



comhairle chontae na mí
meath county council

MEATH LOCAL AUTHORITIES ENERGY POLICY

The Meath Local Authorities provide an extensive and diverse range of services throughout the County including the provision and maintenance of houses, roads, water supplies and sewerage schemes, planning and development services, waste management, environmental protection, recreational activities, libraries, cultural and community development, including recreation and sport.

Our Significant Energy Users (SEUs) include:

- **Water Supply:** Includes the abstraction, treatment and distribution of drinking water within County Meath.
- **Wastewater Treatment:** Includes the collection, transfer and treatment of wastewater within County Meath.
- **Public Lighting:** Performs an essential public good service, ensuring adequate illumination for traffic and public safety on roads and streets, and acts as a deterrent to crime and anti-social behaviour.
- **Corporate Buildings:** The Corporate Buildings of Meath Local Authorities include our current County Building in Navan, the new HQ in the IDA Business & Technological Park (not yet occupied), Navan, Kells and Trim Town Council Civic Buildings, Duleek and Dunshaughlin Area Offices, The Library Headquarters and network of branches throughout the County, the fire service network, Leisure Centres & Solstice Centre. In addition, to a range of other buildings throughout the county which provide a wide range of services to the people of Meath. These Corporate Buildings account for a significant amount of energy in various forms

- ICT: The operation and maintenance of information systems and associated computer equipment and data storage involves the consumption of a significant amount of energy.

Mission statement:

Meath Local Authorities mission is to develop as a leading Local Authority for sustainable energy use and to promote the importance of good energy management for the economic, social and environmental well-being of the County's residents and businesses.

Policy:

Meath Local Authorities are committed to responsible energy management and will practice energy efficiency throughout all our premises, plant and equipment, wherever it is cost effective to do so. We will reduce energy usage and associated greenhouse gas emissions by optimising Meath Local Authorities use of energy and adopting best energy management practices. This will assist MLA in meeting the energy reduction targets set out under the Kyoto Protocol and our EU and National Targets. "Meath Local Authorities will become a LOW CARBON COUNCIL by using energy more efficiently and by using and developing more of our own low-carbon energy sources." Furthermore Meath Local Authorities will "be seen to lead by example — showing all sectors what is possible through strong, committed action."

MLA will strive to comply with all applicable legal and other requirements related to energy use, consumption and efficiency. Such requirements include, but are not limited to;

- DIRECTIVE 2002/91/EC (Energy Performance of Buildings Directive)
- SI 542 of 2009 (Energy End-Use Efficiency and Energy Services)
- SI 151 of 2011 (Energy Efficient Public Procurement).

Resources will be committed to improving energy performance under the guidance of our Energy Sponsor, the Director of Services of Transportation and Housing. An energy unit has been established and includes an energy officer and energy conservation officer who will work together with other staff within the organisation to develop an action plan annually. The action plan will outline how we will achieve our energy reduction targets. The energy unit will promote and support the implementing of energy initiatives in various departments and service areas across Meath Local Authorities.

Objective

In order to increase its efficiency of energy use Meath Local Authorities will:

1. Adopt best energy management practices;
2. Achieve an Energy Target of a 3% reduction in energy use annually in line with our national target of 33% reduction from 2009 - 2020;
3. Reduce the amount of pollution, particularly CO2 emissions, caused by our energy consumption;
4. Regularly monitor energy use across sites and organisational units;
5. Report quarterly on energy use to Management;
6. Identify and implement ways to increase staff awareness in regards to energy efficiency;
7. Develop, implement, and monitor the implementation of Energy Action Plans;
8. Savings achieved through energy efficient measures will be ring fenced and re-invested into other energy saving projects;
9. Ensure that new appliances, equipment, vehicles, and building projects are energy efficient, and where possible ensure purchases are from the TRIPLE E Register; and

10. Review Meath Local Authorities energy efficiency performance and Energy Action Plans annually.

The Council seeks to achieve this by responsible energy management, promoting energy efficiency throughout its service operations, and where practicable using alternative renewable sources of energy.

In the short term, our immediate objectives are:

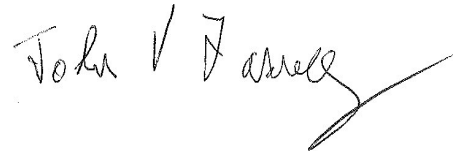
- I. to gain control over our energy consumption by reviewing and improving our purchasing, operating, motivation and training practices,
- II. to invest in a rolling programme of energy saving measures, which will maximise returns on investment in order to generate funds, which can be re-invested, at least in part, in further energy management activities, and/or
- III. to safeguard these gains by establishing and maintaining a management information system designed to ensure that information is delivered to those who need it, on time and in a form, which supports their managerial decision making.

The fulfilment of this policy is the joint responsibility of all the employees of the organisation. Cooperation shall be experienced on all levels for the success of this policy. The Energy Policy, including the corporate commitment, will be reviewed every five years Short-term targets and supporting action plans will be reviewed on an annual basis.

In accordance with Circular LG 03/11 and Guidelines for the Compilation and Submission of Data for the 2010 Service Indicators in Local Authorities Report, we will publish data on our energy performance on an annual basis. In addition, we will participate in the Public Sector Energy Monitoring & Reporting System, as administered by SEAI. We will

publish an annual progress report so that the success of the Council's commitment is open to public scrutiny.

We are committed to working with partner organisations and supporting voluntary and government led initiatives in order to improve our energy management performance.



County Manager

Jackie Maguire

Cathaoirleach

Cllr. John Farrelly