



Rialtas na hÉireann  
Government of Ireland

# Department of the Environment, Climate & Communications Annual Report

2020

Prepared by the Department of the  
Environment, Climate & Communications  
[gov.ie/decc](http://gov.ie/decc)

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# Executive Summary

## Overview of Department

The Department's remit at the time the Statement of Strategy 2019-2021 was published covered telecommunications; broadcasting; postal; energy; climate action; waste management and resource efficiency; environmental policy and air quality; noise and radiation protection policy and natural resources.

Following the formation of a new Government in June 2020 the broadcasting functions of the Department were transferred to the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media with effect from 23 September 2020 ([SI 372 of 2020](#)).

The name of the Department changed from the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment to the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications with effect from 24 September 2020 ([SI 373 of 2020](#)).

## COVID-19

The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020 resulted in some changes to the working environment of the Department. From early March the Department prioritised its work to support the whole of Government response to the pandemic. In line with Government advice, the Department operated remotely with limited attendance in our offices.

Many of the Department's functions were involved in ensuring the security and continuity of critical infrastructure throughout the period of the pandemic. Working with our stakeholders, the Department played a central role in ensuring the continuity of electricity, gas and fuel supplies; the maintenance of waste management services; and the functioning of the telecommunications networks. A range of measures were introduced to support businesses operating online.

## Statement of Strategy 2019–2021<sup>1</sup>

The Department's **vision under the Statement of Strategy 2019–2021** was for Ireland to become a leader in delivering climate action, achieving environmental sustainability and bringing the opportunities offered by digital communications to all citizens. This long-term vision is focused upon transitioning to a prosperous, modern, competitive and carbon neutral economy, underpinned by flexible well-regulated markets.

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<sup>1</sup> In accordance with the Public Service Management Act 1997, a new Statement of Strategy was in preparation at end 2020 which would reflect the commitments in the 2020 Programme for Government – Our Shared Future.

The Department's **mission** was to develop across Government policies which power economic and social progress, while at the same time improving the environment in a lasting way for future generations.

The Department delivered on its vision and mission by focusing on **four key goals**:

### **Goal 1 - Climate Leadership**

Ireland will deliver a coherent and effective response to climate disruption and seize the enterprise opportunities in a low carbon economy.

### **Goal 2 - Connectivity and Communications**

Provide access to a world class communications network with high quality services, supporting connected communities and enabling citizens to embrace digital opportunities in a safe environment.

### **Goal 3 - Environment and Sustainable Resource Use**

Use resources with care and responsibility minimising the generation of waste and consistently enhancing our environment in all its dimensions.

### **Goal 4 - Governance and Regulation**

Be best in class in creating the policy direction and the regulatory environment for our sectors, so as to ensure good governance, competitive markets, diversity, innovation and sustainable practices.

The Department made significant progress on achieving the goals in the Statement of Strategy 2019-2021 and this Annual Report outlines the main achievements and developments during the year.

Key Outputs		Target	Delivered	100%
1	No. of small businesses supported by the Trading Online Voucher Scheme	1,250	13,240	1,059.2%
4	No. of homes supported to improve their energy efficiency	23,200	14,699	63.4%
5	No. of new Grant-Aided Electric Vehicle Purchases	6,000	4,843	80.7%
6	No. of Environmental and Radiological Decisions	1,270	1,137	89.5%
7	No. of Industrial/Waste site visits	1,450	Not Yet Available	N/A

Key Impacts		2020	2019	2018
1	Total no. of Broadband Users (including mobile users)	1.84m	1.76m	1.73m
2	Overall % of gross final energy consumption from renewable resources	Not Yet Available	12.0%	10.9%
3	Achievement of waste diversion, recovery and recycling targets: Biodegradable Municipal Waste (BMW) landfilled	104,000	145,000	190,000

## Key Achievements in 2020:

### Climate/Environment

- Draft text for the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Bill was published in early October 2020 and underwent pre-legislative scrutiny by the Joint Oireachtas Committee. The Committee's report was published on 18 December 2020 and informed the finalised text adopted by Government in 2021.
- The Climate Action Fund was established on a statutory basis on 1 August 2020, through the early enactment of the National Oil Reserves Agency Bill.
- The first progress report of the Just Transition Commissioner was published in May 2020 and a second report was published in November 2020, providing a further update on progress on just transition in the Midlands.
- The Department opened a call for applications to the Just Transition Fund in June 2020 and provisional funding offers were announced in November 2020, totalling almost €30m to over 60 projects throughout the region for projects from the private sector, local authorities and communities.
- Government approval was granted in November 2020 for the Bord na Móna Enhanced Decommissioning, Rehabilitation and Restoration Scheme (EDRRS) on 33,000 hectares of decommissioned Bord na Móna peatlands including the provision of funding of up to €108 million from the Climate Action Fund.
- Regulations were finalised for additional 13 towns under the Smoky Coal ban.

### Energy

- The Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) was designated the National Retrofitting Delivery Body and sanction for additional staff was approved.
- €78.7 million was spent in 2020 on energy efficiency measures through grants to over 17,600 homes (includes Solar PV schemes), 39 community based projects and

1,615 households at risk of energy poverty. These measures delivered energy savings of 138.7 GWh, reduced CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 35,200 tonnes and lowered energy bills by €9.2 million.

- 68 new renewable energy projects, equating to approximately 1,088MW of new renewable generation, were awarded a letter of offer under the first Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (RESS) auction. This includes seven community projects comprising five solar and two wind projects. The RESS scheme will support an investment in Ireland of over €1.4 billion and support the recovery by creating roughly 1,000 jobs.
- Support was provided to 59 beneficiaries through the Excellence in Energy Efficient Design (EXEED) programme in 2020, granting over €3.2 million.

### **Communications**

- National Broadband Ireland (NBI) made significant progress on the rollout of the National Broadband Plan in 2020. Design work was completed in target townlands across every county in Ireland with over 153,000 premises surveyed by the end of 2020. This survey work fed into detailed designs for each deployment area and fibre deployment commenced in late 2020 with the first fibre to the home connection made in Carrigaline, Co. Cork in January 2021.
- The ongoing investment in the National Broadband Plan continues to create employment opportunities with over 700 people directly and indirectly employed in 2020.
- During 2020, 241 Broadband Connections Points (BCP) sites in total were installed by NBI, 170 publicly available and 71 primary schools. The high speed broadband service was switched on for 126 public sites by Vodafone and 31 primary schools by various retail service providers.
- In 2020, over 3,000 people received free digital skills training under the Digital Skills for Citizens Scheme. The School Digital Champion Programme continued to drive digital adoption and provide a platform for greater integration of ICT in second level schools through valuable project-based learning.

### **Circular Economy, Waste Policy and Natural Resources**

- A Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy, Ireland's new roadmap for waste planning and management, was launched in September 2020.
- €32.9 million was provided to Inland Fisheries Ireland to support the protection, conservation and development of Ireland's inland fisheries resource in 2020.
- The Department provided over €11.7 million to Local Authorities to support remediation work on 76 landfill sites around the country in 2020. €6.1 million was allocated from the Environment Fund to Local Authorities to support waste enforcement services and the Anti-Dumping Initiative.
- In 2020, the INFOMAR programme completed 9,406 km<sup>2</sup> of seabed mapping to reach 62% completion, which is ahead of the targeted 58%.

- Cabinet approval was obtained to introduce legislation to ban licences for new oil and natural gas exploration. The legislation will be included in the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Bill 2021.



## **Goal 1: Climate Leadership**

**Ireland will deliver a coherent and effective response to climate disruption and seize the enterprise opportunities in a low carbon economy**



# Goal 1: Climate Leadership

Total Expenditure in 2020: €204.3m

Current, €31.3m

Capital, €173.0m

Outputs		Target	Delivered	
1	No. of homes supported to improve their energy efficiency	23,200	14,699	63.4%
2	Solar PV Scheme (No. of applications)	2,400	2,917	121.5%
3	No. of commercial/other beneficiaries supported to improve their energy efficiency	800	149 <sup>2</sup>	18.6%
4	No. of new Grant-Aided Electric Vehicle Purchases	6,000	4,843	80.7%
5	No. of grant-aided electric vehicle home charging points installed	5,000	3,523	70.5%

Impacts		2020	2019	2018
1	% electricity demand generated from renewable resources (RES-E)	38.9% (prov.)	36.5%	33.2%
2	% heat demand from renewable resources (RES-H)	Not Yet Available	6.3%	6.5%
3	% transport demand from renewable resources (RES-T)	9.5% (prov.)	8.9%	7.2%
4	Progress of Public Sector 33% efficiency by 2020	Not Yet Available	29%	27%
5	No. of Building Energy Ratings published	87,500	103,110	98,916

## 1.1 Climate Action Plan to tackle climate breakdown

The Climate Action Plan 2019, published in June 2019, has a strong focus on implementation over the period 2019 to 2021 including actions with specific timelines and steps needed to achieve each action.

The Climate Action Plan 2019 progress reports are coordinated and published by the Department of the Taoiseach who monitor the implementation of the initiative across Government. Quarterly progress reports are published on [gov.ie](http://gov.ie). The Sixth Progress Report detailed the measures due for completion by the end of Q4 2020. The report demonstrated a total delivery rate of 78%. This Department and agencies under its remit had responsibility for reporting on 268 actions in the Climate Action Plan 2019. Out of the 154 Actions due for completion in 2019 and 114 Actions due in 2020 there was a final completion rate of 76%.

## **Climate Action Plan 2021**

The 2020 Programme for Government commits to an average 7% per annum reduction in overall greenhouse gas emissions from 2021 to 2030 (a 51% reduction over the decade), and to achieving net zero emissions by 2050. In October 2020, preparation began on the next Climate Action Plan, which will set out actions that must be taken in every Government Department and body in order to ensure we deliver on the commitments in the Programme for Government, including making sure we achieve our 2030 targets, prepare for climate neutrality by 2050 at the latest, and make Ireland a leader in responding to climate change. The Plan will be published in Q3 2021.

## **National Long-Term Climate Strategy**

Substantial work was undertaken throughout 2020 in developing Ireland's Long-term Climate Action Strategy (LTS) and to update its scope to reflect the enhanced ambition in the Programme for Government – Our Shared Future. The work has focussed on identifying specific indicative pathways to achieve a climate neutral economy by 2050 and has been underpinned by analysis of transition options across all key sectors of the economy. It is envisaged that the LTS will be brought to Government for consideration and approval in 2021, ahead of being submitted to the European Commission.

## **Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Bill**

Throughout 2020 the Department developed the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Bill. The aim of this Bill is to establish a legally binding framework with clear targets and commitments set in law, and to provide that the necessary structures and processes are embedded on a statutory basis to ensure Ireland achieves its national, EU and international climate goals and obligations in the near and long term.

The Bill is designed to include a number of commitments set out in the Programme for Government, including providing that the first two carbon budgets should achieve a 51% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, and giving statutory effect to a commitment to achieve a climate neutral economy by not later than 2050.

Draft text of the Bill was published in early October 2020 and underwent pre-legislative scrutiny by the Joint Oireachtas Committee. The Committee's [report](#) was published on 18 December 2020 and informed the finalised text adopted by Government in 2021.

## Climate Adaptation – Sectoral Adaption

Under the [National Adaptation Framework](#) (NAF), seven Government Departments with responsibility for priority sectors were required to prepare sectoral adaptation plans.

The National Adaptation Steering Committee, chaired by this Department, monitored the implementation of the plans during 2020. Considerable adaptation action has taken place across a wide range of areas within the first year of implementation of the plans.

The Department is also actively engaged in ensuring that climate adaptation is mainstreamed across other sectors and the work of all Departments. In 2020, for example, the Department provided input to an Inter Departmental Working Group on Coastal Change, chaired by Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) and the Office of Public Works (OPW), and has worked with the Government Task Force on Emergency Planning on the development and adoption of Strategic Emergency Management Guidance on Climate Change Adaptation which is published on the Office of Emergency Planning (OEP) [website](#).

## Local Adaptation

Under the NAF, each local authority developed its own adaptation strategy, which is now being implemented. In total, local authorities adopted 2451 actions across all 31 adaptation strategies covering areas including adaptation, mitigation, awareness building, and community engagement.

## Local Authority Climate Action Training Programme

To further enhance local authority response to climate change and facilitate the local authorities in fulfilling their commitments under the Climate Action Plan, the Department allocated €600,000 to local authority climate change training during 2020. Delivery of the training has been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic although training did migrate online during the year.

## Climate Ireland

The NAF identified the critical importance of putting Ireland's Climate Information Platform, 'Climate Ireland' ([www.climateireland.ie](http://www.climateireland.ie)) on a permanent operational basis to continue to inform the relevant national sectors but also in terms of providing a valuable, credible and consistent information resource to civil society and the private sector. Ownership of Climate Ireland has now passed to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

## **Adaptation in the British-Irish Council (BIC) and European Union**

The Department chairs the climate adaptation sub-group of the Environment work sector of the British-Irish Council (BIC), and in this capacity, held an online symposium on climate resilient infrastructure in October, 2020 which was attended by representatives from all BIC Administrations.

## **National Energy and Climate Plan**

The preparation of a National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP), covering 2021-2030, is one of the key provisions of the Energy Union Governance Regulation. The [final NECP](#), submitted to the European Commission in 2020, was prepared to incorporate all planned policies and measures that were identified up to the end of 2019 and which will collectively deliver a 30% emissions reduction by 2030 in accordance with the target that applied at the time of the Plan's preparation.

## **1.2 Create the Cross Government Framework and method of working which develops effective policy platforms to deliver our goal**

The delivery of the Climate Action Plan 2019 requires strengthened capacity to evolve policy progressively, to implement agreed actions successfully and to engage meaningfully with many stakeholders.

## **Climate Action Fund**

An Expressions of Interest process was undertaken in 2020 aimed at informing the development of proposals to provide further support from the Climate Action Fund. In response to this, 190 submissions were received from public and private sector bodies, non-governmental organisations and community groups from across the country.

The following five projects, currently supported by the Fund, progressed during 2020:

- **ESB e-cars:** ESB continued to develop a nationwide, state-of-the-art electric vehicle fast charging network with support of €10 million being provided from the Fund. Notwithstanding some delays due to COVID-19 pandemic restrictions, by the end of 2020, 164 (328 charge points) of the existing standard AC chargers had been replaced with more modern and reliable charging points and a further 17 had been upgraded to fast DC charge points throughout the country. Fast charging hubs

(150kW and 50kW) have also been installed at four locations with a further four at delivery phase.

- Tallaght District Heating Scheme: €4.45million is being provided from the Fund to this project which will see waste heat from a Data Centre used to heat surrounding buildings, including Tallaght IT and other civic buildings. Ground works commenced during 2020 and construction will commence in 2021. The project, when completed, estimates a reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the South Dublin County area of nearly 1,500 tonnes per year.
- Irish Rail – Hybrid Drive: In May 2020, the Irish Rail project to test hybrid drive intercity railcars moved to delivery stage with €1.12 million in support being provided from the Fund. The test phase commenced during 2020 with the retrofit and trial of a new transmission on a three car train. This will be followed by an engine trial later in 2021.
- The 3CEA (Three Counties Energy Agency): This project moved to delivery phase in late 2020 with €1.37 million being provided in support from the Fund. The project aims to reduce fuel consumption and emissions from vehicles with at least a 10% fuel efficiency expected to accrue. Over a two-year period telematics equipment will be installed in over 1,000 heavy goods vehicles and appropriate training for the drivers will be provided.
- Bord Na Móna's large-scale peatlands restoration project: In November 2020, funding of up to €108m was approved by Government for this project. The Scheme will protect the storage of 100 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, enhance biodiversity, create 310 jobs and will contribute to Ireland's target of being carbon-neutral by 2050. Through the implementation of the Scheme, it is also estimated that over the period to 2050, 3.2 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions will be avoided (including an amount of future carbon sequestration), in comparison to a standard rehabilitation scenario.

## **1.3 Engage with wider society at local, regional, sectoral and international levels to support the delivery of our goal**

### **National Dialogue on Climate Action**

In 2020, the Department established an Interdepartmental Working Group with stakeholder representation from key Departments, Agencies and the local authority sector to assist with

the design of this new structure and to design a public consultation for the next iteration of the Climate Action Plan.

This new structure will harness existing networks, support better communications, and involve specific stakeholder groups. It will have a strong action focus, promoting and leveraging citizen, sectoral and regional involvement in delivering actions within their sphere of influence, including bringing about long-term behavioural change.

## **Environmental activities and Public Awareness Initiatives**

In addition to developing a new structure for sustained engagement, the Department supported a number of wide-ranging environmental activities and public awareness initiatives throughout 2020, including:

- An Taisce to deliver the National Climate Change Action and Awareness Programme (NCCAAP) and the Green Schools Programme. In line with on-going COVID-19 pandemic restrictions, programmes were delivered virtually by An Taisce's Education & Awareness unit to over 90% of schools.
- The Graduate.ie competition, an online competition for Second Level Students in Ireland which aims to engage, inform and inspire young people about important local and national climate topics.

## **Residential Retrofitting**

The Department funds a number of Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) grant schemes to support homeowners to improve the energy efficiency of their properties.

In 2020, SEAI supported retrofit programmes were negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic throughout the year, particularly between March and June when activity was fully paused. Despite these challenges, €78.7 million was spent with over 17,600<sup>2</sup> homes and community buildings being retrofitted with SEAI support.

- 12,227 homes received grants resulting in 27,444 energy efficiency measures being installed;
- 1,615 households at risk of energy poverty received free energy efficiency upgrades;
- 39 projects were completed under the Communities Programme, including 656 home upgrades;
- 87,500 Building Energy Ratings were published.

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<sup>2</sup> Includes Solar PV Scheme

This package delivered energy savings of 138.7 GWh, reduced CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 35,200 tonnes and lowered energy bills by €9.2 million.

September 2020 saw the launch of the new National Retrofit (One-Stop-Shop Development) scheme. This scheme is designed to encourage the development of One-Stop-Shops and engage groups of private households, registered Housing Associations and Local Authorities who wish to participate in delivering energy efficiency upgrades, specifically in domestic buildings. The scheme is facilitating larger, more efficient aggregated projects and will bring benefits for homeowners and for the supply side. The scheme also has a strand focusing specifically on the Midlands

## **Energy Poverty**

Over 1,500 more households received free energy efficiency upgrades under the Better Energy Warmer Homes Scheme. The average value of the upgrades provided in 2020 was €14,800.

## **Energy Efficiency Obligation Scheme**

The Energy Efficiency Obligation Scheme achieved 981.2GWh of energy savings in 2020. Of these savings 882GWh were delivered independently of other SEAI programmes/Exchequer supports. Under the Energy Efficiency Obligation Scheme, larger energy suppliers must support energy efficiency projects in homes and businesses across Ireland.

## **COP26 and the Paris Agreement**

While the COVID-19 pandemic postponed in-person international climate meetings, such as the 26<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP26), multilateral and high-level discussions continued virtually. Ireland continued to participate and engage at key climate events over the year in view of the importance of maintaining momentum and increasing ambition to address the climate challenge. This included high-level engagement at the UN World Environment Day in June and the Online Platform Ministerial Meeting in September.

## **Climate Finance**

In 2020, the Department provided €4.5 million to support international climate action. This included a doubling of our annual contribution to the Green Climate Fund (GCF) to €4million, following commitment to a multiannual pledge as part of the first replenishment for the period

2020 to 2023. The GCF is the world's largest dedicated fund aimed at helping developing countries reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and enhance their ability to respond to climate change, and has a crucial role in the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

Ireland has also contributed funding to other international initiatives addressing climate change including the Adaptation Fund, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, as well as the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) Partnership.

## **Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (RESS)**

The Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (RESS) is an auction-based scheme which invites renewable electricity projects to compete for a guaranteed price for the electricity they generate. The first of these renewable electricity auctions took place in July 2020. The final results were approved by Government in September 2020. 68 projects, equating to approximately 1,088MW of new renewable generation, were awarded a letter of offer under the terms and conditions of the scheme. This includes seven community projects comprising of five solar and two wind projects.

A mandatory Community Benefit Fund must be provided by all projects successful in each RESS auction. These funds will be aligned to incentivise investment in local renewable energy, energy efficiency measures and climate action initiatives. The Community Benefit Fund under the first RESS auction which was held in 2020 will deliver almost €4 million a year to sustainable community initiatives targeted at those communities living in close proximity to the RESS-1 Projects.

## **Solar PV**

The SEAI Solar PV Scheme commenced in 2018 to support installation of Solar PV on domestic homes built and occupied prior to 2011. In January 2020, following a scheme review, the grant rates were changed and a minimum Building Energy Rating (BER) C rating requirement was introduced to ensure energy efficiency first principles are achieved. As of April 2021, a total of 5,577 installations had been supported at a cost of €13.515 million, installing a total capacity of 20 MW and saving 5,259 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>.

## **Support Scheme for Renewable Heat (SSRH)**

The 2020 annual tariff review for the Support Scheme for Renewable Heat (SSRH) was completed and approved by the Minister in June 2020. The public consultation to inform a policy framework for district heating in Ireland was completed in February 2020. Work on the policy framework commenced following a review of submissions to the consultation.



## **Excellence in Energy Efficient Design (EXEED)**

Support was provided to 59 beneficiaries through the Excellence in Energy Efficient Design (EXEED) programme in 2020, granting over €3.2 million. Since 2017, EXEED has supported 152 beneficiaries and provided €9.3 million in capital funding. This equates to 106GWh primary energy savings and 5.8 ktCO<sub>2</sub> of emissions savings.

Following a review of the scheme, it is now aligned to the commitments in the Programme for Government and the primary objective of the EXEED Programme will be to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by supporting entities (businesses and public sector bodies) in adopting the EXEED certified approach to energy efficient design management.

## **SEAI Energy Academy**

During 2020, the SEAI's free online training resource, the [SEAI Energy Academy](#), continued to grow. The resource, specifically for SMEs, focuses on energy efficiency opportunities and gives businesses access to high quality energy training. The total number of participants in 2020 was over 2000 the majority of who completed modules in 2020 with 570 receiving a certificate of completion of a course (i.e. 7 modules selected for their specific sector).

## **Large Industry Energy Network (LIEN)**

The Large Industry Energy Network (LIEN) is an energy efficiency network for large businesses with an energy bill of over €1 million which SEAI supports to share and achieve best practice in energy management. Membership for 2020 reached 199 and included representation from across a number of business sectors. A total of 101 organisations reported specific energy saving projects which has an impact of energy savings of 420GWh (equivalent to 85,000 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, €13.9M energy bill savings). A total of 101 of the LIEN members are ISO50001 certified.

## **Project Assistance Grants (PAGs)**

The SEAI provides financial support and practical advice to organisations in the private and public sectors that are seeking to implement energy saving projects through Project Assistance Grants (PAGs).

This support is available to encourage the development of energy saving projects and to drive a considerable increase in scale and depth of energy efficiency investments. During 2020, there were nine beneficiaries of PAGs - five from the private sector and four from the public sector.

## **Offshore Renewable Energy (ORE)**

The Department continued to work closely with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) on drafting the Maritime Area Planning (MAP) Bill (formerly known as the Marine Planning and Development Management (MPDM) Bill). The General Scheme of the Bill was approved by Government in December 2019, and underwent pre-legislative scrutiny in November/December 2020.

The Bill will replace existing State and development consent regimes on the basis of a single consent principle (i.e. one State consent to authorise usage of the maritime area, and one development consent with a single, robust environmental assessment).

Ireland's ambitions for the Offshore Renewable Energy (ORE) sector are contingent on delivering a robust licensing and regulatory regime. The Department has been working on the design and future operation of a new consenting regime for offshore renewable energy under the MAP Bill. This new regime is designed to provide clarity and consistency for applicants, attract investment, remove unnecessary duplication, and ensure ORE projects are in line with State environmental and marine spatial planning policy.

Work was also carried out within the Department to provide input into and finalise the National Marine Planning Framework, led by the DHLGH, and which will govern Ireland's marine spatial planning policy.

## **Electric Vehicles**

Incentives to drive the uptake of electric vehicles continued and by the end of 2020, the total number of electric vehicles on Irish roads was over 26,000, an increase of almost 11,000 from 2019. Though sales of all new vehicles were down in 2020 compared to 2019, sales of new electric vehicles increased again in 2020.

ESB eCars continued to develop a nationwide, state-of-the-art electric vehicle fast charging network supported by funding from the Climate Action Fund. By the end of 2020, four charging hubs were built, 17 standard chargers were upgraded to fast chargers and over 300 standard chargers were replaced with more modern technology.

Responsibility for Electric Vehicles transferred to the Department of Transport at the end of 2020.

## **All Island Single Electricity Market (SEM) and I-SEM**

The new market design for the all island wholesale Single Electricity Market (SEM), which went live in 2018, includes a state aid approved mechanism for remunerating capacity. The mechanism involves regular competitive auctions for capacity for selected future periods.

One such auction took place during 2020, the T-4 2023/2024 held in April 2020. T-4 auctions look at securing capacity to be delivered approximately four years in advance.

## **Just Transition**

The first progress report of the Just Transition Commissioner was published in May 2020 and reflected a comprehensive engagement with relevant stakeholders in the Midlands. A second report was published in November 2020, providing a further update on progress on just transition in the Midlands.

The response to the Commissioner's recommendations has been taken forward through a number of strands, including the Just Transition Fund call for proposals, the Bord na Móna Enhanced Decommissioning, Rehabilitation and Restoration Scheme (EDRRS), and the re-configuration of the Midlands Regional Transition Team.

The Government's approach to just transition in the context of climate action policy has been further informed by research reports by the National Economic and Social Council (NESC), published during the course of 2020.

Budget 2020 prioritised €31m in funding to support a just climate transition in the Midlands Region, ring-fenced from additional carbon tax revenue, through a number of initiatives including, the establishment of a Just Transition Fund.

The Department opened a call for applications to the Just Transition Fund in June 2020, with the objective of funding innovative projects that contribute to the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the wider Midlands region and which have employment and enterprise potential. The Government announced provisional funding offers in November 2020 totalling almost €30m to over 60 projects throughout the region for projects from the private sector, local authorities and communities in late 2020.

Budget 2020 has also provided funding for a €20 million Midlands Retrofit Scheme to upgrade the energy efficiency of the social housing stock in the Midlands, with a focus on upgrading larger batches of homes in distinct, compact geographical areas.

## **EU Just Transition Fund**

The European Green Deal led to the establishment of a new EU Just Transition Fund to alleviate the socio-economic impacts of the low carbon transition in the most affected regions across the EU. This Fund may be used to support the re-skilling of workers, help SMEs to create new economic opportunities, and promote the diversification of economic activity towards low-carbon sectors and progress towards achieving the EU's 2030 climate targets and a climate-neutral economy by 2050.

Ireland has secured €77 million from the EU Just Transition Fund over the period 2021 to 2027 with matching national funding also to be committed. Ireland must now prepare a Territorial Just Transition Plan, for approval by the European Commission, in order to secure access to supports from this new EU Fund. This Plan will set out Ireland's investment priorities and will identify the sectors and regions to be supported.

## **Bord na Móna Bog Rehabilitation Scheme**

Government approval was granted in November 2020 for the Bord na Móna Enhanced Decommissioning, Rehabilitation and Restoration Scheme (EDRRS) on 33,000 hectares of decommissioned Bord na Móna peatlands including the provision of funding of up to €108 million. This rehabilitation will take place over a period of 5 years.

The enhanced interventions can deliver benefits in terms of carbon mitigation, increasing biodiversity, supporting bog amenity and eco-system services, as well as improved water quality and water attenuation relating to flood risk management. The Scheme will protect the storage of 100 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. It is further estimated that over the period 2020 to 2050 that 3.2 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions will be avoided through the implementation of the Scheme.

The Scheme will, over time, engage 307 employees, some on a seasonal basis, with 210 full time equivalent employees engaged to deliver the project over four to five years.

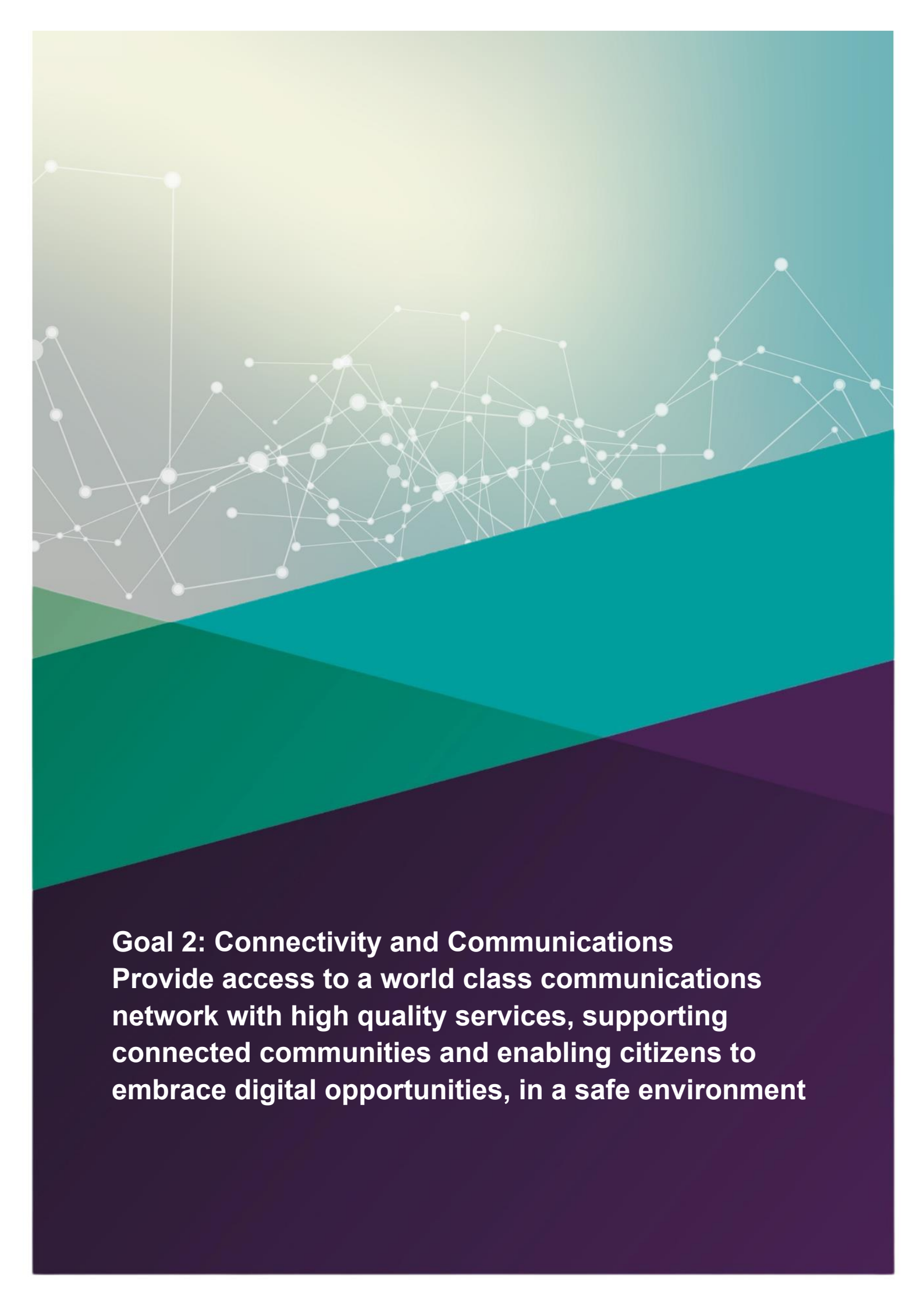
## **1.4 Demonstrate Leadership in the Public Sector**

The role of the Department spans all of the energy sectors including electricity, heat and transport. It will contribute significantly to the transition to a low carbon, climate-resilient future through a range of policies and measures, supporting Ireland in reaching ambitious targets for renewable energy and energy efficiency.

## Public Sector Leading by Example

The public sector plays a key role demonstrating leadership to ensure that Ireland is taking the necessary steps to reduce its vulnerability to the impacts of climate change. Work in this area in 2020 included:

- Continued implementation of the Public Sector Energy Efficiency Strategy, with energy performance data from the SEAI showing a 29% improvement in Energy Efficiency by end of 2019. Public bodies and Government Departments have collectively saved over €1.5 billion on energy spend and avoided 5.2 mtCO<sub>2</sub> emissions since 2009.
- The Department itself demonstrated its capacity to lead by example with the most recent data showing that the Department had improved its energy efficiency by 38% at end 2019.
- The Department provided capital funding of over €8.2 million for public sector energy efficiency supports during the year including a number of pathfinder partnership retrofit programmes between the SEAI and Department of Education, Higher Education Authority (HEA), Office of Public Works (OPW) and the Health Service Executive (HSE) which focused on energy efficiency retrofits across education central government and HSE buildings. A total of 90 buildings had energy efficiency upgrades as part of the 2020 Programme with estimated impact of 110 GWh.
- Along with the SEAI and OPW, the Department continued to engage with and support Energy Performance Officers to improve energy management, share best practice and develop further energy efficiency projects.
- During 2020, a study funded under the EU Structural Reform Support Service was undertaken to inform the design and development of a framework for implementing a comprehensive building upgrade programme for the public sector to achieve a BER of B. The study also carried out an assessment of the existing building stock to determine the total level of investment likely to be required to achieve the target.



