2025 Local Government

Climate Action Key Performance Indicators Full Report

September 2026

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LGMA
An Ghníomhaireacht Bainistíochta Rialtais Áitiúil
Local Government Management Agency

CARO

Rialtas Áitiúil Éireann
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2025 Local Government Climate Action Key Performance Indicators Report

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Climate Action KPI Working Group membership in 2025:

- Marian Higgins, Kildare County Council (Chair)
- Breda Maher, Eastern and Midlands CARO (Project Manager)
- Patrick Greene, Director of Services for the Operational Development Directorate, Galway City Council
- Dr Bernie O'Donoghue Hynes, LGMA (Project Research Lead)
- Fionnuala Ryan, South Dublin County Council
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- John McNally, Offaly County Council
- Tara Kerins, LGMA

Support:

- Thomas Rooney, Eastern and Midlands CARO (Administrative Support)
- Rob Keane, LGMA (Research Support)

Foreword

Local authorities have played a central role in advancing climate action across Ireland for many years. Since the introduction of the Climate Action Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) in 2021, the sector has continued to strengthen how it measures, understands and delivers in this area. What began as a small set of indicators has now developed into a comprehensive framework of ten KPIs across three themes, capturing progress in Mainstreaming, Adaptation and Mitigation and Internal Behavioural Change and Capacity Building.

The 2025 results show that the sector is continuing to mature in its climate action role. The core structures underpinning climate action within local authorities are now well established. Staffing levels have largely been maintained, with Climate Action Co-ordinators, Officers and Community Climate Action Officers in place across almost all local authorities. Climate Action Teams also remain embedded as an important mechanism for cross-departmental coordination, with increased use of sub-groups indicating a stronger focus on delivery and implementation at local level.

There is also clear evidence of continued progress across adaptation and mitigation activities. Local Authority Climate Action Plans (LA CAPs) are now firmly in the delivery phase, with more than 4,200 actions reported and a higher proportion of these moving through to completion. Social housing retrofit programmes continue to deliver cumulative gains in energy efficiency and carbon savings, while greenhouse gas emissions from local authority operations have continued to fall against baseline levels. Active Travel activity remains strong, with further growth in project pipelines, although delivery outputs varied across the year. Meanwhile, the response to severe weather events points to increased coordination and preparedness, alongside evolving approaches to how activity is recorded and managed.

The 2025 results also demonstrate a strengthening of capacity-building activity across the sector. The number of climate action training places provided to staff and elected members increased significantly following the lower levels recorded in 2024 while the new training prog was being developed. Programmes such as Green for Business and the Community Climate Action Programme (CCAP) continue to expand their reach, supporting both small enterprises and communities to take practical action. In particular, the CCAP shows strong progress, with a substantial shift towards project completion in 2025 as initiatives move from planning into delivery.

While these results are positive, they also highlight that progress is not uniform across all indicators or across all local authorities. Variations in scale, delivery profiles and local context are evident, and,

in some areas, further work is required to ensure consistency in measurement and outcomes. This is an important aspect of the KPI framework; as well as capturing achievements, it also provides a clear evidence base to identify areas for improvement and to support ongoing development across the sector.

Overall, the 2025 Climate Action KPI Report reflects both the breadth of activity being undertaken by local authorities and the increasing focus on implementation and outcomes. The KPIs, together with the LA CAPs, continue to provide a strong framework for accountability, learning and progress. The County and City Management Association (CCMA) Environment, Climate and Circular Economy Committee (ECCE) will continue to use these findings to support the sector in strengthening its approach, addressing challenges and delivering effective climate action at local and national level.

Frank Curran
Chair
CCMA Environment, Climate and Circular Economy Committee

Cumann Lucht Bainistíochta Contae agus Cathrach
County and City Management Association

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Executive Summary

This report presents the results of the 2025 Climate Action Key Performance Indicators (KPI) for all local authorities in Ireland. The report examines ten indicators across three themes: Mainstreaming, Adaptation and Mitigation and Internal Behavioural Change and Capacity Building. The data show that local authorities are continuing to maintain the structures put in place in recent years, while strengthening implementation and delivery across a range of climate action activities.

Mainstreaming

1. Climate Action Staff

- Overall staffing levels were broadly maintained in 2025, following the expansion of capacity in previous years.
- 29 local authorities had both a Climate Action Co-ordinator and Climate Action Officer in place at year-end; vacancies in two local authorities were temporary and filled in early 2026.
- Total staffing levels remained stable, with 58.0 full-time equivalent (FTE) posts in 2025 compared with 60.5 FTE in 2024.
- Community Climate Action Officer capacity also remained largely unchanged, with 30 local authorities reporting a post in place at year-end (29.5 FTE).

2. Climate Action Teams (CATs)

- Climate Action Teams remained well established, with 30 local authorities reporting a CAT in place at year-end.
- CAT meeting activity was broadly unchanged, with 121 meetings held in 2025 compared with 122 in 2024.
- The number of CAT members decreased slightly from 823 in 2024 to 804 in 2025 but remains significantly higher than earlier years.
- The use of CAT sub-groups increased, with 25 local authorities reporting active sub-groups (up from 21 in 2024).
- Sub-group meetings increased substantially, rising from 163 in 2024 to 298 in 2025, indicating greater focus on implementation and coordination.

Adaptation and Mitigation

3. Active Travel

- The total number of Active Travel projects increased to 1,061 in 2025 (up from 1,012 in 2024).

- Projects under construction increased from 253 to 297, while completed projects rose slightly from 153 to 158.
- However, delivery outputs declined, with kilometres delivered falling from 181.1km in 2024 to 146.0km in 2025.
- Funding drawdown also decreased from €310.16 million to €282.27 million.

4. Social Housing Retrofit

- A total of 2,671 social houses were retrofitted in 2025, bringing the cumulative total to 10,033 since 2022.
- The quality of retrofit outcomes improved, with 99% of properties achieving BER B2 or above.
- Heat pumps were installed in 92% of retrofitted homes.
- Annual energy savings of 37,704 MWh/Yr and carbon savings of 10,263 tCO_2/Yr were recorded in 2025.
- Cumulative energy savings are equivalent to the annual energy use of approximately 8,200 households.

5. Greenhouse Gas Emissions

- The latest available Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) data (for 2024) show that total local authority greenhouse gas emissions were 36.3% below the baseline, an improvement from 33.9% in 2023.
- Non-electricity emissions (thermal and transport) were 10.8% below baseline, indicating continued but more gradual progress in these areas.

6. Local Authority Climate Action Plans (LA CAPs)

- The number of actions reported increased from 3,951 in 2024 to 4,260 in 2025.
- Growth was concentrated in 'combined' actions, which accounted for 50% of all actions in 2025.
- Implementation also improved, with a higher proportion of actions completed and fewer recorded as not started or in progress.

7. Severe Weather Responses

- Severe Weather Emergency Response Team (SWERT) meetings increased significantly to 367 in 2025 (up from 254 in 2024).
- Plan activations decreased from 133 to 104, suggesting fewer escalation events or variation in activation approaches.
- Wind remained the most frequent trigger for activations (46%), while the proportion of rain-related events declined.

- Snow and ice-related activations increased, indicating a shift in the profile of events.

Internal Behavioural Change and Capacity Building

8. Climate Action Training

- The number of training places for staff and elected members increased significantly to 7,090 in 2025, up from 2,825 in 2024.
- This represents a 151% increase year-on-year and reflects a recovery following the introduction of a new training plan and budget in mid-2024.

9. Green for Business Initiative

- Participation in the Green for Business programme continued to grow, with 1,094 small-medium enterprises (SMEs) taking part in 2025 (up from 1,016 in 2024).
- This is the highest level recorded to date, with 3,370 businesses supported since the programme began.
- Participation continues to vary across local authorities.

10. Community Climate Action Programme

- A total of 706 projects were funded under the programme by year-end 2025.
- 41% of projects were classified as large, 37% as medium and 22% as small.
- Project delivery progressed significantly, with the proportion completed increasing from 12% in 2024 to 54% in 2025.
- The proportion of projects recorded as approved or in progress declined, indicating movement through the delivery pipeline.

Overall

The 2025 KPI results indicate that the local authority sector is continuing to build on the progress made in recent years. Core structures supporting climate action are now well established and are being maintained, while implementation activity has strengthened across key areas such as retrofit, emissions reduction and the delivery of LA CAP actions. Capacity-building initiatives have also expanded, particularly in relation to staff training, business supports and community-led projects. While progress is evident, the results also highlight variation in delivery across local authorities and across indicators. The KPI framework continues to provide an important evidence base, enabling the sector to track progress, identify areas for improvement and support ongoing development as climate action becomes further integrated into the work of local government.

Achoimre Feidhmiúcháin

Cuirtear i láthair sa tuarascáil seo torthaí Phríomhtháscairí Feidhmíochta (PTF) um Ghníomhú ar son na hAeráide 2025 do gach údarás áitiúil. Scrúdaítear deich dtáscaire sa tuarascáil thar thrí bliana: Príomhshruthú, Oiriúnú agus Maolú agus Athrú Iompraíochta Inmheánach agus Forbairt Acmhainne. Léirítear sna sonraí go bhfuil údaráis áitiúla ag leanúint orthu de bheith ag cothabháil na struchtúr a cuireadh i bhfeidhm le blianta beaga anuas, agus ag an am céanna ag neartú forfheidhmiú agus soláthar i réimse gníomhaíochtaí a bhaineann le gníomhú ar son na haeráide.

Príomhshruthú

1. Baill Foirne um Ghníomhú ar son na hAeráide

- Tríd is tríd, coinníodh leibhéil foirne go forleathan sa bhliain 2025, tar éis an acmhainn a mhéadú sna blianta roimhe sin.
- Bhí Comhordaitheoir um Ghníomhú ar son na hAeráide agus Oifigeach um Ghníomhú ar son na hAeráide araon i bhfeidhm ag 29 údarás áitiúil ag deireadh na bliana; bhí folúntas ag dhá údarás áitiúil ar bhonn sealadach agus líonadh iad go luath sa bhliain 2026.
- D'fhan líon iomlán na foirne seasmhach, ina raibh 58.0 post lánaimseartha coibhéiseach (FTE) sa bhliain 2025 i gcomparáid le 60.5 FTE sa bhliain 2024.
- Níor athraíodh an acmhainn maidir le hOifigigh Áitiúla um Ghníomhú ar son na hAeráide go mór ach oiread, thuairiscigh 30 údarás áitiúil go raibh post den sórt sin ann ag deireadh na bliana (29.5 FTE).

2. Foirne Gníomhaíochta Aeráide (CATanna)

- Bhí na Foirne Ghníomhaithe ar son na hAeráide fós seanbhunaithe, agus thuairiscigh 30 údarás áitiúil go raibh Foireann Gníomhaithe ar son na hAeráide i bhfeidhm acu ag deireadh na bliana.
- Níor tháinig mórán athraithe ar ghníomhaíocht cruinnithe CAT; reáchtáladh 121 cruinniú sa bhliain 2025 i gcomparáid le 122 sa bhliain 2024.
- Tháinig laghdú beag ar líon na gcomhaltaí CAT, ó 823 sa bhliain 2024 go 804 sa bhliain 2025, ach tá sé fós i bhfad níos airde ná mar a bhí sna blianta roimhe sin.
- Tháinig méadú ar úsáid fho-ghrúpaí CAT, agus thuairiscigh 25 údarás áitiúil go raibh fo-ghrúpaí gníomhacha acu (méadú ó 21 sa bhliain 2024).
- Tháinig méadú suntasach ar líon na gcruinnithe fo-ghrúpa – ó 163 in 2024 go dtí 298 in 2025 – rud a léiríonn go bhfuil níos mó béime á cur ar an bhforfheidhmiú agus ar an gcomhordú.

