Plastics (SUPs), the Department introduced travel mugs and cups as part of the new hire welcome pack. This was done in order to encourage staff to reduce their use of plastic cups and single use water bottles.

6.2 Waste Segregation

Arrangements for waste segregation within the Trinity Point and Ballina Offices have been improved in 2019. The DRCD researched the segregated waste bins available in the market in order to identify the best option for the Department's needs.

Initially, food/organic waste was collected as part of the general waste. Organic bins were identified as the most environmentally sound method for disposal of organic waste such as teabags, coffee granules and other perishable foodstuffs. The Facilities Management Team, installed segregated refuse disposal bins in the Dublin offices. Waste segregation has taken place in the Ballina Offices, under the direction of the DHPLG, the building's anchor tenant.

This approach is proving to be driving efficiency in green waste disposal. Following on from the installation of segregated waste disposal bins, there has been a decrease of 80% in the weekly general waste sacks in Trinity Point. To date in 2019, the Facilities Management Team noted a decrease, on average, from 10 (ten) one hundred and forty

⁷ D/RCD Annual Report <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/4977ca-2018-annual-report-department-of-rural-and-community-development/>

litre general refuse sacks to 1 (one) one hundred and forty litre general refuse sacks per week – a reduction of around 90 per cent.

6.3 Paper Recycling

In order for the DRCD to further meet its efficiency brief, the Department procured a secure shredding service in 2018 to encourage a more concentrated approach to paper recycling. In order to achieve maximum recycle efficiency, the chosen contractor for shredding ensures a very robust collection and recycle procedure:

Stage 1 – Shredding waste is collected by a Garda-vetted driver

Stage 2 – Shredding waste is brought back to a secure warehouse

Stage 3 – Material is destroyed in a secure facility via conveyor belt.

Stage 4 – Once the material is destroyed, it is then condensed into a block

Stage 5 – Transport the material to contractor's recycling plant in the UK.

The shredding cost for 2018 was approximately €463. To date, this figure has increased to €507.50 for 2019. This increase in the DRCD's shredding cost, while minor in financial terms, illustrates a change in the way waste paper is being managed. It should be noted that these figures do not account for all of 2018 as the Department moved to the Trinity Point offices as of March 2018.

6.4 Water

The areas of water efficiency and water management are topics which the DRCD will concentrate on in the future. Both floors of the Trinity Point offices have water metres which allow for accurate readings of water consumed by the DRCD staffing compliment. While no initiatives have been rationalised to tackle water inefficiency in the Department, discussions have been held with facilities management, in order to identify priority areas.

From these discussions, the Department is currently investigating the feasibility of renewing water infrastructure. For example, the Department's Head Service Officer (HSO), in conjunction with the Facilities Management Team, have identified a number of areas for potential improvement:

Taps: The DRCD will investigate the installation of more modern taps for bathrooms. Current taps do not have an efficiency feature and can be left running which can result in excessive water waste. Installing of more efficient water infrastructure will be a matter

for discussion with the building management as infrastructural changes would require landlord approval.

Water Leaks: Water leaks are a frequent occurrence in commercial buildings and are often left unattended. Using the water meters installed on both floors, the Facilities Management Team, will investigate the feasibility of running a water leak test, insofar as possible.

7 Travel

7.1 Public Transport

The Department encourages staff to use public transport and all foreign travel must be approved by senior management. All claims for official travel must also be approved by management. In this way, there is a well-developed system of oversight ensuring that only necessary travel is undertaken, that the number of officers travelling is kept to a minimum and public transport is used. All staff are requested to consider the impact their chosen mode of transport and frequency of travel have on the Department's carbon footprint.

In order to better consider the travel to work decisions that staff make, the GEO Committee will engage with the Department's Staff Engagement Forum to consider the option of running a Staff Survey on Climate Action.

7.2 Parking Facilities

Upon occupying the Trinity Point offices in early 2018, the DRCD was allocated 6 parking spaces in the underground car park area of the Trinity Point premises. With such limited availability, this has contributed to staff opting to travel to work via public transport methods. The Department will continue to actively engage with staff regarding the benefits of public transport.

The Department will also investigate the feasibility of installing an Electric Vehicle Charging Port at both of the Department's locations in order to encourage the use of Electric Vehicles.