**Goal 2: Connectivity and Communications**  
Provide access to a world class communications network with high quality services, supporting connected communities and enabling citizens to embrace digital opportunities, in a safe environment

## Goal 2: Connectivity and Communications

Total Expenditure in 2020: €61.5m

Current, €11.3m

Capital, €50.3m

Outputs		Target	Delivered	
1	No. of digital enterprises based at the Digital Hub	71	51	71.8%
2	No. of full time jobs based at the Digital Hub	724	499	68.9%
3	No. of small businesses supported by the Trading Online Voucher Scheme	1,250	13,240	1,059.2%
4	No. of citizens provided with digital skills training under the Digital Skills for Citizens programme	25,000	3,116	12.5%
5	No. of Broadband Connection Points (BCPs) deployed across the Intervention Area of the National Broadband Plan (NBP)	Up to 300	242	N/A

Impacts		2020	2019	2018
1	Total no. of Broadband Users (including mobile users)	1.84m	1.76m	1.73m
2	Total no. of Broadband Users (excluding mobile users)	1.51m	1.46m	1.43m
3	% of SMEs trading online	35%	30%	30%
4	% of citizens (adults 16 – 74) not engaging with the internet	8%	11%	13%
5	No. of premises with access to high speed broadband	1.85m	1.84m	1.75m

### 2.1 National Broadband Plan – High Speed Broadband to all homes and businesses

#### National Broadband Plan

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the importance of reliable broadband to ensure that citizens across Ireland can avail of remote working, education and other essential online facilities.

The contract for the NBP State-led intervention is with National Broadband Ireland (NBI). The contract provides that a future proofed high speed broadband network will be deployed and operated by NBI to people living and working in over 544,000 premises in the Intervention Area.

## **Delivery of National Broadband Plan in 2020**

Despite the challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, NBI made significant progress in 2020. The principal focus was on mobilisation activities, together with survey, design and make ready work to prepare the way for the fibre deployment. Design work was completed in target townlands across every county in Ireland with over 153,000 premises surveyed by the end of 2020. This survey work fed into detailed designs for each deployment area and fibre deployment commenced in late 2020 with the first fibre to the home connections made in Carrigaline, Co. Cork in January 2021.

The Programme for Government commits to seek to accelerate the rollout of the NBP. In this regard, the Department continues to engage with NBI to explore the feasibility of accelerating aspects of the rollout to establish the possibility of bringing forward premises which are currently scheduled in years six and seven of the current plan to an earlier date. Exploring the potential to accelerate the network rollout is being undertaken in parallel with the measures required to mitigate delays arising as a result of COVID-19.

The ongoing investment in the NBP rollout is and will continue to create employment opportunities with over 700 people directly and indirectly employed in 2020.

## **Broadband Connection Points**

Broadband Connection Points (BCPs) are a key element of the NBP and provide high-speed broadband in every county in advance of the roll out of the fibre to the home network. The planned BCP locations are in places of community importance, including schools (for educational access only), library hubs, local sports facilities and other public places.

During 2020, 241 BCP sites in total were installed by NBI, 170 publicly available and 71 primary schools. The high speed broadband service was switched on for 126 public sites by Vodafone and 31 primary schools by various retail service providers.

In late 2020, Government and NBI agreed to accelerate the rollout of high speed broadband to some 679 primary schools across the State by the end of 2022, ensuring that by that time all schools across the State will have the necessary infrastructure to carry out their critical day to day educational activities unimpeded by poor broadband.

## **Impact of NBP on Broadband Landscape**

The NBP has stimulated commercial telecommunications investment through policy, legislative and regulatory measures. The telecommunications sector has invested over €3.3



billion in network upgrades and enhanced services since 2012, and further significant investments are planned across the sector, mainly in urban areas.

Average advertised fixed broadband speeds continue to increase. At the end of 2020, 81.6% of all fixed broadband subscriptions were equal to or greater than 30Mbps. In 2020, 45.5% of these subscriptions were equal to or greater than 100Mbps, up from 36.2% at the end of 2019. At year end, 77% of the premises in Ireland had access to high-speed broadband services from commercial operators, similar to the figures reported in 2019.

## **2.2 Provide digital policy leadership, promoting the digital society nationally and at European and international level, driving digital entrepreneurship and innovation and enhancing digital skills of citizens**

### **Enterprise - Trading Online**

The Trading Online Voucher Scheme, which is administered by the 31 Local Enterprise Offices (LEO), continued to support small and micro enterprises to participate in the digital economy in developing their online trading capabilities.

With the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions many more small businesses found themselves unable to trade physically and had to move online.

The Department, in partnership with the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment; the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media; Enterprise Ireland; the LEO and Údarás na Gaeltachta, responded by repurposing the Trading Online Voucher Scheme which formed part of the Government's COVID-19 Business Support Package for small businesses.

In 2020, 13,075 vouchers were awarded to businesses – up from 1,218 vouchers in 2019. This brings to over 19,000 the number of businesses that have been approved for funding since the Scheme began in 2014.

In addition, over 38,000 small businesses benefited from training, advice and peer to peer support through participation in the information sessions delivered by the LEOs as part of the Scheme.

Operation of the Scheme transferred to the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment on 31 December 2020.

## **Citizen Skills & Engagement**

In 2020 over 3,000 people received free digital skills training under the Digital Skills for Citizens Scheme, removing a key barrier to digital adoption. Participants in the programme report positive impacts, including improved wellbeing, reduced isolation, as well as savings in time and money through increased competence to use online Government services and make informed purchasing decisions.

Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, and in order to afford the grantees the opportunity to fulfil their obligations under their current grant agreement, training under the scheme was adapted to a blend of phone and online delivery of classes and the deadline for completion of training was extended to 30 June 2021.

## **School Digital Champion Programme**

The School Digital Champion Programme continued to drive digital adoption and provide a platform for greater integration of ICT in second level schools through valuable project-based learning. In 2020 the Department received 77 applications, from 57 schools in 19 counties. This resulted in over 300 school digital champions working on projects which demonstrated the use of their digital, creative, critical-thinking and communications skills.

Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and in line with Government health guidelines, the 2020/2021 programme events were arranged online including online training, virtual site visits and a virtual showcase.

## **National Digital Research Centre (NDRC)**

The National Digital Research Centre (NDRC) invests in start-ups building “global solutions to global problems”, to create internationally scalable Irish companies

Following a public procurement process, the contract to deliver the NDRC services was awarded to a consortium led by Dogpatch Labs in 2020.

The principal services, which are provided under the NDRC name, include:

- Accelerator Programmes and capital investments in early stage digital enterprises; and
- Regional services: pre-accelerator programmes and “training the trainer” services

There is a strong regional dimension to the services which are delivered through Dogpatch Labs, based in Dublin and its regional hub partners at the Republic of Work in Cork, RDI Hub in Kerry and Portershed in Galway.

## **Digital Hub Development Agency (DHDA)**

The Digital Hub Development Agency (DHDA) was established in 2003 to develop Ireland's digital enterprise sector through the creation of a cluster of digital enterprises.

At end 2020 the occupancy rate for the campus was 51%, with 36 client companies employing 322 people located there. This lower than average occupancy was due to the COVID-19 pandemic public health restrictions in place during the year.

In 2020, the Department completed a review of the policy underpinning the DHDA with a view to informing policy as to future role of the Agency.

## **Metropolitan Area Networks (MANs)**

The Metropolitan Area Networks (MANs) consist of 88 wholesale, open access, state owned, fibre optic telecommunications networks in 94 regional towns and cities. They play an important role in facilitating operators to provide broadband services for business and residential customers in the regions, without having to build their own networks. The MANs infrastructure is playing an important part in the rollout of the NBP.

At the end of 2020, 87 of the fibre optic networks were being used by some 84 commercial operators, facilitating the delivery of retail broadband services mainly to large businesses, SMEs, public bodies and educational institutions, while also supporting wireless service providers to deliver broadband to residential customers outside of Dublin.

The Department continued to oversee the Concession Agreements with enet<sup>3</sup> to manage and operate the MANs throughout Ireland. Following on the independent review of the operation of the MANs published in February 2019, a report on the implementation of that review was commissioned from ComReg and was completed in 2020.

## **Emergency Call Answering Service (ECAS)**

The Emergency Call Answering Service (ECAS) is responsible for answering all 112 and 999 calls and texts, providing a vital link between the caller and the Emergency Services (Garda, Fire, Ambulance or Coast Guard). In 2020, the ECAS handled just over 2.3 million calls. Approximately 37% of calls received were forwarded to the relevant Emergency Services; the remaining calls did not require a connection to an emergency service and were filtered. Filtering allows the Emergency Services to respond to genuine emergencies only.

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<sup>3</sup> Open access network provider

## **Enforcement powers for ComReg**

There is ongoing dialogue between the Department and the Regulator as the sector evolves, with a view to ensuring that the regulator can continue to fully meet current and future challenges in delivering on its statutory and regulatory remit. This continued in 2020 and in the context of the commitment contained in the Programme for Government to give ComReg greater powers of enforcement, with a particular focus on improving competition, innovation and customer service within the communications sector.

## **2.3 Improve cyber security and resilience of network and information systems to support the development of the digital economy and deliver the highest standard in online safety in a fast changing digital environment**

The COVID-19 pandemic, with the heightened sensitivity attached to protecting the operational integrity of critical infrastructure and essential services, together with the fundamental shift to remote working, brought an added importance to the timely and robust delivery of the actions identified in the National Cyber Security Strategy.

### **Implementation of National Cyber Security Strategy measures**

An Inter-Departmental Committee (IDC) comprising of senior managers from a broad range of Government Departments and a NCSC representative was setup to oversee the implementation of the National Cyber Security Strategy (2019-2024) which sets out a series of measures to protect critical national infrastructure and develop the cyber security of the State.

### **Effective incident detection and response with close international collaboration**

During 2020, weekly news reports and quarterly threat landscape reports were issued along with a total of 28 alerts and advisories that provided advice, alerts and dissemination of information to constituents about cyber security risks and incidents as well as vulnerabilities within security products. Included in the advisories were the COVID-19 pandemic cyber threat advisory and the published Working from Home security advisory which were produced as a result of observing an increase in malicious activity such as phishing; online fraud; Business Email Compromise and ransomware leveraging on the COVID-19 pandemic global health emergency.

Incidents were reported from a wide range of sources including Operators of Essential Services (OES); Digital Service Providers (DSP); Government Departments and Agencies; Peer Incident Response Teams and private industry.

The Computer Security Incident Response Team ([CSIRT](#)) function led on the testing, development and deployment of the Sensor system of security incident and event monitoring which adds an additional layer of boundary protection for Government Departments.

Formalised threat sharing arrangements with the UK authorities were established in the form of an All-Island Information Exchange (AIIE) group that meets bi-monthly.

The NCSC and its Policy function established the Cyber Security Education Working Group with the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment and other key educational stakeholders to develop a short course in Junior Cycle on cybersecurity in line with our Programme for Government commitments. The working group later included a project team from UCD to assist in developing the course specification which is now completed. The project team have also begun assisting with the roll out of a pilot of the course in already selected

## **Online Safety and Media Regulation Bill**

The Online Safety and Media Regulation Bill will establish a multi-person Media Commission, including an Online Safety Commissioner, dissolve the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland, establish regulatory frameworks for online safety and the regulation of audio-visual media services, and transpose the revised Audiovisual Media Services Directive (Directive 2018/1808/EU). The finalisation of the General Scheme of the Bill was approved by Government in December 2020.

## **2.4 Attract strong audiences to distinctive Irish content, including Irish language content, across all existing and emerging platforms including reaching out to younger audiences**

### **Commission on the Future of Media**

The establishment of a Commission on the Future of Irish Public Service Broadcasting was announced by the Department of the Taoiseach in December 2019. In September 2020 the Government agreed the terms of reference and membership of the Future of Media Commission. The Commission is chaired by Professor Brian MacCraith, former President of

Dublin City University, and includes experts in public service media, independent journalism, social media, new technology platforms, media economics, culture, language, creative content, governance and international best practice. The Commission held its inaugural meeting in October 2020.

## Migration from 700 MHz Band

Additional radio spectrum was made available for use by the mobile broadband sector on the 700MHz band to provide enhanced network coverage and capacity, particularly in rural areas. The task of migrating broadcasting services from the 700MHz band concluded in 2020. The end of the Simulcast Period on 4 March 2020 signalled the completion of the migration and final payments were made to [2m](#) in June 2020.

## RTÉ

TV Licence receipts for 2020 totalled €222.55m. RTÉ received €197.65m of total receipts. €36.117m of income was spent on funding programming produced by the independent television and radio production sector.

## TG4

TG4 received €39.133m in exchequer funding in 2020 to fund programming commitments, including programming produced by the independent production sector. TG4 broadcast an average of 12.24 hours of Irish language programmes per day.

## Broadcasting Fund

In 2020, the BAI received €21.78 million which provided funding and financial support for 235 radio and high quality TV programmes based on Irish culture and heritage under the Sound and Vision 4 Scheme. In addition, in response to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the sector in early 2020, the BAI waived the Broadcasting Levy in the first half of 2020.

### Outputs

#	Title of Indicator	Delivered by end 2020
1	Reach of all RTÉ services among adults 18+	95%
2	Radio all day share (adults 15+)	31.7%

3	TV all day share (adults 15+)	<b>27.7%</b>
4	Hours of home produced content on RTÉ One & RTÉ 2	<b>6,030</b>
5	RTÉ expenditure on independently produced television and radio programmes	<b>€36.5m</b>
6	Average no. of broadcast hours of Irish language programming per day	<b>12.24</b>

### Impacts

#	Title of Indicator	2020	2019	2018
1	Number of new television and radio programmes and new projects that will provide for the delivery of an extensive range of new community and local radio programmes that benefit local communities and audiences, offered funding through the Broadcasting Fund Sound and Vision Scheme	235	241	256
3	Average number of hours of Irish produced television programming (RTÉ)	6,030	5,687	5,831

## **2.5 An Post as a commercially viable State company, delivering on its Strategic Plan which reflects Government objectives; harnessing the opportunities presented by eCommerce and the digital economy, capturing and retaining market share in parcels and delivering a sustainable nationwide post office network offering a range of eCommerce, financial and Government services**

An Post continued to make substantial progress in implementing its transformation plan in 2020 despite the challenges it faced due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The importance and resilience of the post office network has been clearly demonstrated throughout the pandemic when An Post kept its network of over 900 post offices open, ensuring the continued distribution of cash to the economy and playing an important commercial and societal role in the communities in which they operate. An Post has also played a key role in enabling small SMEs to trade online during periods of lockdown.

By the end of December 2020, over 62% of post offices were co-located with other high footfall retail businesses.

There were a number of strategic developments by the company in 2020. The surge in eCommerce as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic saw parcel volumes increase by 100% in 2020. An Post completed a €30m investment in its eCommerce campus in Dublin, opening a second new automated parcel processing facility in November, allowing the campus the capacity to handle 2.5m parcels a week. An Post continued to develop its digital capability which has been essential to meet customer demand for eCommerce.

In September 2020 An Post launched its Green Hub, which provides homeowners with trusted support, competitive loan rates and end-to-end upgrade solutions to help them start their home improvement process. The Green Hub is essentially a one-stop-shop which will cover loan-only or full retro-fit services, from initial home assessments to completed works and an SEAI grant application and payment process. As part of the Green Hub, An Post partnered with SSE Airtricity to provide the Home Energy Upgrade Service which includes free home assessments and end-to-end project management.

## Eircodes

Eircode adoption and usage continued to grow significantly among members of the public, businesses and the public sector. In 2020, the free online Eircode Finder had on average 2.3 million monthly lookups, representing 42% growth over 2019. During 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic increased the demand on the delivery of goods and services. To assist with this effort the daily lookup limit on the Eircode Finder was increased from 15 to 50. In November 2020 there were 3.1 million matched lookups on the free-to-use Eircode Finder online tool, the highest number of lookups in a single month since launch. During the period March to December 2020, there were over 24million lookups on the Eircode Finder, a 46% increase in usage of the Finder over the same period in 2019.

Eircodes are fully integrated in Google Maps, Microsoft (Bing/Nokia Maps), TomTom, HERE Navigation, Garmin and, most recently, Apple.

Independent research by Amárach in 2020 showed 93.3% of respondents were able to supply a correct and verified Eircode for their address, and 73% know their Eircode by memory. The survey was undertaken to determine that, in year 7 (2020) of the Eircode program, at least 80% of the general public knows the Eircode for their address, as part of the Postcode Management License Holder (PMLH) contract.



By the end of 2020, there were over 1,530 business organisations and State Agencies licensing Eircodes within their business systems and operations across a wide spectrum of sectors, including: logistics/deliveries; utilities; hotel; retail; telecommunications; insurance; financial; and satellite navigation, an increase of 19% on 2019.

The use of the Eircode API was released by Ordnance Survey Ireland in 2019 and made available for use by all Public Sector Bodies (PSBs). Uptake of the API more than doubled, with a total of 13 users in 2020.



**Goal 3: Environment and Sustainable Resource Use**  
Use resources with care and responsibility,  
minimising the generation of waste and consistently  
enhancing our environment in all its dimensions

### 3 Goal 3: Environment and Sustainable Resource Use

Total Expenditure in 2020: €21.2m



Outputs		Target	Delivered	100%
1	No. of active Mineral Prospecting Licences	550	490	89.1%
2	No. of active Mining Leases/Licences	17	16	94.1%
3	No. of Mineral Prospecting Licences in respect of which exploration data released for open access	115	180	156.5%
4	Tellus Survey Programme implementation (sq.km completed)	6,000	3,000	50%
5	INFOMAR Seabed Survey Programme (sq.km completed)	5,500	9,406	171.0%
6	Geoscience Research funding committed (new projects supported)	New Metric	23	N/A
7	Groundwater Catchment Reports completed	New Metric	15	N/A

Impacts		2020	2019	2018
1	Revenue earned by the State from: Mining/Mineral Prospecting	€5.95m	€5.8m	€6.3m
2	Revenue from Petroleum Authorisations	€0.55m	€1.2m	€3.5m
3	Geoscience Ireland - GSI business cluster: Jobs created	69	192	253

#### 3.1 Mainstream Sustainable development across Government and Society

##### National Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals

The 2030 Agenda encourages countries to integrate the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into planning and policy, on both a national and international level. Ireland has adopted a ‘whole-of-Government’ approach to achieving the SDGs, with each Minister having responsibility for implementing individual SDG targets related to their functions. The Department has overall responsibility for promoting the SDGs, and for overseeing their coherent implementation across Government. The Department also has lead responsibility for targets related to a number of SDGs, including:

- Goal 7 on Energy,

- Goal 12 on Sustainable Consumption and Production, with input from the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment, and
- Goal 13 on Climate Action

A Senior Officials Group (SOG) co-ordinates and monitors SDG implementation and reports as required to Government. To further support the work of the SOG, the Department chairs an Interdepartmental SDG Working Group, comprised of representatives from all Departments with responsibilities for the SDGs. Four meetings were held in 2020 and the group will continue to meet regularly to support the development of the Second SDG National Implementation Plan which is intended to be published in 2021.

## **SDG Champions Programme**

The SDG Champions, who raise public awareness of the SDGs through partnership and promotion, illustrate ways in which organisations and individuals can contribute to achieving the SDGs.

The difficulties arising from the COVID-19 pandemic greatly affected many of the Champions in their 2020 work plans. The closure of the schools resulted in many programmes being unable to commence, while the restrictions on public gatherings also impacted greatly on planned public engagements.

Many SDG Champions have been at the forefront during COVID-19, with the GAA and An Post ensuring that many of those cocooning were not forgotten, with shopping and postal service provision. The Department continued to engage with the SDG Champions throughout the pandemic and supported online Champion activities through the Department's social media platforms.

The Department extended the Programme from September 2020 until Q2 2021 to allow for the work undertaken by the SDG Champions to be completed.

The Call for Expressions of Interest for the 2020 Champions Programme was also postponed until the on-going COVID-19 pandemic restrictions are lifted.

## **3.2 Support the development of the Bioeconomy**

The first National Policy Statement on the Bioeconomy recognised that the bioeconomy is crucial for sustainability while also providing an impetus to rural and regional development and employment. In October 2020, Bioeconomy Week took place virtually placing the spotlight on Ireland's bioeconomy through a series of online events and activities from

multiple leading stakeholder groups within the Irish Bioeconomy Network suited towards a diverse range of audiences including citizens, industry professionals and policymakers.

### **3.3 Prioritise Environmental Protection, particularly in relation to Air Quality and the Safe Use of Chemicals**

#### **National Air Pollution Control Programme (NAPCP)**

Ireland's National Air Pollution Control Programme (NAPCP) is a technical document which outlines the pathway Ireland will follow to achieve compliance with its commitments under the National Emission Ceilings Directive (NEC Directive). A review of the NAPCP which had been submitted to the Commission in 2019 was carried out in 2020 and underwent a public consultation process.

#### **Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Programme**

Funding of €5 million has been committed to an expansion of the Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Programme (AAMP) programme between 2017 and 2022. The programme involves a greatly expanded national monitoring network supported by increased modelling capability providing more comprehensive, real-time, localised air quality information to the public. To date, the network has expanded from 29 stations to 92 stations across the state, 18 of which were installed in 2020.

#### **Introducing Nationwide Solid Fuel Regulations**

In line with a commitment in the Programme for Government to extend the Smoky Coal ban to new towns and, over the term of Government move towards a full nationwide ban, 13 additional low smoke zones were introduced in September 2020, extending the existing Solid Fuel Regulations to all conurbations with a population in excess of 10,000.

#### **Urban Transport Related Air Pollution (UTRAP)**

The Urban Transport Related Air Pollution Working Group (UTRAP) was formed in autumn 2019, to consider and address rising concerns about the level of transport-generated air pollution. An interim report was finalised in 2020 which included measures to address transport related air pollution in urban areas and recommendations on how to further develop an evidence-based national policy framework within which local authorities could address future exceedances.

## National Radon Control Strategy

Implementation of Phase 2 of the National Radon Control Strategy continued in 2020. Efforts to promote radon testing in homes and businesses and to carry out remediation works where necessary were sustained in 2020. Significant research also continued in the area of radon prevention in new build housing and in behavioural aspects in relation to radon testing and remediation.

## Radioactive waste

Efforts to reduce Ireland's limited inventory of radioactive waste continued in 2020. Ireland's framework for the management of radioactive waste will be subject to an international peer review mission led by the International Atomic Energy Agency in 2021.

## Environmental Noise Action Plans

Implementation of Round 3 of the Noise Action Plans (NAPs) continued in 2020. There is a new statutory requirement for all Noise Mapping Bodies to report progress on implementation of their NAPs annually to the EPA.

## Environment Fund

Due to the success of the Plastic Bag Levy and Landfill Levy in implementing behaviour change, there has been a steady decrease in income in to the Environment Fund in successive years. In 2020 a total of €10.58 million of funding commitments were identified to be transferred to the Vote.

However, efforts to advance the protection of the environment continued with expenditure of almost €17 million from the Environment Fund. Allocations included:

- €6.1 million to Local Authorities to support waste enforcement services and the Anti-Dumping Initiative;
- €3 million provided to support the work of the Environmental Protection Agency including the National Waste Prevention Programme;
- €1.8 million to support the roll out of regional climate offices;
- €1.3 million to environmental awareness, including funding for the Community Environment Action Fund, Green Schools, the Environmental Pillar and the Irish Environmental Network of environmental NGOs; and
- €29,000 to the National Spring Clean, and the PURE Initiative covering South County Dublin/Wicklow. Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the work of local

authorities funding totalling almost €869,000 was carried forward to 2021 to support the 2020 Anti-Litter Awareness Grant Scheme.

### **3.4 Implement a new resource efficiency strategy, based on the principles of the waste hierarchy and the circular economy, to achieve 2025-2035 obligations and targets for waste reduction and recycling.**

#### **A Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy**

A Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy, which was launched in September 2020, is Ireland's new roadmap for waste planning and management. This Plan shifts focus away from waste disposal and looks instead to how we can preserve resources by creating a circular economy.

A public consultation process on the new policy was completed in February 2020 with almost 300 responses received. A Waste Action Plan Advisory Group was also established, consisting of relevant stakeholders from the economic, environmental and social sectors. The Group assisted in the compilation of the new policy by guiding strategic thinking and decision making.

The Plan outlines the contribution of the sector to the achievement of a number of other national plans and policies including the Climate Action Plan. It also matches the level of ambition being shown across the European Union through the European Green Deal, which encompasses a range of actions supporting circularity and sustainability.

The Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy sets out a range of aims and targets for the State and the measures by which these will be achieved, including increased regulation and measures across various waste areas such as Circular Economy, Municipal Waste, Consumer Protection and Citizen Engagement, Plastics and Packaging, Construction and Demolition, Textiles, Green Public Procurement and Waste Enforcement.

#### **Circular Economy**

The Programme for Government recognises that the next ten years are critical if Ireland is to address the climate and biodiversity crisis facing the world today. In addition to marking a step-change in the level of Ireland's Climate Action ambition, the Programme committed to a range of actions to support the transition to a circular economy. This included the

establishment of a Circular Economy Division and the adoption of a Circular Economy Strategy. Circular Economy work within the Department in 2020 included:

- Preparation of a high level Whole-of-Government Circular Economy Strategy which is intended to explain what the circular economy is; why Ireland needs to achieve a circular economy; and how national policy will develop further to support that goal into the future. The Strategy was launched for public consultation in 2021.
- Continued involvement in the OECD on the project 'The economics and governance of the circular economy in Ireland: a case study' which aims to support Ireland in its transition to circularity by identifying economic and governance challenges, as well as policy solutions towards the transition, in an effective and inclusive manner. Publication of the final report is expected in 2021.
- Delivery of a wide range of initiatives through the National Waste Prevention Programme (NWPP) 'Preventing Waste, Driving the Circular Economy' including those relating to the nominated priority areas of food waste; construction and demolition, plastics, agriculture, resources and raw materials and local waste prevention. Annual reports on the programme as well as videos, webinars and guidance are available at [www.epa.ie](http://www.epa.ie). 2021 will see the further evolution of the programme to help accelerate Ireland's transition to a circular economy.

## **Green Government**

The Green Government programme was developed by the Department in 2019 in response to a Government Decision relating to sustainable consumption which required that Government Departments and Public Bodies must lead the way in reducing our generation of single use plastics and waste. Each Government Department is tasked with completing a Resource Efficiency Action Plan (REAP) as part of this process. Despite the COVID-19 pandemic and a significant move to working from home, the Green Government programme continued in 2020 and saw increased support, webinars, reporting templates and official REAPs guidance being provided to each Department to allow them to renew their action plans in 2021.

## **Green Public Procurement (GPP)**

Working closely with the EPA, the Department oversaw the development and provision of a Green Public Procurement (GPP) training programme for public procurement officials in 2020. The training programme will continue in 2021 and see the development of training for suppliers to the public sector. The Department also worked with the EPA on the revision of



the 2014 GPP Guidance for the Public Sector which is due for publication in 2021 and on the development of templates to measure and monitor GPP usage across Government Departments in line with DPER Circular 20/2019. Resources can be accessed at: <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/efa12-green-public-procurement-gpp/>.

## **Single-Use Plastics**

Transposition and implementation of the Single-Use Plastic Directive (Directive (EU) 2019/904) will be a key deliverable for the Department in the short to medium term. Work on the transposition of the Directive commenced in 2020 and it will be transposed by July 2021. In order to meet the 90% separate collection requirement in the Directive, the Government has committed to introducing a Deposit and Return Scheme for plastic (PET) bottles and aluminium cans. The first step in this process was taken in 2020 with the launch of a first round of public consultation on the design options for a Scheme.

## **Extended Producer Responsibility**

In 2020, Ireland's extended producer responsibility (EPR) schemes continued to operate successfully and enabled Ireland to reach our domestic and EU recycling targets. New legislation, SI 323 of 2020, introduced general minimum requirements which seek to establish a level of harmonisation to improve the transparency, governance and cost efficiency of EPR schemes. The Department initiated the implementation of these requirements through the approval renewal process of the farm plastics and packaging EPR schemes during 2020. The remaining EPR schemes (End of Life Vehicles (ELV), Tyres, WEEE and Batteries) will see these strengthened approvals in place as they fall due for renewal.

## **Education and Awareness**

The Department continues to provide support to the Regional Waste Management Planning Offices which has allowed for the continuous development of the [www.mywaste.ie](http://www.mywaste.ie) web portal. Dedicated pages on the site, including downloadable resources, were added in 2020 on the management of business waste and on the anti-dumping initiative. Alongside the development of the [www.mywaste.ie](http://www.mywaste.ie), a range of public information campaigns were run on various aspects of sustainable waste management.

The Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy contains a dedicated chapter on Citizen Engagement – Raising Awareness, Education and Behavioural Change. Following the

launch of the Plan in September 2020 work commenced on the various measures which will be delivered during the lifetime of the Plan.

## **Landfill Remediation**

A total of €11.7 million was provided to Local Authorities to support landfill remediation work on 76 sites around the country in 2020. Most of these sites are old municipal landfills that operated prior to regulation and require engineering measures to ensure protection of the environment, air and water quality for local communities. A further €0.54m from the Environment Fund supported landfill closure works at Kilconnell landfill, Galway with the works contract completed in 2020.

Kildare County Council tendered for final remediation works and end use of a recreational park for the site at Kerdiffstown, which is the largest landfill remediation project in the State. The tender was awarded in October with work commencing in November 2020. The contract term is for 54 months with completion date scheduled in 2025. The contract is estimated at €19.2m (ex-VAT) and the Department is committed to supporting completion of the Kerdiffstown Landfill remediation project on an annual basis.

## **Diesel clean up**

Remediation work at a smaller number of significant illegal landfills was also supported in 2020. Approximately €0.17 million of this funding supported the clean-up of diesel laundering site by Local Authorities.

## **Anti-Dumping Initiative (ADI)**

€3 million was provided in support of the Anti-Dumping Initiative which resulted in the successful delivery of 304 projects across all 31 local authority areas. Delivery of the scheme was co-ordinated by the three Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authorities (WERLAs) and supported projects were selected on the basis of their impact on four key criteria - prevention, abatement, enforcement and awareness.

## **3.5 Ensure that adequate contingency waste management infrastructure capacity is available to mitigate risks to the effective management of waste**

The Department continues to engage with the three Regional Waste Management Planning Offices and other environmental regulatory bodies on the issue of managing residual municipal solid waste and construction and demolition waste.

## 3.6 Ensure the conservation and sustainable development of our inland fish stocks

Total Expenditure in 2020: €32.9m

Current, €29.8m Capital, €3.1m

Outputs		Target	Delivered	100%
1	No. of inspections of Recreational Anglers for licence and/or permit	15,000	13,487	89.9%
2	No. of inspections of Other Recreational Anglers (non-licensed anglers - coarse, pike, trout and sea anglers)	15,000	16,247	108.3%
3	No. of fines issued/fixed charge notices	180	240	133.3%
4	No. of prosecutions concluded	75	60	80.0%
5	No. of angling structures actioned (either repaired, replaced or removed) following audit	350	386 <sup>3</sup>	110.3%
6	Production of peer-reviewed scientific Publications	12	12	100.0%

Impacts		2020	2019	2018
1	No. of rivers assessed as part of the annual salmon management programme	144	144	143
2	No. of recreational salmon angling licence sales	14,171	17,281	16,755
3	No. of commercial salmon licence sales	85	85	125

The Department continued to implement Government policy to fully align the management of the wild salmon fishery with scientific advice and, to this end, a total of ten bye-laws and two Statutory Instruments were introduced taking cognisance of individual stock levels. A suite of regulations ahead of the 2021 salmon season was put in place by the end of 2020.

Implementation of the national eel management plan continued. Measures undertaken included operations for the trapping and transporting of eels around ESB hydro-stations on the Shannon, the Lee and the Erne and the undertaking of scientific sampling.

The majority of funds under the National Strategy for Angling Development (NSAD), Inland Fisheries Ireland's (IFI) capital grants scheme for angling infrastructure, were allocated over recent years. The scheme closed for applications following the round of allocations in 2020. The final tranche of NSAD funding was allocated to projects which will likely take another year or two to be fully completed. To date, almost €2million has been invested in the sector in capital projects designed to improve angling infrastructure and access including access for

anglers with a disability. Much of this work was contributed to by angling stakeholders and a range of other voluntary groups.

In 2020, 21 development projects with a total value of close to €363,000 were approved for funding by the Board of IFI.

### **3.7 Provide high quality and reliable geoscience information, through programmes such as INFOMAR and TELLUS, in support of the sustainable development of natural resources, environmental protection and spatial planning**

#### **INFOMAR (National Marine Mapping Programme)**

In 2020 the INFOMAR programme completed 9,406 km<sup>2</sup> of seabed mapping to reach 62% completion, which is ahead of the targeted 58%. Near-shore mapping focussed on the south coast, mainly off counties Cork and Kerry, using five Geological Survey Ireland inshore mapping vessels: RV Keary, RV Mallet, RV LIR, RV Geo and RV Galtee. Offshore mapping was undertaken by Marine Institute vessels in the Celtic Sea, mainly off Cork. In addition UAV/drone-based mapping is being deployed to acquire data in intertidal areas.

Shipwrecks continue to be investigated and recorded as part of INFOMAR mapping, working in conjunction with National Monuments Underwater Archaeology Unit (UAU). In 2020 a total of 39 shipwreck surveys were carried out, including three resurveys of known wrecks (Lusitania, City of London and La Surveillante).

In 2020, a new Data Viewer was developed to allow access and download of shallow geophysical (sub-bottom profiler) data. This information, routinely acquired by INFOMAR vessels but not previously as readily available is of particular interest to those seeking to develop off shore, including the Offshore Renewable Energy industry. In addition, a new module on Seabed Mapping was delivered as part of the Maynooth University MSc in Earth Observation.