Oiriúnú agus Maolú

3. Taisteal Gníomhach

- Mhéadaigh líon na dtionscadal Taistil Gníomhach ó 1,061 in 2025 (suas ó 1,012 in 2024).
- Tháinig méadú ó 253 go 297 ar thionscadail atá á dtógáil, agus tháinig méadú beag ó 153 go 158 ar thionscadail atá curtha i gcrích.
- Mar sin féin, tháinig laghdú ar líon na seachadtaí, agus thit an líon ciliméadar a soláthraíodh ó 181.1km in 2024 go dtí 146.0km in 2025.
- Tháinig laghdú freisin ar an maoiniú a tarraingíodh anuas, ó €310.16 milliún go dtí €282.27 milliún.

4. Iarfheistiú Tithíochta Sóisialta

- Rinneadh athfheistiú ar 2,671 teach sóisialta in 2025, ina raibh 10,033 an líon carnach ó 2022 i leith.
- Tháinig feabhas ar chaighdeán na dtorthaí athfheistithe, agus bhain 99% de réadmhaoine rátáil BER B2 nó níos airde amach.
- Suiteáladh caidéil teasa i 92% de na tithe a athfheistíodh.
- Taifeadadh coigilt fuinnimh bliantúil de 37,704 MWh/Bl agus coigilt charbóin de 10,263 tCO_2/Bl sa bhliain 2025.
- Is ionann na coigiltis fuinnimh carnacha agus tomhaltas fuinnimh bliantúil thart ar 8,200 teaghlach.

5. Astaíochtaí Gás Ceaptha Teasa

- Léirítear sna sonraí is déanaí atá ar fáil ó Údarás Fuinnimh Inmharthana na hÉireann (ÚFIÉ) (le haghaidh na bliana 2024) go raibh astaíochtaí gás ceaptha teasa na n-údarás áitiúil san iomlán 36.3% faoi bhun na bunlíne – feabhsú ar an bhfigiúr 33.9% sa bliain 2023.
- Bhí astaíochtaí neamhleictreachais (teirmeach agus iompar) 10.8% faoi bhun na bunlíne, rud a léiríonn dul chun cinn leanúnach ach níos moille sna réimsí sin.

6. Pleananna Gníomhaíochta Aeráide na nÚdarás Áitiúil (CAPanna LA)

- Mhéadaigh líon na ngníomhartha a tuairiscíodh ó 3,951 in 2024 go 4,260 in 2025.
- Díríodh ar an bhfás i ngníomhartha ‘comhcheangailte‘, arb ionann é sin agus 50% de na gníomhartha uile in 2025.
- Tháinig feabhas ar an bhforfheidhmiú freisin; críochnaíodh sciar níos airde de na gníomhartha, agus ní raibh ach líon níos lú díobh a taifeadadh mar ghníomhartha nár cuireadh tús leo nó a bhí ar siúl.

7. Freagairtí Adhaimsire

- Tháinig méadú suntasach ar líon na gcruinnithe de chuid na Foirne Freagartha Éigeandála in Aimsir Throm (SWERT) go dtí 367 in 2025 (méadú ó 254 in 2024).

- Tháinig laghdú ar líon na ngníomhachtuithe plean ó 133 go 104, rud a thugann le fios gur tharla níos lú cásanna a d'éiligh cásanna géaraithe sa fhreagairt, nó go raibh éagsúlacht i gceist leis na modhanna gníomhachtaithe.
- Ba í an ghaoth an chúis ba rialta a spreag gníomhachtuithe (46%), agus tháinig laghdú ar an sciar de chásanna a bhain leis an mbáisteach.
- Tháinig méadú ar ghníomhachtuithe a bhain le sneachta agus le leac oighir, rud a léirigh athrú ar phróifíl na gcásanna.

<u>Athrú Iompraíochta Inmheánach agus Forbairt Acmhainní</u>

8. Oiliúint um Ghníomhú ar son na hAeráide

- Tháinig méadú suntasach ar líon na n-áiteanna oiliúna do bhaill foirne agus do chomhaltaí tofa go 7,090 in 2025, méadú ó 2,825 in 2024.
- Is ionann é sin agus méadú 151% bliain tar éis bliana, agus léiríonn sé téarnamh i ndiaidh plean oiliúna agus buiséad nua a thabhairt isteach i lár na bliana 2024.

9. Tionscnamh Glas don Ghnó

- Lean an rannpháirtíocht sa chlár 'Glas don Ghnó' ag méadú, agus ghlac 1,094 fiontar beag agus méanmhéide (FBManna) páirt ann in 2025 (méadú ó 1,016 in 2024).
- Is ionann é sin agus an leibhéal is airde a taifeadadh go dtí seo, inar tugadh tacaíocht do 3,370 gnó ó cuireadh tús leis an gclár.
- Leanann an rannpháirtíocht de bheith ag athrú i measc na n-údarás áitiúil.

10. Clár Gníomhaíochta Pobail ar son na hAeráide

- Maoiníodh 706 tionscadal san iomlán faoin gclár faoi dheireadh na bliana 2025.
- Aicmíodh 41% de na tionscadail mar thionscadail mhóra, 37% mar thionscadail mheánmhéide agus 22% mar thionscadail bheaga.
- Tháinig dul chun cinn suntasach ar sholáthar an tionscadail, agus mhéadaigh an sciar a cuireadh i gcrích ó 12% in 2024 go dtí 54% in 2025.
- Tháinig laghdú ar an sciar a taifeadadh mar thionscadail faofa nó mar thionscadail atá ar siúl, rud a léiríonn gluaiseacht tríd an bpíblíne sholáthair.

Foriomlán

Léirítear i dtorthaí na bpríomhthráscairí feidhmíochta do 2025 go bhfuil earnáil na n-údarás áitiúil ag leanúint de bheith ag cur leis an dul chun a rinneadh le blianta beaga anuas. Tá struchtúr lárnacha a thacaíonn le gníomhú ar son na haeráide bunaithe go maith anois agus tá siad á gcothabháil, agus tá gníomhaíocht cur chun cinn feidhme neartaithe i réimsí tábhachtacha amhail athchóiriú, laghdú astaíochtaí agus cur i gcrích ghníomhartha CBT na Stát Aontaithe. Tá méadú tagtha freisin ar

thionscnaimh acmhainne forbartha, go háirithe maidir le hoiliúint foirne, tacaíochtaí gnó agus tionscadail faoi stiúir an phobail.

Cé go bhfuil dul chun cinn le feiceáil, leagann na torthaí béim freisin ar éagsúlacht sa soláthar i measc na n-údarás áitiúil agus i measc na dtáscairí. Leanann an creat PTF de bheith ag soláthar bonn fianaise tábhachtach, rud a chuireann ar chumas na hearnála dul chun cinn a rianú, réimsí feabhsúcháin a aithint agus tacú le forbairt leanúnach de réir mar a thugtar faoi ghníomhú ar son na haeráide a chomhtháthú a thuilleadh in obair an rialtais áitiúil.

Introduction

The Climate Action Key Performance Indicators Working Group (CA KPI WG) was established in 2021 by the County and City Management Association (CCMA) Environment, Climate and Circular Economy (ECCE) Committee[1]. The group is responsible for developing climate action KPIs that align to the goals and objectives of the sector's strategy for addressing climate change - *Delivering Effective Climate Action 2030*[2] - and the Local Authority Climate Action Charter[3]. To support this work, the group also commissions research to explore international best practice.

In 2025, the report presents data on ten indicators across three themes (see Table 1):

1. **Mainstreaming** focuses on embedding responsibility for climate action across all local authority departments. It also considers whether the necessary infrastructure is in place, including adequate staffing and effective interdepartmental governance structures.
2. **Adaptation and Mitigation** tracks the delivery of actions that address both adaptation to current and future climate impacts and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. The emphasis is on key initiatives that are being implemented and led by local authorities.
3. **Internal Behavioural Change and Capacity Building** examines participation in initiatives aimed at raising awareness and engaging stakeholders in climate action. Stakeholders include local authority staff, elected members, communities and businesses.

Table 1: Overview of 2025 Climate Action KPIs by Theme, Data Source and Reporting Timeline

Indicator	Climate Action Theme	2025 Data Supplied by	First Year Reported
1. Climate Action Staff	Mainstreaming	Local authorities	2021 + 2024[4]
2. Climate Action Teams	Mainstreaming	Local authorities	2021[5]
3. Active Travel Projects	Adaptation/Mitigation	National Transport Authority (NTA)	2021

[1] The CCMA Climate Action, Transport and Networks (CATN) Committee, was renamed as the Climate Action, Transport, Circular Economy and Networks (CATCEN) Committee in 2022 and subsequently the Environment, Climate and Circular Economy (ECCE) Committee in 2024.
[2] Available at: *https://www.localgov.ie/sites/default/files/2024-04/delivering-effective-climate-action-2030.pdf*.
[3] Available at: *https://assets.gov.ie/static/documents/climate-action-charter-for-local-authorities.pdf*.
[4] Since 2024, data have been collected on Community Climate Action staff alongside Climate Action Coordinators and Climate Action Officers.
[5] In 2025, Climate Action Team (CAT) training was removed as a sub-category.

4. Social Housing Retrofit	Adaptation/Mitigation	LGMA Housing Delivery Coordination Office (HDCO)	2022
5. Greenhouse Gas Reduction	Adaptation/Mitigation	Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI)	2022
6. Local Authority Climate Action Plans	Adaptation/Mitigation	Local authorities	2024
7. Severe Weather Responses	Adaptation/Mitigation	Local authorities	2022
8. Councillor and Staff Training	Internal Behavioural Change and Capacity Building	Local Authority Service Network Training Group (LASNTG)	2021
9. Green for Business Initiative	Internal Behavioural Change and Capacity Building	Enterprise Ireland (EI)	2022
10. Community Climate Action Programme	Internal Behavioural Change and Capacity Building	Local authorities	2024

Data for five of the ten indicators were collected directly from local authorities between January and May 2026. The National Transport Authority (NTA) provided Active Travel data, the LGMA Housing Delivery Coordination Office (HDCO) supplied the Social Housing Retrofit data, the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) provided the Greenhouse Gas emissions data[6], the Local Authority Services National Training Group (LASNTG) supplied the staff and elected members' training data and Enterprise Ireland (EI) provided the Green for Business programme data.

For all ten indicators, there is now between 2-5 years' worth of data, enabling trend analysis.

What's New in the 2025 KPIs?

- **Indicator 2, 'Climate Action Teams'**: Updated in 2025 to remove the requirement to collect data on Climate Action Team training.
- **Indicator 10, 'Community Climate Action Programme':** Data were supplied by local authorities in 2025 due to capacity constraints within the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC), who had collected these data in 2024.

[6] The SEAI greenhouse gas emissions data is reported with a one-year time lag; as a result, the figures presented for this indicator relate to 2024.

2025 Results

Mainstreaming

The Mainstreaming theme examines whether the staffing and governance structures required to embed climate action across local authorities were in place and operating in 2025. It focuses on the availability of dedicated climate action staff and the cross-departmental arrangements needed to coordinate, oversee and support the delivery of climate action across local authority functions.

Two categories of staff are included:

1. **Climate Action Co-ordinators** and **Climate Action Officers**, who have played a critical role in overseeing the development and implementation of Local Authority Climate Action Plans (LA CAPs) since 2024[7].
2. **Community Climate Action Officers**, who are responsible for supporting communities and maximising the impact of Community Climate Action Programme (CCAP) funding.

A key element of this 'whole-of-council' approach is the Climate Action Teams (CATs), which bring together representatives from across local authority functional areas to support the coordination and implementation of climate action. The number of CAT meetings and sub-groups is also tracked to provide an indication of activity at local level.