7.3 Bicycle Facilities

As Trinity Point is situated in Dublin City centre, the office's location acts as an incentive to cycle to work in efforts to avoid traffic congestion. To facilitate this, there is a dedicated bicycle storage space, housed on the ground floor of the Trinity Point building which all staff can access. The DRCD has 43 bike storage locations in its Trinity Point offices in total. Bicycle racks are available in the underground carpark and are used by staff members regularly.

The Department has not initiated a campaign to promote cycling to work but line managers are conscious of the benefits commuting to work and make staff aware of this

initiative, and inform new entrants of the scope of the scheme, in order to encourage cycling to work.

7.4 Onsite Showers

The Trinity Point offices also have shower and hygiene facilities which can be used by staff. There are currently two separate showering stalls in the Trinity Point offices. These facilities offer additional hygiene solutions to staff in order to encourage better uptake of alternative methods of transport when commuting to work.

8 Next Steps

8.1 Departmental Co-ordination

In order to achieve maximum efficiency across all DRCD locations, a more joined-up approach will need to be undertaken with those Departments that the DRCD shares a premises with. During the process to draw up the Resource Efficiency Action Plan, technical issues were identified with how the metrics for those shared buildings are currently collected.

To address this, the Facilities Management Team in DRCD has bilaterally engaged with members of the FMU in DHPLG in order to obtain DRCD specific metrics for the Ballina office. While figures for previous periods have not been accurately identified, the DHPLG and the DRCD have undertaken to discuss the delineation of these figures pending the next iteration of the REAP.

Through this, the DRCD will have a more accurate picture of energy and waste metrics for its Ballina staffing compliment going forward.

8.2 Agency Collaboration

The DRCD is committed to actively engaging with the agencies which fall under its aegis in order to encourage a more joined-up approach to co-ordinating resource efficiency between all bodies represented under the DRCD.

While each agency is encouraged to produce and implement its own REAP, the Facilities Management Team will engage with all agencies under the Department's aegis in order to keep abreast of relevant initiatives and action plans as they develop.

8.3 Wider Engagement

Externally, the DRCD actively promotes and supports Green, Energy Efficiency and Biodiversity measures through its funding schemes and programmes. For example, it has funded the installation of a Solar Energy System at the Clare "Ecolodge"; energy efficiency and insulation of the homes of the elderly in the Duhallow Warmer Homes project; an Apiary (Beekeeping) Biodiversity project in Co. Mayo; energy efficient public lighting projects in a number of Towns and Villages; and the construction of Greenways in Waterford, Mayo, Limerick and Kerry.

9 Action Points

The Action Plan has identified the following points for further action:

Page	Action Point	Responsibility
7	Publish the Resource Efficiency Action Plan for the Department of Rural and Community Development.	Rural Fund and Corporate Support Unit
8	Support our Agencies to develop their own Resource Efficiency Action Plans.	Rural Fund and Corporate Support Unit Agencies
8	Provide training for staff on Waste Management, Energy Efficiency and Green actions.	GEO Committee Rural Fund and Corporate Support Unit
9	Hold an annual Energy Awareness Day for staff.	GEO Committee
9	Promote awareness of Green issues through the Staff Newsletter and the holding of “Lunch n’ Learn” events.	GEO Committee Rural Fund and Corporate Support Unit HR & Training Unit
9	Increased participation in the “Optimising Power @ Work” scheme.	GEO Committee
10	Invest responsibility for championing Waste Management, Energy Efficiency, and Green issues in the Department of Rural and Community Development in the GEO Committee.	Senior Management
11	Hold an annual consultation between Energy Performance Officers in the Department and our agencies.	Rural Fund and Corporate Support Unit Agencies
12	Investigate the feasibility of reducing reliance on paper towels in restrooms through the use of less wasteful means.	Rural Fund and Corporate Support Unit
13	Investigate the introduction of low energy lighting in the Trinity Point offices.	Rural Fund and Corporate Support Unit
13	The installation of ‘heat readers’ and gas monitors on the 4 th and 5 th floor of the Trinity Point building.	Rural Fund and Corporate Support Unit
15	Increased elimination of paper use through the further roll out of the Build To Share programme of shared electronic services.	Rural Fund and Corporate Support Unit
17-18	Identification of further measures to reduce Water usage.	GEO Committee

Page	Action Point	Responsibility
19	GEO Committee to discuss with the Staff Engagement Forum about conducting a Staff Survey on Climate Action.	GEO Committee
19	Investigate the installation of an Electric Vehicle charging point at either of the Department's locations.	Rural Fund and Corporate Support Unit
21	Improved collection of statistics on Energy Efficiency, Waste Management and Water usage.	Rural Fund and Corporate Support Unit

10 Appendix 1: REAP for the Ballina Office

Technical data for the Ballina Office is contained in the Resource Efficiency Action Plan for the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government. Below is a summary of measures undertaken in the Ballina Office.