The data and knowledge gathered under the INFOMAR programme is utilised in a range of areas including: marine safety and charting; offshore energy; aquaculture; coastal protection; environmental protection; shipwreck heritage; marine tourism, emerging Blue Carbon analyses and research.

## **TELLUS**

The Tellus airborne geophysical survey was completed over south central Ireland (Kilkenny, Laois, Tipperary, Waterford), totalling an area of 3,000 sq.km. The programme was behind the 6,000 sq.km target due to COVID-19 delays to the start of field operations, but has now reached 74% of airborne completion. Ground geochemical sampling resumed with surveys in Wicklow and Kildare, utilising a newly developed digital data capture method to improve efficiency and data accuracy.

In July, a suite of geophysical data for the southeast was released, while in October new soil geochemistry data results were released, reaching the milestone of 50% of national coverage completed.

In terms of added value projects, work continued on the Terra Soil project with Teagasc, examining development of agricultural services from Tellus data and materials. In addition further work was carried out on the new Earth Surface Resource Laboratory with Trinity College Dublin, which will launch in 2021.

### **Groundwater Programme**

Groundwater mapping and assessment focussed on a joint project with Irish Water, the Group Water Sector and EPA to identify and characterise groundwater resources that should play a role in providing sustainable drinking water, especially in the face of climate change impacts. The project uniquely works on a surface water catchment basis to make the most of available quantitative water balance data, and also to better serve Irish Water, Water Framework Directive (WFD) assessments and abstraction licensing assessments. In 2020, 15 Aquifer Catchment Reports were produced, focussed on the Leinster area.

### **Groundwater and Turlough Flooding Programme**

The initial phase of the Groundwater and Turlough Flooding Project resulted in the publication of karst groundwater flood maps (historic and predictive), which directly support OPW's commitments under the EU Floods Directive. The publication of the maps is accompanied by the project report and a web portal linked to live hydrometric water level data from the 18 permanent monitoring stations, all of which were operational by end 2020.

An advisory service has also been developed to assist Local Authorities in relation to Groundwater and Turlough Flooding issues.

The work of the Geological Survey Ireland in these programme areas was also communicated to the public through being featured on the RTÉ television series '*10 Things to Know about Flooding & Drought*' in 2020.

## Geoscience Initiatives

During 2020, extensive mapping, data gathering and related geoscience work was carried out across the country. Key publications and by Geological Survey Ireland included:

- Data-rich 1:50k map and data package for the Cork GeoUrban area to support development and planning decisions was published.
- Updated subsoils mapping for east Galway published.
- Co. Wexford Geoheritage Audit report was launched with Wexford County Council and the Heritage Council.
- A new 3D geological model viewer was launched online.

## Geotourism

A new project was initiated to develop an application for a UNESCO Global Geopark in the Joyce Country and Western Lakes area of north Galway and south Mayo. Partners include Galway and Mayo County Councils and Údarás na Gaeltachta. The initial phase of the project runs until end 2021 and is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development.

## Geohazards

**Coastal Erosion:** Geological Survey Ireland continued working on a new Coastal Erosion project with the European Space Agency to develop remote monitoring and mapping. This is also complemented by on-going work on the development of Coastal Vulnerability Mapping (CVI) based on the methodology developed between Geological Survey Ireland and Maynooth University. Both initiatives support Geological Survey Ireland's participation in the new Interdepartmental Coastal Change Strategy Group launched in late 2020.

**Landslides:** Geological Survey Ireland maintained and updated the National Landslide Database and landslide Susceptibility Mapping in 2020. It also provided assistance to two local authorities where significant landslides/peat failures took place during the year, including provision of data, co-ordination of follow up research and data acquisition and attendance at committees set up to deal with the incidents.

## **Geoscience Ireland**

In 2020, member companies in the Geoscience Ireland Business cluster, mostly SMEs, increased to 42, and added net 69 jobs, despite difficulties in the sector due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The programme, which is delivered with Enterprise Ireland, also published a report 'The Formation and Maintenance of a Successful Business Cluster' which was launched in May 2020.

## **Geoscience Research**

In 2020, Geological Survey Ireland's Research Programme supported a further 23 new projects for a total of 55 projects underway at year end. This included collaborations and co-funding with Irish and EU research bodies to result in an effective leverage of more than twice the research budget invested.

## **3.8 Foster the sustainable and productive exploration and development of Ireland's hydrocarbon resources under a robust, modern and transparent regulatory framework**

### **Mineral Exploration and Mining: Policy Statement**

Initial work on developing a policy statement for mineral exploration and mining was undertaken in 2020 with the intention to publish a draft policy statement for public consultation in 2021. The policy statement will set out the important role that the sector will play in contributing to national, European and international targets and commitments, including the transition to a circular economy and net zero carbon emissions.

### **A Social, Environmental and Economic Assessment of Galmoy and Lisheen Mines**

The Department commissioned an independent study of the Social, Environmental and Economic Assessment of Galmoy mine in Co Kilkenny and Lisheen mine in Co Tipperary. These were the first mines in Ireland to be opened under modern mining, planning and environmental regulations.

The study, which was published in 2020, assessed the impact of the mine on the local communities.

According to the study, both mines contributed to public finances, including royalties, corporation tax, PRSI and PAYE. Galmoy contributed over €60 million, while contributions from Lisheen were much higher, at over €250 million over the duration of the mining activities.

## **Avoca**

A public safety concern was identified during the monitoring of the Avoca legacy mine site and specifically at the 850 Adit<sup>4</sup> at the end of 2019. This required specialist emergency repairs to be undertaken during 2020 at a cost of in excess of €900,000.

## **ObSERVE Programme**

The ObSERVE research programme was commenced in 2014, with the aim of enhancing our knowledge and understanding of protected species and sensitive habitats offshore Ireland. This project will consist of multi-year Aerial surveys and high quality data collection that will support numerous policy and scientific objectives. An outreach programme to promote the programme continued in 2020, with participation at the 2020 BT Young Scientist Exhibition at the beginning of the year.

## **Geothermal Energy**

Plans for developing a modern, robust policy and regulatory framework to support the increased use of geothermal energy in Ireland were advanced in 2020 with the publication of two papers, available at [gov.ie](http://gov.ie)

- An Assessment of Geothermal Energy for District Heating in Ireland; and
- Geothermal Energy in Ireland: A roadmap for a policy and regulatory framework.

The roadmap sets out the next steps in developing the framework, including the publication of a policy statement in 2021.

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<sup>4</sup> An adit is an entrance to an underground mine which is horizontal or nearly horizontal, by which the mine can be entered, drained of water, ventilated, and minerals extracted at the lowest convenient level.





## **Goal 4: Governance and Regulation**

**Be the best in class in creating the policy direction and the regulatory environment for our sectors, so as to ensure good governance, competitive markets, diversity, innovation and sustainable practices.**

## **4 Goal 4: Governance**

### **4.1 Ensure that the Irish regulatory framework is robust and clear, is in line with EU obligations, international best practice and promotes certainty, investment and sustainability, while delivering for citizens**

#### **2020 National Waste Enforcement Priorities**

The National Waste Enforcement Steering Committee (NWESC) advises the Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authorities (WERLAs) and local authorities on strategic national waste enforcement priorities and provides guidance on how best to deal with serious criminal offences, including cross border issues and major illegal dumping in the State.

The WERLAs monitored progress made on agreed 2020 priorities throughout the year and provided interim updates on performance to the NWESC. A final report on progress made will be included in the WERLA Annual report for 2020 which will be published in 2021 and made available at <http://www.werla.ie/annual-report/>.

#### **Local Authority Enforcement Measures Grant Scheme**

The Department provides funding to support the provision of local authority waste enforcement staff under the Local Authority Enforcement Waste Measures Grant Scheme, with the intention of maintaining a visible presence of waste enforcement personnel on the ground. Over €7.6m was provided in support of the scheme in 2020 to support the recruitment and retention of 150 local authority waste enforcement staff across the country.

#### **Development of New Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authority Structures**

Local authorities are primarily responsible for the enforcement of waste management legislation in respect of illegal dumping and are assisted in their efforts by three Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authorities (WERLAs) covering the Southern, Eastern-Midlands and Connacht-Ulster Regions. Work continued during 2020 on the enhancement of the role, capacity and responsibilities of the WERLAs in order to position the local authority sector to better respond to emerging and priority enforcement challenges.

## **Kimberley Process**

The Kimberley Process is an international trade regime consisting of governments, the diamond industry and NGOs with the goal of preventing the trade of conflict diamonds. As a participant in the Kimberley Process anyone wishing to import or export rough diamonds into or out of the EU must do so through a designated Kimberley Process Union Authority and comply with the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme. The Minister was designated through regulations as such an Authority in 2020.

While the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions resulted in limited access to the Kimberley Certificates and the tools to issue them, the Department continued to deal with all requests for export certificates and the impact was not significant.

## **Offshore Oil and Gas**

The Programme for Government contains a commitment to end the issuing of new licences for the exploration and extraction of gas, on the same basis as the decision taken in September 2019 by the previous government in relation to oil exploration and extraction. The Minister made the Programme for Government commitment effective immediately: the Department no longer accepts new applications for exploration licences for natural gas or oil, nor will there be any future licensing rounds. This will be given legislative effect in 2021 as part of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Bill.

## **Gas Production**

Corrib gas production met 36% of Ireland's gas demand in the 2019/2020 gas year (October 2019 to September 2020), with the Inch (Kinsale) and Moffat entry points providing the remaining 3% and 61% respectively. The Kinsale area gas fields (incorporating the Kinsale Head, Southwest Kinsale, Ballycotton and Seven Heads gas fields) ceased production in July 2020 after 42 years of operation. Following the cessation of production the decommissioning of wells and subsea infrastructure, for which Ministerial consent was granted in 2019, commenced.

Ministerial consent was granted in 2020 to an application for the decommissioning of certain facilities within the Kinsale Head Petroleum Lease area, which covers the complete removal of the offshore platform jackets (legs).

## Exploration

A total of 13 Exploration Licences and 2 Licensing Options were relinquished during 2020 and no new petroleum authorisations were granted.

No consents for exploration activities were granted during 2020. Consent was granted to three applications for activities under Petroleum Leases – a rig site clearance survey in the Kinsale Head and Seven Heads leasehold areas; a shallow geological survey around the Kinsale Head production platforms; and an offshore pipeline survey and inspection & maintenance programme of offshore facilities related to the Corrib gas field.

## Minerals

In 2020, Ireland ranked as Europe's 4<sup>th</sup> largest producer of zinc metal in concentrate and the 17<sup>th</sup> largest producer in the world. In addition, Ireland was Europe's 9<sup>th</sup> largest producer of lead metal in concentrate and 27<sup>th</sup> in the world.

There are currently 16 extant State Mining Leases/Licences for lead, zinc, gypsum, marble and fireclay. Two mines operated in Ireland in 2020; a lead-zinc mine at Navan, Co. Meath (the largest zinc mine in Europe), and a gypsum operation in Co. Monaghan. Approximately 600 people are directly employed in mining activities, along with additional contract staff.

67 Prospecting Licences were granted in 2020. At the end of 2020, there were 490 Prospecting Licences, held by approximately 45 mineral exploration companies, compared to 542 licences at the end of 2019.

The Department continued to monitor mining activities to ensure compliance with the conditions of State Mining Licences and Leases and adherence to best practice

Direct expenditure invested by prospecting licence holders in working on their licence areas amounted to over €15 million in 2020. Zinc and lead are the main minerals being explored for in Ireland; other minerals of interest include gold, silver, copper, lithium and barite.

## The Celtic Interconnector Project

The Celtic Interconnector project is a proposed 575km long (500 subsea), 700MW electricity cable linking Ireland and France, at a cost of €1 billion. It is jointly proposed by EirGrid and the French transmission system operator, Réseau de Transport d'Électricité (RTÉ). In December 2020 the EU approved a grant of €530m towards the construction of the Celtic Interconnector. The grant was secured through the EU PCI process, meaning that it is an energy infrastructure project of the highest EU priority.

Extensive planning by EirGrid and a period of public consultation took place between November 2019 and February 2020 with regard to the development of interconnector infrastructure, following which decisions were reached on the interconnector's location in East Cork. A further decision was arrived at by EirGrid regarding the establishment of an enhanced community benefit scheme for impacted communities.

The Department continues to advocate for the inclusion of the project on the 5<sup>th</sup> EU Projects of Common Interest (PCI) list which will be established in Q4 2021, as well as fulfilling any requirements on behalf of the Member State under the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) grant agreement.

## **Policy Statement on the Importation of Fracked Gas**

The Department continued to work closely with the Office of the Attorney General to implement the commitments in the Programme for Government on the establishment of a Policy Statement outlining Ireland's approach to fracked gas.

## **The Greenlink Interconnector**

The Greenlink Interconnector is a 170km long, 500MW interconnector which will run from Pembroke, Wales to Great Island, Wexford.

Greenlink continues to progress and the planning applications were submitted in December 2020. The planning process is expected to be completed in 2021 with construction scheduled to begin in Q4 2021 if planning permission is granted.

## **National Smart Metering Programme**

The National Smart Metering Programme is co-ordinated by the Commission for the Regulation of Utilities (CRU) with ESB Networks delivering the electricity meter rollout. This rollout commenced in September 2019, and over 239,000 meters had been installed to the end of December 2020.

## **Clean Energy Package**

The EU Commission's Clean Energy Package for All Europeans sets out the EU electricity model for the next ten years. The Electricity Directive, which is part of the Clean Energy Package was transposed over the period to 2015. In 2020, transposition was progressed as regards several new obligations within the Directive and work is ongoing to transpose the remaining elements of the Directive, in keeping with a phased approach to its transposition.

## Energy Security of Supply

The Department continued to participate in various working groups on energy security of supply and participated in a number of emergency response exercises conducted by both Gas and Electricity Transmission System Operators. This included:

- A Blackstart Emergency Communications Plan (BECP) Exercise ran by Eirgrid to test its communications protocol in the event of an electricity emergency.
- A National Gas Emergency Exercise, ran by Gas Networks Ireland, simulating a gas supply deficit at Moffat, Scotland. This exercise was run in parallel with a national gas emergency exercise in Great Britain run by National Grid UK.

## Oil Security of Supply

The Department continued to ensure the States oil security in 2020, providing oversight of the National Oil Reserves Agency (NORA) and their management of the States strategic oil reserve, equivalent to 90 days of net imports.

The Department updated contingency plans to allow for Government to respond to a major oil emergency in the State, in order to safeguard the well-being and safety of the general public in the event of the occurrence of serious oil emergency.

## Research funding

The EPA provides a national coordination function for publicly funded climate change-related research in Ireland. The Department engages with the EPA research programme, for which there was a budget of €8.1 million in 2020. At the end of 2020 EPA was managing 230 on-going research projects covering topics in climate, water, health, waste, air, biodiversity, behavioural change and engagement. In the same period, the EPA published 54 research output reports and a second annual report of national climate research activities for the Climate Research Coordination Group.

The EPA research sought leading national academics to act as authors of the first Five Year Assessment Report (valued at €1.43M) in October 2020. This report will inform national Climate Action Planning and specifics for future policy interventions in climate adaptation and mitigation.

The EPA was part of a consortium that were successful in bidding for a €10M EU LIFE funded project to undertake enhanced restoration on former industrial bog harvesting sites.

## **Brexit**

The Department participated in Brexit preparedness and contingency planning, covering key policy areas within the Department's remit, including energy markets and trade, environment, inland fisheries, communications and broadcasting.

The Department was responsible for a discrete part of the legislative provisions under Part VI of the Withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union (Consequential Provisions) Act 2020 which dealt with the Fluorinated Gas Sector.

The provision for the Single Electricity Market (SEM) in the European Union (Consequential Provisions) Act 2019 Act was repealed following the ratification of the Withdrawal Agreement. This Agreement explicitly provided for the SEM in the Ireland/Northern Ireland Protocol 2020.

The EU and UK agreed the Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA) on 30 December 2020. This Agreement includes an Energy Title which includes a process for the development of replacement electricity trading arrangements which is intended to be finalised by April 2022. The Single Electricity Market continues to operate since 1 January 2021. The energy provisions of the TCA are broad in nature and provide for a range of cooperation obligations and the prospect of detailed arrangements being made between the parties at specified times in the future.

## **4.2 Ensure effective Governance and Oversight of the State Bodies operating under the aegis of the Department**

The Department was responsible for 17 commercial, non-commercial and regulatory bodies prior to the transfer of functions in September 2020. A streamlined approach to corporate governance has been introduced across a number of areas relevant to State bodies, including appointments to State Boards, processing requests for Ministerial consents, developing appropriate oversight arrangements and financial monitoring. This approach to governance is helping to ensure that the relationship between the Department and its agencies is consistent and reflects best practice.

Governance arrangements are set out in the various statutes underpinning the State bodies and the 2016 Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies. The Department undertakes work annually to verify that its State bodies are in compliance with the Code.

## Gender Balance on State Boards and Statutory Committees

Appointments to the State Boards and Statutory Committees under the aegis of the Department fall into a number of categories which include Government, Ministerial, Ex-Officio and Elected Employee Representatives.

During 2020, 28 appointments were made, of which 68% were men and 32% were women. Appointments to RTÉ and TG4 are included in this statistic; however these bodies, along with the BAI, transferred under the aegis of the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media in September 2020.

At 31st December 2020 the average gender balance in the serving membership of the bodies under the Department was 66% male and 34% female. Overall, by year-end, five bodies under the Department had met the Government target of 40% female representation in terms of serving members, and efforts will continue to address those bodies which have yet to meet the target.

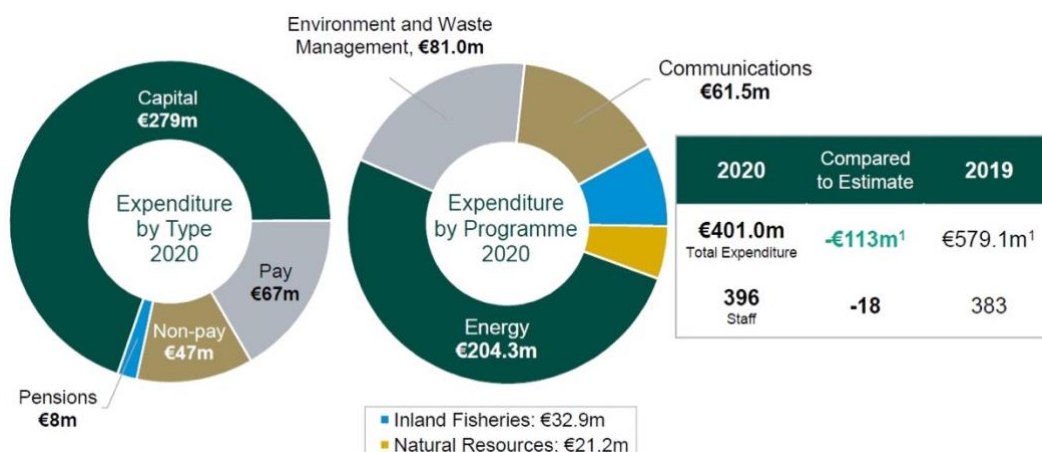
The Department will implement the recommendations of the Interdepartmental Group on Gender Balance on State Boards to promote better gender balance on the Bodies under its aegis.

## 4.3 The Departments Corporate Centre

The Department's corporate centre supports the Department's line divisions in achieving their sectoral business objectives and underpins the implementation of the Public Service Reform agenda and the Civil Service Renewal Plan, as well as the delivery of overall organisational effectiveness.

### Financial resources:

The financial output for 2020 is as follows:





## **Workforce Planning**

The Department's Workforce Plan was updated in 2019 and continued to form the basis of external recruitment and internal promotion competitions into 2020. These were designed to ensure that the Department can deliver key priorities in accordance with agreed timescales.

The Department continued to proactively engage with Civil Service Renewal and Reform in terms of HR initiatives, shared services and ICT enhancements. This included management of service level agreements with shared services for HR and Payroll and Learning & Development.

## **Attendance Management Policy**

The Department's lost time rate for sick leave of 2.1% in 2020 is within the overall target rate of 3.5% across the Civil Service.

## **Performance Management**

The Department continued to promote awareness and importance of the completion of all stages of the ePMDS across the Department and to support line managers, where necessary. The completion rate for PMDS within the Department in 2020 was 87%.

## **Learning and Development**

The Department continued to implement a systematic approach to the analysis of Learning & Development needs and the prioritisation, planning, recording and evaluation of solutions, primarily through:

- the Learning & Development team;
- the continued implementation of Learning & Development educational support policies and procedures;
- close collaboration with OneLearning, the central Learning & Development Unit for the Civil Service;
- the One Learning, Learning Management system (LMS); and
- regular communication with staff on the changes through e-mails, online newsletter, intranet Learning & Development knowledge page, and presentation at grade fora and employee engagement workshops.

## **Protected Disclosure Policy and Guidelines document**

In 2020, the Department's Protected Disclosure Policy and Guidelines were available to staff on the Intranet.

### **Communications**

The Communications and Media Relations Division (CMRD) works to support central Government communications campaigns and activities. It also serves to provide a professional, best practice communications service to the Department.

Despite the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Department delivered on several high profile initiatives and consultations throughout 2020, supported by CMRD communications and media campaigns.

In 2020 the Department also expanded its presence on social media platforms, and grew the reach and engagement of posts across Twitter and LinkedIn. This was underpinned by the development of a digital and social strategy that will target further social media growth into 2021.

### **Internal Communications and Staff Engagement**

Internal communications was particularly crucial in 2020 as a means of maintaining contact with staff, keeping remote teams informed and connected, and supporting the wellbeing of staff. The Department's weekly newsletter was an important tool in keeping teams connected and sharing both business and informal news and updates. Health and wellbeing is a central focus, and staff talks and workshops were held on a regular basis. The Communications and HR teams worked closely with various staff fora to identify opportunities for facilitating more engagement across the Department. The Department's Intranet was leveraged to enable better communications, utilising video, podcast and print content to keep staff connected and informed.

Despite remote working, the Department also recorded an 85% response rate to the 2020 Civil Service Employee Engagement Survey, demonstrating strong engagement across the organisation.

### **ICT**

From March 2020, the Department advised all staff to work from home until further notice in response to Government actions arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. The Information Systems Division (ISD) in conjunction with our shared service delivery partner, the

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM), supported staff working from home in the following ways:

- Provided all staff with full ICT functionality by remote access to our systems using secure Remote Desktop application;
- Laptops and peripherals distributed to staff for use at home;
- Rollout and administration of the web based video conferencing software (Zoom and WebEx) to staff to support remote communications.

## **Freedom of Information (FOI)**

A total of 207 FOI requests and 44 AIE requests were processed during 2020.

# Appendices



# Appendix I: 2020 Legislation

## Bills enacted

National Oil Reserves Agency (Amendment) and Provision of Central Treasury Services Act 2020, 29 July 2020

## Statutory Instruments

S.I. Number	Title
23 of 2020	European Union (Restriction of Certain Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment) (Amendment) Regulations 2020
56 of 2020	Electricity Regulation Act 1999 (Public Service Obligations) (Amendment) Order 2020
63 of 2020	Control of Fishing for Salmon Order 2020
82 of 2020	European Union (End-of-Life Vehicles) (Amendment) Regulations 2020
83 of 2020	European Union (Internal Market in Natural Gas) Regulations 2020.
122 of 2020	Wireless Telegraphy (Temporary Electronic Communications services Licences) Regulations 2020
130 of 2020	European Union (Waste Management) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2020
189 of 2020	Environmental Protection Agency (Integrated Pollution Control) (Licensing) (Amendment) Regulations 2020.
190 of 2020	Environmental Protection Agency (Industrial Emissions) (Licensing) (Amendment) Regulations 2020.
191 of 2020	European Union (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Environmental Protection Agency Act 1992) (Amendment) Regulations 2020
264 of 2020	European Union (Restriction of Certain Hazardous Substances in Electronic Equipment) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2020
321 of 2020	European Union (Landfill) Regulations 2020
322 of 2020	European Union (Packaging) Regulations 2020
323 of 2020	European Union (Waste Directive) Regulations 2020
342 of 2020	European Union (Electricity Risk Preparedness) Regulations 2020
358 of 2020	European Union (Accessibility of Websites and Mobile Applications of Public Sector Bodies) Regulations 2020
365 of 2020	European Union (Renewable Energy) Regulations 2020
407 of 2020	Wireless Telegraphy (Further Temporary Electronic Communications services Licences) Regulations 2020

433 of 2020	European Union (Cross-Border Parcel Delivery Services) Regulations 2020
500 of 2020	Electricity Regulation Act 1999 (Public Service Obligations) (Amendment) (No. 2) Order 2020
524 of 2020	European Union (Renewable Energy) (Amendment) Regulations 2020
667 of 2020	Wild Salmon and Sea Trout Tagging Scheme (Amendment) Regulations 2020
668 of 2020	European Union (Retail Charges for Regulated Intra-EU Communications) Regulations 2020
704 of 2020	European Union (Internal Market in Electricity) (Regulatory Authority Matters) Regulations 2020
738 of 2020	Waste Management (Prohibition of Waste Disposal by Burning) (Amendment) Regulations 2020
745 of 2020	European Union (Security of Natural Gas Supply) Regulations 2020
755 of 2020	European Union (Greenhouse Gas Emissions Trading) (Amendment) Regulations 2020

## Inland Fisheries bye-laws

Bye-Law Number	Title
331 of 2020	Conservation of Salmon and Sea Trout (Closed Rivers)
979 of 2020	Conservation of Salmon and Sea Trout (Draft Nets and Snap Nets)
980 of 2020	Fermoy Weir Angling (No. 4 or Lismore District) (Munster Blackwater)
981 of 2020	Control of Sea Angling Methods for certain species of fish
982 of 2020	Angling Bye-law
983 of 2020	Conservation of Salmon and Sea Trout (Bag limits) of 2020
984 of 2020	Conservation of Salmon and Sea Trout (Catch and Release)
985 of 2020	Conservation of Salmon and Sea Trout (River Slaney)
986 of 2020	Conservation of Salmon and Sea Trout (River Suir)
987 of 2020	Conservation of Sea Trout

## Appendix II: 2020 Green Public Procurement Report

In line with Circular 20/2019 Promoting the use of *Environmental and Social Considerations in Public Procurement*, details of procurement contracts valued greater than €25,000, signed in calendar year 2020, that include green criteria which are designed to ensure that the product or service procured will have a reduced impact on the environment are set out below:

Reference year 2020	A. Total number of contracts issued over €25,000 by priority sector	B. Total value of contracts issued over €25,000 by priority sector	C. Total number of contracts issued over €25,000 by priority sector which have incorporated GPP	D. Total value of contracts issued over €25,000 by priority sector which have incorporated GPP
Transport (road transport vehicles and services)	2	€212,959	2	€212,959
Construction (materials and site management)	-	-	-	-
Energy (electricity, combined heat and power and lighting)	1	€180,000	-	-
Food & Catering Services	-	-	-	-
Cleaning Products & Services	-	-	-	-
Textiles	-	-	-	-
IT Equipment (desktops, laptops and displays)	1	€500,000	1	€500,000
Paper	-	-	-	-
Other: Consultancy Services Framework for Environmental Assessments	1	€300,000	1	€300,000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>€1,192,959</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>€1,012,959</b>

## Appendix III: Petroleum Authorisations

A total of 30 petroleum authorisations were extant at 31 December 2020. These comprised:

- 3 Petroleum Leases
- 4 Lease Undertakings
- 19 Exploration Licences (of which 2 were subject to follow-on authorisation applications)
- 2 Licensing Options (of which 2 were subject to follow-on authorisation applications)
- 2 Petroleum Prospecting Licences

One new petroleum authorisation, a Petroleum Prospecting Licence (PPL), was granted during 2020. Details of this new offshore authorisation are set out in the following table:

Authorisation No.	Authorisation Type	Licensee(s)
PPL 1/20	Petroleum Prospecting Licence	Woodside Energy (Ireland) Pty



# Appendix IV: Bodies under the aegis of the Department

## Communications



## Energy



## Environment and Climate Action



## Natural Resources



- Mining Board
- Irish National Petroleum Corporation (INPC)



Rialtas na hÉireann  
Government of Ireland

# An Roinn Comhshaoil, Aeráide & Cumarsáide Tuarascáil Bhliantúil

2020

Arna ullmhú an ag Roinn  
Comhshaoil, Aeráide & Cumarsáide  
[gov.ie](http://gov.ie)

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# Achoimre Feidhmiúcháin

## Forbhreathnú ar an Roinn

Foilsíodh sainchúram na Roinne ag an am a foilsíodh an Ráiteas Straitéise 2019-2021 cláraithe teileachumarsáid; Craolachán; post; fuinneamh; gníomhaíocht aeráide; bainistíocht dramhaíola agus éifeachtúlacht acmhainní; beartas comhshaoil agus cáilíocht an aeir; beartas um chosaint torainn agus radaíochta; agus acmhainní nádúrtha.

Tar éis foirmiú rialtais nua i mí an Mheithimh 2020, aistríodh feidhmeanna craolacháin na Roinne chuig an Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meáin le héifeacht ón 23 Meán Fómhair 2020 (IR 372 de 2020).

D'athraigh ainm na Roinne ón Roinn Cumarsáide, Gníomhaíochta Aeráide agus Timpeallachta don Roinn Comhshaoil, Aeráide agus Cumarsáide le héifeacht ó 24 Meán Fómhair 2020 (IR 373 de 2020).

## COVID-19

Mar thoradh ar theacht an phaindéim Covid-19 go luath in 2020, rinneadh roinnt athruithe ar thimpeallacht oibre na Roinne. Ó thús mhí an Mhárta thug an Roinn tús áite dá chuid oibre chun tacú le freagairt iomlán an rialtais ar an paindéim. Ag teacht le comhairle an Rialtais, d'oibrigh an Roinn go cianda le tinreamh teoranta inár n-oifigí.

Bhí go leor de na feidhmeanna na Roinne páirteach le slándáil agus leanúnachas an bhonneagair chriticiúil a chinntiú le linn thréimhse an phaindéime. Ag obair lenár bpáirtithe leasmhara, bhí ról lárnach ag an Roinn maidir le leanúnachas soláthairtí leictreachais, gáis agus breosla a chinntiú; cothabháil na seirbhísí bainistíochta dramhaíola; agus feidhmiú na líonraí teileachumarsáide. Tugadh réimse beart isteach chun tacú le gnólachtaí atá ag feidhmiú ar líne.

## Ráiteas Straitéise 2019-2021<sup>1</sup>

Bhí fíis na **Roinne faoin Ráiteas Straitéise 2019-2021** ná d'Éirinn a bheith ina cheannaire maidir le gníomhaíocht aeráide a sheachadadh, inbhuanaitheacht chomhshaoil a bhaint amach agus na deiseanna a thairgeann cumarsáid dhigiteach a thabhairt do gach saoránach. Tá an fhís fhadtéarmach seo dírithe ar aistriú go dtí geilleagar neodrach rathúil, nua-aimseartha, iomaíoch agus carbóin, le margaí solúbtha dea-rialaithe mar bhonn agus taca léi.

---

<sup>1</sup> De réir an Achta um Bainistíocht na Seirbhíse Poiblí 1997, bhí Ráiteas Straitéise nua á ullmhú ag deireadh 2020 a léireoidh na tiomantais sa Chlár 2020 don Rialtas - ár dtodhchaí chomhroinnte.

Ba é **misean** na Roinne forbairt a dhéanamh ar bheartais an Rialtais a bhfuil cumhacht ag dul chun cinn eacnamaíoch agus sóisialta, agus ag an am céanna an timpeallacht a fheabhsú ar bhealach buan do na glúine atá le teacht.

Seachadadh an Roinn ar a fhís agus a mhisean trí dhírú ar **cheithre príomhspríoc**:

### **Spríoc 1 - Ceannaireacht Aeráide**

Seachadfaidh Éire freagairt chomhtháite agus éifeachtach ar chur isteach ar an aeráid agus urghabháil na deiseanna fiontraíochta i ngeilleagar ísealcharbóin.

### **Spríoc 2 - Nascacht agus Cumarsáid**

Rochtain a sholáthar ar líonra cumarsáide den scoth le seirbhísí ardchaighdeán, ag tacú le pobail nasctha agus ag cur ar chumas na saoránach glacadh le deiseanna digiteacha i dtimpeallacht shábháilte.

### **Spríoc 3 - Comhshaol agus Úsáid Acmhainní Inbhuanaithe**

Bain úsáid as acmhainní le cúram agus freagracht, íoslaghdú a dhéanamh ar ghlúin na dramhaíola agus ár dtimpeallacht a fheabhsú go comhsheasmhach ina thoisí go léir.

### **Spríoc 4 - Rialachas agus Rialáil**

Bí is fearr sa rang chun an treoir bheartais agus an timpeallacht rialála a chruthú dár n-earnálacha, chun dea-rialachas, margaí iomaíocha, éagsúlacht, nuálaíocht agus cleachtais inbhuanaithe a chinntiú.

Rinne an Roinn dul chun cinn suntasach maidir leis na spriocanna a bhaint amach sa Ráiteas Straitéise 2019-2021 agus leagtar amach sa tuarascáil bhliantúil seo na príomhéachtaí agus na forbairtí i rith na bliana.