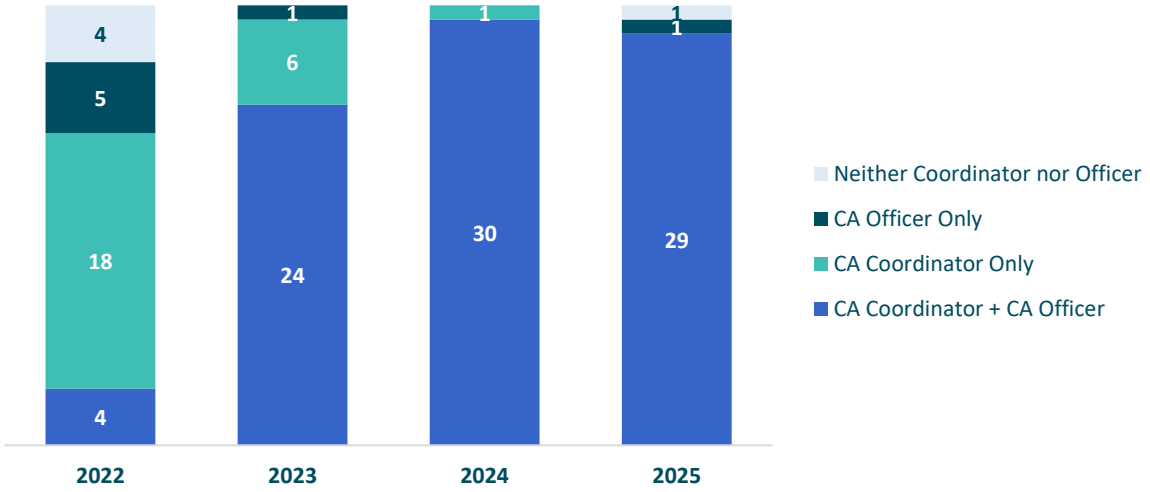
Climate Action Staff: Climate Action Co-ordinators and Climate Action Officers

Overall staffing levels have remained broadly stable in 2025, following a significant build-out of capacity in previous years (see Figure 1[8]). A total of 29 local authorities had both a Climate Action Officer *and* a Climate Action Coordinator in place on 31 December 2025. The two exceptions were Dublin City - where both posts were temporarily vacant at year-end - and Mayo, where the Climate Action Officer post was vacant from April to December 2025 due to recruitment issues. In both

[7] The Climate Action Co-ordinators and Officers are also responsible for ensuring that climate actions are not siloed and remain a priority for all staff across operational units in each local authority.
[8] The breakdown of staff roles was not collected in 2021

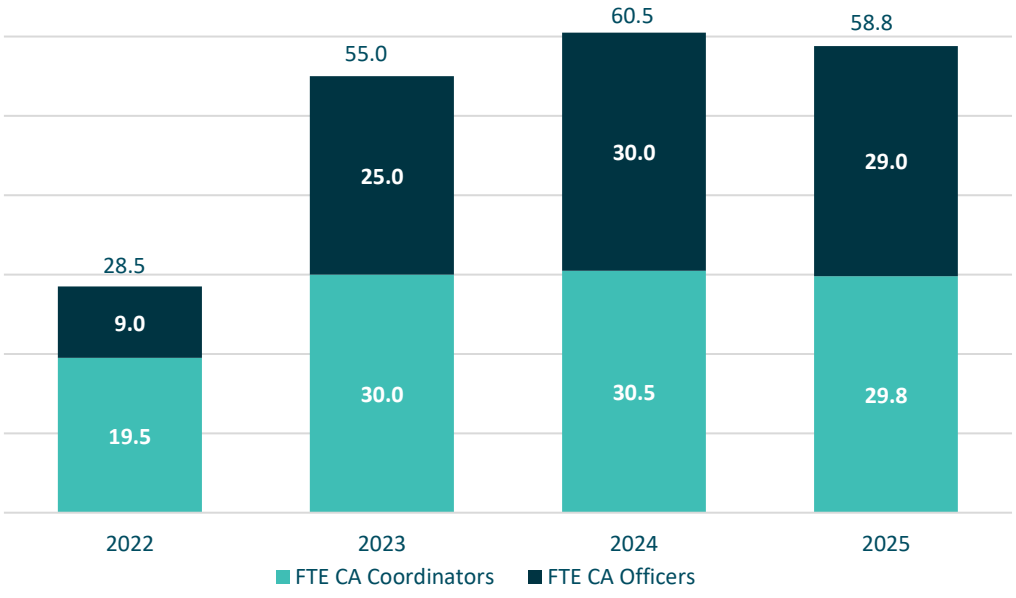
cases, all vacant posts were filled by early 2026, pointing to continued commitment across the sector to maintaining dedicated climate action capacity.

Figure 1: Breakdown of Local Authorities by Climate Action Co-ordinator and Officer Posts at Year-End (2022–2025)



Full time equivalent (FTE) analysis also shows that overall climate action staff resourcing remained close to 2024 levels (see Figure 2), moving from 60.5 FTE in 2024 to 58.0 FTE in 2025. This minor reduction reflects the localised (temporary) vacancies in Dublin City and Mayo outlined previously, as well as a shift in Westmeath's Climate Action Coordinator post from 1.0 to a 0.8, rather than a wider contraction in the programme. The data also show that the reduced reliance on part-time staff is continuing, with staffing capacity increasingly concentrated in full-time or near full-time roles.

Figure 2: Total FTE for Climate Action Co-ordinators and Officers (2022–2025)

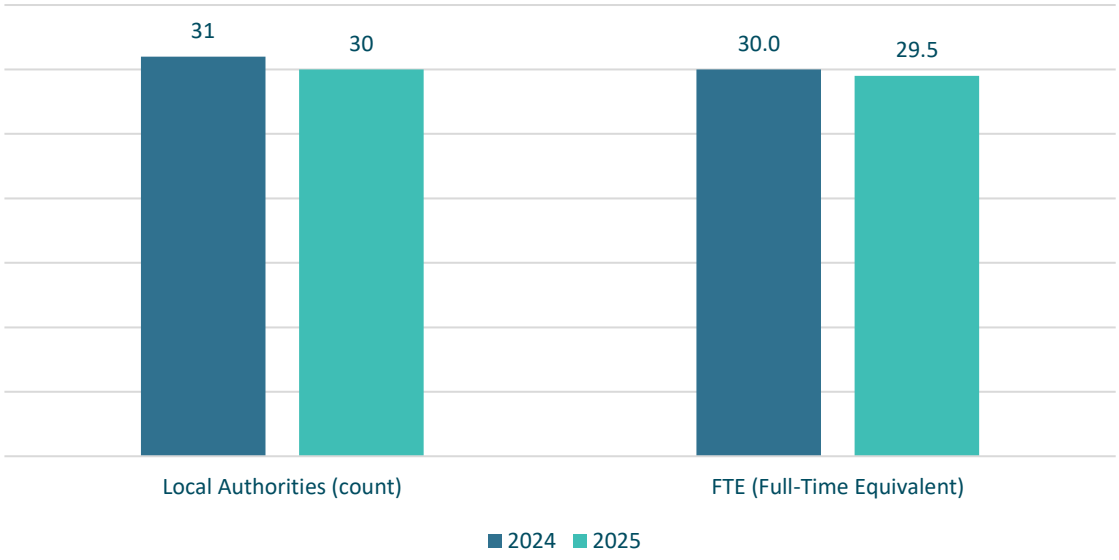


Taken together, these data suggest that the local authority climate action staffing model is now well-embedded. The sector has moved from an initial growth phase, where posts were being established and filled, into a consolidation phase focused on retention, continuity and ensuring that temporary vacancies are addressed quickly.

Community Climate Action Staff

Overall Community Climate Action Officer capacity remained largely unchanged in 2025 (see Figure 3). The number of local authorities with a Community Climate Action Officer in place reduced marginally from 31 in 2024 to 30 in 2025, reflecting the post being vacated in Leitrim in August 2025. This resulted in a slight decline in FTE that was partially offset by an increase in Sligo from 0.5 in 2024 to 1.0 in 2025. Just one local authority (Meath) operated with a part-time Community Climate Action Officer post at 0.5 FTE, demonstrating continued gradual strengthening of the staffing base.

Figure 3: Community Climate Action Officer Staffing - Local Authority Coverage and FTE (2024–2025)

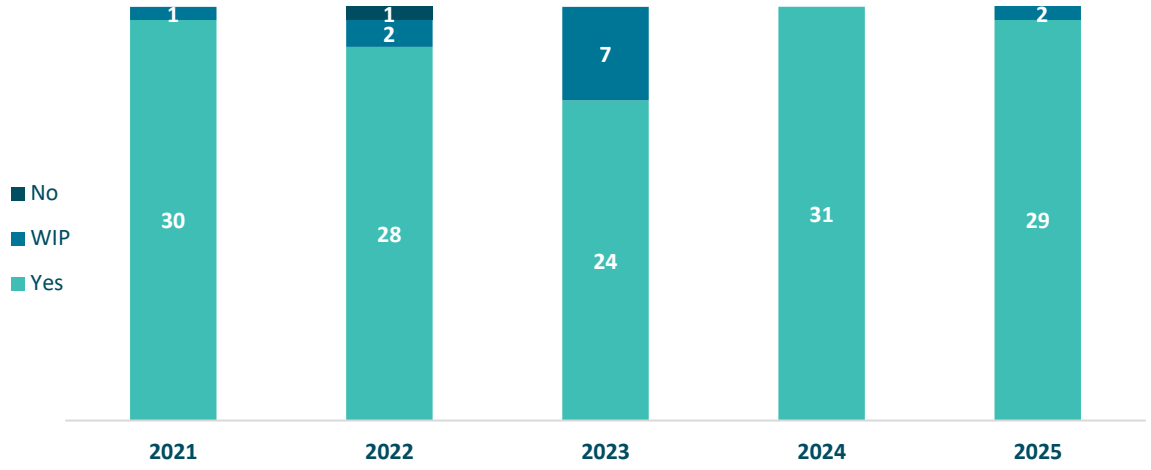


Climate Action Teams and Sub-Groups

Local authority Climate Action Teams (CATs) were put in place to ensure climate actions are implemented and monitored from multiple operational and policy perspectives, with many including representation from senior management (e.g. Dublin City). CATs remained well established across the sector in 2025 (see Figure 4). While the overall trend remains positive, 29 local authorities reported that their CAT was in place at year-end, compared to 31 in 2024. This shift is explained by

two local authorities moving to a 'Work in Progress' status during 2025: Kerry, where the change was linked to organisational restructuring and Offaly, where the change reflected staff turnover.

Figure 4: Climate Action Teams in Local Authorities in Place at Year-End? (2021–2025)



The level of activity, as represented by the number of CAT meetings held across the sector during the year, remained broadly unchanged in 2025 (see Table 2). A total of 121 meetings were reported at year-end, compared with 122 in 2024. This suggests that the overall rhythm of CAT engagement was maintained. Just one local authority (Limerick), recorded no standalone CAT meetings in 2025, reflecting a revised local process where CAT members were briefed through a wider Senior Forum rather than through a separate meeting focused solely on climate action.

Table 2: Climate Action Team (CAT) Activity as Measured by Number of Meetings and Number of Members (2021–2025)

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Number of CAT meetings	113	116	95	122	121
Number of CAT members	544	616	647	823	804

The data in Table 2 also show a small reduction in the total number of CAT members, from 823 in 2024 to 804 in 2025. While this is a decrease of 19 members overall, the 2025 figure remains substantially higher than levels recorded between 2021 and 2023. This indicates that CATs continue to provide a broad cross-organisational structure for climate action within local authorities. The decline was also not uniform across the sector (see Table 3), with reductions concentrated in a small number of local authorities where membership fell significantly in 2025 due to staff turnover and senior management changes.

