

# Climate Action Plan

2022 – 2026

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## 1. Introduction

The Data Protection Commission (DPC) is the national independent authority in Ireland responsible for upholding the fundamental right of individuals in the European Union (EU) to have their personal data protected. Accordingly, the DPC is the Irish supervisory authority responsible for monitoring the application of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), and we also have functions and powers related to other regulatory frameworks, including the Irish ePrivacy Regulations (2011) and the EU Directive known as the Law Enforcement Directive (LED). The statutory powers, duties and functions of the DPC are as established under the Data Protection Act 2018, which gives further effect to the GDPR, and also gives effect to the LED.

The DPC operates from two offices, the Head Office at 6 Pembroke Row, Dublin 2 and a satellite office in Portarlington, Co. Laois.

The DPC moved in to its new Head Office on the 28<sup>th</sup> April, 2025, having vacated offices at 21 Fitzwilliam Square and Trinity Point, South Leinster Street.

In line with the Climate Action Plan 2021, the DPC is required to achieve the following:

1. Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG) by 51% in 2030.
2. 51% reduction in thermal related GHG and
3. A 50% improvement in energy efficiency

## 2. Engaging our people

### 2.1 Our People

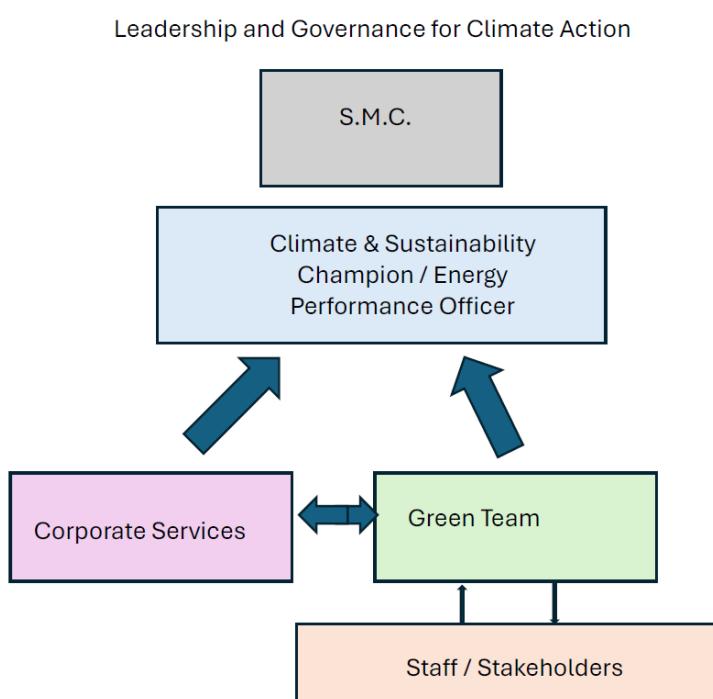
The Climate and Sustainability Champion role is held by the Head of Corporate Affairs, Media & Communications, Graham Doyle, Deputy Commissioner. The Dep. Commissioner also sits on the Senior Management Committee.

The DPC is reconstituting its Green Team. The new Green Team will constitute 12 members, with 10 members from Head Office and 2 members from Portarlington.

Members cover a diverse range of business units including Procurement, Corporate Services, ICT and Strategic Planning and Engagement.

All Green Team members will be trained on the Green Teams National Programme, to include all five themes of the technical aspect module. These themes cover Energy, Waste, Water use, Transport and Biodiversity.

#### 2.1.1 Leadership and Governance for Climate Action



### **Green Team Members:**

Tom Walsh, Procurement Officer;

Alice Nolan, Corporate Services, Facilities and Procurement;

Anna Honer, Regulatory Technology Affairs;

Nathan Phipps O'Neill, Infrastructure, Security and Assurance;

Xin He, Corporate Services, Facilities and Procurement;

Peadar Charles, Guidance, DPO;

Alan O'Grady, Corporate Services, Facilities and Procurement;

Helena Campbell, Inter-regulatory Affairs;

Eric Kelly, Cross-border inquiries;

Siobhan Brown, Strategic Planning and Engagement;

Aidan Kelly, Cross-border Assessment; and,

Paul Keenan, Corporate Services, Facilities and Procurement.

### **2.1.2 Engaging and Training Staff**

The new Green Team members / Climate and Sustainability Champion will be provided training on the Green Teams National Programme, to include all five themes of the technical aspect module. These themes cover Energy, Waste, Water use, Transport and Biodiversity.

It is expected this training will be completed by Q1 2026. Further training needs will be identified as part of a training needs analysis.