Príomh-Aschuir		Sprioc	Seachadta	100%
1	Líon na ngnóthaí beaga le tacaíocht ón Scéim Dearbhán Trádála Ar Líne	1,250	13,240	1,059.2%
4	Líon na dtithe a dtacaítear leo chun a n-éifeachtúlacht fuinnimh a fheabhsú	23,200	14,699	63.4%
5	Líon na gCeannach nua Feithiclí Leictreacha le Cúnamh Deontais	6,000	4,843	80.7%
6	Líon na gCinntí Comhshaoil agus Raideolaíocha	1,270	1,137	89.5%
7	Líon na gcuartheanna ar shuíomhanna Tionscail/Dramhaíola	1,450	Níl sé ar fáil fós	N/A

Príomhthionchair		2020	2019	2018
1	Líon iomlán na nÚsáideoirí Leathanbhanda (lena n-áirítear úsáideoirí soghluaiste)	1.84m	1.76m	1.73m
2	% iomlán den olltomhaltas fuinnimh deiridh ó acmhainní in-athnuaite	Níl sé ar fáil fós	12%	10.9%
3	Spriocanna um atreorú dramhaíola, aisghabháil agus athchúrsáil a bhaint amach: Dramhaíl Bardasach In-bhithmhílte (BMW) líonta talún	104,000	145,000	190,000

## Príomhéachtaí in 2020:

### Aeráid/Comhshaoil

- Foilsíodh Dréacht-Téacs don Bille um Ghníomhú ar son na hAeráide agus Forbairt Ísealcharbóin (Leasú) go luath i nDeireadh Fómhair 2020 agus rinneadh grinnscrúdú réamh-reachtaíochta ag an gComhchoiste Oireachtais. Foilsíodh Tuarascáil an Choiste an 18 Nollaig 2020 agus chuir sé an téacs críochnaithe arna ghlacadh ag an Rialtas in iúl don 2021.
- Bunaíodh an Ciste Gníomhaíochta Aeráide ar bhonn reachtúil an 1 Lúnasa 2020, trí achtú go luath an Bhille na Gníomhaireachta um Chúltaca Ola Náisiúnta.

- Foilsíodh an chéad tuarascáil ar dhul chun cinn an Choimisinéara Aistrithe díreach i mBealtaine 2020 agus foilsíodh an dara tuarascáil i mí na Samhna 2020, ag soláthar nuashonrú breise ar dhul chun cinn ar aistriú díreach i lár na tíre.
- D'oscail an Roinn glao ar iarratais chuig an gciste trasdula díreach i mí an Mheithimh 2020 agus fógraíodh tairiscintí maoinithe sealadacha i mí na Samhna 2020, agus beagnach €30m le os cionn 60 tionscadal ar fud an réigiúin as tionscadail ón earnáil phríobháideach, údaráis áitiúla agus pobail.
- Deonaíodh ceadú an Rialtais i mí na Samhna 2020 do Scéim Feabhsaithe Díchoimisiúnaithe, Athshlánaithe agus Athchóirithe Bhord na Móna (EDRRanna) ar 33,000 heicteár de thailte móna Díchoimisiúnaithe Bhord na Móna lena n-áirítear maoiniú suas le €108 milliún ón gCiste Gníomhaíochta Aeráide.
- Tugadh rialacháin chun críche le haghaidh 13 bhaile breise faoin gcosc um Ghuaill Dheataithe.

## Fuinneamh

- Ainmníodh Údarás Fuinnimh Inmharthana na hÉireann (ÚFIÉ) an comhlacht seachadta náisiúnta iarfheistithe agus ceadaíodh cead don fhoireann bhreise.
- Caitheadh €78.7 milliún in 2020 ar bhearta éifeachtúlachta fuinnimh trí dheontais le os cionn 17,600 teach (lena n-áirítear scéimeanna gréine PV), 39 tionscadal pobalbhunaithe agus 1,615 teaghlach i mbaol bochtaineachta fuinnimh. Sholáthair na bearta seo coigilteas fuinnimh de 138.7 GWh, laghdaíodh astuithe Co<sub>2</sub> 35,200 tonna agus laghdaigh sé billí fuinnimh faoi €9.2 milliún.
- Bronnadh litir thairisceana ar 68 tionscadal nua fuinnimh in-athnuaite, cothrom le thart ar 1,088mw de ghlúin nua-in-athnuaite nua, faoin gcéad scéim tacaíochta leictreachais in-athnuaite (RES) ceant. Áirítear leis seo seacht dtionscadal pobail a chuimsíonn cúig thionscadal gréine agus dhá thionscadal gaoithe. Tacóidh an scéim RESS le hinfheistíocht in Éirinn os cionn €1.4 billiún agus tacóidh sé leis an téarnamh trí thart ar 1,000 post a chruthú.
- Cuireadh tacaíocht ar fáil do 59 tairbhí tríd an gClár Feabhais i gClár Dearaidh Éifeachtach Fuinnimh (EXED) in 2020, ag deonú os cionn €3.2 milliún.

## Cumarsáid

- Rinne Leathanbhanda Náisiúnta na hÉireann (LNÉ) dul chun cinn suntasach maidir le cur i bhfeidhm an Phlean Leathanbhanda Náisiúnta in 2020. Críochnaíodh obair dheartha i sprioc-bhailte fearainn ar fud gach contae in Éirinn le níos mó ná 153,000



áitreabh a ndearnadh suirbhé orthu faoi dheireadh 2020. An obair suirbhé seo Cuireadh tús le dearáí do gach limistéar imscartha agus imscaradh snáithín go déanach 2020 leis an gcéad snáithín leis an nasc baile a rinneadh i gCarraig Uí Leighin, Co. Chorcaí i mí Eanáir 2021.

- Leanann an infheistíocht leanúnach sa Phlean Leathanbhanda Náisiúnta ag cruthú deiseanna fostaíochta le breis agus 700 duine fostaithe go díreach agus go hindíreach in 2020.
- Le linn 2020, suiteáil 241 Pointí Ceangail Leathanbhanda (BCP) suíomhanna san iomlán suiteáilte ag LNE, 170 ar fáil go poiblí agus 71 bunscóil. Athraíodh an tseirbhís leathanbhanda ardluais ar feadh 126 láithreán poiblí ag Vodafone agus 31 bunscóil ag soláthraithe seirbhíse miondíola éagsúla.
- In 2020, fuair breis agus 3,000 duine oiliúint scileanna digiteacha saor in aisce faoin Scéim Scileanna Digiteacha do Shaoránaigh. Lean Clár an Champion Digital Scoile ag tiomáint uchtú digiteach agus ar ardán a chur ar fáil le haghaidh comhtháthú níos fearr TFC i scoileanna dara leibhéal trí fhoghlaim luachmhar tionscadail-bhunaithe.

### **Geilleagar ciorclach, beartas dramhaíola agus acmhainní nádúrtha**

- Seoladh plean gníomhaíochta dramhaíola do gheilleagar ciorclach, treo-chlár nua na hÉireann le haghaidh pleanála agus bainistíochta dramhaíola i Meán Fómhair 2020.
- Cuireadh €32.9 milliún ar fáil d'Iascaigh Intíre Éireann chun tacú le cosaint, caomhnú agus forbairt acmhainn iascaigh intíre na hÉireann in 2020.
- Chuir an Roinn breis agus €11.7 milliún ar fáil d'Údaráis Áitiúla chun tacú le hobair leasúcháin ar 76 láithreán líonta talún ar fud na tíre in 2020. Leithdháileadh €6.1 milliún ón gCiste Comhshaoil d'Údaráis Áitiúla chun tacú le seirbhísí forfheidhmithe dramhaíola agus an tionscnamh frithdhumpála.
- In 2020, chríochnaigh an clár INFOMAR 9,406 km<sup>2</sup> de mhapáil ghrinneall na farraige chun cur i gcrích de 62% a bhaint amach, atá chun tosaigh ar an 58% spriocdhírthe.
- Fuarthas faomhadh Comh-Aireachta chun reachtaíocht a thabhairt isteach chun cosc a chur ar cheadúnais le haghaidh taiscéalaíochta nua ola agus gáis nádúrtha. Cuirfear an reachtaíocht san áireamh sa Bhille um Ghníomh Aeráide agus Forbairt Ísealcharbóin (Leasú) 2021.



**SPRIOC 1: Ceannaireacht Aeráide  
Soláthróidh Éire freagairt chomhtháite agus  
éifeachtach ar chur isteach ar an aeráid agus  
bainfidh sí leas as na deiseanna fiontraíochta i  
ngeilleagar ísealcharbóin**

# 1 Sprioc 1: Ceannaireacht Aeráide

Caiteachas Iomlán in 2020: €204.3m

Reatha, €31.3

Caipiteal, €173m



Príomh-Aschuir		Sprioc	Seachadta	100%
1	Líon na dtithe a dtacaítear leo chun a n-éifeachtúlacht fuinnimh a fheabhsú	23,200	14,699	63.4%
2	Scéim Gréine PV (Líon na n-iarratas)	2,400	2,917	121.5%
3	Líon na dtairbhíthe tráchtála / eile a fhaigheann tacaíocht chun a n-éifeachtúlacht fuinnimh a fheabhsú	800	149 <sup>2</sup>	18.6%
4	Líon na gCeannach nua Feithiclí Leictreacha le Cúnamh Deontais	6,000	4,843	80.7%
5	Líon na bpointí luchtaithe tí suiteáilte d'fheithiclí leictreacha le cúnamh deontais	5,000	3,523	70.5%

Príomhthionchair		2020	2019	2018
1	% éileamh leictreachais a ghintear ó fhoinsí in-athnuaite (RES-E)	38.9% (prov.)	36.5%	33.2%
2	% éileamh teasa a ghintear ó fhoinsí in-athnuaite (RES-H)	Níl sé ar fáil fós	6.3%	6.5%
3	% éileamh iompair ó fhoinsí in-athnuaite (RES-T)	9.5% (prov.)	8.9%	7.2%
4	Dul chun cinn éifeachtúlacht na hEarnála Poiblí 33% faoi 2020	Níl sé ar fáil fós	29%	27%
5	Líon na Rátálacha Fuinnimh Foirgníochta foilsithe	87,500	103,110	98,916

## 1.1 Plean Gnímh don Aeráid chun dul i ngleic le cliseadh aeráide

Tá fócas láidir ag an bPlean Gnímh don Aeráid 2019, a foilsíodh i mí an Mheithimh 2019, ar chur i bhfeidhm thar an tréimhse 2019 go 2021 lena n-áirítear gníomhartha le hamlínte sonracha agus le céimeanna a theastaíonn chun gach gníomh a bhaint amach.

An Plean Gníomhaíochta Aeráide 2019 Tuarascálacha Dul Chun Cinn a chomhordú agus a fhoilsiú ag Roinn an Taoisigh a dhéanann monatóireacht ar chur i bhfeidhm an tionscnaimh ar fud an Rialtais. Foilsítear tuarascálacha ar dhul chun cinn ráithiúil ar [gov.ie](http://gov.ie). Chuir an Séú Tuarascáil Dul Chun Cinn leis na bearta atá le críochnú faoi dheireadh Ráithe C4 2020. Léirigh an tuarascáil ráta seachadta iomlán de 78%. Bhí an Roinn agus gníomhaireachtaí faoina sainchúram freagrach as tuairisciú ar 268 gníomh sa Phlean Gnímh don Aeráid 2019. As an 154 gníomh a bhí le cur i gcrích in 2019 agus 114 gníomh a bhí le críochnú in 2020 bhí ráta críochnaitheach de 76% ann.

### Plean Gnímh don Aeráid 2021

Geallann an Clár 2020 don Rialtas ar an meán 7% in aghaidh na bliana a laghdú ar astaíochtaí gáis cheaptha teasa fhoriomlán ó 2021 go 2030 (laghdú 51% thar na deich mbliana), agus chun glan-astaíochtaí nialasacha a bhaint amach faoi 2050. I mí Dheireadh Fómhair 2020, thosaigh an t-ullmhúchán ar an gcéad Phlean Gnímh don Aeráide eile, a leagfaidh amach gníomhartha nach mór a dhéanamh i ngach Roinn Rialtais agus comhlacht chun a chinntiú go seachadfaimid ar na tiomantais sa Chlár Rialtais, lena n-áirítear a chinntiú go mbainimid amach ár spriocanna 2030, ullmhú le haghaidh neodracht aeráide faoi 2050. Ar a dhéanaí, agus beidh Éire ina cheannaire maidir le freagairt d'athrú aeráide dá bharr. Foilseofar an plean in R3 2021.

### Straitéis Náisiúnta Aeráide Fhadtéarmach

Tugadh faoi obair shubstaintiúil ar fud 2020 chun Straitéis Gníomhaíochta Aeráide Fadtéarmach na hÉireann a fhorbairt agus chun a raon feidhme a nuashonrú chun an uailmhian feabhsaithe sa chlár don Rialtas a léiriú - ár dtodhchaí chomhroinnte. Dhírigh an obair ar bhealaí sonracha táscacha a aithint chun geilleagar neodrach aeráide a bhaint amach faoi 2050 agus tá anailís déanta ag anailís ar roghanna trasdula ar fud gach earnálacha tábhachtacha den gheilleagar. Meastar go dtabharfar an CLTanna chuig an Rialtas lena mbreithniú agus lena cheadú in 2021, chun tosaigh ar a bheith curtha faoi bhráid an Choimisiúin Eorpaigh.

## **An Bille um Ghníomhú Aeráide agus Forbairt Ísealcharbóin (Leasú)**

Le linn 2020 d'fhorbair an Roinn an Bille um Ghníomhú Aeráide agus Forbairt Ísealcharbóin (Leasú). Is í aidhm an Bhille seo creat atá ceangailteach ó thaobh dlí a bhunú le spriocanna agus tiomantais shoiléire atá leagtha síos sa dlí, agus a sholáthar go bhfuil na struchtúir agus na próisis is gá leabaithe ar bhonn reachtúil lena chinntiú go mbaineann Éire a spriocanna náisiúnta, AE agus idirnáisiúnta agus a n-oibleagáidí san aice agus san fhadtéarma.

Tá an Bille deartha chun roinnt tiomantas atá leagtha amach sa Chlár Rialtais a chur san áireamh, lena n-áirítear a fhoráil gur chóir an chéad dá bhuiséad carbóin laghdú 51% a bhaint amach ar astuithe gáis cheaptha teasa faoi 2030, agus éifeacht reachtúil a thabhairt do thiomantas chun aeráid a bhaint amach Geilleagar neodrach ag tráth nach déanaí ná 2050.

Foilsíodh dréacht-théacs an Bhille go luath i nDeireadh Fómhair 2020 agus rinneadh grinnscrúdú réamh-reachtaíochta ag an gComhchoiste Oireachtais. Foilsíodh [Tuarascáil](#) an Choiste an 18 Nollaig 2020 agus chuir sé an téacs críochnaithe ag an Rialtas in iúl don 2021.

## **Oiriúnú Aeráide - Oiriúnú Earnála**

Faoin [gCreat Oiriúnaithe Náisiúnta \(CON\)](#), ceanglaíodh ar sheacht Roinn Rialtais atá freagrach as earnálacha tosaíochta pleananna oiriúnaithe earnála a ullmhú.

Rinne an Coiste Stiúrtha Náisiúnta Oiriúnaithe, faoi chathaoirleacht na Roinne seo, monatóireacht ar chur i bhfeidhm na bpleananna le linn 2020. Tharla gníomh oiriúnaithe nach beag thar raon leathan réimsí laistigh den chéad bhliain de chur i bhfeidhm na bpleananna.

Tá an Roinn ag obair go gníomhach freisin lena chinntiú go ndéantar oiriúnú aeráide a phríomhshruthú thar earnálacha eile agus le hobair na ranna go léir. In 2020, mar shampla, chuir an Roinn ionchur ar fáil do Ghrúpa Oibre Idir-Rannach ar Athrú Cósta, faoi chathaoirleacht na Roinne Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreacht (RTRÁO) agus Oifig na nOibreacha Poiblí (OOP), agus d'oibrigh sé leis an Tasc Rialtais Fórsa ar phleanáil éigeandála maidir le treoir bhainistíochta éigeandála straitéiseach a fhorbairt agus a ghlacadh maidir le hoiriúnú um athrú aeráide a fhoilsítear ar [shuíomh gréasáin](#) na hOifige um Pleanáil Éigeandála (OPE).

## Oiriúnú Áitiúil

Faoin CON, d'fhorbair gach údarás áitiúil a straitéis oiriúnaithe féin, atá á chur i bhfeidhm anois. San iomlán, ghlac údarás áitiúla 2451 gníomh ar fud na 31 straitéis oiriúnaithe a chlúdaíonn réimsí lena n-áirítear oiriúnú, maolú, tógáil feasachta, agus rannpháirtíocht an phobail.

## Clár Oiliúna na nÚdarás Áitiúil um Gníomhú ar son na hAeráide

Freagra an Údarás Áitiúil a fheabhsú a thuilleadh ar an athrú aeráide agus chun na húdarás áitiúla a éascú chun a ngealltanais a chomhlíonadh faoin bPlean Gníomhaíochta Aeráide, leithdháil an Roinn €600,000 d'oiliúint um Athrú Aeráide na nÚdarás Áitiúil le linn 2020. Tá tionchar suntasach ag an gcobhír ar sheachadadh na hoiliúna 19 Paindéimeach Cé go ndeachaigh an oiliúint ar imirce ar líne i rith na bliana.

## Aeráid na hÉireann

Aithníodh sa CON an tábhacht chriticiúil a bhaineann le hardán faisnéise aeráide na hÉireann a chur, 'Aeráid na hÉireann' ([www.climateireland.ie](http://www.climateireland.ie)) ar bhonn buan oibríochtúil chun leanúint ar aghaidh ag cur na n-earnálacha ábhartha ábhartha in iúl dóibh ach freisin maidir le faisnéis luachmhar, inchreidte agus comhsheasmhach a sholáthar acmhainn don tsochaí shibhialta agus don earnáil phríobháideach. Tá Aeráid na hÉireann anois faoi choimirce na Gníomhaireachta um Chaomhnú Comhshaoil (GCC) anois.

## Oiriúnú i gComhairle na Breataine-na hÉireann (BIC) agus an Aontais Eorpaigh

Déanann an Roinn cathaoirleacht ar an bhfoghrúpa oiriúnaithe aeráide d'earnáil oibre na hÉireann de chuid Chomhairle na Breataine-na hÉireann (BIC), agus sa cháil seo, bhí siompóisiam ar líne ar bhonneagar athléimneach aeráide i mí Dheireadh Fómhair, 2020 a d'fhreastail ionadaithe ó gach riarachán BIC.

## Plean Náisiúnta Fuinnimh agus Aeráide

Tá ullmhú Plean Náisiúnta Fuinnimh agus Aeráide (NECP), ina chumhdaítear an tréimhse 2021-2030, ar cheann de na príomhfhóralacha de Rialachán Rialachais an Aontais Fuinnimh. Bhí an [NECP deiridh](#), a cuireadh faoi bhráid an Choimisiúin Eorpaigh in 2020 in 2020, ullmhaithe chun gach beartas agus beart atá beartaithe a aithníodh go dtí deireadh 2019 a ionchorprú agus a chuirfidh laghdú ar astaíochtaí 30% ar fáil faoi 2030 de réir na sprice a chuir isteach ar am ullmhúcháin an phlean.

## 1.2 An creat agus an modh oibre tras-Rialtais a fhorbraíonn ardáin éifeachtacha beartais a chruthú chun ár sprioc a sheachadadh

Éilíonn seachadadh an Phlean Gníomhaíochta Aeráide 2019 cumas neartaithe chun beartas a fhorbairt go comhleanúnach, chun gníomhartha comhaontaithe a chur i bhfeidhm go rathúil agus dul i ngleic go ciallmhar le go leor páirtithe leasmhara.

### An Ciste Gníomhaíochta Aeráide

Tugadh faoi phróiseas léirithe leasa in 2020 atá dírithe ar fhorbairt na dtograí a chur ar an eolas chun tuilleadh tacaíochta a sholáthar ón gCiste Gníomhaíochta Aeráide. Mar fhreagra air seo, fuarthas 190 aighneacht ó chomhlachtaí san earnáil phoiblí agus san earnáil phríobháideach, eagraíochtaí neamhrialtasacha agus grúpaí pobail ó ar fud na tíre.

Na cúig thionscadal seo a leanas, a fhaigheann tacaíocht ón gCiste faoi láthair, dul chun cinn i rith 2020:

- Cairr Leictreacha BSL: Lean BSL ar aghaidh ag forbairt líonra muirir feithicle leictreach ar fud na tíre le tacaíocht ó €10 milliún á sholáthar ón gCiste. D'ainneoin roinnt moilleanna de bharr srianta paidéimeacha Covid-19, faoi dheireadh 2020, 164 (328 pointe muirir) a bhí in ionad pointí muirir nua-aimseartha agus iontaofa a bhí in ionad na gcaighdeán caighdeánach atá ann cheana féin agus rinneadh 17 eile a uasghrádú go dtí muirear tapa DC pointí ar fud na tíre. Tá Moil mhuirearú tapa (150kW agus 50kW) suiteáilte freisin ag ceithre shuíomh le ceithre cinn eile ag an gcéim seachadta.
- Scéim Teasa Cheantar Thamhlachta: Tá €4.45 milliún á sholáthar ón gciste go dtí an tionscadal seo a fheicfidh teas dramhaíola ó lárionad sonraí a úsáidtear chun teasa foirgnimh máguaird, lena n-áirítear TFATHTT TF agus foirgnimh chathartha eile. Cuireadh tús le hoibreacha talún le linn 2020 agus tosóidh an tógáil in 2021. Tá an tionscadal, nuair a bheidh sé comhlánaithe, meastar go bhfuil laghdú ar astaíochtaí Co<sub>2</sub> i gceantar Chontae Átha Cliath Theas de bheagnach 1,500 tonna in aghaidh na bliana.
- Iarnród Éireann - Drive Hibrid: I mBealtaine 2020, d'aistrigh an Tionscadal de chuid Iarnróid Éireann, maidir le tástáil a dhéanamh ar charr iarnróid hibrideach, go dtí an chéim seachadta le €1.12 milliún i dtacaíocht a sholáthar ón gCiste. Cuireadh tús leis an gcéim tástála le linn 2020 le hathfheistiú agus triail a bhaint as tarchur nua ar thraein trí charr. Ina dhiaidh sin beidh triail innill ina dhiaidh sin in 2021.

- An 3CEA (trí ghníomhaireacht fuinnimh contaetha): bhog an tionscadal seo go dtí an chéim seachadta go déanach 2020 agus cuireadh €1.37 milliún ar fáil dóibh mar thacaíocht ón gCiste. Tá sé mar aidhm ag an tionscadal tomhaltas breosla agus astaíochtaí breosla a laghdú ó fheithicilí a bhfuiltear ag súil le héifeachtacht breosla 10% ar a laghad a fhabhróidh. Thar dhá bhliain beidh trealamh teileamaitice a shuiteáil i níos mó ná 1,000 feithicil earraí troma agus oiliúint chuí do na tiománaithe a chur ar fáil.
- Tionscadal athchóirithe tailte móna Bhord na Móna: I mí na Samhna 2020, cheadaigh an Rialtas maoiniú suas le €108m don tionscadal seo. Cosnóidh an scéim stóráil 100 milliún tonna d'astaíochtaí COU, bithéagsúlacht a fheabhsú, 310 post a chruthú agus cuirfidh sé le sprioc na hÉireann maidir le bheith neodrach ó thaobh carbóin faoi 2050. Trí chur i bhfeidhm na scéime, meastar freisin go bhfuil sé measta go dtí an tréimhse go dtí an tréimhse Seachnófar 3.2 milliún tonna d'astuithe Co<sub>2</sub> (lena n-áirítear méid forláithrithe carbóin sa todhchaí), i gcomparáid le cás athshlánaithe caighdeánach.

## **1.3 Dul i dteagmháil le sochaí níos leithne ag leibhéal áitiúla, réigiúnacha, eanála agus idirnáisiúnta chun tacú le seachadadh ár gcuspóra**

### **Idirphlé Náisiúnta ar Ghníomhú Aeráide**

In 2020, bhunaigh an Roinn grúpa oibre idir-rannach le hionadaíocht geallsealbhóirí ó phríomh-ranna, gníomhaireachtaí agus eanáil na n-údarás áitiúil chun cabhrú le dearadh an struchtúir nua seo agus chun comhairliúchán poiblí a dhearadh don chéad atriall eile den Phlean Gníomhaíochta Aeráide.

Bainfidh an struchtúr nua seo leas as líonraí atá ann cheana, tacú le cumarsáid níos fearr, agus bainfidh sé le grúpaí geallsealbhóirí sonracha. Beidh sé ag fócas láidir, ag cur chun cinn agus ag gearáil saoránach, rannpháirtíocht eanála agus réigiúnach chun gníomhartha a sheachadadh laistigh dá réimse tionchair, lena n-áirítear athrú a dhéanamh ar athrú iompraíochta fadtéarmach.

### **Gníomhaíochtaí Comhshaoil agus Tionscnaimh Feasachta Poiblí**

Chomh maith le struchtúr nua a fhorbairt le haghaidh rannpháirtíochta inbhuanaithe, thacaigh an Roinn le roinnt gníomhaíochtaí comhshaoil agus tionscnamh feasachta poiblí leathan le linn 2020, lena n-áirítear:



- An Taisce chun an Clár Náisiúnta um Athrú Aeráide agus Feasachta Náisiúnta (NCCAAP) agus an Clár Scoileanna Glasa a sheachadadh. Ag teacht leis na srianta leanúnacha paindéimeach COVID-19, seachadadh cláir beagnach ag Aonad Oideachais & Feasachta An Taisce go dtí os cionn 90% de na scoileanna.
- An comórtas Graduate.ie, comórtas ar líne do mhic léinn dara leibhéal in Éirinn a bhfuil sé mar aidhm aige daoine óga a phlé, a chur ar an eolas agus a spreagadh faoi thopaicí aeráide áitiúla agus náisiúnta tábhachtacha.

## Iarfheistiú cónaithe

Maoiníonn an Roinn roinnt scéimeanna deontais Údarás Fuinnimh Inmharthana na hÉireann (ÚFIÉ) chun tacú le húinéirí tí chun éifeachtúlacht fuinnimh a n-airíonna a fheabhsú.

In 2020, bhí tionchar diúltach ag na cláir iarfhéistithe tacaíthe SEAI ag an Phaindéimeach-19 i rith na bliana, go háirithe idir Márta agus Meitheamh nuair a stopadh an ghníomhaíocht go hiomlán. In ainneoin na ndúshlán seo, caitheadh €78.7 milliún le breis agus 17,600 teach<sup>2</sup> agus foirgnimh phobail á n-aisfheistiú le tacaíocht SEAI.

- Fuair 12,227 teach deontais as a dtagann 27,444 beart éifeachtúlachta fuinnimh suiteáilte;
- Fuair 1,615 teaghlach atá i mbaol bochtaineachta fuinnimh uasghrádú éifeachtúlachta fuinnimh saor in aisce;
- Críochnaíodh 39 tionscadal faoi Chlár na gComhphobal, lena n-áirítear 656 uasghrádú baile;
- Foilsíodh 87,500 rátálacha fuinnimh tógála.

Sholáthair an pacáiste seo coigilteas fuinnimh de 138.7 GWh, laghdaítear astaíochtaí CO<sub>2</sub> 35,200 tonna agus laghdaigh sé billí fuinnimh €9.2 milliún.

Meán Fómhair 2020 Chonaic seoladh an scéim nua iarfhéistithe náisiúnta (forbairt aon-stad-siopa). Tá an scéim seo deartha chun forbairt aon-ílfhreasail a spreagadh agus chun grúpaí de theaghlaigh phríobháideacha, cumainn tithíochta cláraithe agus údaráis áitiúla ar mian leo a bheith rannpháirteach in uasghrádú éifeachtúlachta fuinnimh a sheachadadh, go sonrach in foirgnimh intíre. Tá an scéim ag éascú tionscadail chomhiomlánaithe níos mó,

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<sup>2</sup> San áireamh tá scéim gréine PV

níos éifeachtaí agus tabharfaidh sé sochair d'úinéirí tí agus don taobh soláthair. Tá snáithe ag an scéim freisin ag díriú go sonrach ar lár na tíre

## **Bochtaineacht fuinnimh**

Fuair níos mó ná 1,500 teaghlach níos mó uasghrádú ar éifeachtúlacht fuinnimh saor in aisce faoin Scéim Fuinnimh Fuinnimh Níos Fearr. Ba é meánluach na n-uasghrádú a cuireadh ar fáil in 2020 ná €14,800.

## **Scéim Oibleagáide Éifeachtúlachta Fuinnimh**

Bhain an scéim Oibleagáide um Éifeachtúlacht Fuinnimh 981.2GWh de choigiltis fuinnimh amach in 2020. Seachadadh 882GWanna na coigiltis seo go neamhspleách ar chlár eile SEAI / tacaíochtaí Stáitchiste. Faoin Scéim Oibleagáide um Éifeachtúlacht Fuinnimh, ní mór do sholáthraithe fuinnimh níos mó tacú le tionscadail éifeachtúlachta fuinnimh i dtithe agus i ngnólachtaí ar fud na hÉireann.

## **COP26 agus an Comhaontú Pháras**

Cé go gcuireann an Phaindéim COVID-19 ar athló cruinnithe aeráide idirnáisiúnta, mar shampla an 26ú Comhdháil de na Páirtithe de Chreat-Choinbhinsiún na Náisiún Aontaithe um Athrú Aeráide (COP26), plé iltaobhach agus ardleibhéil ar aghaidh beagnach. Lean Éire ar aghaidh ag glacadh páirte agus ag dul i ngleic le himeachtaí tábhachtacha aeráide i rith na bliana i bhfianaise an tábhacht a bhaineann le móiminteam a chothabháil agus uailmhian a mhéadú chun dul i ngleic leis an dúshlán aeráide. Áiríodh leis seo rannpháirtíocht ardleibhéil ag Lá Comhshaoil Domhanda na NA i mí an Mheithimh agus an cruinniú aireachta ardán ar líne i mí Mheán Fómhair.

## **Airgeadas Aeráide**

In 2020, chuir an Roinn €4.5 milliún ar fáil chun tacú le gníomhaíocht aeráide idirnáisiúnta. Áiríodh leis seo dúbailt ar ár ranníocaíocht bhliantúil leis an gCiste Aeráide Glas (GCF) go €4 milliún, tar éis tiomantas do ghealltanas ilbhliantúil mar chuid den chéad athsholáthar don tréimhse 2020 go dtí 2023. Is é an GCF an ciste tiomnaithe is mó ar domhan atá dírithe ar chabhrú Tíortha i mbéal forbartha a n-astaíochtaí gáis cheaptha teasa a laghdú agus a gcumas chun freagairt d'athrú aeráide, agus tá ról ríthábhachtach i gcur i bhfeidhm Chomhaontú Pháras.

Chuir Éire maoiniú le tionscnaimh idirnáisiúnta eile a thug aghaidh ar athrú aeráide lena n-áirítear an Ciste Oiriúnaithe, an Painéal Idir-Rialtasach ar Athrú Aeráide, chomh maith leis an gComhpháirtíocht Ranníocaíochta Cinnte Náisiúnta (NDC).

## **Scéim Tacaíochta Leictreachais In-athnuaite (RESS)**

Is scéim bunaithe ar cheant é an Scéim um Thacaíocht Leictreachais In-athnuaite (RESS) a thugann cuireadh do thionscadail leictreachais in-athnuaite dul san iomaíocht le haghaidh praghas ráthaithe don leictreachas a ghineann siad. Reáchtáladh an chéad cheann de na ceantanna leictreachais in-athnuaite seo i mí Iúil 2020. Ceadaíodh na torthaí deiridh ag an Rialtas i Meán Fómhair 2020. Bronnadh litir thairisceana ar 68 tionscadal, atá cothrom le thart ar 1,088mw giniúint nua in-athnuaite, faoi théarmaí agus coinníollacha an scéim. Áirítear leis seo seacht dtionscadal pobail a chuimsíonn cúig thionscadal gréine agus dhá thionscadal gaoithe.

Ní mór do gach tionscadal rathúil i ngach ceant RESS Ciste Sochair Pobail. Déanfar na cistí seo a ailíniú le hinfheistíocht a spreagadh i bhfuinneamh in-athnuaite, bearta éifeachtúlachta fuinnimh agus tionscnaimh ghníomhaíochta aeráide. Seachadfaidh an Ciste Sochair Pobail faoin gcéad cheant RESS a tionóladh in 2020 beagnach €4 milliún in aghaidh na bliana ar thionscnaimh Chomhphobail inbhuanaithe atá dírithe ar na pobail sin atá ina chónaí gar do na tionscadail RESS-1.

## **PV Gréine**

Cuireadh tús leis an Scéim PV Gréine ÚFIÉ in 2018 chun tacú le suiteáil PV Gréine ar thithe intíre a tógadh agus a áitíodh roimh 2011. I mí Eanáir 2020, tar éis athbhreithniú scéime, athraíodh na rátaí deontais agus riachtanas rátála foirgneamh íosta Tugadh isteach chun a chinntiú go mbaintear an chéad phrionsabal éifeachtúlachta fuinnimh. Amhail an 2021 Aibreán, thacaigh 5,577 suiteálacha ar chostas €13.515 milliún, ag suiteáil toilleadh iomlán de 20 MW agus coigilt 5,259 tonna Co<sub>2</sub>.