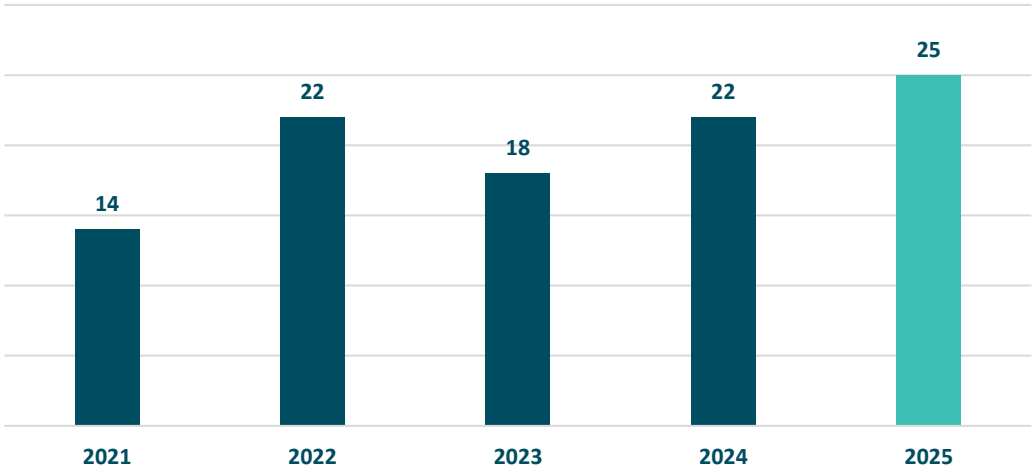
Table 3: Number of Climate Action Team (CAT) Members by Local Authority at Year-End (2021–2025)

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Carlow	3	8	8	6	6
Cavan	1	2	3	1	4
Clare	3	3	0	3	3
Cork City	4	4	4	8	12
Cork County	6	2	5	4	4
DLR	3	4	0	4	4
Donegal	9	1	0	2	4
Dublin City	1	0	2	1	2
Fingal	2	1	2	1	3
Galway City	3	2	1	12	4
Galway County	0	1	1	6	3
Kerry	2	3	3	2	1
Kildare	7	4	4	4	4
Kilkenny	6	0	6	3	4
Laois	7	11	5	12	5
Leitrim	1	1	0	7	4
Limerick	0	0	2	1	0
Longford	2	0	2	1	8
Louth	1	2	1	3	4
Mayo	2	6	3	1	1
Meath	1	4	4	4	4
Monaghan	2	4	2	3	4
Offaly	10	10	8	7	1
Roscommon	2	3	5	4	3
Sligo	2	1	0	1	1
South Dublin	3	4	4	2	3
Tipperary	4	3	5	3	6
Waterford	7	10	6	5	5
Westmeath	4	4	1	1	4
Wexford	5	10	8	9	7
Wicklow	10	8	0	1	3
Total	**113**	**116**	**95**	**122**	**121**

Climate Action Team Sub-Groups

The utilisation of CAT sub-groups increased in 2025, both in terms of the number of local authorities using them (see Figure 5) and the level of meeting activity (see Table 4). In 2025, 25 local authorities reported active CAT sub-groups, compared with 21 in 2024. This represents the highest level recorded across the five-year period and suggests that sub-groups are becoming a more established part of local climate governance.

Figure 5: Number of Local Authorities with Active Climate Action Team (CAT) Sub-Groups (2021–2025)



The increase was also reflected in the number of meetings held, which rose substantially from 163 in 2024 to 298 in 2025. This points not only to the presence of sub-groups, but to their use as practical mechanisms for implementation, coordination and follow-through. That said, there continued to be variation in how sub-groups were being utilised in 2025 (see Table 4), with local authorities reporting either consistent use (n = 14), intermittent use (n = 16) or no use at all (n = 1), though the trend was still positive overall with fewer local authorities in the latter category than was recorded in 2024.

Table 4: Climate Action Team (CAT) Sub-Group Meetings by Local Authority and Usage Pattern (2021–2025)

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	
Westmeath	-	2	-	13	47	**Consistent use**
South Dublin	34	24	16	6	21	
Cork County	-	15	-	11	19	
Mayo	1	10	15	21	18	
Wexford	16	10	12	10	18	
Wicklow	-	10	1	9	17	
Meath	-	1	1	7	14	
Louth	4	5	7	9	12	
Galway City	6	5	7	8	12	
Sligo	2	2	10	14	8	
Tipperary	1	4	3	5	6	
Clare	-	4	4	4	4	
Carlow	-	2	1	4	4	
Cavan	-	15	12	1	2	
Kerry	-	-	1	6	1	**Intermittent use**
Kilkenny	-	6	25	-	29	
Limerick	-	-	-	7	20	
Leitrim	-	-	-	5	12	
Roscommon	-	2	-	-	11	

DLR	8	9	-	3	9	
Monaghan	2	-	-	4	6	
Longford	4	-	-	4	5	
Donegal	4	-	-	-	1	
Laois	-	-	-	-	1	
Waterford	-	-	-	-	1	
Galway County	-	3	17	-	-	
Dublin City	5	4	10	-	-	
Fingal	8	8	14	7	-	
Offaly	10	12	8	5	-	
Kildare	-	1	-	-	-	
Cork City	-	-	-	-	-	None
Total Meetings	**105**	**154**	**164**	**163**	**298**	

Adaptation and Mitigation

The Adaptation and Mitigation theme examines the delivery of climate actions and initiatives across a range of local authority departments that are supported by multiple funding streams. It captures both adaptation measures - which respond to the impacts of climate change - and mitigation measures, which seek to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and limit future climate impacts. Activity is tracked across five key areas:

- Active Travel Projects;
- Social Housing Retrofits;
- Greenhouse Gas Reductions across local authority buildings;
- Local Authority Climate Action Plans (LA CAPs); and
- Severe Weather Responses.

Together, these indicators provide insight into the scale, breadth and nature of local authority delivery in this area and demonstrate how climate action is being advanced across operational, infrastructural and strategic functions of local government.

Active Travel Projects

Active Travel activity continued to increase in 2025, based on data collected by the National Travel Authority (NTA) (see Table 5). The total number of Active Travel projects rose from 1,012 in 2024 to 1,061 in 2025, representing a further increase in the overall pipeline. The breakdown by project status shows that the number of projects at ‘design’ stage remained unchanged at 606; however, as the overall number of projects increased, the proportion of projects at ‘design’ stage fell slightly from 60% in 2024 to 57% in 2025, while those ‘under construction’ continued to rise, increasing from 253 in 2024 to 297 in 2025. This is a positive indicator of delivery momentum, with construction-stage projects accounting for 27% of all Active Travel projects in 2025, compared with 25% in 2024. Projects in the ‘completed’ phase also increased marginally, from 153 in 2024 to 158 in 2025, although their share of the total pipeline reduced slightly from 15% to 14%.

Table 5: Number and Percentage of Active Travel Projects by Status (2023-2025)

Active Travel Projects	2023	2024	2025
Design	581 (58%)	606 (60%)	606 (57%)
Construction	201 (20%)	253 (25%)	297 (27%)
Complete	219 (22%)	153 (15%)	158 (14%)
Total	1,001 (100%)	1,012 (100%)	1,061 (100%)

At the same time, the total kilometres (km) delivered and funding drawdown both decreased in 2025 (see Table 6). The km delivered fell from 181.1km in 2024 to 146.0km in 2025, while funding drawdown reduced from €310.16 million to €282.27 million during the same period. This indicates that the strong activity measured by an increase in the number of projects, did not translate into a corresponding increase in delivery or expenditure during the year.

Table 6: Active Travel Delivery and Funding Drawdown (2023–2025)

Metric	2023	2024	2025
KM	168.8	181.1	146.0
€M	330.77	310.16	282.27

Breaking the data down by local authority (see Table 7) shows that delivery remained concentrated among a small number. Dublin City and Cork City continued to record the highest levels of funding drawdown, while Dublin City, Limerick and Cork City had the largest project pipelines. In terms of km delivered, South Dublin recorded the highest output, increasing from 11.2km in 2024 to 27.0km in 2025. Kildare, Cavan, Mayo and Meath also recorded year-on-year increase; however, these numbers were offset by reductions across a wider group of local authorities, resulting in the decrease of 19.4% km delivered overall.

Table 7: Active Travel Projects, Funding Drawdown and Kilometres Delivered by Local Authority (2023–2025)

	2023			2024			2025		
	Number of Projects	Drawdown (€)	Active Travel Delivered (km)	Number of Projects	Drawdown (€)	Active Travel Delivered (km)	Number of Projects	Drawdown (€)	Active Travel Delivered (km)
Carlow	17	2,712,877.00	1.14	16	2,994,259.00	3.4	11	3,125,685.00	3.1
Cavan	41	3,342,736.35	2.02	19	1,668,009.50	2.677	15	2,793,322.00	7.5
Clare	34	2,782,566.95	7.595	17	2,046,561.00	1.08	15	2,148,017.00	1.0
Cork City	63	35,190,079.00	5.608	74	31,024,771.69	21.9836	71	31,596,636.00	21.6
Cork County	28	24,429,215.84	17.002	48	20,128,798.50	18.1854	55	18,478,045.00	14.0
Donegal	34	4,187,736.25	6.665	29	4,093,641.13	8.155	25	4,258,720.00	2.4
Dublin City	115	69,652,582.00	18.364	98	57,459,685.15	13.188	99	44,158,332.00	6.2
DLR	46	19,684,453.80	12.066	45	18,059,555.24	10.5825	41	17,537,780.00	0.5
Fingal	58	15,749,555.86	7.058	48	26,239,706.28	14.898	56	17,025,564.00	2.0
Galway City	24	11,991,637.00	6.289	30	5,433,907.00	3.265	33	6,948,042.00	0.6
Galway Co.	31	2,234,166.73	3.931	26	934,656.10	0.0	21	1,692,579.00	0.3
Kerry	27	1,528,980.90	1.877	19	3,063,639.44	2.69	23	3,245,509.00	3.7
Kildare	12	10,562,168.84	0.371	34	9,388,514.73	3.535	31	11,036,336.00	10.5
Kilkenny	19	3,012,064.00	2.671	27	2,956,902.01	2.602	32	3,056,311.00	3.3
Laois	31	3,251,839.00	1.675	16	3,140,159.00	3.569	17	3,111,776.00	0.4
Leitrim	18	1,910,853.54	2.464	24	1,454,839.13	1.146	20	973,234.00	0.5
Limerick	22	22,420,825.05	15.577	76	20,843,147.79	17.228	75	22,538,017.00	13.2
Longford	14	3,268,464.08	1.094	17	2,547,660.22	6.657	28	3,231,590.00	2.9
Louth	27	3,355,165.64	0.63	30	2,863,647.25	2.15	31	1,153,636.00	0.1
Mayo	48	1,152,091.57	0.863	34	2,903,144.17	0.0	27	1,695,530.00	2.4
Meath	40	17,161,619.54	3.66	34	14,479,659.21	3.9	47	13,132,615.00	5.7
Monaghan	28	2,470,822.47	1.47	21	2,228,550.03	2.43	20	1,369,590.00	0.3
Offaly	28	3,314,689.08	5.847	23	3,499,889.65	7.2	31	3,254,022.00	2.6
Roscommon	19	1,483,084.10	1.6	23	3,049,995.01	1.3	21	2,207,431.00	0.4
Sligo	27	2,136,957.00	2.025	17	1,362,094.00	0.02	19	1,216,024.00	0.9
South Dublin	16	22,333,365.33	12.101	41	22,785,622.23	11.224	40	24,149,186.00	27.0
Tipperary	20	4,266,476.00	7.049	25	3,925,387.00	6.78	26	4,019,910.00	5.9
Waterford	29	21,365,285.44	2.6395	27	24,470,743.15	0.773	28	17,309,385.00	1.2
Westmeath	21	2,757,447.73	4.317	27	3,268,458.54	1.535	40	3,489,638.00	0.4
Wexford	20	3,511,231.00	1.492	14	3,795,837.00	3.988	25	4,527,753.00	3.7
Wicklow	44	7,548,732.64	11.62	33	8,053,180.50	4.991	38	7,797,974.00	1.6
Total	**1001**	**330,769,769.73**	**168.7805**	**1012**	**310,164,620.65**	**181.1325**	**1061**	**282,278,189.00**	**146.0**

Social Housing Retrofit Energy Savings

Social housing retrofitting is an important action that yields significant reductions in energy use, resulting in lower running costs for tenants and decreases in greenhouse gas emissions for the built environment/residential sector[9]. A total of 10,033 social houses have been retrofitted between 2022

[9] Social Housing is not included in the emissions baselines or targets set by individual local authorities. Instead, associated benefits are calculated for the built environment/residential sector.

and 2025 (see Table 8), utilising funding from the expanded Local Authority Retrofit Programme[10]. The objective of the programme is to bring houses up to a Building Energy Rating (BER) B2/cost optimal standard with a heat pump[11].