10.1 Context

One staffing compliment for the DRCD share premises at the Ballina offices, Government Buildings Ballina Co. Mayo F26 E8N6, with the DHPLG. The DHPLG is the anchor tenant and has primary responsibility for facilities management issues and holds the contracts for waste disposal, cleaning and utilities for the building. Appendix 1 provides a brief overview of the resource efficiency measures currently underway in the Ballina offices, as per DHPLG's Resource Efficiency Action Plan.

10.2 Energy

OPW decided on a LED replacement light project for the building replacing all lights with LED lights and with motion sensors built in. The work commenced at the end of October 2018. All of the lights (420 approx.) in the building were replaced with low energy LED lights and also the car park lighting and the eave lights on the building were upgraded to LED lights.

10.3 Planned Works

A plan in conjunction with OPW to insulate the ceilings of the building. A review of the Burco boilers in the canteen to confirm energy rating. Replace the shower heads and taps in the toilet areas with low-flow A rated fittings in an upgrade of the toilet areas. The supply and installation of a 165Kva Generator for the building.

10.4 Biodiversity

An area of the side front lawn has been set aside for biodiversity conservation, i.e. a wild flower patch area which will be prepared at the start of this autumn. There is one bird box in situ on one of the trees and there are plans for some more boxes to be installed.

10.5 SUP and Recycling

After the existing stock of plastic drinking water cups were exhausted in March 2019, we ordered compostable cups in order to reduce the carbon footprint. There are general

recycling bins located in the canteen area and paper recycling bins located in all offices and corridors.

There are WEEE recycling points for small batteries located in the library / lobby area on the 1st floor and at Reception on the Ground floor. There are large wheeled bins outside Registry back door for cardboard.⁸

⁸ DHPLG REAP <https://www.housing.gov.ie/corporate/other/resource-efficiency-action-plan>

11 Appendix 2: SEAI Energy Performance Scorecard 2018

Departmental group energy performance 2018 - Rural and Community Development					
Public body		Energy consumption (primary) [GWh]	% of group's consumption	Preliminary energy performance result (subject to verification by SEAI - see footnotes below)	
PB-05175	Pobal	0.812	49%	63.7%	Selected for DVA: 'Values reported for your organisation-level activity metric for your baseline and 2018'. DVA is ongoing.
PB-05173	Department of Rural and Community Development	0.404	24%	0.0% ⁹	
PB-00247	Irish Water Safety	0.334	20%	-33.7% ¹⁰	Selected for DVA: 'Values reported for your organisation-level activity metric and electricity consumption for 2018'. DVA is ongoing.
PB-05179	Charities Regulator	0.069	4%	47.2%	
PB-00515	Western Development Commission	0.032	2%	68.6%	Selected for DVA: 'Electricity consumption reported for 2018'. DVA is ongoing.
Departmental group		1.651	100%	47.2%	Based on 5/5 public bodies that reported

To note: The above data is preliminary and is subject to change during SEAI's (DVA) process. The final column above relates to an organisation's performance compared to the 33% energy reduction target outlined in the DCCAE Public Sector Energy Efficiency Strategy. Percentages above 33% signify a positive increase while below 33% indicates a negative result. The DRCD metric of 0.0% is due to 2018 being treated as the baseline year for energy reporting, for which there is no metric to compare against.

⁹ As 2018 was the first full year in existence of DRCD, 2018 is the Department's base year and therefore there is no change in improvement to measure against.

¹⁰ As communicated by Irish Water Safety, difficulties were noted in obtaining accurate meter readings and above figure is based on usage estimations by Meter Reader. DVA on this figure is ongoing.

12 Appendix 3: Dataset for Trinity Point (Dublin)

The technical data for Trinity Point (Dublin) will be published separately on the DRCD website at:

<https://www.gov.ie/drcd>