## **Scéim Tacaíochta do Teas In-athnuaite (SSRH)**

Críochnaíodh agus cheadaigh an tAire an tAire um Tharaif Bhliantúil 2020 don Scéim Tacaíochta do Theas In-athnuaite (SSRH) i mí an Mheithimh 2020. Críochnaíodh an comhairliúchán poiblí chun creat beartais a threorú le haghaidh téamh ceantair in Éirinn i mí Feabhra 2020. Obair ar an gCreat Beartais cuireadh tús le hathbhreithniú ar aighneachtaí chuig an gcomhairliúchán.

## **Sármhaitheas i ndearadh atá tíosach ar fhuinneamh (EXEED)**

Cuireadh tacaíocht ar fáil do 59 tairbhí tríd an gclár feabhais i ndearadh atá tíosach ar fhuinneamh (EXED) i 2020, ag deonú os cionn €3.2 milliún. Ó 2017, thacaigh sé le 152

tairbhí agus sholáthair sé €9.3 milliún i maoiniú caipitil. Is ionann é seo agus 106GWh coigilteas fuinnimh príomhúil agus 5.8 KTCO<sub>2</sub> de choigiltis astaíochtaí.

Tar éis athbhreithniú a dhéanamh ar an scéim, tá sé ailínithe anois leis na tiomantais sa Chlár don Rialtas agus is é príomhchuspóir an Chláir Exeed ná astaíochtaí gáis cheaptha teasa a laghdú trí eintitis tacaíochta (gnólachtaí agus comhlachtaí san earnáil phoiblí) a laghdú chun an cur chuige deimhnithe deimhnithe a ghlacadh bainistíochta dearaidh atá tíosach ar fhuinneamh.

## **Acadamh Fuinnimh ÚFIÉ**

Le linn 2020, leanadh le fás teacht ar acmhainn oiliúna saor in aisce ar líne de chuid an ÚFIÉ, an tAcadamh Fuinnimh ÚFIÉ. Díríonn an acmhainn, go sonrach le haghaidh FBManna, ar dheiseanna éifeachtúlachta fuinnimh agus tugann sé rochtain do ghnólachtaí ar oiliúint fuinnimh ardchaighdeáin. Ba é líon iomlán na rannpháirtithe in 2020 níos mó ná 2000 an chuid is mó de na daoine a chríochnaigh modúil in 2020 le 570 ag fáil deimhniú chun cúrsa a chríochnú (i.e. 7 modúil a roghnaíodh dá n-earnáil ar leith).

## **Líonra Fuinnimh Tionscail Móra (LIEN)**

Is é an Líonra Fuinnimh Tionscail Móra (LIEN) ná líonra éifeachtúlachta fuinnimh do ghnólachtaí móra le bille fuinnimh de bhreis is €1 milliún a thacaíonn SEAI chun an cleachtas is fearr a roinnt agus a bhaint amach i mbainistíocht fuinnimh. Shroich ballraíocht do 2020 199 agus áiríodh uirthi ionadaíocht ó roinnt earnálacha gnó. Thuairiscigh 101 eagraíocht go raibh tionchar acu ar thionscadail shonracha coigilte fuinnimh a bhfuil tionchar acu ar choigilteas fuinnimh de 420GWh (atá cothrom le 85,000 tonna co<sub>2</sub> astaíochtaí, €13.9m coigilteas bille fuinnimh). Tá 101 de na comhaltaí lian ISO50001 deimhnithe.

## **Deontais Cúnaimh Tionscadail (PAGs)**

Soláthraíonn an ÚFIÉ tacaíocht airgeadais agus comhairle phraiticiúil d'eagraíochtaí sna hearnálacha príobháideacha agus poiblí atá ag iarraidh tionscadail coigilte fuinnimh a chur i bhfeidhm trí dheontais cúnaimh tionscadail (PAGs).

Tá an tacaíocht seo ar fáil chun forbairt na dtionscadal coigilte fuinnimh a spreagadh agus méadú suntasach a dhéanamh ar scála agus ar dhoimhneacht infheistíochtaí éifeachtúlachta fuinnimh. Le linn 2020, bhí naoi dtairbhíthe de PAGanna - cúigear ón earnáil phríobháideach agus ceathrar ón earnáil phoiblí.

## Fuinneamh In-athnuaite Amach ón gCósta (ORE)

Lean an Roinn ag obair go dlúth leis an Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreacht (RTRÁO) ar an mBille um Pleanáil Limistéir Mhuirí (Léarscáil) a dhréachtú (ar a dtugtaí an Bille um Bainistíocht Pleanála agus Forbartha Mara (MPDM)). Cheadaigh an Rialtas scéim ghinearálta an Bhille i mí na Nollag 2019, agus rinneadh grinnscrúdú réamh-reachtaíochta i mí na Samhna / Nollaig 2020.

Cuirfidh an Bille in áit an Stáit reatha agus le clárú le toiliú atá ann cheana féin ar bhonn prionsabal toiliú amháin (I.E. toiliú Stáit amháin chun úsáid an limistéir mhuirí a údarú, agus toiliú forbartha amháin le measúnú comhshaoil amháin, láidir).

Tá uailmhianta na hÉireann don earnáil fuinnimh in-athnuaite amach ón gcósta (méine) ag brath ar chóras láidir ceadúnaithe agus rialála a sheachadadh. Tá an Roinn ag obair ar dhearadh agus ar fheidhmiú córas toilithe nua amach anseo le haghaidh fuinnimh in-athnuaite amach ón gcósta faoin mbille léarscáile. Tá an córas nua seo deartha chun soiléireacht agus comhsheasmhacht a sholáthar d'iarratasóirí, infheistíocht a mhealladh, dúbláil neamhriachtanach a bhaint, agus a chinntiú go bhfuil tionscadail méine ag teacht le beartas pleanála spásúlachta stáit agus muirí.

Rinneadh obair freisin laistigh den Roinn chun ionchur a sholáthar agus an creat náisiúnta um phleanáil mhuirí a thabhairt chun críche, faoi stiúir an RTRÁO, agus a rialóidh beartas pleanála spásúlachta muirí na hÉireann.

## Feithiclí Leictreacha

Dreasachtaí chun glacadh le glacadh feithiclí leictreacha ar lean agus faoi dheireadh 2020, bhí líon iomlán na bhfeithiclí leictreacha ar bhóithre na hÉireann os cionn 26,000, méadú de bheagnach 11,000 ó 2019. Cé go raibh díolacháin de gach feithicil nua síos i 2020 i gcomparáid le 2019 i gcomparáid le 2019 , mhéadaigh díolacháin feithiclí leictreacha nua arís in 2020.

Lean cairr leictreacha BSL ag forbairt líonra muirir feithicle leictreach ar fud na tíre, a fhaigheann tacaíocht ó mhaoiniú ón gCiste Gníomhaíochta Aeráide. Faoi dheireadh 2020, tógadh ceithre mhoil mhuirearú, rinneadh uasghrádú ar 17 chargers caighdeánacha go dtí luchtairí go tapa agus cuireadh teicneolaíocht níos nua-aimseartha in áit níos mó ná 300 chargers caighdeánach.

Aistríodh an fhreagracht as feithiclí leictreacha chuig an Roinn Iompair ag deireadh 2020.

## Margadh Leictreachais Aonair Gach Oileán (SEM) agus I-SEM

Cuimsíonn dearadh nua an mhargaidh don Mhargadh Leictreachais Aonair mórdhíola (SEM) mórdhíola, a chuaigh beo in 2018, meicníocht ceadaithe stáitchabhrach chun acmhainn luach saothair a fháil. Is éard atá i gceist leis an meicníocht ná ceantanna iomaíocha rialta le haghaidh acmhainneachta le haghaidh tréimhsí roghnaithe sa todhchaí.

Reáchtáladh ceant amháin den sórt sin le linn 2020, an T-4 2023/2024 a tionóladh i mí Aibreáin 2020. Féachann Ceantanna T-4 ar chumas daingnithe le seachadadh thart ar cheithre bliana roimh ré.

## Aistriú ar Bhonn Ceartais

Foilsíodh an chéad tuarascáil ar dhul chun cinn an Choimisinéara Idirthréimhsigh ach i mBealtaine 2020 agus léirigh siad rannpháirtíocht chuimsitheach le páirtithe leasmhara ábhartha i Lár na Tíre. Foilsíodh an dara tuarascáil i mí na Samhna 2020, ag soláthar nuashonrú breise ar dhul chun cinn ar aistriú díreach i lár na tíre.

Rinneadh an freagra ar mholtaí an Choimisinéara a thabhairt ar aghaidh trí roinnt snáitheanna, lena n-áirítear an glao Ciste Aistrithe díreach ar thograí, Scéim Díchoimisiúnaithe, Athshlánúcháin agus Athchóirithe Fheabhsaithe Bord na Móna (EDRRanna), agus ath-chumraíocht a dhéanamh ar aistriú Réigiúnach Lár na Tíre Foireann.

Tá cur chuige an Rialtais maidir le haistriú díreach i gcomhthéacs an bheartais gníomhaíochta aeráide curtha ar an eolas freisin trí thuarascálacha taighde ag an gComhairle Náisiúnta Eacnamaíoch agus Sóisialta (NESC), a foilsíodh le linn 2020.

Thug Buiséad 2020 tús áite do €31m chun tacú le haistriú aeráide amháin i Réigiún Lár na Tíre, imfhálaithe ó ioncam cánach carbóin breise, trí roinnt tionscnamh lena n-áirítear, bunú ciste trasdula amháin.

D'oscail an Roinn glao ar iarratais ar an gciste trasdula díreach i mí an Mheithimh 2020, agus é mar chuspóir ag cuspóir tionscadail nuálacha a mhaoiniú a chuireann le hinbhuanaitheacht eacnamaíoch, shóisialta agus chomhshaoil an réigiúin lár na tíre níos leithne agus a bhfuil poitéinseal fostaíochta agus fiontair acu. D'fhógair an Rialtas tairiscintí maoinithe sealadacha i mí na Samhna 2020 san iomlán beagnach €30m go dtí os cionn 60 tionscadal ar fud an réigiúin do thionscadail ón earnáil phríobháideach, údaráis áitiúla agus pobail ag deireadh 2020.

Chuir Buiséad 2020 maoiniú ar fáil freisin do scéim iarfheistithe lár na tíre €20 milliún chun éifeachtúlacht fuinnimh an stoic tithíochta sóisialta a uasghrádú i Lár na Tíre, le fócas ar bhaisceanna móra tithe a uasghrádú i gceantair ar leith, dlúth geografacha.

## Ciste an AE um Aistriú ar Bhonn Ceartais

Mar thoradh ar an Déileáil Ghlas Eorpach, bunaíodh Ciste Idirthréimhseach nua an AE chun tionchair shocheacnamaíocha an aistrithe ísealcharbóin sna réigiúin is mó atá buailte ar fud an AE a mhaolú. Féadfar an Ciste seo a úsáid chun tacú le hathoiliúint oibrithe, cabhrú le FBManna deiseanna eacnamaíocha nua a chruthú, agus éagsúlú na gníomhaíochta eacnamaíche a chur chun cinn i dtreo earnálacha ísealcharbóin agus dul chun cinn i dtreo spriocanna aeráide 2030 an AE a bhaint amach agus geilleagar neodrach aeráide ag 2050.

Tá €77 milliún faighte ag Éirinn ó Chiste Aistrithe an AE díreach thar an thréimhse 2021 go 2027 le maoiniú náisiúnta a mheaitseáil le bheith tiomanta freisin. Ní mór d'Éirinn anois plean trasdul teorann críochach a ullmhú, le faomhadh ag an gCoimisiún Eorpach, chun rochtain a fháil ar thacaíochtaí ón gciste nua AE seo. Leagfaidh an plean seo amach tosaíochtaí infheistíochta na hÉireann agus aithneoidh sé na hearnálacha agus na réigiúin atá le tacaíocht.

## Scéim Athshlánúcháin Phortaigh Bhord na Móna

Deonaíodh faomhadh an Rialtais i mí na Samhna 2020 do Bhord na Móna Scéim Feabhsaithe Díchoimisiúnaithe, Athshlánúcháin agus Athchóirithe (EDRRanna) ar 33,000 heicteár de thailte móna Díchoimisiúnaithe Bhord na Móna, lena n-áirítear maoiniú suas le €108 milliún a sholáthar. Reáchtálfar an t-athshlánú seo thar thréimhse 5 bliana.

Is féidir leis na hidirghabhálacha feabhsaithe sochair a sheachadadh i dtéarmaí maolaithe carbóin, bithéagsúlacht a mhéadú, tacú le seirbhísí taitneamhachta portaigh agus éiceachórais, chomh maith le cáilíocht uisce feabhsaithe agus tanúchán uisce a bhaineann le bainistíocht riosca tuilte. Cosnóidh an scéim stóráil 100 milliún tonna d'astuithe Co<sub>2</sub>. Meastar freisin go seachnófar 3.2 milliún tonna d'astuithe Co<sub>2</sub> trí thréimhse 2020 go 2050 trí chur i bhfeidhm na scéime.

Déanfaidh an scéim, le himeacht ama, 307 fostaí a fhostú, cuid acu ar bhonn séasúrach, le 210 fostaí lánaimseartha a bhfuil fostaíocht acu chun an tionscadal a sheachadadh thar cheithre go cúig bliana.

### 1.4 Ceannaireacht a Léiriú san Earnáil Phoiblí

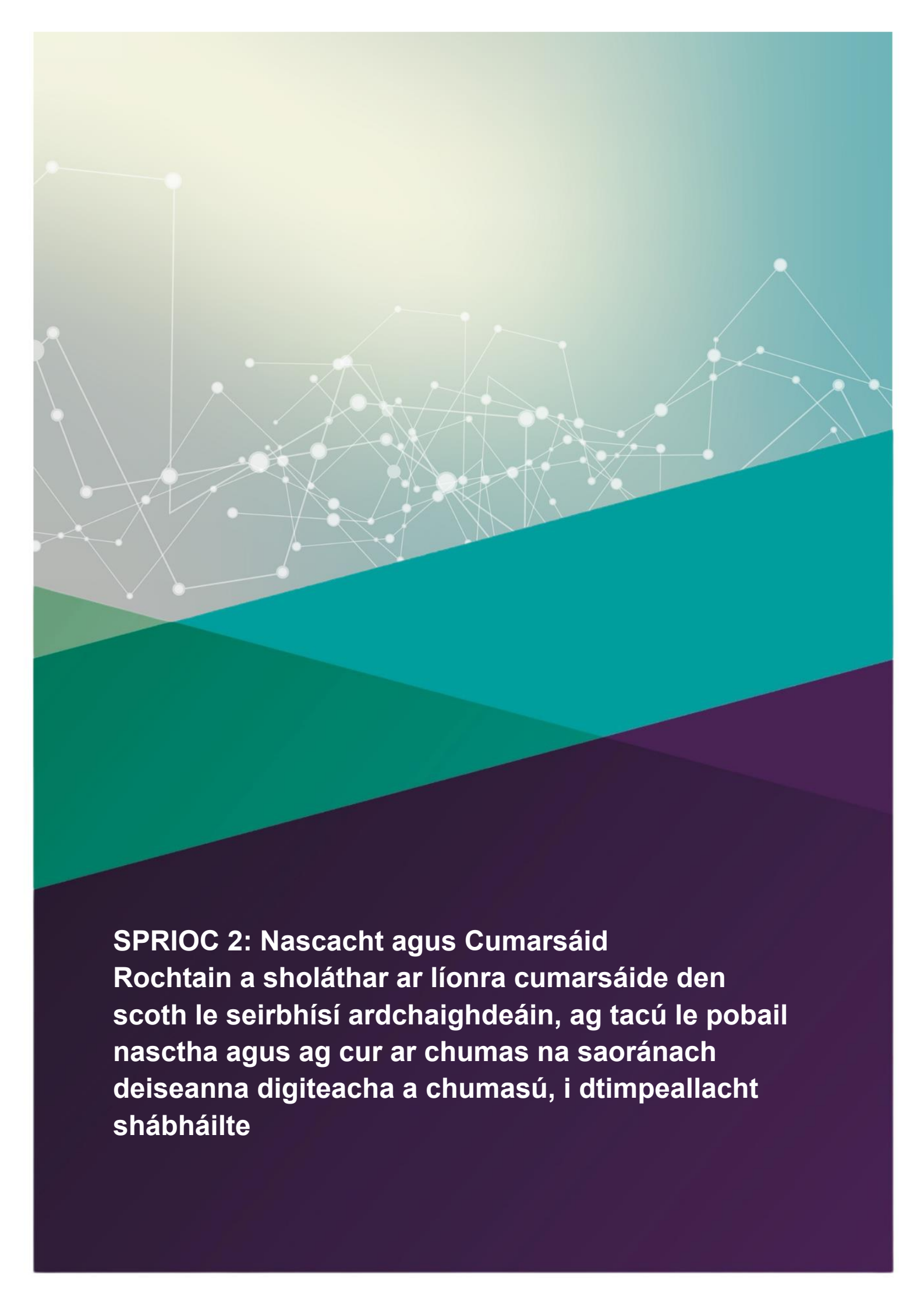
Cuimsíonn ról na Roinne na hearnálacha fuinnimh go léir lena n-áirítear leictreachas, teas agus iompar. Cuirfidh sé go mór leis an aistriú go dtí an t-aistriú go dtí todhchaí ísealcharbóin, athléimneach aeráide trí raon beartas agus beart, ag tacú le hÉirinn chun

spriocanna uailmhianacha a bhaint amach maidir le fuinneamh in-athnuaite agus éifeachtúlacht fuinnimh.

## Earnáil Phoiblí a Threoraíonn mar Shampla

- Tá ról lárnach ag an earnáil phoiblí a léiríonn ceannaireacht chun a chinntiú go bhfuil Éire ag glacadh na céimeanna riachtanacha chun a leochaileacht a laghdú maidir le tionchair an athraithe aeráide. I measc na hoibre sa réimse seo in 2020 bhí:
- Cur i bhfeidhm leanúnach straitéis éifeachtúlachta fuinnimh na hearnála poiblí, le sonraí feidhmíochta fuinnimh ón SEAI a thaispeánann feabhsú 29% ar éifeachtúlacht fuinnimh faoi dheireadh 2019. Comhlachtaí poiblí agus ranna rialtais a shábháil le chéile níos mó ná €1.5 billiún ar chaiteachas fuinnimh agus a sheachaint 5.2 MTCO<sub>2</sub> astaíochtaí ó 2009.
- Léirigh an Roinn féin a chumas a bheith i gceannas mar shampla leis na sonraí is déanaí a thaispeánann go raibh feabhas tagtha ar a éifeachtúlacht fuinnimh ag 38% ag deireadh 2019.
- Sholáthair an Roinn maoiniú caipitil de níos mó ná €8.2 milliún le haghaidh tacaíochtaí éifeachtúlachta fuinnimh san earnáil phoiblí i rith na bliana, lena n-áirítear roinnt clár iarfheistithe comhpháirtíochta pathfinder idir an SEAI agus an Roinn Oideachais, Údarás um Ard-Oideachas (ÚAO), Oifig na nOibreacha Poiblí (OOP) agus Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte (FSS) a dhírigh ar iarfheistiú éifeachtúlachta fuinnimh ar fud an oideachais rialtais láir agus foirgnimh FSS. Bhí uasghrádú éifeachtúlachta fuinnimh ag 90 foirgneamh mar chuid den chlár 2020 le tionchar measta 110 GWh.
- Chomh maith leis an SEAI agus OOP, lean an Roinn ar aghaidh ag dul i ngleic le hoifigigh feidhmíochta fuinnimh agus tacú le bainistíocht fuinnimh chun feabhas a chur ar bhainistíocht fuinnimh, chun dea-chleachtas a roinnt agus tuilleadh tionscadal éifeachtúlachta fuinnimh a fhorbairt.
- Le linn 2020, tugadh faoi staidéar a maoiníodh faoi Sheirbhís Tacaíochta Athchóirithe Struchtúracha an AE chun creat a chur in iúl do dhearadh agus d'fhorbairt chreat chun clár cuimsitheach uasghrádaithe foirgneamh a chur i bhfeidhm don earnáil phoiblí chun BER de B a bhaint amach de B. Rinne an staidéar measúnú freisin den stoc tógála atá ann cheana chun leibhéal iomlán na hinfheistíochta is dócha a bheidh ag teastáil chun an sprioc a bhaint amach.





**SPRIOC 2: Nascacht agus Cumarsáid**  
**Rochtain a sholáthar ar líonra cumarsáide den**  
**scoth le seirbhísí ardchaighdeáin, ag tacú le pobail**  
**nasctha agus ag cur ar chumas na saoránach**  
**deiseanna digiteacha a chumasú, i dtimpeallacht**  
**shábháilte**

## 2 SPRIOC 2: Nascacht agus Cumarsáid

Caiteachas lomlán in 2020: €61.5m

Reatha, €11.3

Caipiteal, €50.3m



Príomh-Aschuir		Spríoc	Seachadta	100%
1	Líon na bhfiontar digiteach bunaithe ag an Mol Digiteach	71	51	71.8%
2	Líon na bpost lánaimseartha bunaithe ag an Mol Digiteach	724	499	68.9%
3	Líon na ngnóthaí beaga a dtacaítear ag an Scéim um Dearbhán Ar Líne Trádála	1,250	13,240	1,059.2%
4	Líon na saoránach a fuair oiliúint scileanna digiteacha faoin gClár um Scileanna Digiteacha do Shaoránaigh	25,000	3,116	12.5%
5	Líon na bPointí Ceangal Leathanbhanda (PCL) a úsáideadh ar fud an Cheantair Idirghabhála den Phlean Leathanbhanda Náisiúnta (PLN)	Suas le 300	242	N/A

Príomhthionchair		2020	2019	2018
1	Líon na nÚsáideoirí Leathanbhanda (lena n-áirítear úsáideoirí soghluaiste)	1.84m	1.76m	1.73m
2	Líon na nÚsáideoirí Leathanbhanda (gan úsáideoirí soghluaiste san áireamh)	1.51m	1.46m	1.43m
3	% trádáil SMEanna ar líne	35%	30%	30%
4	% of saoránach (daoine fásta 16 -74) nach n-úsáideann an t-idirlíon	8%	11%	13%
5	Líon na n-áitreabh le rochtain ar leathanbhanda ardluais	1.85m	1.84m	1.75m

## **2.1 Plean Náisiúnta Leathanbhanda - Leathanbhanda Ardluais le gach teach agus gnóthaí**

### **Plean Leathanbhanda Náisiúnta**

Tá an Phaindéim Cóivid-19 béim ar an tábhacht a bhaineann le leathanbhanda iontaofa chun a chinntiú gur féidir le saoránaigh ar fud na hÉireann leas a bhaint as obair iargúlta, oideachas agus áiseanna riachtanacha eile ar líne.

Is é an Conradh le haghaidh idirghabháil faoi stiúir an NBP le Leathanbhanda Náisiúnta na hÉireann (NBI). Forálann an Conradh go n-imscafar agus go n-oibreodh NBI líonra leathanbhanda ardluais a bhí promhadh sa todhchaí le daoine atá ina gcónaí agus ag obair i mbreis agus 544,000 áitreabh sa limistéar idirghabhála.

### **Seachadadh an Phlean Leathanbhanda Náisiúnta in 2020**

In ainneoin na ndúshlán a bhaineann leis an Phaindéimeach-19 Phaindéim, rinne NBI dul chun cinn suntasach i 2020. Bhí an príomhfhócas ar ghníomhaíochtaí slógadh, mar aon le suirbhé, dearadh agus obair ullamh chun an bealach a ullmhú don imscaradh snáithín. Críochnaíodh obair dheartha i mbailte fearainn spríodhírthe ar fud gach contae in Éirinn le breis agus 153,000 áitreabh a ndearnadh suirbhé orthu faoi dheireadh 2020. Cuireadh tús leis an obair suirbhé seo a chhothaítear i ndearaí mionsonraithe do gach limistéar imscartha agus imscaradh snáithín i ndeireadh 2020 leis an gcéad snáithín leis na naisc bhaile a rinneadh i gCarraig Uí Leighin, Co. Chorcaí i mí Eanáir 2021.

Tiomnaíonn an Clár don Rialtas iarracht a dhéanamh dlús a chur le céimneach an NBP a luathú. Maidir leis seo, leanann an Roinn ag dul i ngleic le NBI chun iniúchadh a dhéanamh ar indéantacht gnéithe den rolladh amach a iniúchadh chun an fhéidearthacht a bhaineann le háitribh a thabhairt chun cinn atá sceidealta faoi láthair sna blianta a sé agus a seacht den phlean reatha go dtí dáta níos luaithe. Táthar ag tabhairt faoi iniúchadh a dhéanamh ar an bpoitéinseal chun dlús a chur leis an rolladh amach an líonra go comhthreomhar leis na bearta is gá chun moilleanna a mhaolú mar thoradh ar Chovid-19.

Is é an infheistíocht leanúnach sa rolladh amach NBP agus leanfaidh sé ar aghaidh ag cruthú deiseanna fostaíochta le breis agus 700 duine fostaithe go díreach agus go hindíreach in 2020.

### **Pointí Ceangail Leathanbhanda**

Is príomhghné den PLN iad Pointí Ceangail Leathanbhanda (PCLanna) agus soláthraíonn siad leathanbhanda ardluais i ngach contae roimh an snáithín a chur i bhfeidhm go dtí an

líonra baile. Tá na láithreacha PCL pleanáilte in áiteanna tábhachtacha pobail, lena n-áirítear scoileanna (le haghaidh rochtain oideachais amháin), moil leabharlainne, áiseanna spóirt áitiúla agus áiteanna poiblí eile.

Le linn 2020, suiteáilte 241 láithreán PCL san iomlán suiteáilte ag NBI, 170 ar fáil go poiblí agus 71 bunscoil. Athraíodh an tseirbhís leathanbhanda ardluais ar feadh 126 láithreán poiblí ag Vodafone agus 31 bunscoil ag soláthraithe seirbhíse miondíola éagsúla.

Go déanach 2020, d'aontaigh an Rialtas agus NBI dlús a chur le rolladh amach leathanbhanda ardluais go dtí thart ar 679 bunscoil ar fud an stáit faoi dheireadh 2022, ag cinntiú go mbeidh an bonneagar riachtanach ag gach scoil ar fud an Stáit chun a gcuid gníomhaíochtaí laethúla criticiúla a chomhlíonadh gan cur isteach ag droch-leathanbhanda.

## **Tionchar PLN ar thírdhreach leathanbhanda**

Tá infheistíocht teileachumarsáide tráchtála spreagtha ag an PLN trí bhearta beartais, reachtaíochta agus rialála. Tá an earnáil teileachumarsáide infheistithe os cionn €3.3 billiún in uasghrádú líonra agus seirbhísí feabhsaithe ó 2012, agus tá tuilleadh infheistíochtaí suntasacha pleanáilte ar fud na hearnála, go príomha i gceantair uirbeacha.

Leanann an meán luasanna leathanbhanda seasta a fhógairt ag méadú. Ag deireadh 2020, bhí 81.6% de na síntiúis leathanbhanda seasta cothrom le nó níos mó ná 30Mbps. In 2020, bhí 45.5% de na síntiúis seo cothrom le nó níos mó ná 100Mbps, suas ó 36.2% ag deireadh 2019. Ag deireadh na bliana, bhí rochtain ag 77% den áitreabh in Éirinn ar sheirbhís leathanbhanda ardluais ó oibreoirí tráchtála, cosúil leis na figiúirí a tuairiscíodh in 2019.

## **2.2 Ceannaireacht bheartais dhigitigh a sholáthar, an tsochaí dhigiteach a chur chun cinn go náisiúnta agus ar leibhéal Eorpach agus idirnáisiúnta, ag tiomáint fiontraíocht dhigiteach agus nuálaíocht agus scileanna digiteacha na saoránach a fheabhsú**

### **Fiontraíocht - Trádála Ar Líne**

Lean an scéim dearbháin ar líne trádála, atá á riar ag an 31 Oifig Fiontair Áitiúil (OFÁ), ag tacú le fiontair bheaga agus mhicrifhiontair chun páirt a ghlacadh sa gheilleagar digiteach chun a gcumais trádála ar líne a fhorbairt.

Leis an gcovid-19 srianta paidéime fuair go leor gnólachtaí beaga níos mó iad féin in ann a thrádáil go fisiciúil agus bhí a bhogadh ar líne.

D'fhreagair an Roinn, i gcomhpháirtíocht leis an Roinn Fiontar, Trádála agus Fostaíochta; An Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meáin; Fiontraíocht Éireann; an OFÁ agus Údarás na Gaeltachta, an Scéim Dearbháin Trádála Ar Líne a athdhéanamh a bhí mar chuid de phacáiste tacaíochta gnó Covid-19 an Rialtais do ghnóthaí beaga.

In 2020, bronnadh 13,075 dearbhán ar ghnóthaí - suas ó 1,218 dearbhán in 2019. Tugann sé seo níos mó ná 19,000 líon na ngnólachtaí a ceadaíodh le haghaidh maoinithe ó thosaigh an scéim in 2014.

Ina theannta sin, bhain os cionn 38,000 gnólacht bheaga tairbhe as oiliúint, comhairle agus piaraí chun tacaíocht a thabhairt do phiaraí trí rannpháirtíocht sna seisiúin faisnéise a sheachadann na OFÁanna mar chuid den scéim.

Oibriú na scéime a aistríodh chuig an Roinn Fiontar, Trádála agus Fostaíochta an 31 Nollaig 2020.

## **Scileanna & Rannpháirtíocht Saoránach**

In 2020 fuair breis agus 3,000 duine oiliúint scileanna digiteacha saor in aisce faoi na Scéimeanna Digiteacha Scéimeanna do Shaoránaigh, ag baint bacainní ar ghlacadh go digiteach. Tuairiscíonn rannpháirtithe sa chlár tionchair dhearfacha, lena n-áirítear folláine fheabhsaithe, leithlisiú laghdaithe, chomh maith le coigilteas in am agus airgead trí inniúlacht mhéadaithe chun seirbhísí rialtais ar líne a úsáid agus cinntí ceannaigh eolasacha a dhéanamh.

Mar gheall ar thionchar an phaindéime-19, agus d'fhonn an deis a thabhairt do na deontaithe a n-oibleagáidí a chomhlíonadh faoina gcomhaontú deontais reatha, cuireadh oiliúint faoin scéim in oiriúint do chumasc ar sheachadadh fón agus ar líne na ranganna agus an spriocdháta do chumasc Leathnaíodh críochnú na hoiliúna go dtí an 30 Meitheamh 2021.

## **Clár um Churadh Digiteach Scoile**

Lean Clár um Churadh Digiteach Scoile ag tiomáint uchtú digiteach agus ar ardán a chur ar fáil le haghaidh comhtháthú níos fearr TFC i scoileanna dara leibhéal trí fhoghlaim luachmhar tionscadail-bhunaithe. In 2020 fuair an Roinn 77 iarratas, ó 57 scoil i 19 contae. Mar thoradh air seo bhí níos mó ná 300 Seaimpíní Digiteach Scoile ag obair ar thionscadail a léirigh úsáid a scileanna digiteacha, cruthaitheacha, criticiúla agus cumarsáide.

Mar gheall ar thionchar an Phaindéimeach-19 Phaindéimeach agus ag teacht le Treoirlínte Sláinte an Rialtais, socraíodh na himeachtaí 2020/2021 Clár ar líne lena n-áirítear oiliúint ar líne, cuairteanna suímh fíorúla agus taispeántas fíorúil.

## **An tIonad Taighde Digiteach Náisiúnta (ITDN)**

Infheistíonn an tIonad Náisiúnta um Thaighde Digiteach (ITDN) i bhfoirgneamh gnólachtaí nuathionscanta "réitigh dhomhanda ar fhadhbanna domhanda", chun cuideachtaí Éireannacha inscálaithe go hidirnáisiúnta a chruthú

Tar éis próiseas soláthair phoiblí, bronnadh an conradh chun na seirbhísí ITDN a sheachadadh ar chuibhreas faoi stiúir Labs Dogpatch i 2020.

I measc na bpríomhsheirbhísí, a chuirtear ar fáil faoi ainm ITDN:

- Cláir luasaire agus infheistíochtaí caipitil i bhfiontair dhigiteacha luathchéime; agus
- Seirbhísí Réigiúnacha: Cláir Réamh-luasaire agus "Oiliúint ar an Oiliúinóir" Seirbhísí

Tá gné láidir réigiúnach ann do na seirbhísí a sheachadtar trí shaotharlanna Dogpatch, atá bunaithe i mBaile Átha Cliath agus a chomhpháirtithe Mol Réigiúnach ag Poblacht na hoibre i gCorcaigh, Mol RDI i gCiarraí agus Portershed i nGaillimh.

## **Gníomhaireacht Forbartha an Mhoil Dhigitigh (GFMD)**

Bunaíodh an Gníomhaireacht Forbartha an Mhoil Dhigitigh (GFMD) i 2003 chun earnáil fiontraíochta digiteacha na hÉireann a fhorbairt trí chnuasach fiontar digiteach a chruthú.

Ag deireadh 2020 ba é an ráta áitíochta don champas ná 51%, le 36 cliantchuideachta a fhostaíonn 322 duine lonnaithe ann. Bhí an áitíocht níos ísle ná an meán seo mar gheall ar na srianta sláinte phoiblí Phaindeimeach-19 i bhfeidhm i rith na bliana.

In 2020, chríochnaigh an Roinn athbhreithniú ar an mbeartas atá mar bhonn agus mar thaca ag an GFMD d'fhonn beartas a chur ar an eolas maidir le ról na Gníomhaireachta amach anseo.