Table 8: Social Housing Retrofit Outputs and Energy Savings (2022 – 2025)

	2022	2023	2024	2025	Total
Social Houses Retrofitted	2,283	2,445	2,634	2,671	10,033
With BER B2 or above	2,011	2,315	2,461	2639	9,426
With BER Cost Optimal	248	111	162	32	553
Heat pumps installed	1,554	2,200	2,393	2446	8,593
MWh/Yr Energy Saving per	29,954	35,663	37,712	37,704	141,033
tCo2/Yr Carbon Savings per	8,600	10,376	10,360[12]	10,263	39,599

The data in Table 8 also show that the quality of retrofit outcomes improved in 2025. Of the properties retrofitted, 2,639 achieved a BER B2 rating or above, representing 99% of all retrofitted houses. This was the highest proportion recorded over the four-year period (2022-2025) and brings the overall share of retrofitted properties achieving the higher standard to 94%. The number of properties recorded as achieving BER cost optimal fell from 162 in 2024 to 32 in 2025, representing just 1% of retrofitted properties and reflecting the stronger performance in the BR B2 or above category.

Heat pump installation also remained high. In 2025, heat pumps were installed in 2,446 retrofitted houses, equivalent to 92% of all properties retrofitted that year. This continues the upward trend seen across the full 2022-2025 period, where heat pumps have been installed in 8,593 properties, or 86% of all retrofitted homes to-date.

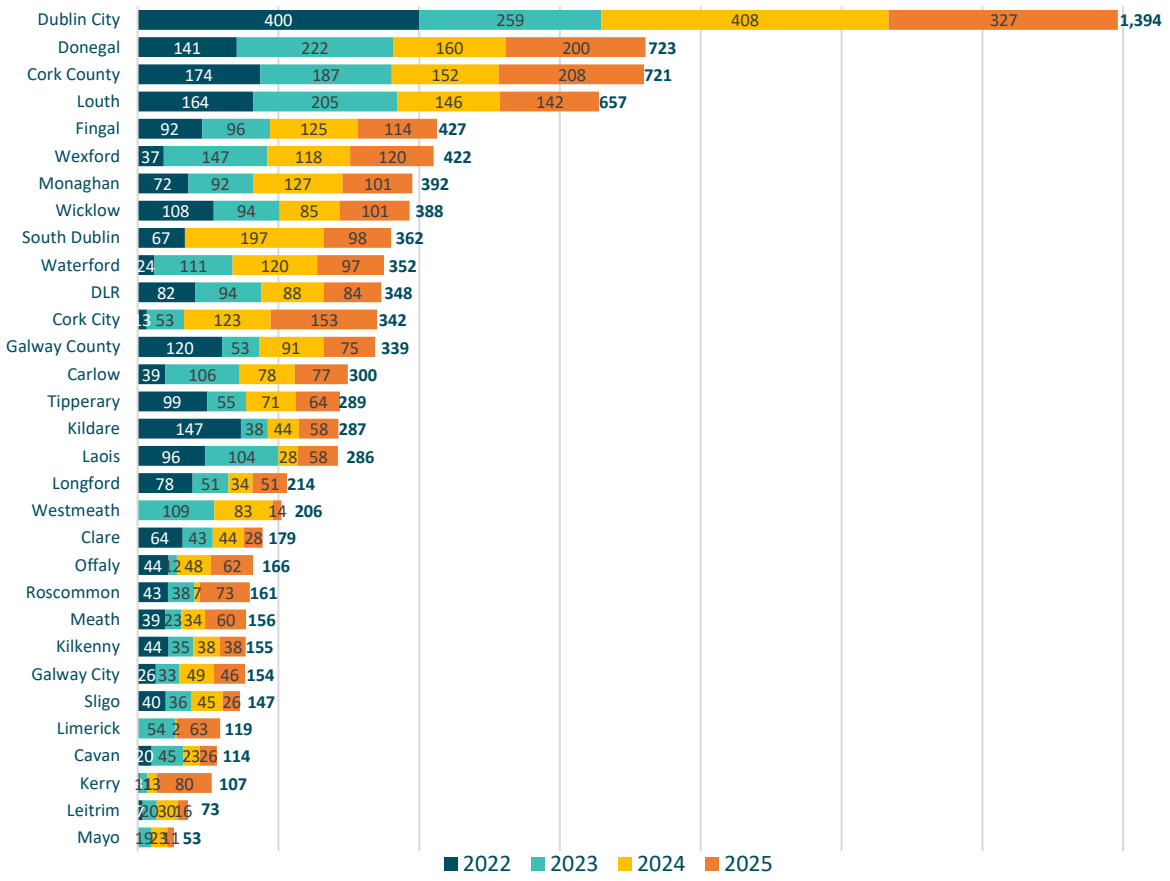
Table 8 also presents the annual energy and carbon savings from the 2025 retrofits[13], which amount to 37,704 Megawatt hour (MWh) and 10,263 tonnes of CO_2 per year (tCo2/Yr0), both of which are largely unchanged since 2024. Based on the SEAI estimate that households use an average of 17.1 MWh annually[14], the cumulative annual energy saving achieved through local authority social

[10] Units included are those funded by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH). Where retrofits are completed but funding drawdown does not occur within the relevant year, these units are reported in the subsequent year.
[11] Available at: *https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-climate-energy-and-the-environment/publications/national-retrofit-plan/*.
[12] Adjustments were made to the methodology for calculating carbon savings in 2024.
[13] The estimated energy and carbon emissions reduced were calculated by the Housing Delivery and Coordination Office (HDCO) through a review of BER certificates before and after retrofitting.
[14] Available at: *https://www.seai.ie/data-and-insights/seai-statistics/residential*.

housing retrofits between 2022 and 2025 are equivalent to the energy required to run approximately 8,200 households for a year.

Examining social housing retrofit activity by local authority (see Figure 6) shows continued national-level growth, while also highlighting variation in the scale and delivery across individual local authorities.

Figure 6: Number of Social Houses Retrofitted by Local Authority (2022–2025)



The cumulative number of properties retrofitted over the four-year period (2022-2025) ranges from 53 in Mayo to 1,394 in Dublin City. Alongside Dublin City, three further local authorities have now retrofitted more than 600 social homes: Donegal (n=723), Cork County (n=721) and Louth (n=657). The 2025 data also show that the pattern of higher delivery remained broadly consistent with previous years, suggesting that, while retrofit activity is taking place across the sector, a significant proportion of delivery continues to be concentrated in a smaller number of local authorities.

Similarly, all local authorities reported energy savings (see Table 9) and carbon emissions reductions (see Table 10) from social housing retrofit activity; however, the scale of savings varied considerably. This reflects differences in the number of properties retrofitted, the starting BER ratings of those

properties, the final BER achieved and the heating systems replaced or installed. Dublin City recorded the highest annual savings in 2025, with 6,589.2 MWh/yr and 1,420.3 tCO2/yr. Cork County, Donegal, Wexford and Louth also recorded high levels of annual energy savings, while Donegal, Cork County, Wexford and Wicklow were among the highest contributors to annual carbon reductions.

The data also show that the relationship between energy and carbon savings is not uniform across all local authorities. This is because carbon savings are influenced not only by the amount of energy saved, but also by the fuel type and emissions profile of the homes before retrofit. As a result, some local authorities with similar energy savings may record different levels of carbon savings.

Table 9: Social Housing Retrofit Energy Savings MWH/Yr by Local Authority (2022-2025)

Energy Savings MWh/Yr	2022	2023	2024		Cumulative
Carlow	511.1	1,473.8	1,218.8	1,019.8	3,203.7
Cavan	414.3	755.8	269.9	321.4	1,440.0
Clare	1,039.8	692.7	706.2	415.5	2,438.7
Cork City	202.7	630.8	1,422.8	1,491.3	2,256.3
Cork County	2,173.3	2,139.0	1,698.4	2,473.0	6,010.8
DLR	702.4	719.9	766.9	760.7	2,189.2
Donegal	1,991.6	3,009.2	1,804.8	2,312.6	6,805.7
Dublin City	4,951.0	4,277.0	7,323.6	6,589.2	16,551.6
Fingal	646.2	779.7	1,444.9	959.6	2,870.8
Galway City	430.3	708.7	927.9	1,141.1	2,066.9
Galway County	1,899.5	721.9	1,560.7	1,316.8	4,182.1
Kerry	54.0	222.2	226.0	1,197.7	502.2
Kildare	1,404.3	359.5	538.1	816.6	2,302.0
Kilkenny	722.6	605.8	681.4	604.8	2,009.9
Laois	2,148.4	2,280.1	573.0	968.9	5,001.5
Leitrim	89.1	231.2	317.8	193.6	638.0
Limerick	0.0	858.1	35.3	691.7	893.4
Longford	1,177.4	796.9	426.0	619.2	2,400.3
Louth	1,400.8	2,545.8	2,034.3	1,500.8	5,981.0
Mayo	0.0	241.3	294.1	136.9	535.4
Meath	474.1	318.5	478.6	754.8	1,271.1
Monaghan	770.5	1,275.8	1,585.9	1,030.1	3,632.2
Offaly	836.1	342.9	912.9	1,168.8	2,091.9
Roscommon	605.9	515.3	63.8	1,270.3	1,185.0
Sligo	580.4	525.6	651.8	413.9	1,757.8
South Dublin	381.3	0.0	2,239.1	1,481.8	2,620.3
Tipperary	1,738.5	860.3	1,200.6	945.9	3,799.5
Waterford	345.2	1,706.2	1,580.7	1,386.6	3,632.2
Westmeath	0.0	2,256.3	1,623.0	208.6	3,879.3
Wexford	608.1	2,359.7	2,006.5	2,069.3	4,974.2
Wicklow	1,655.1	1,453.4	1,098.0	1,442.7	4,206.5
Total	**29,954.1**	**35,663.4**	**37,711.9**	**37,704.3**	**141,033**

Table 10: Social Housing Retrofit Carbon Savings tCo2/Yr by Local Authority (2022 – 2025)