Green Team will make a presentation to all DPC staff at the first Communications Day in Q1 2026.

## 2.2 Our Targets

DPC has set its baseline as 2018 as set out in the Climate Action Plan 2021. The move to the new Head Office in Pembroke Row will have an effect on our carbon emission and energy efficiency. There are currently issues with the Heating system that have been in place since we moved in to the building, but a resolution has been identified and should be in place by year end, 2025. This will allow DPC properly monitor and control the BMS and effect greater efficiencies within our systems.

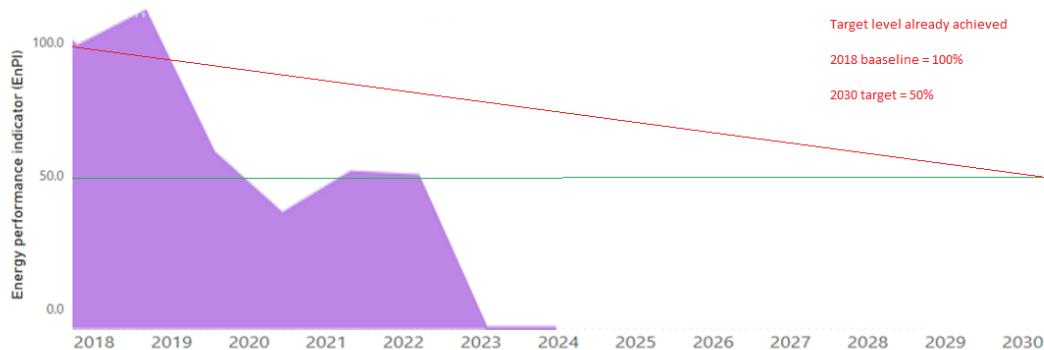
The DPC has set its Activity Metric, i.e. the metric used to calculate our energy performance / efficiency over time, as Full Time Employees (FTE). In 2016, our FTE was 49, by year end 2025 that number is 293.5, an almost 600% increase.

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

CO2 emissions (kgCO2)						
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Fossil	9,475	9,119	7,307	6,156	8,601	3,806
-Thermal energy	9,475	9,119	7,307	6,156	8,601	3,806
- Natural Gas	9,475	9,119	7,307	6,156	8,601	3,806
Electricity	54,106	74,349	37,364	30,815	47,399	49,213
- Electricity	54,106	74,349	37,364	30,815	47,399	49,213
<b>Total</b>	<b>63,581</b>	<b>83,468</b>	<b>44,671</b>	<b>36,972</b>	<b>56,000</b>	<b>53,019</b>

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

### Energy Efficiency Target



It is expected that the closing of the 2 buildings, Fitzwilliam Square and Trinity Point, will provide the DPC further opportunities to improve efficiencies.

## 2.3 Our way of working

### 2.3.1. Energy and Environmental management systems and accreditation

The DPC intends to seek ISO 50001 for the Energy Management System in Pembroke Row, once the Heating system issues have been resolved.

### 2.3.2 Green Public Procurement

The DPC utilises Office of Government Procurement framework agreements, where possible, in our procurement process. Where the DPC cannot utilise such a framework, it will endeavour to adhere to Circular 20/2019 – Promoting the use of Environmental and Social Considerations in Public Procurement.

### **2.3.3 Resource Use**

The DPC has rolled out a Case Management System which has replaced the hard copy system that was previously in use and now all documents and work flow are processed electronically.

## **2.4 Our Buildings and Vehicles**

### **2.4.1 Head Office**

The new Head Office is located at 6 Pembroke Row, Dublin 2 and has a BER rating of a minimum of A3. The building comprises 6 stories over basement totalling 2,882 m<sup>2</sup>. The office provides seating for 204 staff.

The office provides 9 car parking spaces, including a Disabled Access space. There are also 20 bike spaces, but this is being reviewed with the intention to increase the number of spaces provided. There are also 6 shower units provided.

The nearest Luas station is a 7 minute walk and a number of bus routes within a 5 minute walk.

### **2.4.2 Satellite Office**

The satellite office is located at Canal House, Station Road, Portarlington, Co Laois.

This office was originally provided to the DPC as temporary accommodation during the Decentralisation process in 2006 while a new purpose-built office was designed and built. The lease on the building runs until 30 November 2026 and is currently being negotiated for a renewal of the lease.

There is one shower unit provided. Bicycles are stored in the ground floor lobby. There are a number of parking spaces available from the car park

attached to the shop based on the ground floor of the building. The train station is a 5 minute walk

### **2.4.3 Energy Provision**

The DPC has utilised the OGP framework for gas and electricity supply and chose the 100% renewable option, where available.