## **Líonraí Ceantair Cathrach (MANanna)**

Is éard atá sna Líonraí Ceantair Cathrach (MANanna) 88 líonra mórthíola, oscailte, úinéireacht, líonraí teileachumarsáide snáithín snáthoptaice i 94 baile agus cathracha réigiúnacha. Tá ról tábhachtach acu in oibreoirí a éascú chun seirbhísí leathanbhanda a sholáthar do chustaiméirí gnó agus cónaithe sna réigiúin, gan a gcuid líonraí féin a thógáil. Tá an bonneagar Mans ag imirt páirt thábhachtach i rolladh amach an NBP.

Ag deireadh an 2020, bhí 87 de na líonraí snáthoptaice á n-úsáid ag thart ar 84 oibreoir tráchtála, ag éascú seachadadh seirbhísí leathanbhanda miondíola go príomha le gnólachtaí móra, FBManna, comhlachtaí poiblí agus institiúidí oideachais, agus ag tacú

freisin le soláthraithe seirbhíse gan sreang leathanbhanda a sheachadadh le custaiméirí cónaithe lasmuigh de Bhaile Átha Cliath.

Lean an Roinn ar aghaidh ag déanamh maoirseachta ar na comhaontuithe lamhátais le henet<sup>3</sup> chun na Mans ar fud na hÉireann a bhainistiú agus a oibriú. Ag leanúint ar an athbhreithniú neamhspleách ar oibriú na MANS a foilsíodh i mí Feabhra 2019, coimisiúnaíodh tuarascáil ar chur i bhfeidhm an athbhreithnithe sin ó ComReg agus críochnaíodh é in 2020.

## **An tSeirbhís Freagartha Glaonna Éigeandála (ECAS)**

Tá an tSeirbhís Freagartha Glaonna Éigeandála (ECAS) freagrach as gach glao agus 999 glao agus téacsanna a fhreagairt, ag soláthar nasc rithábhachtach idir an glaoiteoir agus na seirbhísí éigeandála (Garda, tine, otharcharr nó garda cósta). In 2020, láimhseáil an ECAS díreach os cionn 2.3 milliún glao. Cuireadh thart ar 37% de na glaonna a fuarthas ar aghaidh chuig na seirbhísí éigeandála ábhartha; Níor éiligh na glaonna atá fágtha ceangal le seirbhís éigeandála agus scagadh iad. Ceadáíonn Scagadh na seirbhísí éigeandála freagra a thabhairt ar éigeandálaí fíor amháin.

## **Cumhachtaí forfheidhmithe do ComReg**

Tá idirphlé leanúnach idir an Roinn agus an rialtóir mar a fhorbraíonn an earnáil, d'fhonn a chinntiú gur féidir leis an rialtóir leanúint ar aghaidh ag freastal go hiomlán ar dhúshláin reatha agus sa todhchaí chun a shainchúram reachtúil agus rialála a sheachadadh. Lean sé seo ar aghaidh in 2020 agus i gcomhthéacs an tiomantais atá sa Chlár don Rialtas chun cumhachtaí forfheidhmithe níos mó ComReg a thabhairt, le fócas ar leith ar chomórtas, nuálaíocht agus seirbhís do chustaiméirí a fheabhsú laistigh den earnáil chumarsáide.

## **2.3 Cibearshlándáil agus athléimneacht na gcóras líonra agus faisnéise a fheabhsú chun tacú le forbairt an gheilleagair dhigitigh agus an caighdeán is airde a sheachadadh i sábháilteacht ar líne i dtimpeallacht dhigiteach atá ag athrú go tapa**

Thug an Phaindéim COVID-19, leis an íogaireacht mhéadaithe a ghabhann le sláine oibríochtúil an bhonneagair chriticiúil agus seirbhísí riachtanacha a chosaint, mar aon leis an athrú bunúsach go dtí an t-athrú iargúlta, tábhacht bhreise do sheachadadh tráthúil agus láidir na ngníomhartha a aithníodh sa Straitéis Chibear-Shlándála Náisiúnta.

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<sup>3</sup> Soláthraí Líonra Rochtana Oscailte

## **Bearta Straitéise Náisiúnta Cibearshlándála a chur i bhfeidhm**

Bhí Coiste Idir-Rannach (IDC) ina bhfuil bainisteoirí sinsearacha ó raon leathan Ranna Rialtais agus ionadaí NCSC thus chun maoirseacht a dhéanamh ar chur i bhfeidhm na Straitéise Náisiúnta Cibear Shlándála (2019-2024) a leagann amach sraith beart chun bonneagar náisiúnta criticiúil a chosaint agus cibearshlándáil an stáit a fhorbairt.

## **Brath agus freagra teagmhas éifeachtach le dlúth-chomhoibriú idirnáisiúnta**

Le linn 2020, eisíodh tuarascálacha nuachta seachtainiúla agus tuarascálacha tírdhreacha bagairtí ráithiúla mar aon le 28 foláireamh agus comhairleoir a chuir comhairle, foláirimh agus scaipeadh faisnéise ar fáil do **thogthóirí** faoi chibearshlándáil rioscaí agus teagmhais chomh maith le leochaileachtaí laistigh de tháirgí slándála. San áireamh sna comhairleacha bhí an Comhairleach Phaindéime Covid-19 um Chibear-Shlándáil agus an obair a foilsíodh ó chomhairleach slándála baile a táirgeadh mar thoradh ar mhéadú ar ghníomhaíocht mailíseach ar nós **fioscaireachta**; calaois ar líne; Comhréiteach Ríomhphost Gnó agus Giaráil Ransomware ar an éigeandáil sláinte dhomhanda den Phaindéim COVID-19.

Tuairiscíodh teagmhais ó réimse leathan foinsí lena n-áirítear oibreoirí seirbhísí riachtanacha (OES); Soláthraithe Seirbhíse Digití (RCS); Ranna agus gníomhaireachtaí rialtais; Foirne freagartha teagmhais piaraí agus tionscal príobháideach.

Bhí an Fhoireann Freagartha um Fhreagairt Teagmhais Slándála Ríomhaireachta (**CSIRT**) i gceannas ar thástáil, forbairt agus imscaradh an chórais braiteora de theagmhas slándála agus monatóireacht ar imeachtaí a chuireann le ciseal breise de chosaint teorann do ranna rialtais.

Bunaíodh socruithe comhroinnte bagairt foirmiúla le húdaráis na Ríochta Aontaithe i bhfoirm grúpa malartaithe faisnéise uile-oileáin (AIIE) a thagann le chéile go dé-mhíosúil.

Bhunaigh an NCSC agus a fheidhm pholasaí an Grúpa Oibre Oideachais Cibearshlándála leis an gComhairle Náisiúnta Curaclaim agus Measúnachta agus príomhpháirtithe leasmhara oideachais eile chun gearrchúrsa a fhorbairt sa tsraith shóisearach ar an gcibirpescurity de réir ár gclár gealltanais Rialtais. Áiríodh leis an nGrúpa Oibre ina dhiaidh sin foireann tionscadail ó UCD chun cuidiú leis an tsonraíocht chúrsa atá críochnaithe anois a fhorbairt. Tá tús curtha ag foireann an tionscadail le cuidiú le píolótach a chur i bhfeidhm ar an gcúrsa atá roghnaithe cheana féin.



## **Bille um Rialáil Sábháilteachta Ar Líne agus Meáin**

Leis an mBille um Rialáil Sábháilteachta agus Meáin Ar Líne déanfar Coimisiún Meáin Il-Duine a bhunú, lena n-áirítear Coimisinéir Sábháilteachta Ar Líne, Díscaoileadh Údarás Craolacháin na hÉireann (BAI), creataí rialála a bhunú le haghaidh sábháilteachta ar líne agus rialáil seirbhísí meáin chlosamhairc, agus An Treoir um Sheirbhísí Meán Closamhairc athbheithnithe (Treoir 2018/1808/AE) a thrasuíomh. Cheadaigh an Rialtas cur i gcrích Scéim Ghinearálta an Bhille i mí na Nollag 2020.

## **2.4 Lucht féachana láidre a mhealladh chuig ábhar sainiúil Éireannach, lena n-áirítear ábhar Gaeilge, ar fud na n-ardán atá ann cheana féin agus ag teacht chun cinn lena n-áirítear lucht féachana níos óige a shroicheadh**

### **Coimisiún um Thodhchaí na Meán**

D'fhógair Roinn an Taoisigh an bunú de Choimisiún maidir le Todhchaí Craolacháin Seirbhíse Poiblí na hÉireann i mí na Nollag 2019. I Meán Fómhair 2020 d'aontaigh an Rialtas téarmaí tagartha agus ballraíocht i dtodhchaí an Choimisiúin Meán. Tá an tOllamh Brian MacCraith mar chathaoirleach ar an gCoimisiún, iar-Uachtarán Ollscoil Chathair Bhaile Átha Cliath, agus folaíonn sé saineolaithe i meáin seirbhíse poiblí, iriseoireacht neamhspleách, meán sóisialta, ardáin teicneolaíochta nua, eacnamaíocht na meán, an cultúr, teanga, ábhar cruthaitheach, rialachas agus dea-chleachtas idirnáisiúnta. Reáchtáil an Coimisiún a chruinniú tionscnaimh i nDeireadh Fómhair 2020.

### **Imirce ón mbanda 700 MHz**

Cuireadh speictream raidió breise ar fáil lena n-úsáid ag an earnáil leathanbhanda soghluaiste ar an mbanna 700MHz chun clúdach agus cumas feabhsaithe líonra a sholáthar, go háirithe i gceantair thuaithe. Críochnaíodh tasc seirbhísí craolacháin ón mbanna 700MHz a imirce ón mbanna 700MHz in 2020. Léirigh deireadh na tréimhse inimirscracha an 4 Márta 2020 críochnaíodh críochnú na n-imirce agus na n-íocaíochtaí deiridh go [2m](#) i mí an Mheithimh 2020.

### **RTÉ**

B'ionann fáiltas cheadúnais teilifíse do 2020 agus €222.55m. Fuair RTÉ €197.655 de na fáiltas iomlána. Caitheadh €36.117m den ioncam ar chlár mhaoinithe arna dtáirgeadh ag an earnáil léiriú teilifíse agus raidió neamhspleách.

## TG4

Fuair TG4 €39.133m i maoiniú an Stáitchiste in 2020 chun gealltanais chlárúcháin a mhaoiniú, lena n-áirítear cláir a tháirgeann an earnáil léiriúcháin neamhspleách. Craoladh TG4 ar an meán de 12.24 uair an chloig de chláir Ghaeilge in aghaidh an lae.

## Ciste Craolacháin

In 2020, fuair an BAI €21.78 milliún a chuir maoiniú agus tacaíocht airgeadais ar fáil do 235 clár teilifíse raidió agus ardchaighdeáin bunaithe ar chultúr agus oidhreacht na hÉireann faoin scéim fuaimne agus fíis 4. Ina theannta sin, mar fhreagra ar thionchar an phaindéim Chovid-19 ar an earnáil go luath 2020, tharscaoil an BAI an tobhach craolacháin sa chéad leath de 2020.

## Aschuir

#	Teideal an táscaire	Seachadta faoi dheireadh 2020
1	Teacht ar gach seirbhís RTÉ i measc daoine fásta 18+	95%
2	Sciar an lae uile Raidió (Daoine Fásta 15+)	31.7%
3	Sciar an lae uile Teilifíse (Daoine Fásta 15+)	27.7%
4	Uaireanta an ábhair ttháirgthe baile ar RTÉ a hAon & RTÉ 2	6,030
5	Caiteachas RTÉ ar chláir teilifíse agus raidió a tháirgítear go neamhspleách	€36.5m
6	Meánlíon na n-uaireanta craolacháin de chláir Ghaeilge in aghaidh an lae	12.24

## Tionchair

#	Teideal an táscaire	2020	2019	2018
1	Líon na gclár teilifíse agus raidió nua agus tionscadail nua a sholáthróidh raon leathan clár raidió pobail agus áitiúla a sheachadadh a thabharfaidh leas pobail agus lucht féachana áitiúil, maoiniú tríd an Scéim Fuaimne agus Fíis	235	241	256

	Ciste Craolacháin			
3	Meánlíon na n-uaireanta de chlár theilifíse táirgthe na hÉireann (RTÉ)	6,030	5,687	5,831

## **2.5 An Post mar chuideachta Stáit atá inmharthana ó thaobh na tráchtála de, ag seachadadh a phlean straitéisigh a léiríonn cuspóirí an Rialtais; leas a bhaint as na deiseanna a chuirtear i láthair trí ríomhthráchtáil agus an geilleagar digiteach, sciar den mhargadh a ghabháil agus a choinneáil i bpacáistí agus ag seachadadh líonra oifigí poist inbhuanaithe ar fud na tíre a thairgeann raon seirbhísí ríomhthráchtála, airgeadais agus rialtais**

Lean An Post ag déanamh dul chun cinn suntasach maidir lena phlean claochlaithe a chur i bhfeidhm in 2020 in ainneoin na ndúshlán atá os a gcomhair mar gheall ar an Phaindéimeach-19.

Léiríodh tábhacht agus athléimneacht líonra na n-oifigí poist go soiléir ar fud na paindéime nuair a choinnigh An Post a líonra os cionn 900 oifig phoist oscailte, ag cinntiú dáileadh leanúnach airgid leis an ngeilleagar agus ag imirt ról tábhachtach tráchtála agus sochaíoch sna pobail isteach a oibríonn siad. Bhí ról lárnach ag An Post freisin maidir le FBManna beaga a chumasú chun trádáil a dhéanamh ar líne le linn tréimhsí glactha.

Faoi dheireadh mhí na Nollag 2020, bhí os cionn 62% d'oifigí poist comhlonnaithe le gnólachtaí miondíola ardchostais eile.

Bhí roinnt forbairtí straitéiseacha ag an gcuideachta in 2020. An borradh in Ríomhthráchtáil mar thoradh ar an Phaindéimeach COVID-19 Méadaíonn méideanna paindéime Méadú 100% in 2020. Chríochnaigh An Post infheistíocht de luach €30m ina champas ríomhthráchtála i mBaile Átha Cliath, ag oscailt an dara saoráid próiseála pacáistí nua uathobrithe i mí na Samhna, rud a ligeann don champas an cumas de 2.5m pacáiste a láimhseáil in aghaidh na seachtaine. Lean An Post ag forbairt a chumas digiteach a bhí riachtanach chun freastal ar éileamh na gcustaiméirí ar ríomhthráchtáil.

I Meán Fómhair 2020 sheol An Post a mhol glas, a sholáthraíonn úinéirí tí le tacaíocht iontaofa, rátaí iasachta iomaíocha agus réitigh uasghrádaithe ag deireadh go deireadh chun

cabhrú leo tús a chur lena bpróiseas feabhsúcháin tí. Go bunúsach is siopa ilfhreastail é an Mol Glas a chlúdóidh seirbhísí iasachta amháin nó lán-oiriúnaithe iomlána, ó mheasúnuithe baile tosaigh go hoibreacha críochnaithe agus próiseas iarratais agus íocaíochta deontais SEAI. Mar chuid den Mhol Glas, rinne An Post i gcomhpháirtíocht le Airtricity SSE chun an tseirbhís uasghrádaithe fuinnimh a sholáthar lena n-áirítear measúnuithe baile saor in aisce agus bainistíocht tionscadail deireadh go deireadh.

## Éirchóid

Leanadh le méadú suntasach ar ghlacadh agus úsáid Éirchód i measc daoine den phobal, gnólachtaí agus an earnáil phoiblí. In 2020, bhí 2.3 milliún cuardach ar an meán ag an Aimsitheoir Éirchód Ar Líne ar bhonn míosúil, rud a léiríonn fás 42% os cionn 2019. Le linn 2020, mhéadaigh an phaindéim COVID-19 an t-éileamh ar sheachadadh earraí agus seirbhísí. Chun cuidiú leis an iarracht seo méadaíodh an teorainn chuardaigh laethúil ar an Aimsitheoir Eircode ó 15 go 50. I mí na Samhna 2020 bhí 3.1 milliún cuardach meaitseála ar an saor in aisce le húsáid Eircode Aimsitheoir ar líne Uirlis, an líon is airde de na lookups in aon mhí amháin ó seoladh é. Le linn na tréimhse Márta go dtí 2020 Nollaig 2020, bhí os cionn 24 milliún cuardach ar an aimsitheoir Eircode, méadú 46% ar úsáid an aimsitheora thar an tréimhse chéanna in 2019.

Tá Éirchóid comhtháite go hiomlán in Google Maps, Microsoft (Bing / Nokia Léarscáileanna), TomTom, HERE Navigation, Garmin agus, an chuid is mó le déanaí, Apple.

Léirigh taighde neamhspleách ag Amárach in 2020 go raibh 93.3% de na freagróirí in ann Éirchód ceart agus fíoraithe a sholáthar dá seoladh, agus tá a nÉirchód de ghlanmheabhair ag 73%. Tugadh faoi an suirbhé chun a chinneadh, i mbliain 7 (2020) den chlár Éirchód, tá a fhios ag 80% ar a laghad den phobal ginearálta an Éirchód dá seoladh, mar chuid den chonradh um Cheadúnas Cód Poist (PMLH).

Faoi dheireadh 2020, bhí os cionn 1,530 eagraíocht ghnó agus gníomhaireachtaí Stáit ag ceadúnú Éirchód laistigh dá gcórais ghnó agus oibríochtaí thar speictream leathan earnálacha, lena n-áirítear: loighistic / seachadtaí; fónais; óstáin; miondíola; teileachumarsáide; árachais; airgeadais; agus loingseoireacht satailíte, méadú 19% ar 2019.

Scaoileadh úsáid an API Éirchóid ag Suirbhéireacht Ordanáis Éireann in 2019 agus cuireadh ar fáil iad le húsáid ag gach comhlacht san earnáil phoiblí (PSBS). Glacadh leis an API níos mó ná dúbailt, le 13 úsáideoir san iomlán in 2020.



### **SPRIOC 3: Comhshaol agus Úsáid Acmhainní Inbhuanaithe**

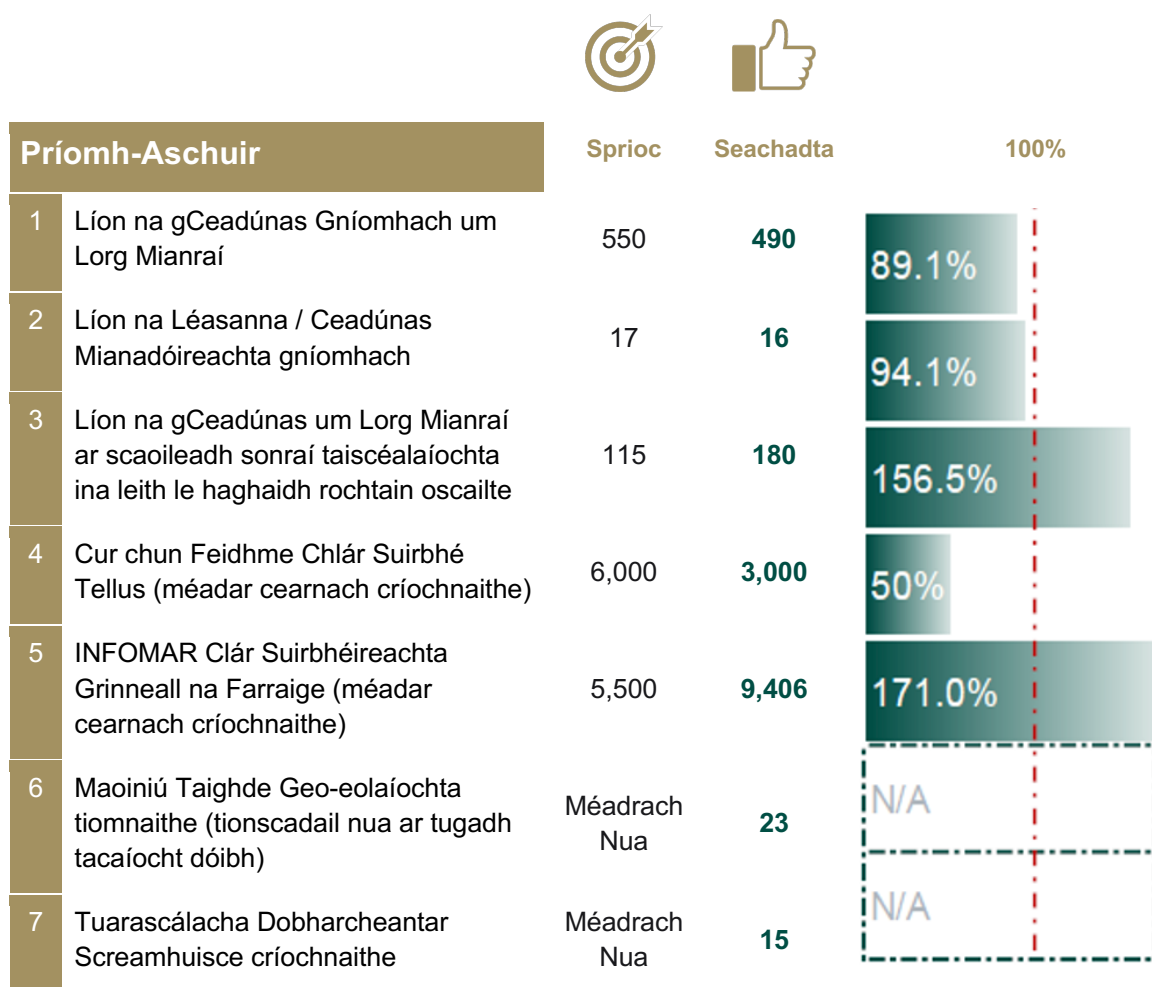
**Úsáid acmhainní le cúram agus freagracht,  
íoslaghdú a dhéanamh ar ghiniúint dramhaíola agus  
ár dtimpeallacht a fheabhsú go comhsheasmhach i  
ngach gné**

### 3 SPRIOC 3: Comhshaol agus Úsáid Acmhainní Inbhuanaithe

Caiteachas lomlán in 2020: €21.2m

Reatha, €8.9

Caipiteal, €12.3m



Príomhthionchair		2020	2019	2018
1	Ioncam a thuill an Stát as Mianadóireacht / Cuardach Mianraí	€5.95m	€5.8m	€6.3m
2	Ioncam ó Údaruithe Peitriiliam	€0.55m	€1.2m	€3.5m
3	Geo-eolaíocht Éireann - braisle gnó GSI: Poist cruthaithe	69	192	253

## 3.1 Forbairt inbhuanaithe príomhshrutha ar fud an Rialtais agus na Cumann

### Cur i bhFeidhm Náisiúnta de na Spriocanna Forbartha Inbhuanaithe

Spreagann an clár oibre 2030 tíortha chun na Spriocanna Forbartha Inbhuanaithe (SDGanna) a chomhtháthú i bpleanáil agus i bpolasaí, ar leibhéal náisiúnta agus idirnáisiúnta araon. Ghlac Éire le cur chuige 'uile-Rialtais' chun an SDGS a bhaint amach, le gach Aire freagrach as spriocanna SDG aonair a chur i bhfeidhm a bhaineann lena bhfeidhmeanna. Tá freagracht iomlán ar an Roinn as na SDGanna a chur chun cinn, agus as maoirseacht a dhéanamh ar a gcur i bhfeidhm comhleanúnach ar fud an Rialtais. Tá an fhreagracht mar thoradh ar an Roinn freisin as spriocanna a bhaineann le roinnt SDGS, lena n-áirítear:

- Sprioc 7 ar fhuinneamh,
- Sprioc 12 maidir le tomhaltas agus táirgeadh inbhuanaithe, le hionchur ón Roinn Fiontar, Trádála agus Fostaíochta, agus
- Sprioc 13 maidir le gníomh aeráide

Déanann Grúpa Oifigeach Sinsearach (SOG) comhordú agus monatóireacht ar chur i bhfeidhm agus ar thuairiscí SDG de réir mar is gá don Rialtas. Le tacaíocht bhreise a dhéanamh ar obair an SOG, déanann an Roinn cathaoirleacht ar ghrúpa oibre SDG idir-rannach, atá comhdhéanta d'ionadaithe ó gach roinn le freagrachtaí do na SDGanna. Reáchtáladh ceithre chruinniú in 2020 agus leanfaidh an Grúpa ag teacht le chéile go rialta chun tacú le forbairt an dara Plean Forfheidhmithe Náisiúnta SDG atá beartaithe le foilsiú in 2021.

### Clár Seaimpíní SDG

Léiríonn na Seaimpíní SDG, a mhéadaíonn feasacht an phobail ar an SDGS trí chomhpháirtíocht agus trí chur chun cinn, bealaí ina bhféadfadh eagraíochtaí agus daoine aonair cur leis na SDGanna a bhaint amach.

Chuir na deacrachtaí a eascraíonn as an Phaindéim Chóivid-19 isteach go mór go mór le go leor de na Seaimpíní ina bpleananna oibre 2020. Mar thoradh ar dhúnadh na scoileanna mar thoradh ar go leor clár a bheith in ann tosú, cé go raibh tionchar mór ag na srianta ar chruinnithe poiblí ar ghealltanais phoiblí atá beartaithe.

Tá go leor Seaimpíní SDG ar thús cadhnaíochta le linn COVID-19, leis an CLG agus An Post ag cinntiú nach ndearnadh dearmad ar go leor dóibh siúd a bhí fanacht sa bhaile, le soláthar siopadóireachta agus seirbhíse poist. Lean an Roinn ar aghaidh ag dul i ngleic leis na Seaimpíní SDG ar fud na paidéime agus tacaíodh le gníomhaíochtaí curadh ar líne trí ardáin mheáin shóisialta na Roinne.

Leathnaigh an Roinn an clár ó Mheán Fómhair 2020 go dtí R2 2021 chun go mbeidh an obair a rinne na Seaimpíní SDG le comhlánú.

Cuireadh an glao ar léirithe spéise do Chlár na Seaimpíní 2020 ar athló freisin go dtí go dtógtar na srianta paidéimeacha ar siúl ar siúl.

## **3.2 Tacú le forbairt an Bithgheilleagair**

Aithníodh sa chéad Ráiteas Beartais Náisiúnta ar an mBithgheilleagair go bhfuil an bithgheilleagar ríthábhachtach le haghaidh inbhuanaitheachta agus spreagann sé spreagadh d'fhorbairt agus d'fhorbairt tuaithe agus réigiúnach. I mí Dheireadh Fómhair 2020, reáchtáladh an tSeachtain Bithgheilleagair ar bhonn fíorúil inar cuireadh béim ar bhithcheonmaíocht na hÉireann trí shraith imeachtaí agus gníomhaíochtaí ar líne ó ghrúpaí páirtithe leasmhara éagsúla laistigh de Líonra Bitheolaíochta na hÉireann a oireann do raon éagsúil lucht féachana, lena n-áirítear saoránaigh, gairmithe tionscail agus lucht déanta beartas.

## **3.3 Tosaíocht a thabhairt do chosaint an chomhshaoil, go háirithe maidir le cáilíocht an aeir agus úsáid shábháilte na gceimiceán**

### **An Clár Náisiúnta um Rialú ar Thruailliú Aeir (NAPCP)**

Is doiciméad teicniúil é an Clár Náisiúnta um Rialú ar Thruailliú Aeir (NAPCP) a leagann amach go leanfaidh an Conair Éireann chun comhlíonadh a ghealltanais a bhaint amach faoin Treoir maidir le huasteorainneacha náisiúnta (Treoir NEC). Rinneadh athbhreithniú ar an NAPCP a cuireadh faoi bhráid an Choimisiúin in 2019 in 2020 agus rinneadh próiseas comhairliúcháin phoiblí.

### **An Clár Monatóireachta um Chaighdeán an Aeir Comhthimpeallaigh**

Tá maoiniú €5 milliún tiomanta do leathnú an Chláir Monatóireachta um Cháilíocht Aeir Comhthimpeallaigh (AAMAM) idir 2017 agus 2022. Baineann an clár le líonra monatóireachta náisiúnta leathnaithe go mór le tacaíocht ó chumas samhaltaithe méadaithe a sholáthraíonn níos cuimsithí, fíor-ama, áitiúil Faisnéis ar chaighdeán an aeir don phobal.



Go dtí seo, tá an líonra leathnaithe ó 29 stáisiún go 92 stáisiún ar fud an stáit, bhí 18 díobh suiteáilte in 2020.

## **Rialacháin Breosla Sholadaigh a Thabhairt Isteach ar fud na Tíre**

I gcomhréir le tiomantas sa Chlár don Rialtas chun an cosc guail deataithe a leathnú go bailte nua agus, thar théarma an rialtais ag bogadh i dtreo toirmeasc iomlán ar fud na tíre, tugadh isteach 13 criosanna breise deataigh isteach i Meán Fómhair 2020, ag leathnú na Rialacháin Breosla Soladach atá ann cheana féin le gach uilechaidreamh le daonra os cionn 10,000.

## **Truailliú Aeir maidir le hlompar Uirbeach (UTRAP)**

Bunaíodh an Grúpa Oibre Thruailliú um Thruailliú Aeir maidir le hlompar Uirbeach (UTRAP) i bhfómhar na bliana 2019, le breithniú agus aghaidh a thabhairt ar ábhair inmí atá ag ardú faoi leibhéal an truaillithe aeir a ghintear san iompar. Críochnaíodh tuarascáil eatramhach i 2020 a chuimsigh bearta chun aghaidh a thabhairt ar thruailliú aeir a bhaineann le hiompar i gceantair uirbeacha agus i moltaí maidir le conas creat beartais náisiúnta bunaithe ar fhianaise a fhorbairt ina bhféadfadh údaráis áitiúla aghaidh a thabhairt ar údaráis áitiúla.

## **Straitéis Náisiúnta Rialaithe Radóin**

Leanadh ar aghaidh le cur i bhfeidhm Chéim 2 den Straitéis Náisiúnta um Rialú Radóin in 2020. Iarrachtaí chun tástáil radóin a chur chun cinn i dtithe agus i ngnólachtaí agus chun oibreacha leasúcháin a dhéanamh nuair is gá nuair is gá i 2020. Lean taighde suntasach ar aghaidh freisin i réimse an chosc radóin i dtithíocht nua a thógáil agus i ngnéithe iompraíochta maidir le tástáil radóin agus feabhais.

## **Dramhaíl radaighníomhach**

Leanadh le hiarrachtaí chun fardal teoranta na hÉireann de dhramhaíl radaighníomhach a laghdú in 2020. Beidh creat na hÉireann maidir le dramhaíl radaighníomhach a bhainistiú faoi réir misean athbhreithnithe piaraí idirnáisiúnta faoi stiúir an Ghníomhaireacht Idirnáisiúnta Fuinnimh Adamhach in 2021.

## **Pleananna Gníomhaíochta Torainn Comhshaoil**

Leanadh ar aghaidh le cur i bhfeidhm Bhabhta 3 de na Pleananna Gníomhaíochta Torainn (NAPS) in 2020. Tá riachtanas reachtúil nua ann do gach comhlacht mapála torainn chun dul chun cinn a thuairisciú maidir le cur i bhfeidhm a NAPanna go bliantúil don GCC.

## Ciste Comhshaoil

Mar gheall ar an rath a bhí ar an Tobhach Mála Plaisteacha agus an Tobhach Líonta Talún maidir le hathrú iompraíochta a chur i bhfeidhm, tá laghdú seasmhach ar ioncam isteach sa Chiste Comhshaoil i mblianta comhleanúnacha. In 2020 aithníodh go n-aistreofaí €10.58 milliún de thiomantais mhaoinithe go dtí an Vóta.

Mar sin féin, lean iarrachtaí chun cosaint an chomhshaoil a chur chun cinn le caiteachas beagnach €17 milliún ón gCiste Comhshaoil. I measc na leithdháiltí bhí:

- €6.1 milliún d'údaráis áitiúla chun tacú le seirbhísí forfheidhmithe dramhaíola agus an tionscnamh frithdhumpála;
- €3 milliún curtha ar fáil chun tacú le hobair na Gníomhaireachta um Chaomhnú Comhshaoil lena n-áirítear an Clár Náisiúnta um Chosc ar Dhramhaíl;
- €1.8 milliún chun tacú le rolladh amach oifigí aeráide réigiúnacha;
- €1.3 milliún le feacht chomhshaoil, lena n-áirítear maoiniú don Chiste Gníomhaíochta Comhshaoil Pobail, Scoileanna Glasa, an Colún Comhshaoil agus Líonra Comhshaoil na hÉireann de NGOanna comhshaoil; agus
- €29,000 le Glantacháin Náisiúnta an Earraigh, agus an tionscnamh íon a chlúdaíonn Contae Átha Cliath Theas / Chill Mhantáin. Mar gheall ar thionchar an Phaindéimeach-19 ar obair na n-údarás áitiúil tugadh maoiniú beagnach €869,000 ar aghaidh go dtí 2021 chun tacú leis an Scéim Deontais Feasachta Frithbhruscair 2020.

### **3.4 Straitéis nua éifeachtúlachta acmhainní a chur i bhfeidhm, bunaithe ar phrionsabail an ordlathais dramhaíola agus an gheilleagair chiorcláin, chun 2025-2035 oibleagáidí agus spriocanna a bhaint amach maidir le laghdú agus athchúrsáil dramhaíola**

#### **Plean Gníomhaíochta Dramhaíola do Gheilleagar Ciorclach**

Is é Plean Gníomhaíochta Dramhaíola do Gheilleagar Ciorclach, a seoladh i Meán Fómhair 2020, treochlár nua na hÉireann maidir le pleanáil agus bainistíocht dramhaíola. Athraíonn an plean seo ón díriú ar dhiúscairt dramhaíola agus féachann sé ar an gcaoi ar féidir linn acmhainní a chaomhnú trí gheilleagar ciorclach a chruthú.