Carbon Savings	2022	2023	2024	2025	Cumulative
Carlow	157.2	422.4	344.0	269.7	923.6
Cavan	139.2	262.8	91.4	103.3	493.4
Clare	375.6	214.4	234.6	132.6	824.6
Cork City	49.7	148.8	346.1	323.7	544.6
Cork County	652.9	622.1	633.3	713.2	1,908.3
DLR	141.8	160.6	171.4	177.4	473.7
Donegal	629.5	985.4	556.6	739.9	2,171.5
Dublin City	1,052.5	913.4	1,565.8	1,420.3	3,531.7
Fingal	153.0	176.6	339.8	212.3	669.4
Galway City	120.7	228.1	289.1	377.1	637.9
Galway County	601.0	198.6	447.5	320.1	1,247.1
Kerry	16.9	64.5	83.7	407.8	165.0
Kildare	334.9	91.8	162.2	222.5	588.9
Kilkenny	215.1	195.6	204.5	186.8	615.2
Laois	701.7	779.9	186.5	307.0	1,668.1
Leitrim	26.3	75.3	102.1	63.0	203.7
Limerick	0.0	237.1	6.0	177.5	243.1
Longford	279.0	203.6	110.1	135.5	592.7
Louth	305.0	629.1	522.3	388.6	1,456.4
Mayo	0.0	74.9	90.5	38.2	165.4
Meath	146.7	95.5	147.4	200.6	389.6
Monaghan	223.3	400.2	453.7	291.6	1,077.2
Offaly	410.4	120.7	303.7	390.7	834.7
Roscommon	155.0	158.7	13.2	374.5	326.8
Sligo	177.5	150.3	210.0	134.1	537.8
South Dublin	95.4	0.0	522.7	329.1	618.1
Tipperary	624.3	201.1	337.1	282.4	1,162.5
Waterford	124.8	523.1	451.5	386.1	1,099.5
Westmeath	0.0	801.7	560.9	66.4	1,362.6
Wexford	216.3	882.9	567.8	679.8	1,667.1
Wicklow	474.0	357.1	304.8	412.2	1,135.9
Total	**8,599.5**	**10,376.3**	**10,360.2**	**10,263.9**	**39,599**

Green House Gas Emissions Savings

The latest available Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) data related to 2024. The 2024 figures (see Table 11) show continued progress in reducing local authority emissions against the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) baseline, which is based on the 2016-2018 local authority average. At national level, total GHG emissions from thermal, transport and electricity use were 36.3% below the baseline in 2024. This represents a further improvement on the 33.9% reduction recorded in 2023 and the 25.4% reduction recorded in 2022.

Table 11: Change in Local Authority Greenhouse Gas Emissions Relative to Baseline (2022–2024)

	2022	2023	2024
Change in total GHG emissions since GHG baseline: **Thermal, Transport and Electricity**	-25.40%	-33.90%	-36.30%
Change in non-electricity GHG emissions since GHG baseline: **Thermal and Transport**	-6.70%	-9.60%	-10.80%

Progress was more modest when electricity is excluded. As seen in Table 11, electricity emissions, covering thermal and transport, were 10.8% below the baseline in 2024, compared with 9.6% in 2023 and 6.7% in 2022. This shows continued movement in the right direction; however, it also highlights that reductions in thermal and transport emissions remain more challenging than reductions in total emissions, where electricity-related improvements have had a stronger impact.

The local authority breakdown (see Table 12) shows variation across the sector. All local authorities reported a reduction in total GHG emissions against the baseline in 2024. Performance on non-electricity emissions was more mixed, with a small number remaining above their baseline for thermal and transport emissions. Cork County and Leitrim, for example, have both remained above their non-electricity baseline in 20224, at 7.3% and 2.8% respectively; however, both also recorded year-on-year reductions compared with 2023. This indicates an improving trend, even though emissions had not yet fallen below the baseline. In Monoghan, non -electricity emissions were 2.9% above baseline, which was linked to an expanded building portfolio and increased activity across the vehicle fleet.

Table 12: Change in Local Authority Greenhouse Gas Emissions Relative to Baseline (Total and Non-Electricity), 2024

	Change in Non Electricity GHG	Change in Total GHG Emissions since GHG
	2024	2024
Carlow	-14.0%	-38.9%
Cavan	-34.6%	-45.9%
Clare	-17.2%	-35.7%
Cork City	-29.4%	-31.4%
Cork County	7.3%	-39.6%
DLR	-25.8%	-51.7%
Donegal	-16.9%	-33.1%
Dublin City	-5.7%	-32.1%
Fingal	-13.8%	-48.6%
Galway City	10.9%	-35.3%
Galway County	-17.6%	-34.1%
Kerry	-8.8%	-27.9%
Kildare	-23.7%	-33.2%
Kilkenny	-2.8%	-36.8%
Laois	-1.9%	-38.2%
Leitrim	2.8%	-32.8%

Limerick	-11.1%	-38.7%
Longford	-5.9%	-34.5%
Louth	-1.3%	-35.6%
Mayo	-12.4%	-32.1%
Meath	-15.1%	-32.1%
Monaghan	2.9%	-40.9%
Offaly	-27.3%	-40.9%
Roscommon	-6.0%	-29.6%
Sligo	-1.3%	-36.1%
South Dublin	-13.7%	-43.5%
Tipperary	-15.1%	-32.5%
Waterford	-11.6%	-30.9%
Westmeath	-2.8%	-32.1%
Wexford	-0.5%	-35.4%
Wicklow	-14.4%	-34.6%

Local Authority Climate Action Plans

Local Authority Climate Action Plans (LA CAPs) are a key mechanism for translating national climate policy into action at local level[15]. Underpinned by a statutory requirement, each plan sets out a five-year framework of mitigation and adaptation measures tailored to local circumstances. In doing so, the plans provide a structured, place-based approach to delivering climate action, supporting the transition to a climate-resilient and low-carbon future. For the purposes of this report, actions have been categorised by their stage of implementation ('not started', 'in progress', 'completed – once-off' or 'completed – recurring' e.g. annual events), as well as by type, distinguishing between adaptation actions, mitigation actions and those that combine both.

The number of actions reported under LA CAPs increased in 2025, rising from 3,951 actions in 2024 to 4,260 actions in 2025 (see Table 13). This increase was mainly concentrated in the 'combined' category which rose from 1,816 actions to 2,141 actions and accounted for 50% of all actions reported in 2025. The overall increase therefore appears to reflect a growing emphasis on integrated actions that deliver both adaptation and mitigation benefits, rather than a substantial increase in actions focused on either category alone.

[15] Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications (2023) *Guidelines for Local Authority Climate Action Plans*. Available at: *https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-climate-energy-and-the-environment/publications/guidelines-for-local-authority-climate-action-plans/*.

Table 13: Number of LA CAP Actions by Type (2024–2025)

	2024 (%)	2025 (%)
Adaptation	476 (12%)	486 (12%)
Mitigation	1,659 (42%)	1633 (38%)
Combined	1,816 (46%)	2141 (50%)
Total	3951 (100%)	4260 (100%)

The implementation status of actions also improved between 2024 and 2025 (see Table 14). Across adaptation, mitigation and combined actions, a higher share were reported as 'completed', while the proportion recorded as 'not started' or 'in progress' declined. This suggests that local authorities are moving beyond plan development and early-stage implementation, with more actions now progressing through to delivery.

Table 14: Implementation Status of LA CAP Actions by Type (2024–2025)

Status	2024 Adaptation	2025 Adaptation	% Change
Not started	22%	13%	-9%
In progress	45%	33%	-12%
Completed - recurring	27%	30%	3%
Completed - once off	6%	25%	19%
Status	**2024 Mitigation**	**2025 Mitigation**	**% Change**
Not started	22%	11%	-11%
In progress	44%	42%	-2%
Completed - recurring	30%	32%	2%
Completed - once off	4%	15%	11%
Status	**2024 Combined**	**2025 Combined**	**% Change**
Not started	20%	11%	-9%
In progress	46%	39%	-7%
Completed - recurring	29%	37%	8%
Completed - once off	5%	13%	8%

The local authority breakdowns by category (see Table 15) and status (see Table 16) show variation in both the scale and composition of LA CAP actions. Total actions ranged from 56 in Sligo to 281 in Waterford, with Cork County, Leitrim, Kerry and Cavan also reporting comparatively high numbers. This variation is likely to reflect differences in local action plan structure, the level of detail used in defining actions and the scale of local authority functions. There are also clear differences in the balance between adaptation, mitigation and combined actions. Waterford reported the highest number of mitigation actions, while Cork County, Dublin City, Kerry and Leitrim had particularly high numbers of those classified as combined.

Table 15: Category of LA CAP Actions by Local Authority, 2025

Local Authority	Adaptation	Mitigation	Combined	Total
Carlow County Council	2	21	50	73
Cavan County Council	17	75	105	197
Clare County Council	21	33	111	165
Cork City Council	8	62	77	147
Cork County Council	16	82	181	279
Donegal County Council	21	44	81	146
Dublin City Council	2	19	143	164
Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council	33	81	36	150
Fingal County Council	23	95	50	168
Galway City Council	4	64	48	116
Galway County Council	11	48	38	97
Kerry County Council	32	35	131	198
Kildare County Council	19	68	68	155
Kilkenny County Council	13	34	73	120
Laois County Council	12	95	66	173
Leitrim County Council	30	73	120	223
Limerick City & County Council	11	34	59	104
Longford County Council	15	16	34	65
Louth County Council	3	38	53	94
Mayo County Council	9	24	49	82
Meath County Council	10	21	40	71
Monaghan County Council	14	60	79	153
Offaly County Council	21	56	41	118
Roscommon County Council	12	21	29	62
Sligo County Council	2	44	10	56
South Dublin County Council	23	73	33	129
Tipperary County Council	14	30	91	135
Waterford City & County Council	35	168	78	281
Westmeath County Council	10	21	40	71
Wexford County Council	25	44	64	133
Wicklow County Council	18	54	63	135
Total	**486**	**1633**	**2141**	**4260**

The status breakdown in Table 16 also shows different implementation profiles across local authorities. Cork County and Leitrim recorded the highest numbers of 'completed - recurring' actions, while Kerry, Clare and Dublin City had relatively high numbers of those categorised as 'completed - once-off'. At the other end of the implementation cycle, most local authorities had a relatively small number of actions 'not yet started' and although Waterford reported the highest share in this category, they also had the highest number of actions overall.

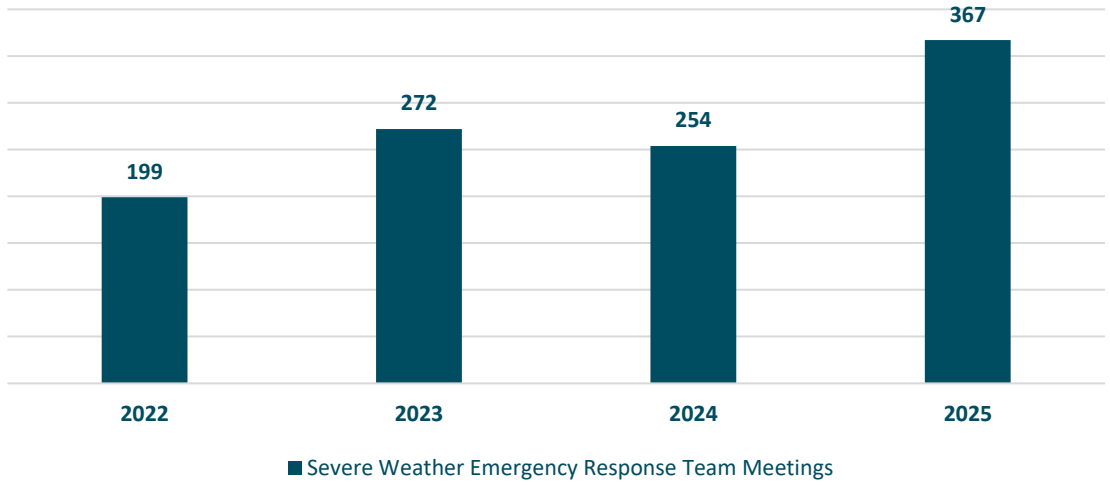
Table 16: Status of LA CAP Actions by Local Authority, 2025

	Completed -	Completed -	In Progress	Not Started	Total
Carlow County Council	16	28	15	14	73
Cavan County Council	27	58	93	19	197
Clare County Council	51	42	51	21	165
Cork City Council	26	52	57	12	147
Cork County Council	41	136	94	8	279
Donegal County Council	26	7	104	9	146
Dublin City Council	44	43	73	4	164
Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council	10	83	44	13	150
Fingal County Council	20	80	53	15	168
Galway City Council	17	7	76	16	116
Galway County Council	0	21	58	18	97
Kerry County Council	62	52	79	5	198
Kildare County Council	4	17	91	43	155
Kilkenny County Council	25	54	30	11	120
Laois County Council	27	71	45	30	173
Leitrim County Council	48	113	48	14	223
Limerick City & County Council	12	8	69	15	104
Longford County Council	9	40	12	4	65
Louth County Council	9	20	53	12	94
Mayo County Council	13	13	50	6	82
Meath County Council	7	46	18	0	71
Monaghan County Council	39	63	32	19	153
Offaly County Council	22	63	22	11	118
Roscommon County Council	2	18	41	1	62
Sligo County Council	7	0	36	13	56
South Dublin County Council	2	77	33	17	129
Tipperary County Council	30	70	27	8	135
Waterford City & County Council	34	59	89	99	281
Westmeath County Council	1	18	48	4	71
Wexford County Council	5	52	72	4	133
Wicklow County Council	6	33	85	11	135
Total	**642**	**1444**	**1698**	**476**	**4260**

Severe Weather Emergency Response Team Meetings and Plans Activated

Severe Weather Emergency Response Team (SWERT) meeting activity increased sharply in 2025. Local authorities reported 367 meetings, compared with 254 in 2024, representing an increase of 44% (see Figure 7). This is the highest level recorded over the four-year period and indicates a marked increase in severe weather coordination activity during 2025.