Críochnaíodh próiseas comhairliúcháin phoiblí ar an mbeartas nua i mí Feabhra 2020 agus faightear beagnach 300 freagra. Bunaíodh Grúpa Comhairleach Plean Gníomhaíochta Dramhaíola freisin, ina raibh páirtithe leasmhara ábhartha ó na hearnálacha eacnamaíocha, comhshaoil agus sóisialta. Chabhraigh an grúpa le tiomsú an pholasaí nua trí smaointeoireacht straitéiseach agus cinnteoireacht a threorú.

Leagtar amach sa phlean rannchuidiú na hearnála maidir le roinnt pleananna agus polasaithe náisiúnta eile a bhaint amach lena n-áirítear an Plean Gníomhaíochta Aeráide. Meaitseálann sé freisin an leibhéal uailmhéine atá á thaispeáint ar fud an Aontais Eorpaigh trí dhéileáil ghlas na hEorpa, a chuimsíonn raon gníomhaíochtaí a thacaíonn le ciorclán agus inbhuanaitheacht.

Leagann an Plean Gníomhaíochta Dramhaíola do gheilleagar ciorclach amach raon aidhmeanna agus spriocanna don Stát agus na bearta faoina mbainfear amach iad seo, lena n-áirítear rialáil mhéadaithe agus bearta ar feadh réimsí dramhaíola éagsúla amhail Geilleagar Ciorclach, Dramhaíl Chathrach, Cosaint Tomhaltóirí agus Saoránach Rannpháirtíocht, Plaistigh agus Pacáistiú, Tógáil agus Scartáil, Teicstílí, Soláthar Poiblí Glas agus Forfheidhmiú Dramhaíola.

## **Geilleagar Ciorclach**

Aithníonn an Clár don Rialtas go bhfuil na deich mbliana amach romhainn rithábachtach má tá Éire chun aghaidh a thabhairt ar an ngéarchéim aeráide agus bithéagsúlachta atá os comhair an domhain inniu. Chomh maith le céim-athrú a mharcáil ar leibhéal uailmhian gníomhaíochta aeráide na hÉireann, tiomanta don chlár raon gníomhaíochtaí chun tacú leis an aistriú go geilleagar ciorclach. Áiríodh leis seo bunú rannán geilleagair ciorclach agus glacadh le straitéis gheilleagair ciorclach. Bhí obair gheilleagair ciorclach laistigh den Roinn in 2020 san áireamh:

- Ullmhú Straitéis Geilleagair Chiorclaigh uile-Rialtais ar fad atá beartaithe chun a mhíniú cad é an geilleagar ciorclach; Cén fáth a gcaithfidh Éire geilleagar ciorclach a bhaint amach; agus conas a fhorbróidh an beartas náisiúnta tuilleadh chun tacú leis an sprioc sin amach anseo. Seoladh an straitéis le haghaidh comhairliúcháin phoiblí in 2021.
- Rannpháirtíocht leanúnach san ECFE ar an tionscadal 'Eacnamaíocht agus Rialachas an Gheilleagair Chiorclaigh in Éirinn: Cás-Staidéar' a bhfuil sé mar aidhm aige tacú le hÉirinn agus é ag aistriú go ciorclán trí dhúshláin eacnamaíocha agus rialachais a aithint, chomh maith le réitigh bheartais i leith an aistrithe, ar bhealach éifeachtach agus cuimsitheach. Táthar ag súil le foilsiú na tuarascála deiridh in 2021.

- Réimse leathan tionscnamh a sheachadadh tríd an gClár Náisiúnta um Chosc ar Dhramhaíl (NWPP) 'dramhaíl a chosc, ag tiomáint an gheilleagair chiorcláin' lena n-áirítear iad siúd a bhaineann leis na réimsí tosaíochta ainmnithe de dhramhaíl bia; tógáil agus scartáil, plaistigh, talmhaíocht, acmhainní agus amhábhair agus cosc dramhaíola áitiúil. Tá tuarascálacha bliantúla ar an gclár chomh maith le físeáin, webinars agus treoir ar fáil ag [www.epa.ie](http://www.epa.ie). Feicfidh 2021 forbairt bhreise ar an gclár chun cabhrú le haistriú na hÉireann a luathú go geilleagar ciorclach.

## Rialtas Glas

D'fhorbair an Roinn an Clár Rialtais Glas in 2019 mar fhreagra ar chinneadh Rialtais a bhaineann le tomhaltas inbhuanaithe a cheanglaítear go gcaithfidh ranna rialtais agus comhlachtaí poiblí an bealach a laghdú chun ár nglúin plaistigh agus dramhaíl úsáide aonair a laghdú. Tá sé de chúram ar gach Roinn Rialtais Plean Gníomhaíochta um Éifeachtúlacht Acmhainne a chomhlánú mar chuid den phróiseas seo. In ainneoin an Phaindéimeach-19 Phaindéimeach agus bogadh go suntasach a bheith ag obair ón mbaile, lean Clár an Rialtais Glas in 2020 agus chonaic sé tacaíocht mhéadaithe, webinars, teimpléid tuairiscithe agus treoir oifigiúil atá á chur ar fáil do gach Roinn chun ligean dóibh a bpleananna gníomhaíochta a athnuachan in 2021 .

## Soláthar Poiblí Glas (GPP)

Ag obair go dlúth leis an GCC, rinne an Roinn maoirseacht ar fhorbairt agus ar sholáthar Clár Oiliúna um Sholáthar Poiblí Glas (GPP) d'oifigigh soláthair poiblí in 2020. Leanfaidh an clár oiliúna ar aghaidh in 2021 agus féach ar fhorbairt na hoiliúna do sholáthraithe chuig an earnáil phoiblí. D'oibrigh an Roinn freisin leis an EPA maidir le hathbhreithniú na Treorach GPP 2014 don earnáil phoiblí atá le foilsiú in 2021 agus ar fhorbairt teimpléid chun úsáid GPP a thomhas agus monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar úsáid GPP ar fud Ranna Rialtais ag teacht le Ciorclán DPE 20/2019. Is féidir rochtain a fháil ar acmhainní ar:

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/efa12-green-public-procurement-gpp/>.

## Plaistigh aon-úsáide

Beidh trasuí agus cur i bhfeidhm na Treorach Plaisteacha aon-úsáide (Treoir (AE) 2019/904) ina eochair inseachadta don Roinn sa ghearrthéarma go meántéarma. Cuireadh tús le hobair ar thrasuí na Treorach in 2020 agus déanfar é a thrasuí faoi lúil 2021. Chun an riachtanas bailithe 90% ar leithligh a chomhlíonadh sa Treoir, tá an Rialtas tiomanta do scéim taisce agus fillte a thabhairt isteach do bhuidéil phlaisteacha (peataí) agus cannaí

alúmanaim. Tógadh an chéad chéim sa phróiseas seo in 2020 le seoladh chéad bhabhta comhairliúcháin phoiblí ar na roghanna dearaidh le haghaidh scéime.

## **Freagracht Leathnaithe ar Tháirgeoirí**

In 2020, lean scéimeanna (EPR) um Fhreagracht Leathnaithe na hÉireann (EPR) ag feidhmiú go rathúil agus ar chumas na hÉireann chun ár spriocanna athchúrsála baile agus AE a bhaint amach. Reachtaíocht nua, IR 323 de 2020, a tugadh isteach íoscheanglais íosta a fhéachann le leibhéal comhchuibhithe a bhunú chun trédhearcacht, rialachas agus éifeachtúlacht costais scéimeanna EPR a fheabhsú. Chuir an Roinn tús le cur i bhfeidhm na gceanglas seo trí phróiseas athnuachana formheasa na bplásuithe feirme agus na scéimeanna EPR pacáistithe le linn 2020. Feicfidh na scéimeanna EPR eile (Feithiclí Deireadh na Saoil (ELV), Boinn, WEEE agus Cadhnaí) na ceaduithe neartaithe seo i bhfeidhm de réir mar a thagann siad le hathnuachan.

## **Oideachas agus Feasacht**

Leanann an Roinn ag soláthar tacaíochta do na hOifigí Pleanála Bainistíochta Dramhaíola Réigiúnacha a cheadaigh d'fhorbairt leanúnach an tairseach [www.mywaste.ie](http://www.mywaste.ie). Cuireadh leathanaigh tiomnaithe ar an suíomh, lena n-áirítear acmhainní in-íoslódáilte, leis in 2020 maidir le dramhaíl ghnó a bhainistiú agus ar an tionscnamh frithdhumpála. In éineacht le forbairt na [www.mywaste.ie](http://www.mywaste.ie), reáchtáladh réimse feachtas faisnéise poiblí ar ghnéithe éagsúla de bhainistíocht dramhaíola inbhuanaithe.

Tá an Plean Gníomhaíochta Dramhaíola do gheilleagar ciorclach caibidil tiomnaithe ar rannpháirtíocht saoránach - feasacht, oideachas agus athrú iompraíochta a ardú. Tar éis seoladh an Phlean i Meán Fómhair 2020 cuireadh tús le hobair ar na bearta éagsúla a sheachadfar le linn saolré an phlean.

## **Leasúchán Líonta Talún**

Cuireadh €11.7 milliún san iomlán ar fáil d'Údaráis Áitiúla chun tacú le hobair leasúcháin líonta talún ar 76 láithreán ar fud na tíre in 2020. Is sean-líonta talún cathrach iad an chuid is mó de na suíomhanna seo a fheidhmíonn sular rialáil agus a cheangal ar bhearta innealtóireachta chun cosaint an chomhshaoil a chinntiú, aer agus cáilíocht an uisce do phobail áitiúla. Tacaigh €0.54m eile ón gCiste Comhshaoil le tacaíocht oibreacha dúnta talún ag líonadh talún Chill Chonaill, Gaillimh leis an gConradh Oibreacha críochnaithe in 2020.

Comhairle Contae Chill Dara tairgeadh le haghaidh oibreacha leasúcháin deiridh agus úsáid deiridh de pháirc áineasa don suíomh ag Baile Chairdif, arb é an tionscadal feabhsúcháin líonta talún is mó sa Stát é. Bronnadh an tairiscint i mí Dheireadh Fómhair le hobair ag tosú i

mí na Samhna 2020. Is é an téarma conradh ar feadh 54 mhí le dáta críochnaithe sceidealta in 2025. Meastar go bhfuil an conradh ag €19.2m (ex-CBL) agus tá an Roinn tiomanta do thacú le críochnú an Tionscadal Feabhsúcháin Líonadh Talún Bhaile Chairdif ar bhonn bliantúil.

## **Glanadh suas díosail**

Tacaíodh le hobair leasúcháin ag líon níos lú láithreacha suntasacha talún neamhdhleathacha freisin in 2020. Thacaigh thart ar €17 milliún den mhaoiniú seo le glanadh an láithreáin sciúrtha díosail ag údaráis áitiúla.

## **Tionscnamh Frithdhumpála (ADI)**

Cuireadh €3 milliún ar fáil chun tacú leis an tionscnamh frithdhumpála a raibh mar thoradh ar sheachadadh rathúil 304 tionscadal ar fud na 31 ceantar údaráis áitiúil. Comhordaigh seachadadh na scéime ag na trí Údarás Réigiúnach um Fhorfheidhmiú Dramhaíola (WERLAS) agus roghnaíodh tionscadail tacaithe ar bhonn a dtionchair ar cheithre chritéar lárnach - cosc, laghdú, forfheidhmiú agus feasacht.

## **3.5 A chinntiú go bhfuil cumas bonneagair bainistíochta dramhaíola teagmhasacha leordhóthanach ar fáil chun rioscaí a mhaolú maidir le bainistíocht éifeachtach dramhaíola**

Leanann an Roinn ag dul i dteagmháil leis na trí Oifig Pleanála um Bainistiú Dramhaíola Réigiúnach agus le comhlachtaí rialála comhshaoil eile maidir le saincheist a bhainistiú maidir le dramhaíl sholadach uafásach iarmharach agus dramhaíl tógála agus scartála.

## 3.6 Cinntiú go gcaomhnófar caomhnú agus forbairt inbhuanaithe ár stoc éisc intíre

Caiteachas Iomlán in 2020: €32.9m

Reatha, €29.8

Caipiteal, €3.1m



Príomh-Aschuir		Sprioc	Seachadta	100%
1	Líon na n-iniúchtaí ar Slatiascairí Áineasa ar cheadúnas agus / nó ar chead	15,000	13,487	89.9%
2	Líon na n-iniúchtaí ar Slatiascairí Áineasa Eile (slatiascairí neamhcheadúnaithe - slatiascairí garbh, liús, breac agus slatiascairí mara)	15,000	16,247	108.3%
3	Líon na bhfíneálacha a eisíodh / fógraí muirir sheasta	180	240	133.3%
4	Líon na n-ionchúiseamh a tugadh i gcrích	75	60	80.0%
5	Líon na struchtúr slatiascaireachta a cuireadh i ngníomh (a dheisiú, a athsholáthar nó a bhaint) tar éis an iniúchta	350	386 <sup>3</sup>	110.3%
6	Foilseacháin eolaíochta piarmheasúnaithe a tháirgeadh	12	12	100.0%

Príomhthionchair		2020	2019	2018
1	Líon na n-aibhneacha a ndearnadh measúnú orthu mar chuid den chlár bliantúil bainistíochta bradán	144	144	143
2	Líon na ndíolachán ceadúnais slatiascaireachta bradán áineasa	14,171	17,281	16,755
3	Líon na ndíolachán ceadúnas bradán tráchtála	85	85	125

Lean an Roinn ar aghaidh le beartas an Rialtais a chur i bhfeidhm chun bainistíocht na n-iascach bradán fiáin a ailíniú go hiomlán le comhairle eolaíoch agus, go dtí seo, tugadh deich fodhlíthe san iomlán agus dhá ionstraim reachtúil tugadh isteach aird a thabhairt ar leibhéil stoic aonair. Cuireadh sraith rialachán roimh an séasúr bradán 2021 i bhfeidhm faoi dheireadh 2020.

Lean cur i bhfeidhm an Phlean Bainistíochta Eascann Náisiúnta ar aghaidh. I measc na mbeart a rinneadh bhí oibríochtaí chun eascanna a ghabháil agus a iompar ar fud Hidrea-Stáisiúin BSL ar an tSionainn, ar an Lee agus ar an hÉirinn agus ag tabhairt faoi shampláil eolaíoch.

Leithdháil formhór na gcistí faoin Straitéis Náisiúnta um Fhorbairt Slatiascaireachta (NSAD), scéim Deontas Caipitil lascaigh Intíre (IFI) do bhonneagar slatiascaireachta le blianta beaga anuas. Dhún an scéim d'iarratais tar éis an bhabhta leithdháilte in 2020. Leithdháileadh an tráinse deiridh de mhaoiniú NSAD ar thionscadail a thógfaidh bliain nó dhó eile le comhlánú go hiomlán. Go dtí seo, tá beagnach €2 milliún infheistithe san earnáil i dtionscadail chaipitil atá deartha chun feabhas a chur ar bhonneagar slatiascaireachta agus rochtain lena n-áirítear rochtain do shlatiascairí faoi mhíchumas. Chuir páirtithe leasmhara slatiascaireachta agus raon grúpaí deonacha eile leis an gcuid is mó den obair seo.

In 2020, ceadaíodh 21 tionscadal forbartha le luach iomlán de €363,000 le haghaidh maoinithe ag Bord IIÉ.

### **3.7 Faisnéis gheo-eolaíochta ardchaighdeán agus iontaofa a sholáthar, trí chlár ar nós INFOMAR agus TELLUS, chun tacú le forbairt inbhuanaithe acmhainní nádúrtha, cosaint an chomhshaoil agus pleanáil spásúil**

#### **INFOMAR (Clár Mapála Mara Náisiúnta) ár**

In 2020 chríochnaigh an clár INFOMAR 9,406 km<sup>2</sup> de mhapáil ghrinneall na farraige chun críochnú 62% a bhaint amach, atá chun tosaigh ar an spriocdhírthe 58%. Mapáil Near-Shore dírithe ar an gCósta Theas, den chuid is mó as contaetha Chorcaí agus Ciarraí, ag baint úsáide as cúig Shuirbhéireacht Gheolaíochta Éire Árthaí Mapála Iníon: RV Keary, RV Mallet, RV LIR, RV Geo agus RV Galtee. Rinne Soithí Foras na Mara mapáil amach ón gcósta sa Mhuir Cheilteach, go príomha as Corcaigh. Ina theannta sin tá mapáil UAV / drone-bhunaithe á n-imscaradh chun sonraí a fháil i gceantair idirthaoideacha.



Leanann longbhriste a fhiosrú agus a thaifeadadh mar chuid de mhapáil INFOMAR, ag obair i gcomhar le hAonad Seandálaíochta faoi Uisce (UAU). In 2020 rinneadh 39 suirbhé longbhriste san iomlán, lena n-áirítear trí athshuirbhé de raiceanna aitheanta (Lusitania, Cathair Londain agus La Survellante).

In 2020, forbraíodh breathnóir sonraí nua chun rochtain a cheadú agus a íoslódáil de shonraí geoifisiceacha éadomhain (fo-bhun an phróifíleora). Tá an t-eolas, go rialta a fuair árthaí INFOMAR ach nach bhfuil roimhe seo ar fáil go héasca leas a bhaint astu siúd atá ag iarraidh a fhorbairt ar an gcladach, lena n-áirítear an tionscal fuinnimh in-athnuaite amach ón gcósta. Ina theannta sin, seachadadh modúl nua ar mhapáil ghrinneall na farraige mar chuid de MSc Ollscoil Mhá Nuad in Breathnóireacht na Cruinne.

Úsáidtear na sonraí agus an t-eolas a bhailítear faoin gclár INFOMAR i réimse réimsí lena n-áirítear: sábháilteacht agus cairteadh muirí; Fuinneamh Eischósta; doharshaothrú; Cosaint Chósta; cosaint an chomhshaoil; Oidhreacht longbhriste; turasóireacht mhuirí, anailísí carbóin gorm ag teacht chun cinn agus taighde.

## TELLUS

Críochnaíodh an Suirbhé Geoifisiceach Tellus Airborne thar theas Central Ireland (Cill Chainnigh, Laoise, Tiobraid Árann, Port Láirge), san iomlán achar de 3,000 méadar cearnach. Bhí an clár taobh thiar den sprioc 6,000 méadar cearnach mar gheall ar mhóilleanna Covid-19 ar thús na n-oibríochtaí allamuigh, ach tá 74% de chríochnú na haerbheirthe bainte amach aige anois. Atosaíodh sampláil gheocheimiceach talún le suirbhéanna i gCill Mhantáin agus i gCill Dara, ag baint úsáide as modh gabhála sonraí digiteach nuafhorbartha chun éifeachtúlacht agus cruinneas sonraí a fheabhsú.

I mí Iúil, scaoileadh sraith sonraí geoifisiceacha don Oirdheisceart, agus i mí Dheireadh Fómhair scaoileadh torthaí nua sonraí geoiceimice na hithreach, a shroicheann an chloch mhíle de 50% den chlúdach náisiúnta críochnaithe.

Maidir le tionscadail bhreisluacha, lean obair ar aghaidh ar thionscadal ithreach Terra le Teagasc, ag scrúdú forbairt seirbhísí talmhaíochta ó shonraí agus ábhair insroichte. Ina theannta sin rinneadh tuilleadh oibre ar an tSaotharlann Acmhainní Dromchla Cruinne nua le Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath, a sheolfaidh in 2021.

## Clár Screamhuisce

Mapáil agus Measúnú Screamhuisce dírithe ar chomhthionscadal le hUisce Éireann, an earnáil uisce grúpa agus an GCC chun acmhainní screamhuisce a aithint agus a shainaitint ar chóir dóibh ról a imirt maidir le huisce óil inbhuanaithe a sholáthar, go háirithe in aghaidh

na dtionchar ar athrú aeráide. Oibríonn an tionscadal uathúil ar bhonn dobharcheantair uisce dromchla chun an leas is fearr a bhaint as na sonraí cothromaíochta uisce cainníochtúla atá ar fáil, agus chun freastal níos fearr a dhéanamh ar mheasúnuithe Uisce Éireann, Creat-Treoir Uisce (WFD) agus measúnuithe ceadúnaithe astarraingthe. In 2020, táirgeadh 15 thuarascáil dobharcheantair uiscíoch, dírithe ar Cheantar Laighean.

## Clár Tuilte Screamhuisce agus Turlaigh

Mar thoradh ar an gcéad chéim den tionscadal tuilte screamhuisce agus Turlaigh mar thoradh ar fhoilsiú léarscáileanna tuile screamhuisce carst (stairiúil agus tuartha), a thacaíonn go díreach le gealltanais OOP faoi Threoir Tuilte an AE. In éineacht leis an bhfoilsiú na léarscáileanna ag gabháil leis an tuarascáil tionscadail agus tairseach gréasáin atá nasctha le sonraí Leibhéal Uisce Hidriméadrach beo ó na 18 stáisiún monatóireachta buan, gach ceann acu ag feidhmiú faoi dheireadh 2020.

Forbraíodh seirbhís chomhairleach freisin chun cabhrú le hÚdaráis Áitiúla maidir le saincheisteanna Tuilte Screamhuisce agus Turlaigh.

Cuireadh obair na Suirbhéireachta Geolaíochta Ireland sna réimsí cláir seo in iúl don phobal freisin trí bheith le feiceáil ar an tsraith teilifíse *RTÉ '10 Rudaí le bheith ar an eolas faoi Thuilte & Triomach* in 2020.

## Tionscnaimh gheo-eolaíochta

Le linn 2020, rinneadh mapáil fhairsing, bailiú sonraí agus obair gheo-eolaíochta gaolmhar ar fud na tíre. I measc na bpríomhfhoilseachán agus ag Suirbhéireacht Gheolaíochta Éireann bhí:

- Foilsíodh Léarscáil Léarscáil 1: Rich 1: 50k do Cheantar Geochrach Chorcaí chun tacú le cinní forbartha agus pleanála.
- Fo-ithreacha nuashonraithe Mapáil d'Oirthear na Gaillimhe foilsithe.
- Seoladh Tuarascáil Iniúchta Chontae Loch Garman le Comhairle Contae Loch Garman agus leis an gComhairle Oidhreachta.
- Seoladh Viewer Samhail Geolaíochta 3D nua ar líne.

## Geoturasóireacht

Cuireadh tús le tionscadal nua chun iarratas a fhorbairt le haghaidh Geopháirc Domhanda UNESCO i Dúiche Sheoigheach agus i gceantar Locha an Iarthair i dTuaisceart na Gaillimhe agus Maigh Eo Theas. I measc na gcomhpháirtithe tá Comhairlí Contae na Gaillimhe agus

Maigh Eo agus Údarás na Gaeltachta. Ritheann an chéad chéim den tionscadal go dtí deireadh 2021 agus tá sé maoinithe ag an Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail.

## Geoghuaiseanna

**Creimeadh Cósta:** Lean Suirbhéireacht Gheolaíochta Éireann ar aghaidh ag obair ar thionscadal creimeadh cósta nua leis an nGníomhaireacht Spáis Eorpach chun monatóireacht agus mapáil iargúlta a fhorbairt. Tá sé seo chomh maith le hobair leanúnach ar fhorbairt Mapáil Leochaileachta Cósta (CVI) bunaithe ar an modheolaíocht a forbraíodh idir Suirbhéireacht Gheolaíochta Éireann agus Ollscoil Mhá Nuad. Tacaíonn an dá thionscnamh le rannpháirtíocht Shuirbhéireacht Gheolaíochta na hÉireann sa Ghrúpa Straitéise um Athrú Cósta Idir-rannach nua a seoladh go déanach 2020.

**Sciorthaí Talún:** Rinne Suirbhéireacht Gheolaíochta Éireann an Bunachar Sonraí Náisiúnta um Sciorthadh Talún a chothabháil agus a nuashonrú agus mapáil Íogairtheacht um Sciorthadh Talún in 2020. Sholáthair sé cúnamh freisin do bheirt údarás áitiúil ina raibh sciorthaí talún suntasacha / teipeanna móna ar siúl i rith na bliana, lena n-áirítear soláthar sonraí, comhordú leantach Taighde agus éadail sonraí agus tinreamh ag coistí a bunaíodh chun déileáil leis na teagmhais.

## Geo-eolaíocht Éireann

In 2020, mhéadaigh ballchuideachtaí i mbraisle Gnó Geo-eolaíochta Éireann, FBManna den chuid is mó FBManna, go 42, agus chuir sé glan 69 post leis, in ainneoin deacrachtaí san earnáil mar gheall ar an Phaindéimeach-19 Phaindéimeach. D'fhoilsigh an clár, a sheachadtar le Fiontraíocht Éireann, tuarascáil 'freisin foirmiú agus cothabháil braisle gnó rathúil' a seoladh i mBealtaine 2020.

## Taighde Geo-eolaíochta

In 2020, thacaigh clár taighde Shuirbhéireacht Gheolaíochta Éireann le 23 tionscadal nua eile ar feadh iomlán de 55 tionscadal ar siúl ag deireadh na bliana. Áiríodh leis seo comhoibríthe agus cómhaoiniú le comhlachtaí taighde na hÉireann agus an AE a bheith mar thoradh ar ghíaráil éifeachtach de níos mó ná dhá oiread an bhuiséid taighde a infheistíodh.

## **3.8 Taiscéalaíocht agus forbairt inbhuanaithe agus táirgiúil acmhainní hidreacarbóin na hÉireann a chothú faoi chreat rialála láidir, nua-aimseartha agus trédhearcach**

### **Taiscéalaíocht Mianraí agus Mianadóireacht: Ráiteas Beartais**

Tugadh faoi obair tosaigh ar fhorbairt Ráiteas Polasaí le haghaidh taiscéalaíochta mianraí agus mianadóireacht i 2020 agus é ar intinn aige dréacht-ráiteas beartais a fhoilsiú le haghaidh comhairliúcháin phoiblí in 2021. Leagfaidh an Ráiteas Beartais amach an ról tábhachtach a bheidh ag an earnáil ag cur leis an náisiúnach, Spriocanna agus tiomantais Eorpacha agus idirnáisiúnta, lena n-áirítear an t-aistriú go geilleagar ciorclach agus glan-astaíochtaí carbóin.

### **Measúnú sóisialta, comhshaoil agus eacnamaíoch ar Mhianaigh Ghabhalmhaí agus an Lisín**

Choimisiúnaigh an Roinn staidéar neamhspleách ar an measúnú sóisialta, comhshaoil agus eacnamaíoch ar Mianach Ghabhalmhaí i gCo. Chill Chainnigh agus Mianach Lisín i gCo. Thiobraid Árann. Ba iad seo na chéad mhianaigh in Éirinn atá le hoscailt faoi rialacháin nua-aimseartha mianadóireachta, pleanála agus comhshaoil.

Rinne an staidéar, a foilsíodh in 2020, measúnú ar thionchar an mhianaigh ar na pobail áitiúla.

De réir an staidéir, chuir an dá mhianaigh le cúrsaí airgeadais phoiblí, lena n-áirítear dleachtanna, cáin chorparáide, ÁSPC agus ÍMAT. Chuir Ghabhalmhaí níos mó ná €60 milliún, agus bhí ranníocaíochtaí ó Lisín i bhfad níos airde, ag os cionn €250 milliún thar thréimhse na ngníomhaíochtaí mianadóireachta.

### **Abhóca**

Sainithníodh imní maidir le sábháilteacht phoiblí le linn monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar shuíomh Mianach Oidhreachta Abhóca agus go sonrach ag an 850 Adit<sup>4</sup> ag deireadh 2019. Tá sé seo de dheisiúcháin éigeandála speisialaithe ag teastáil le linn 2020 ar chostas os cionn €900,000.

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<sup>4</sup> Is bealach isteach é adit chuig mianach faoi thalamh atá cothrománach nó beagnach cothrománach, trína bhféadfar an mianach a iontráil, a dhraenáiltear uisce, aeráilte, agus mianraí a bhaintear ag an leibhéal áisiúil is ísle.

## Clár ObSERVE

Cuireadh tús leis an gclár taighde ObSERVE in 2014, agus é mar aidhm againn ár n-eolas agus ár dtuiscint ar speicis faoi chosaint agus ar ghnáthóga íogaire amach ón gcósta a fheabhsú. Beidh an tionscadal seo comhdhéanta de shuirbhéanna ón aer ilbhliantúil agus le bailiú sonraí ardchaighdeáin a thacóidh le go leor cuspóirí beartais agus eolaíochta.

Leanadh le clár for-rochtana chun an clár a chur chun cinn in 2020, le rannpháirtíocht ag an taispeántas eolaí óga 2020 BT ag tús na bliana.

## Fuinneamh Geoiteirmeach

Bhí pleananna chun creat nua-aimseartha, beartas láidir agus rialála a fhorbairt chun tacú le húsáid mhéadaithe fuinnimh gheoiteirmeach in Éirinn chun cinn in 2020 nuair a foilsíodh dhá pháipéar, ar fáil ar [gov.ie](http://gov.ie)

- Measúnú ar fhuinneamh geoiteirmeach le haghaidh téamh ceantair in Éirinn; agus
- Fuinneamh Geoiteirmeach in Éirinn: Treochlár do chreat beartais agus rialála.

Leagtar amach sa Treochlár na chéad chéimeanna eile chun an creat a fhorbairt, lena n-áirítear ráiteas beartais a fhoilsiú in 2021.



## **SPRIOC 4: Rialachas agus Rialáil**

**A bheith den scoth maidir le treoir bheartais agus an timpeallacht rialála a chruthú dár n-earnálacha, chun dea-rialachas, margaí iomaíocha, éagsúlacht, nuálaíocht agus cleachtais inbhuanaithe a chinntiú**

## 4 Sprioc 4: Rialachas

### 4.1 A chinntiú go bhfuil creat rialála na hÉireann láidir agus soiléir, tá sé ag teacht le hoibleagáidí an AE, deachleachtas idirnáisiúnta agus cuireann sé cinnteacht, infheistíocht agus inbhuanaitheacht chun cinn, agus iad ag seachadadh do shaoránaigh

#### 2020 Tosaíochtaí Náisiúnta um Fhorfheidhmiú Dramhaíola

Tugann an Coiste Stiúrtha um Fhorfheidhmiú Dramhaíola (NWESC) comhairle do na hÚdaráis Réigiúnacha um Fhorfheidhmiú Dramhaíola (WERLAnna) agus údaráis áitiúla maidir le tosaíochtaí straitéiseacha forfheidhmithe dramhaíola straitéiseacha agus soláthraíonn sé treoir maidir leis an mbealach is fearr chun déileáil le cionta coiriúla tromchúiseacha, lena n-áirítear saincheisteanna trasteorann agus dumpáil mhídhleathach mór isteach an stát.

Rinne an WERLAnna monatóireacht ar an dul chun cinn a rinneadh ar thosaíochtaí aontaithe 2020 i rith na bliana agus chuir sé nuashonruithe eatramhacha ar fáil ar fheidhmíocht chuig an NWESC. Cuirfear tuarascáil deiridh ar an dul chun cinn a rinneadh san áireamh i dTuarascáil Bhliantúil WERLA do 2020 a fhoilseofar in 2021 agus a chuirtear ar fáil ag <http://www.werla.ie/nnual-report/>.

#### Scéim Deontais um Fhorfheidhmiú na nÚdarás Áitiúil

Soláthraíonn an Roinn maoiniú chun tacú le soláthar foirne forfheidhmithe dramhaíola údaráis áitiúil faoi Scéim Deontais Dramhaíola Forfheidhmithe an Údaráis Áitiúil, agus é ar intinn aige láithreach infheicthe pearsanra forfheidhmithe dramhaíola a choinneáil ar an talamh. Cuireadh os cionn €7.6m ar fáil chun tacú leis an scéim in 2020 chun tacú le hearcú agus coinneáil 150 ball foirne forfheidhmithe dramhaíola údaráis áitiúil ar fud na tíre.

#### Forbairt Struchtúir Údaráis Réigiúnacha um Fhorfheidhmiú Dramhaíola Nua

Tá údaráis áitiúla freagrach go príomha as reachtaíocht bainistíochta dramhaíola a fhorfheidhmiú i leith dumpála neamhdhleathaí agus cabhraítear leo ina gcuid iarrachtaí trí thrí Phríomh-Údarás Forfheidhmithe Dramhaíola (WERLAnna) a chlúdaíonn réigiúin an Deiscirt, an Oirthir-Lár Tíre agus Chonnacht-Uladh. Lean obair ar aghaidh le linn 2020 maidir le ról, cumas agus freagrachtaí na WERLAnna a fheabhsú chun an earnáil údaráis áitiúil a

chur ar aghaidh chun freagairt níos fearr a thabhairt ar dhúshláin atá ag teacht chun cinn agus ar dhúshláin forfheidhmithe tosaíochta.

## **Próiseas Kimberley**

Is é an próiseas Kimberley córas trádála idirnáisiúnta ina bhfuil rialtais, an tionscal diamaint agus na heagraíochtaí neamhrialtasacha leis an sprioc a chosc trádáil diamaint coimhlinte. Mar rannpháirtí i bpróiseas Kimberley ní mór do dhuine ar bith ar mian leo diamaint gharbh a allmhairiú nó a onnmhairiú isteach nó amach as an AE é sin a dhéanamh trí Údarás Ainmnithe Kimberley Próisis agus cloí leis an Scéim Deimhnithe Próiseas Kimberley. Ainmníodh an tAire trí rialacháin mar údarás dá leithéid in 2020.