Figure 7: Number of Severe Weather Emergency Response Team (SWERT) Meetings (2022–2025)



The local authority breakdown (see Table 17) shows considerable variation in meeting activity ranging from 0 in Limerick to 40 in Clare. High levels were also recorded in Donegal (n=31), Leitrim (n=30) and Kerry (n=26).

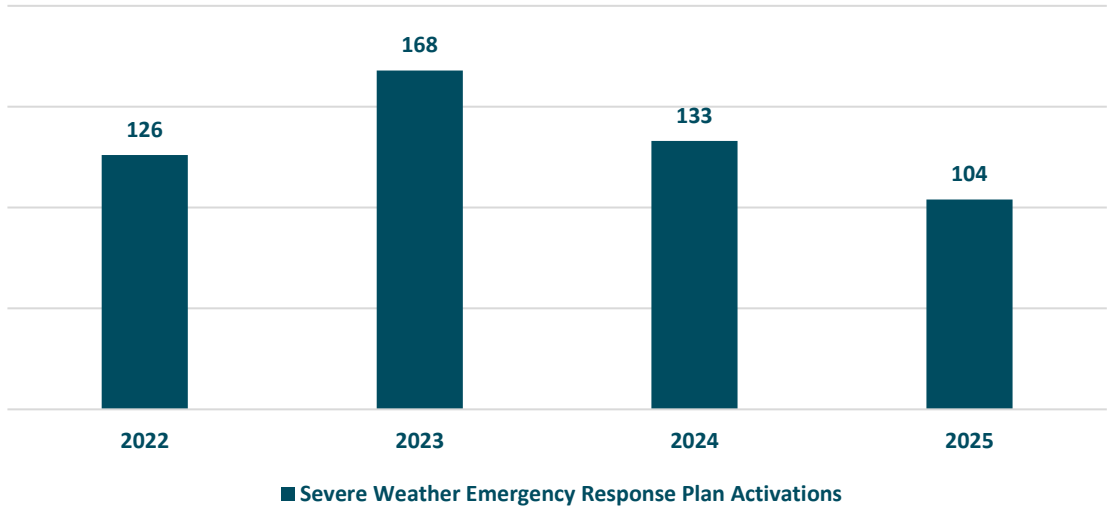
Table 17: Number of Severe Weather Emergency Response Team (SWERT) Meetings by Local Authority (2022–2025)

	2022	2023	2024	2025
Carlow	5	2	2	11
Cavan	2	4	5	6
Clare	8	7	8	40
Cork City	10	19	6	6
Cork County	9	15	19	15
DLR	10	19	18	6
Donegal	5	0	11	31
Dublin City	2	7	3	2
Fingal	0	2	0	12
Galway City	5	10	12	12
Galway Co.	5	5	0	16
Kerry	53	84	43	26
Kildare	10	4	3	7
Kilkenny	15	6	6	17
Laois	5	8	6	20
Leitrim	3	3	8	30
Limerick	0	2	7	0
Longford	0	0	1	7
Louth	2	4	2	3
Mayo	8	9	17	14
Meath	4	0	0	10
Monaghan	4	4	4	8
Offaly	3	2	4	8
Roscommon	0	1	27	4
Sligo	6	4	5	7

South Dublin	5	5	3	10
Tipperary	1	4	5	12
Waterford	3	13	10	5
Westmeath	1	4	4	5
Wexford	6	18	12	12
Wicklow	9	7	3	5
Total	**199**	**272**	**254**	**367**

SWERT plan activations, on the other hand, decreased from 133 in 2024 to 104 in 2025, representing a reduction of 29 activations or approximately 22% (see Figure 8). The 2025 figure is also below the levels recorded in 2022 (n=126) and 2023 (n=168). Interpreting these results alongside the increase in SWERT *meetings* suggests that local authorities continued to manage severe weather events at local level but there was inconsistency in how SWERT plans were being activated.

Figure 8: Number of Severe Weather Emergency Response Team (SWERT) Plan Activations (2022–2025)



This is evident in the local authority breakdown presented in Table 18 and due, in part, to the fact that there was no standardised criteria or trigger agreed about when meetings should be held[16]. In 2025, three local authorities reported six or more SWERT plan activations; a majority - 15 local

[16] To address this methodological issue, a sub-group is active and in collaboration with CCMA Corporate & Emergency Planning Committee to revise indicators for severe weather that align to the Emergency Management Framework. This is being done in collaboration with the Department of Housing's National Directorate for Fire and Emergency Management and their work with local authorities on emergency planning. The revised indicators are expected to be in place for the 2027 data collection cycle.

authorities - reported between three and five activations; 10 local authorities reported between one and two activations; and three local authorities reported no plan activations during the year.

Table 18: Number of Severe Weather Emergency Response Team (SWERT) Plan Activations by Local Authority (2022–2025)

	2022	2023	2024	2025
Carlow	0	0	3	3
Cavan	0	0	0	1
Clare	8	7	8	7
Cork City	10	3	6	4
Cork County	5	1	7	4
DLR	8	13	1	1
Donegal	0	0	0	0
Dublin City	2	11	0	0
Fingal	0	1	0	12
Galway City	1	3	5	4
Galway Co.	2	3	0	2
Kerry	46	72	33	5
Kildare	2	3	2	1
Kilkenny	15	6	6	2
Laois	0	3	2	5
Leitrim	3	3	8	3
Limerick	0	0	0	0
Longford	0	0	1	1
Louth	2	3	1	3
Mayo	7	4	6	3
Meath	4	0	0	5
Monaghan	3	1	2	4
Offaly	0	4	2	1
Roscommon	0	2	9	2
Sligo	1	4	5	1
South Dublin	0	5	3	4
Tipperary	1	4	5	12
Waterford	0	3	10	5
Westmeath	0	1	2	1
Wexford	6	8	3	4
Wicklow	0	0	3	5
Total	**126**	**168**	**133**	**104**

Examining plan activations by weather event (see Table 19), wind remained the most frequently cited trigger in 2025 (n=81, 46%), continuing the upward trend seen across the four-year period. Rain-related events declined from 27% in 2024 to 19% in 2025. By contrast, snow and ice activations increased, rising from 11 in 2024 to 20 in 2025. This suggests a shift in the profile of severe weather events requiring plan activation, with a greater emphasis on winter conditions. Other weather categories were less prominent in 2025; low temperature and ice reduced from 7 in 2024 to 4 in

2025, while no activations were recorded for thunderstorms or fog/freezing fog. High temperature activations remained low overall though increased from 0 in 2024 to 2 in 2025.

Table 19: Number and Percentage of Emergency Response Plan Activations by Weather Type (2022 – 2025)

Weather Event	2022	2023	2024	2025
Wind/Coastal Wind	60 (48%)	62 (37%)	74 (56%)	81 (61%)
Rain	36 (29%)	53 (32%)	36 (27%)	25 (19%)
Snow/Ice	15 (12%)	14 (8%)	11 (8%)	20 (15%)
Low Temperature/Ice	10 (8%)	20 (12%)	7 (5%)	4 (3%)
Thunderstorms	3 (2%)	17 (10%)	3 (2%)	0 (0%)
Fog/Freezing Fog	2 (2%)	0 (0%)	2 (2%)	0 (0%)
High Temperature	0 (0%)	2 (1%)	0 (0%)	2 (2%)
Total	**126 (100%)**	**168 (100%)**	**133 (100%)**	**132 (100%)**

Internal Behavioural Change and Capacity Building

The theme of Internal Behavioural Change and Capacity Building is essential to achieving and sustaining meaningful climate action. Supporting the training, awareness-building and engagement of local authority staff, elected members and the wider public, helps to embed new ways of working and thinking that enable the sector to respond effectively within an evolving policy context.

The focus is on encouraging changes in both practice and perspective, while ensuring that all stakeholders understand their role in addressing climate change. This report considers three key groups:

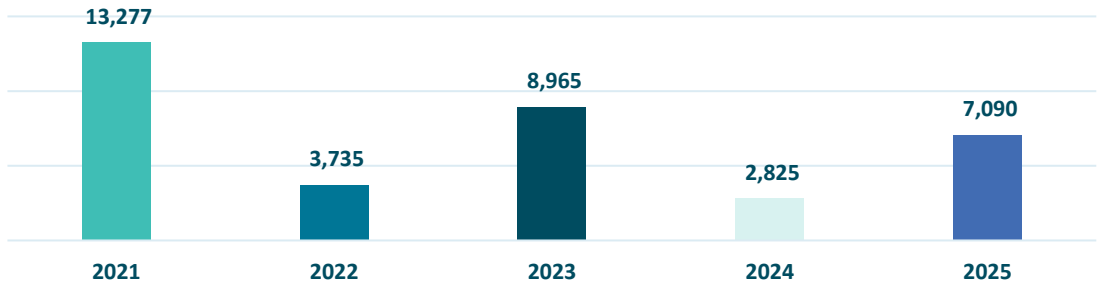
- Local authority staff and elected members;
- Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs); and
- Communities.

Climate Action Training for Staff and Elected Members

Data from the Local Authority Services National Training Group (LASNTG) show that the number of climate action training places provided to local authority staff and elected members increased significantly in 2025. A total of 7,090 training places were provided, compared with 2,825 in 2024, representing a 151% increase year-on-year (see Figure 9).

This rebound follows the approval of a new training plan and budget in mid-2024, which appears to have supported a substantial expansion in training delivery during 2025. While the 2025 figure remains below the higher levels recorded in 2021 and 2023, it marks a clear recovery from the reduced level of provision in 2024[17].