Cé go raibh rochtain theoranta ag na srianta paidéimeacha Covid-19 ar dheimhnithe Kimberley agus ar na huirlisí chun iad a eisiúint, lean an Roinn ag déileáil le gach iarratas ar dheimhnithe onnmhairithe agus ní raibh an tionchar suntasach.

## **Ola agus Gás Amach ón gCósta**

Cuimsíonn an Clár don Rialtas tiomantas chun deireadh a chur le ceadúnais nua a eisiúint chun gáis a iniúchadh agus a eastóscadh, ar an mbonn céanna leis an Rialtas roimhe seo i Meán Fómhair 2019 ag an Rialtas roimhe seo maidir le taiscéalaíocht agus eastóscadh ola. Rinne an tAire an Clár um Thiomantas Rialtais éifeachtach láithreach: Ní ghlacann an Roinn a thuilleadh le hiarratais nua ar cheadúnais taiscéalaíochta le haghaidh gáis nádúrtha nó ola, ná ní bheidh aon bhabhtaí ceadúnaithe amach anseo ann. Tabharfar éifeacht reachtach dó seo in 2021 mar chuid den Bhille um Ghníomhú Aeráide agus Forbairt Ísealcharbóin (Leasú).

## **Táirgeadh Gáis**

Tháinig táirgeadh gáis na Coiribe le chéile 36% d'éileamh gáis na hÉireann sa bhliain gháis 2019/2020 (Deireadh Fómhair 2019 go Meán Fómhair 2020), leis an orlach (Cionn tSáile) agus Pointí Iontrála Moffat ag soláthar an 3% agus 61% eile faoi seach. Sna páirceanna gáis i limistéar Chionn tSáile (ag ionchorprú Cheann an Chionn tSáile, Iardheisceart Chionn tSáile, Baile Choitín agus Seacht Cinn) cuireadh deireadh leis an táirgeadh i mí Iúil 2020 tar éis 42 bliain oibríochta. Tar éis deireadh a chur le táirgeadh, cuireadh tús le díchoimisiúnú toibreacha agus bonneagar faoin bhfarraige, a deonaíodh toiliú ón Aire in 2019.

Deonaíodh toiliú an Aire in 2020 le hiarratas ar dhíchoimisiúnú áiseanna áirithe laistigh de limistéar léasa peitriam Ceann Chionn tSáile, a chlúdaíonn deireadh iomlán na seaicéid ardán amach ón gcósta (cosa).



## Taiscéalaíocht

Leagadh amach 13 Ceadúnas Taiscéalaíochta agus 2 rogha ceadúnaithe le linn 2020 agus níor deonaíodh aon údaruithe peitriam nua.

Níor deonaíodh aon toiliú le haghaidh gníomhaíochtaí taiscéalaíochta le linn 2020.

Deonaíodh toiliú do thrí iarratas ar ghníomhaíochtaí faoi léasanna peitriam - Suirbhé Imréitigh Láithreáin Rig i gceantair Chionn tSáile agus seacht gceantar Léasacha Cinn; Suirbhé Geolaíochta éadomhain timpeall ar ardáin táirgthe ceann Chionn tSáile; agus Suirbhé Píblíne Eischósta agus Clár Cigireachta & Cothabhála na n-áiseanna amach ón gcósta a bhaineann le réimse gáis na Coiribe.

## Mianraí

In 2020, rangaithe Éire mar an 4ú táirgeoir is mó san Eoraip de mhíotal since i dtiúchán agus an 17ú táirgeoir is mó ar domhan. Ina theannta sin, ba í Éire an 9ú táirgeoir is mó san Eoraip de mhíotal luaidhe i ndíriú agus 27ú ar fud an domhain.

Faoi láthair tá 16 Léas / Ceadúnas Mianadóireachta Stáit ar fáil le haghaidh luaidhe, sinc, gipseam, marmair agus cré thine. D'oibrigh dhá mhianaigh in Éirinn in 2020; Mianach luaidhe-since san Uaimh, Co. na Mí (an mianach since is mó san Eoraip), agus oibríocht gipseam i gCo. Mhuineacháin. Tá thart ar 600 duine fostaithe go díreach i ngníomhaíochtaí mianadóireachta, mar aon le foireann conradh breise.

Deonaíodh 67 Ceadúnas Lorgaireachta in 2020. Ag deireadh 2020, bhí 490 Ceadúnas Lorgaireachta, a shealbhaíonn thart ar 45 cuideachta taiscéalaíochta mianraí, i gcomparáid le 542 ceadúnas ag deireadh 2019.

Lean an Roinn ar aghaidh ag déanamh monatóireachta ar ghníomhaíochtaí mianadóireachta chun comhlíonadh na gcoinníollacha Ceadúnas agus Léasanna Mianadóireachta Stáit a chinntiú agus ag cloí le dea-chleachtas

B'ionann caiteachas díreach arna infheistiú ag sealbhóirí ceadúnais lorgaireachta agus iad ag obair ar a gceantair cheadúnais agus os cionn €15 milliún in 2020. Is iad sinc agus luaidhe na príomh-mianraí atá á n-iniúchadh in Éirinn; I measc na mianraí eile spéise tá óir, airgead, copar, litiam agus bairít.

## Tionscadal Idirnascaire Ceilteach

Is é an Tionscadal Idirnascaire Ceilteach ná 575km fada (500km fomhuirí), cábla leictreachais 700MW a nascann Éire agus an Fhrainc, ar chostas €1 billiún. Tá sé molta i gcomhpháirt ag EirGrid agus an t-oibreoir córais tarchurtha Fraincise, Réseau de l'ompar

d'Électricité (RTÉ). I mí na Nollag 2020 cheadaigh an AE deontas de €530m i dtreo tógáil an Idirnascaire Ceilteach. Fuarthas an deontas trí phróiseas PCI an AE, rud a chiallaíonn gur tionscadal bonneagair fuinnimh é den tosaíocht is airde san AE.

Rinneadh pleanáil fairsing ag EirGrid agus tréimhse comhairliúcháin phoiblí idir Samhain 2019 agus 20 Feabhra 2020 maidir le bonneagar idirnascaire a fhorbairt, agus na cinntí bainte amach ar shuíomh an idirnascaire in Oirthear Chorcaí. Shroich EirGrid cinneadh breise maidir le bunú scéime sochair phobail feabhsaithe do phobail a raibh tionchar orthu.

Leanann an Roinn ar aghaidh ag tacú le cuimsiú an tionscadail ar an 5ú Tionscadal AE Leas Leasa (PCI) a bhunófar in R4 2021, chomh maith le haon cheanglais a chomhlíonadh thar ceann an Bhallstáit faoin Áis Nasctha san Eoraip (CEF) Comhaontú deontais.

## **Ráiteas Beartais maidir le Gás Fracáilte a Allmhairiú**

Lean an Roinn ag obair go dlúth le hOifig an Ard-Aighne chun na gealltanais sa Chlár don Rialtas a chur i bhfeidhm maidir le Ráiteas Beartais a bhunú ina leagtar amach cur chuige na hÉireann maidir le gás fracáilte.

## **An t-idirnascaire Greenlink**

Is é an t-idirnascaire Greenlink idirnascaire 170km fada, 500MW a bheidh ar siúl ó Pembroke, an Bhreatain Bheag go dtí an Oileán Mhór, Loch Garman.

Leanann Greenlink ar aghaidh ag dul chun cinn agus cuireadh na hiarratais phleanála isteach i mí na Nollag 2020. Táthar ag súil go gcríochnófar an próiseas pleanála in 2021 le tógáil sceidealta le tosú i R4 2021 má tá cead pleanála deonaithe.

## **Clár Náisiúnta Méadraithe Cliste**

Déanann an Coimisiún an Clár Náisiúnta Méadraithe Cliste a chomhordú chun fónais a rialáil (CRU) le ESB Networks a sheachadann an méadar leictreachais. Cuireadh tús leis an gcleachtas seo i Meán Fómhair 2019, agus bhí os cionn 239,000 méadar suiteáilte go dtí deireadh mhí na Nollag 2020.

## **Pacáiste Fuinnimh Ghlain**

Leagann pacáiste fuinnimh glan Choimisiún an AE do gach Eorpach amach samhail leictreachais an AE do na deich mbliana amach romhainn. Trasuíodh an Treoir Leictreachais, atá mar chuid den phacáiste fuinnimh glan, thar an tréimhse go dtí 2015. In 2020, rinneadh dul chun cinn a dhéanamh ar thrasuí maidir le roinnt oibleagáidí nua laistigh

den Treoir agus tá an obair ar siúl go leanúnach chun na gnéithe atá fágtha den Treoir a thrasuí, ag teacht le cur chuige céimnithe maidir lena thrasuí.

## Slándáil Fuinnimh an tSoláthair

Lean an Roinn ar aghaidh ag glacadh páirte i ngrúpaí oibre éagsúla maidir le slándáil fuinnimh an tsoláthair agus ghlac siad páirt i roinnt cleachtaí práinnfhreagartha a rinne oibreoírí córais tarchurtha gáis agus leictreachais araon. Áiríodh leis seo:

- Reáchtálann EirGrid Plean Cumarsáide Éigeandála Blackstart (Becp) chun a phrótacal cumarsáide a thástáil i gcás éigeandála leictreachais.
- Cleachtadh éigeandála gáis náisiúnta, ar siúl ag Líonraí Gáis Éireann, ag ionsamhlú easnaimh soláthair gáis ag Moffat, Albain. Reáchtáladh an cleachtadh seo go comhthreomhar le cleachtadh éigeandála gáis náisiúnta sa Bhreatain Mhór atá á reáchtáil ag National Grid UK.

## Slándáil Ola an tSoláthair

Lean an Roinn ar aghaidh ag cinntiú Slándáil Ola na Stát in 2020, ag soláthar maoirseachta ar an nGníomhaireacht um Chúlchiste Ola Náisiúnta (NORA) agus ar a mbainistíocht ar Chúltaca Ola Straitéiseach na Stát, atá comhionann le 90 lá d'allmhairí glan.

Nuashonraíodh an Roinn pleananna teagmhasacha chun ligean don Rialtas freagra a thabhairt ar mhóréigeandáil ola sa Stát, chun folláine agus sábháilteacht an phobail i gcoitinne a chosaint i gcás éigeandála tromchúiseacha ola a tharla.

## Maoiniú Taighde

Soláthraíonn an GCC feidhm náisiúnta comhordaithe do thaighde a bhaineann le hathrú aeráide atá maoinithe go poiblí in Éirinn. Téann an Roinn i dteagmháil le Clár Taighde an GCC, a raibh buiséad €8.1 milliún ann in 2020. Ag deireadh 2020 ag deireadh 2020 bhí an GCC ag bainistiú 230 tionscadal taighde leanúnach ag clúdach topaicí in aeráid, uisce, sláinte, dramháil, aer, Bithéagsúlacht, athrú iompraíochta agus rannpháirtíocht. Sa tréimhse chéanna, d'fhoilsigh an EPA 54 tuarascáil aschuir taighde agus an dara tuarascáil bhliantúil ar ghníomhaíochtaí náisiúnta taighde aeráide don Ghrúpa Comhordaithe Taighde Aeráide.

D'iarr taighde an EPA le rá lucht acadúil náisiúnta chun gníomhú mar údair den chéad tuarascáil mheasúnaithe cúig bliana (luach €1.43m) i nDeireadh Fómhair 2020. Cuirfidh an tuarascáil seo mar bhonn le pleanáil náisiúnta gníomhaíochta aeráide agus saintréithe le haghaidh idirghabhálacha beartais sa todhchaí in oiriúnú aeráide agus maolú.

Bhí an EPA mar chuid de chuibhreas a d'éirigh leo i dtairiscint ar thionscadal €10m saoil atá maoinithe ag €10m chun tabhairt faoi athchóiriú feabhsaithe ar iar-láithreáin fómhair bloc tionsclaíoch.

## **Breatimeacht**

Ghlac an Roinn páirt i bpleanáil ullmhachta agus teagmhasach don Bhreatimeacht, a chlúdaíonn príomhréimsí beartais laistigh de shainchúram na Roinne, lena n-áirítear margai fuinnimh agus trádáil, timpeallacht, iascach intíre, cumarsáid agus craoltóireacht.

Bhí an Roinn freagrach as cuid scoite de na forálacha reachtacha faoi Chuid VI de tharraingt siar na Ríochta Aontaithe ó Acht an Aontais Eorpaigh (Forálacha Iarmhartacha) 2020 a dhéileáil leis an earnáil gáis fluairínithe.

Aisghairtear an fhoráil don Mhargadh Leictreachais Aonair (SEM) in Acht an Aontais Eorpaigh (Forálacha Iarmhartacha) 2019 tar éis an comhaontú aistarraingthe a dhaingniú. Soláthraíodh an comhaontú seo go sainráite don SEM i bPrótacal Éireann / Thuaisceart Éireann 2020.

D'aontaigh an AE agus an Ríocht Aontaithe an Comhaontú Trádála agus Comhair (TCA) an 30 Nollaig 2020. Áirítear leis an gComhaontú seo teideal fuinnimh lena n-áirítear próiseas chun socruithe trádála leictreachais athsholáthair a fhorbairt a bheartaítear a thabhairt chun críche faoi Aibreán 2022. An Margadh Aonair Leictreachais Leanann sé de bheith ag feidhmiú ón 1 Eanáir 2021. Tá forálacha fuinnimh an TCA leathan de chineál agus forálann sé do raon oibleagáidí comhair agus an t-ionchas go ndéanfaí socruithe mionsonraithe idir na páirtithe ag amanna sonraithe amach anseo.

## **4.2 Rialachas agus maoirseacht éifeachtach a chinntiú ar na comhlachtaí Stáit atá ag feidhmiú faoi choimirce na Roinne**

Bhí an Roinn freagrach as 17 comhlacht tráchtála, neamhthráchtála agus rialúcháin sular aistríodh feidhmeanna i mí Mheán Fómhair 2020. Cur chuige sruthlínithe do rialachas corparáideach tugtha isteach i roinnt réimsí a bhaineann le comhlachtaí Stáit, lena n-áirítear ceapacháin do Bhoird Stáit, a phróiseáil Iarrataí ar thoiliú Aireachta, ag forbairt socruithe maoirseachta cuí agus monatóireacht airgeadais. Tá an cur chuige seo maidir le rialachas ag cabhrú lena chinntiú go bhfuil an gaol idir an roinn agus a ghníomhaireachtaí comhsheasmhach agus go léiríonn sé dea-chleachtas.

Tá socruithe rialachais leagtha amach sna reachtanna éagsúla a thacaíonn le comhlachtaí an Stáit agus an Cód Cleachtais 2016 um Rialachas Comhlachtaí Stáit. Déanann an Roinn

go n-oibríonn sé go bliantúil chun a fhíorú go bhfuil a chomhlachtaí stáit ag comhlíonadh an Chóid.

## **Iarmhéid Inscne ar Bhoird Stáit agus ar Choistí Reachtúla**

Titeann ceapacháin chuig na Boird Stáit agus na Coistí Reachtúla faoi choimirce na Roinne i roinnt catagóirí lena n-áirítear ionadaithe rialtais, aireachta, ex-officio agus a thoghadh.

Le linn 2020, rinneadh 28 ceapachán, a raibh 68% díobh fir agus 32% díobh mná. Áirítear ceapacháin chuig RTÉ agus TG4 san áireamh sa staitistic seo; Mar sin féin, aistríodh na comhlachtaí seo, mar aon leis an BAI, faoi choimirce na Roinne Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meáin i Meán Fómhair 2020.

Ar an 31 Nollaig 2020 ba é an meánchothromaíocht inscne sa bhallaíocht a bhí ag freastal ar na comhlachtaí faoin Roinn ná 66% fir agus 34% baineann. Tríd is tríd, faoi dheireadh na bliana, bhuail cúig chomhlacht faoin Roinn le sprioc an Rialtais de 40% ionadaíocht baineann i dtéarmaí comhaltaí a fhreastal, agus leanfaidh iarrachtaí chun aghaidh a thabhairt ar na comhlachtaí sin nach bhfuil an sprioc fós ann.

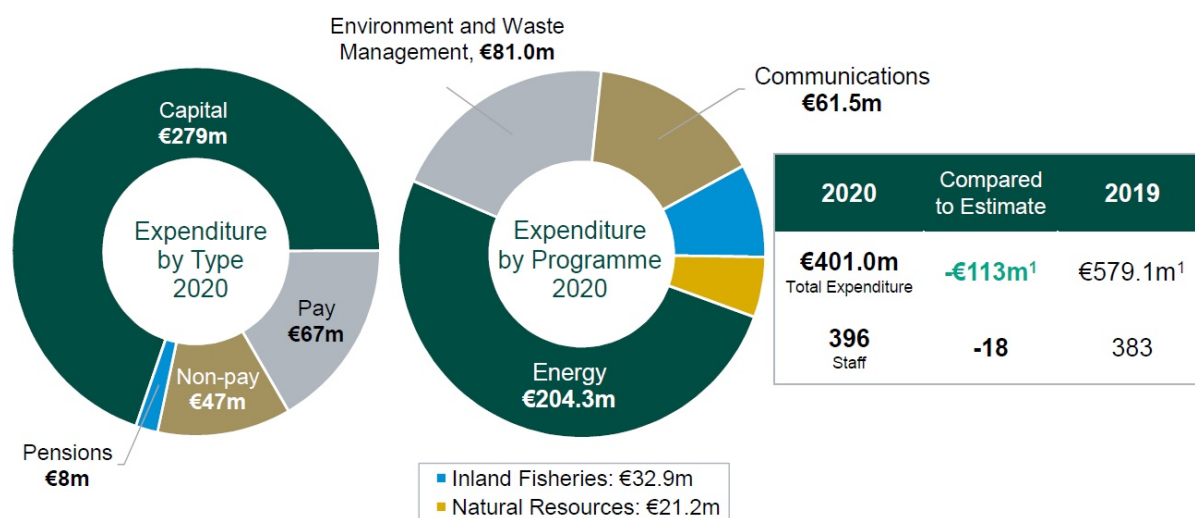
Cuirfidh an Roinn moltaí i bhfeidhm an Ghrúpa Idir-rannach ar Iarmhéid Inscne ar Bhoird Stáit chun cothromaíocht inscne níos fearr a chur chun cinn ar na comhlachtaí atá faoina choimirce.

## **4.3 Ionad Corparáideach na Ranna**

Tacaíonn Ionad Corparáideach na Roinne le rannáin líne na Roinne chun a gcuspóirí gnó eanála a bhaint amach agus mar bhonn taca le cur i bhfeidhm Chlár Oibre Athchóirithe na Seirbhíse Poiblí agus Plean Athnuachana na Státseirbhíse, chomh maith le seachadadh éifeachtacht eagraíochtúil fhoriomlán.

## Acmhainní Airgeadais:

Seo a leanas an t-aschur airgeadais do 2020:



## Pleanáil an Lucht Oibre

Rinneadh plean saothair na Roinne a nuashonrú in 2019 agus lean sé ar aghaidh le bheith mar bhonn le comórtais earcaíochta seachtracha agus ardú céime inmheánacha i 2020. Dearadh iad seo chun a chinntiú gur féidir leis an Roinn príomhthosaíochtaí a sheachadadh de réir scálaí ama comhaontaithe.

Lean an Roinn ag dul i ngleic go réamhghníomhach le hathnuachan agus le hathchóiriú na státseirbhíse i dtéarmaí tionscnamh AD, seirbhísí comhroinnte agus feabhsuithe TFC. Áiríodh leis seo bainistíocht ar chomhaontuithe leibhéal seirbhíse le seirbhísí comhroinnte le haghaidh Acmhainní Daonna agus Párolla agus Foghlama & Forbartha.

## Polasaí Bainistíochta Tinrimh

Tá ráta ama cailte na Roinne do shaoire bhreiteachta de 2.1% in 2020 laistigh den spriocráta foriomlán de 3.5% ar fud na Státseirbhíse.

## Bainistíocht Feidhmíochta

Lean an Roinn ar aghaidh ag cur feasacht agus tábhacht a chur chun cinn go gcríochnófar gach céim den EPMDanna ar fud na Roinne agus chun tacú le bainisteoirí líne, nuair is gá. Ba é an ráta críochnaithe le haghaidh PMDS laistigh den Roinn in 2020 ná 87%.

## Foghlaim agus Forbairt

Lean an Roinn ar aghaidh le cur chuige córasach a chur i bhfeidhm maidir le hanailís ar riachtanais foghlama agus forbartha agus tosaíocht, pleanáil, taifeadadh agus meastóireacht ar réitigh, go príomha trí:

- An Fhoireann Foghlama & Forbartha;
- Cur i bhfeidhm leanúnach beartais agus nósanna imeachta oideachais na Foghlama agus na Forbartha;
- Comhoibriú dlúth le OneLearning, an Lár-Aonad Foghlama & Forbartha don Státseirbhís;
- An Córas Bainistíochta Foghlama OneLearning (LMS); agus
- Cumarsáid rialta leis an bhfoireann ar na hathruithe trí r-phoist, nuachtlitir ar líne, leathanach eolais agus forbartha inlín, agus cur i láthair ag fóram grád agus ceardlanna rannpháirtíochta fostaithe.

## Doiciméad maidir le Beartas agus Treoirínte um Nochtadh Cosanta

In 2020, bhí beartas agus treoirínte um nochtadh cosanta na Roinne ar fáil don fhoireann ar an inlín.

## Cumarsáid

Oibríonn an Rannán Cumarsáide agus Caidrimh Meán (CMMD) chun tacú le feachtais agus gníomhaíochtaí cumarsáide an rialtais láir. Feidhmíonn sé freisin chun seirbhís chumarsáide gairmiúil, dea-chleachtais a sholáthar don Roinn.

In ainneoin an tionchar a bhí ag an Phaindéimeach-19, sheachadadh an Roinn ar roinnt tionscnamh agus comhairliúcháin ardphróifíle ar fud 2020, le tacaíocht ó CMRD Cumarsáide agus Feachtais Meáin.

In 2020 leathnaigh an Roinn a láithreach ar ardáin na meán sóisialta, agus d'fhás sé an teacht agus rannpháirtíocht na bpost trasna Twitter agus LinkedIn. Bhí sé seo mar bhonn taca ag forbairt straitéis dhigiteach agus shóisialta a díreoidh fás breise sna meáin shóisialta i 2021.

## Cumarsáid Inmheánach agus Rannpháirtíocht

Bhí cumarsáid inmheánach ríthábhachtach i 2020 mar mhodh chun teagmháil a choinneáil leis an bhfoireann, ag coinneáil foirne iargúlta ar an eolas agus a nascadh, agus tacú le

folláine na foirne. Ba uirlis thábhachtach í Nuachtlitir sheachtainiúil na Roinne chun foirne a choinneáil nasctha agus ag roinnt gnó agus nuacht neamhfhoirmiúil agus nuashonruithe. Is fócas lárnach é Sláinte agus Folláine, agus reáchtáladh cainteanna agus ceardlanna foirne ar bhonn rialta. D'oibrigh na foirne cumarsáide agus AD go dlúth le fóraim foirne éagsúla chun deiseanna a aithint chun níos mó rannpháirtíochta a éascú ar fud na Roinne. Rinneadh inlíon na Roinne a ghíaráil chun cumarsáid níos fearr a chumasú, ag baint úsáide as físeán, podchraoladh agus ábhar cló chun an fhoireann a choinneáil nasctha agus ar an eolas.

In ainneoin iargúlta, thaifead an Roinn ráta freagartha 85% ar an suirbhé fostaíochta fostaithe sa Státseirbhíse 2020, rud a léiríonn rannpháirtíocht láidir ar fud na heagraíochta.

## **TFC**

Ó Mhárta 2020, chuir an Roinn comhairle ar an bhfoireann go léir a bheith ag obair ó bhaile go dtí go bhfógrófar a thuilleadh mar fhreagra ar ghníomhartha rialtais a eascraíonn as an Phaindéimeach-19. Thacaigh an Rannán Córais Faisnéise (ISD) i gcomhar lenár gcomhpháirtí seachadta seirbhíse comhroinnte, an Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara (DAFM), tacaíocht don fhoireann atá ag obair ón mbaile ar na bealaí seo a leanas:

- Cuireadh feidhmiúlacht iomlán TFC ar fáil don fhoireann go léir trí rochtain iargúlta ar ár gcórais a úsáid ag baint úsáide as feidhmchlár deisce iargúlta slán;
- Dáiltear ríomhairí glúine agus forimeallaigh ar an bhfoireann lena n-úsáid sa bhaile;
- Rolladh amach agus riarachán na mbogearraí físchomhdhála bunaithe ar an ngréasán (súmáil agus Webex) don fhoireann chun tacú le cumarsáid iargúlta.

## **Saoráil Faisnéise (SF)**

Próiseáladh 207 iarratas SF agus 44 iarratas AIE le linn 2020.



# Aguisíní



# Aguisín I: 2020 Reachtaíocht

## Billí a achtaíodh

An tAcht um an nGníomhaireacht Chúltaca Ola Náisiúnta (Leasú) agus um Sholáthar Seirbhísí Lárnacha Cisteáin, 29 Iúil 2020

## Ionstraimí Reachtúla

Uimhir S.I.	Teideal
23 of 2020	An tAontas Eorpach (Srian le substaintí guaiseacha áirithe i dTrealamh Leictreach agus Leictreonach) (Leasú) 2020
56 of 2020	An tAcht um Rialáil Leictreachais 1999 (Oibleagáidí na Seirbhíse Poiblí) (Leasú) 2020
63 of 2020	Rialú iascaireachta d'Ordú Bradán 2020
82 of 2020	Rialacháin an Aontais Eorpaigh (Feithiclí Deireadh-saoil) (Leasú) 2020
83 of 2020	Rialacháin an Aontais Eorpaigh (Margadh Inmheánach i nGás Nádúrtha) 2020.
122 of 2020	Rialacháin Theileagrafaíochta Sreang (Ceadúnais Shealadacha Seirbhísí Cumarsáide Leictreonaí) 2020
130 of 2020	Rialacháin an Aontais Eorpaigh (Bainistiú Dramhaíola) (Measúnacht Tionchair Timpeallachta) 2020
189 of 2020	Rialacháin um Gníomhaireacht um Chaomhnú Comhshaoil (Rialú Comhtháite um Thruailliú) (Ceadúnú) (Leasú) 2020.
190 of 2020	Rialacháin um Gníomhaireacht um Chaomhnú Comhshaoil (Astaíochtaí Tionscail) (Ceadúnú) (Leasú) 2020.
191 of 2020	Rialacháin an Aontais Eorpaigh (Measúnacht Tionchair Timpeallachta) (Acht na Gníomhaireachta um Chaomhnú Comhshaoil 1992) (Leasú) 2020

264 of 2020	Rialacháin an Aontais Eorpaigh (Srian le substaintí guaiseacha áirithe i dtrealamh leictreonach) (Leasú) (Uimh. 2) 2020
321 of 2020	Rialacháin an Aontais Eorpaigh (Líonadh Talún) 2020
322 of 2020	Rialacháin an Aontais Eorpaigh (Pacáistiú) 2020
323 of 2020	Rialacháin an Aontais Eorpaigh (Treoir Dramhaíola) 2020
342 of 2020	Rialacháin an Aontais Eorpaigh (Ullmhacht Riosca Leictreachais) 2020
358 of 2020	Rialacháin an Aontais Eorpaigh (Inrochtaineacht ar Ghréasáin agus Iarratais Soghluaiste Comhlachtaí Earnála Poiblí) 2020
365 of 2020	Rialacháin an Aontais Eorpaigh (Fuinneamh In-athnuaite) 2020
407 of 2020	Rialacháin na dTeileagrafaíocht Sreang (Ceadúnais Seirbhísí Cumarsáide Leictreonaí Sealadach) 2020
433 of 2020	Rialacháin an Aontais Eorpaigh (seirbhísí seachadta dáileachta trasteorann) 2020
500 of 2020	An tAcht um Rialáil Leictreachais 1999 (Oibleagáidí na Seirbhíse Poiblí) (Leasú) (Uimh. 2) 2020
524 of 2020	Rialacháin an Aontais Eorpaigh (Fuinneamh In-athnuaite) (Leasú) 2020
667 of 2020	Rialacháin na Scéime Clibeála Bradán agus Bradán Fiáin (Leasú) 2020
668 of 2020	An tAontas Eorpach (Muirir Mhiondíola do Rialacháin Cumarsáide Rialáilte Idir-AE) 2020
704 of 2020	Rialacháin an Aontais Eorpaigh (An Margadh Inmheánach sa Leictreachas) (Cúrsaí Údaráis Rialála) 2020
738 of 2020	Bainistiú Dramhaíola (Toirmeasc ar Dhiúscairt Dramhaíola trí Dó) (Leasú) (Leasú) 2020

745 of 2020	Rialacháin an Aontais Eorpaigh (Slándáil an tSoláthair Gáis Nádúrtha) 2020
755 of 2020	Rialacháin an Aontais Eorpaigh (Trádáil Astuithe Gáis Ceaptha Teasa) (Leasú) 2020

## Fodhlíthe Iascaigh Intíre

Uimhir Fodhlí	Teideal
331 of 2020	Caomhnú Bradán agus Breac Geal (Aibhneacha Dúnta)
979 of 2020	Caomhnú Bradán agus Breac Geal (Dréacht Líonta agus Líonta Snap)
980 of 2020	Slatiascaireacht Chora Mhainistir Fhear Maí (Uimh 4 nó Lios Mór Dúiche) (Mumhan Blackwater)
981 of 2020	Rialú ar Mhodhanna Slatiascaireachta mara do speicis áirithe éisc
982 of 2020	Fodhlí Slatiascaireachta
983 of 2020	Caomhnú Bradán agus Breac Geal (Teorainneacha Mála) de 2020
984 of 2020	Caomhnú Bradán agus Breac Geal (Ghabháil Agus Scaoileadh)
985 of 2020	Caomhnú Bradán agus Breac Geal (Abhainn na Sláine)
986 of 2020	Caomhnú Bradán agus Breac Geal (Abhainn Na Siúire)
987 of 2020	Caomhnú Breac Geal

## Aguisín II: Tuarascáil Soláthair Phoiblí Ghlais 2020

Ag teacht le Ciorclán 20/2019 *Úsáid Breithnithe Comhshaoil agus Sóisialta i Soláthar Poiblí*, leagtar amach thíos sonraí faoi chonarthaí soláthair ar luach níos mó ná €25,000, a síníodh sa bhliain féilire 2020, a chuimsíonn critéir ghlasa atá deartha lena chinntiú go mbeidh tionchar laghdaithe ag an táirge nó an tseirbhís a sholáthrófar:

Bliain Tagartha 2020	A. Líon iomlán na gconarthaí arna n-eisiúint ag os cionn €25,000 de réir earnála tosaíochta	B. Luach iomlán na gconarthaí arna n-eisiúint ag an earnáil tosaíochta os cionn €25,000	C. Líon iomlán na gconarthaí arna n-eisiúint ag os cionn €25,000 de réir earnála tosaíochta a bhfuil GPP corpraithe iontu	D. Luach iomlán na gconarthaí arna n-eisiúint ag os cionn €25,000 de réir earnála tosaíochta a bhfuil GPP corpraithe iontu
Iompar (feithiclí agus seirbhísí iompair de bhóthar)	2	€212,959	2	€212,959
Tógáil (ábhair agus bainistíocht láithreáin)	-	-	-	-
Fuinneamh (leictreachas, teas comhcheangailte agus cumhacht agus	1	€180,000	-	-

soilsiú)				
Seirbhísí Bia & Lónadóireachta	-	-	-	-
Táirgí & Seirbhísí Glantacháin	-	-	-	-
Teicstílí	-	-	-	-
Trealamh TF (deasc, ríomhairí glúine agus taispeántais)	1	€500,000	1	€500,000
Páipéar	-	-	-	-
Eile: Creat Seirbhísí Comhairleachta do Mheasúnuithe Comhshaoil	1	€300,000	1	€300,000
<b>Iomlán</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>€1,192,959</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>€1,012,959</b>

## Aguisín III: Údaruithe Peitriúiam

Bhí 30 údarú peitriúiam san iomlán ann an 31 Nollaig 2020. Ina measc bhí:

- 3 Léas Peitriúiam
- 4 Ghnóthas Léas
- 19 Ceadúnas Taiscéalaíochta (a raibh 2 cheann díobh faoi réir iarratais ar údarú leantach)
- 2 Rogha Ceadúnaithe (a raibh 2 cheann díobh faoi réir iarratas ar údarú leantach)
- 2 Cheadúnas um Lorg Peitriúiam

Deonaíodh údarú peitriúiam nua amháin, Ceadúnas um Lorg Peitriúiam (PPL), le linn 2020.

Tá sonraí faoin údarú nua seo ón gcósta leagtha amach sa tábla seo a leanas:

Údaruithe Uimh.	Cineál Údaraithe	Ceadúnaí/Ceadúnaithe
PPL 1/20	Ceadúnas um Lorg Peitriúiam	Woodside Energy (Éire) Pty

## Aguisín IV: Comhlachtaí faoi choimirce na Roinne

### Cumarsáid



### Fuinneamh



### Comhshaol agus Gníomhú ar son na hAeráide



### Achmhainní Nadúrtha



- An Bord Mianadóireachta
- Corparáid Náisiúnta Pheitrlíam na hÉireann Teoranta (INPC)