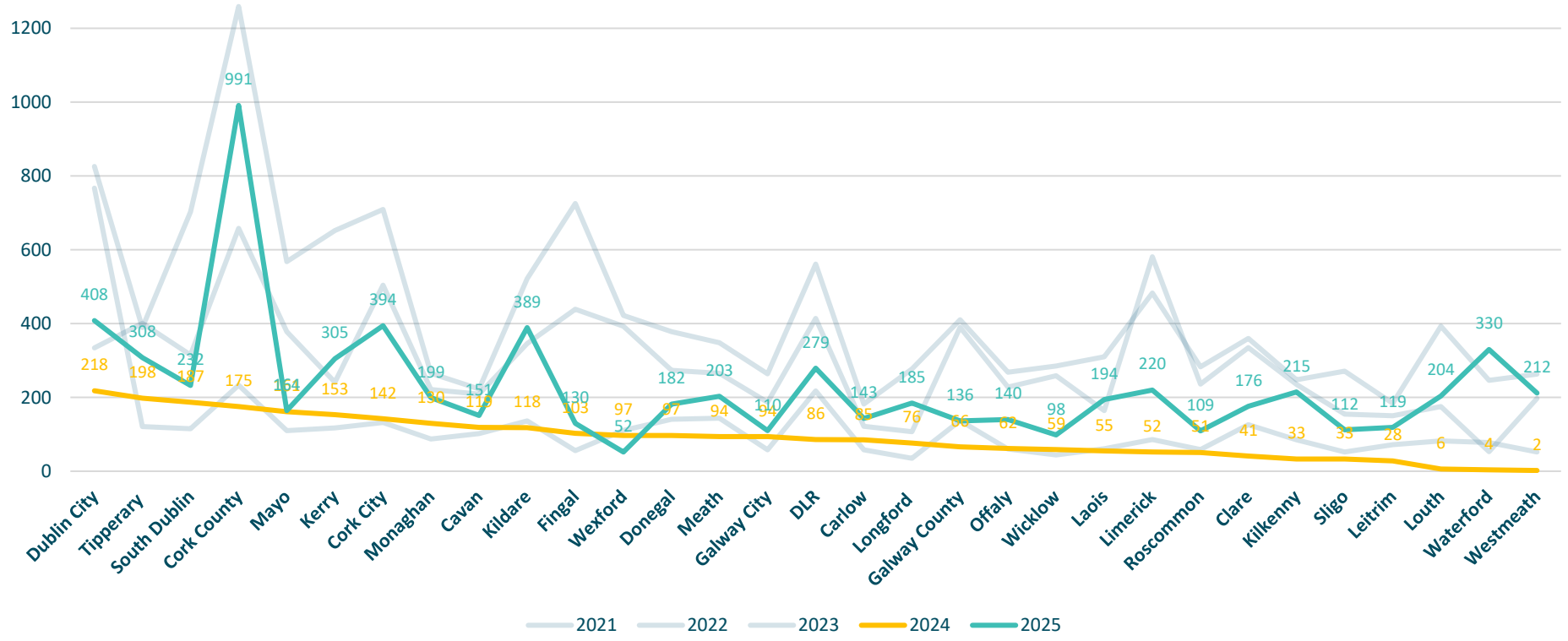
Figure 9: Number of Climate Action Training Places for Local Authority Staff and Elected Members (2021–2025)



[17] The low numbers in 2024 were primarily because the training plan and budget for the period 2024-2027 commenced formally on the 1st of June 2024, and no training activity was available for the first six months of the year.

The local authority breakdown (see Figure 10) shows that the increase in training places in 2025 was broad-based across the sector. Following the low point in 2024, almost all local authorities reported higher levels of training provision in 2025. There was, however, considerable variation in the scale of training activity. Cork County recorded the highest number of training places in 2025 (n=991), followed by Dublin City (n=408), Cork City (n=394), Kildare (n=389) and Waterford (n=330). Importantly, lower reported numbers in 2025 do not indicate reduced engagement but rather reflect the timing of training provision locally. For example, in Wexford, a majority of training was completed in 2024, leading to reduced numbers in 2025.

Figure 10: Number of Climate Action Training Places Accessed by Staff and Elected Members by Local Authority (2021 – 2025)

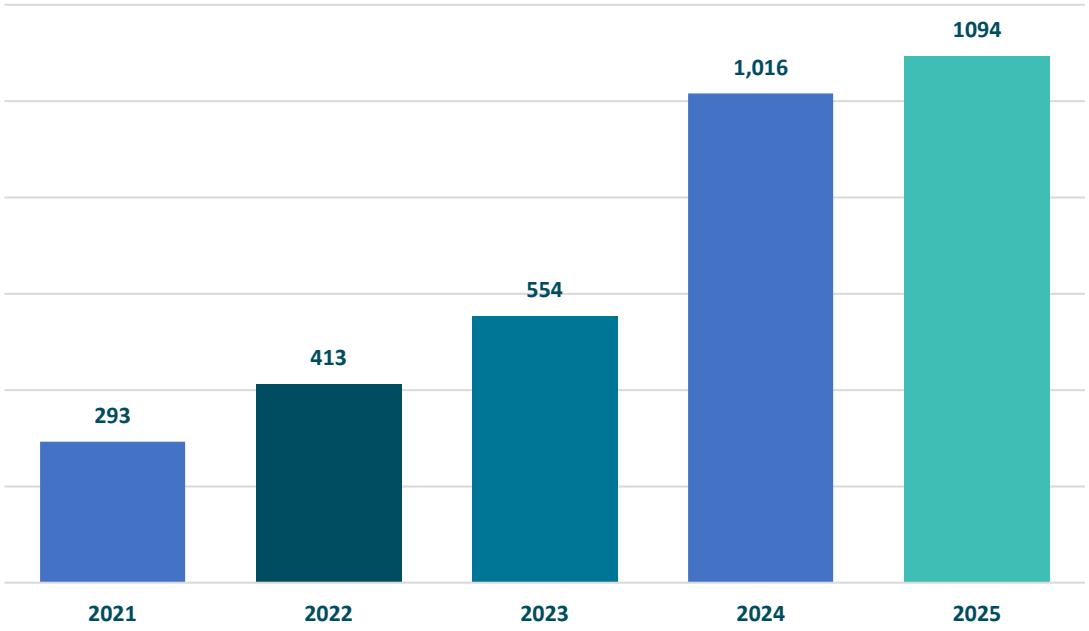


Green for Business Initiative

The Green for Business programme[18] was launched in March 2021 and is delivered by the local authority Local Enterprise Offices (LEOs). The programme supports small-medium enterprises (SMEs) to identify practical steps to improve sustainability, reduce environmental impact and prepare for a more resource-efficient economy.

Participation in the programme continued to increase in 2025 (see Figure 11). A total of 1,094 SMEs took part during the year, up from 1,016 in 2024 and representing an increase of 78 SMEs or approximately 8% year-on-year.

Figure 11: Number of Small-Medium Enterprises (SMEs) Participating in Green for Business (2021 – 2025)



The 2025 figure is the highest recorded over the five-year period and continues the upward trend in programme uptake since 2021. Overall, 3,370 SMEs have participated in the initiative to-date, suggesting that it is now reaching a substantial number of businesses nationally and remains an important mechanism for supporting climate action within the local enterprise sector.

[18] Previously referred to as the Green for Micro Programme.

At local authority level (see Table 20), participation increased in 17 local authority areas, decreased in 12 and remained unchanged in one. The highest number of participants in 2025 was recorded in Galway City and County (n=100) followed by Cork County (n=92). Galway City and County also recorded the largest year-on-year increase, rising form 32 in 2024 to 100 in 2025.

Table 20: Number of Businesses Participating in the Green for Business Programme by Local Authority (2022[19] – 2025)

Local Authority	2022	2023	*2024*	2025
Carlow	14	42	52	28
Cavan	1	16	28	41
Clare	16	13	21	36
Cork City	18	19	26	34
Cork County	33	37	69	92
Donegal	9	21	48	36
Dublin City	7	33	52	28
Dun Laoghaire Rathdown	12	23	31	30
Fingal	26	34	35	39
Galway City & County	18	19	32	100
Kerry	18	18	28	21
Kildare	17	42	69	31
Kilkenny	11	13	22	44
Laois	31	15	42	29
Leitrim	5	7	18	25
Limerick	8	14	21	42
Longford	18	13	23	34
Louth	16	11	30	14
Mayo	6	13	50	60
Meath	9	16	34	39
Monaghan	18	15	35	18
Offaly	4	7	39	22
Roscommon	16	17	23	30
Sligo	1	10	17	23
South Dublin	22	21	37	21
Tipperary	6	12	26	40
Waterford	15	15	21	37
Westmeath	17	18	46	45
Wexford	12	15	20	34
Wicklow	9	5	21	21
Total	**413**	**554**	**1,016**	**1,094**

[19] Breakdown of data by local authority not available for 2021.

Community Climate Action Programme

The Community Climate Action Programme (CCAP) was launched in 2023, with initial rollout through local authorities commencing in late 2023 and early 2024. CCAP supports communities across Ireland to deliver local climate action projects, with funding and guidance provided through local authorities and national partners. The programme aims to enable practical, community-led initiatives that reduce emissions, improve energy efficiency and build climate resilience at local level.

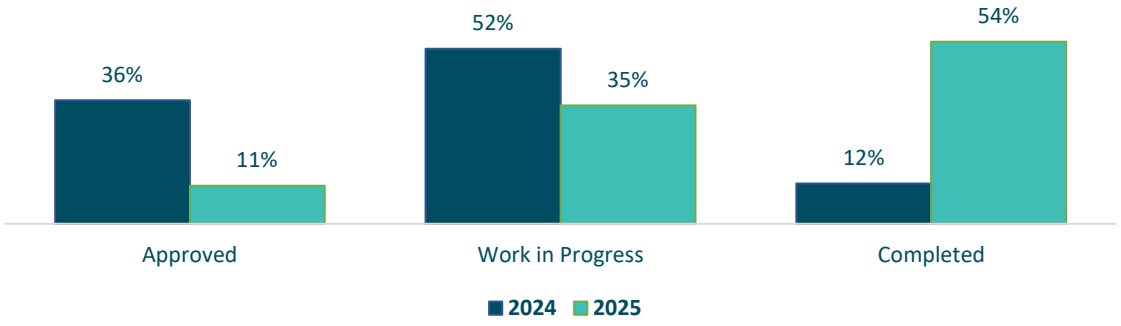
CCAP is delivered through two main strands:

- **Strand 1 – Building Low Carbon Communities**, which funds local projects across key themes such as energy, travel, food, waste and environmental action; and
- **Strand 1a – the Shared Island Fund**, which supports cross-border and all-island projects.

Funding is provided on a tiered basis, with support for small projects (up to €20,000), medium projects (€20,000–€50,000) and large projects (€50,000–€100,000). This structure enables a wide range of community groups to participate, from smaller local initiatives to larger, more ambitious projects.

At year-end 2025, a total of 706 projects were funded under the programme: 41% were categorised as ‘Large’; 37% as ‘Medium’; and 22% as ‘Small’. The status breakdown shows clear progress in the delivery of CCAP projects between 2024 and 2025 (see Figure 12). The proportion of projects recorded as ‘completed’ increased substantially, rising from 12% in 2024 to 54% in 2025. At the same time, the share of projects recorded as ‘approved’ fell from 36% to 11%, while those recorded as 'in progress’ declined from 52% to 35%. This indicates that a significant number of projects moved through the delivery pipeline during 2025, shifting from approval or implementation stages into completion.

Figure 12: Status of Community Climate Action Programme (CCAP) Projects (2021 – 2025)



Conclusion

The 2025 Climate Action Key Performance Indicator (KPI) results show that climate action is becoming increasingly embedded within local government. Data across the ten indicators point to a sector that has moved beyond establishing many of the staff, governance arrangements and programmes required to support climate action and is increasingly focused on implementation and delivery. Progress is evident across a range of areas, including Local Authority Climate Action Plans (LA CAPs), implementation, social housing retrofit, emissions reductions, community climate action and capacity building. While variation remains, the overall picture is one of continued progress and a growing integration of climate action into the day-to-day work of local government.

Mainstreaming

The Mainstreaming indicators show that the core climate action infrastructure within local authorities is now well established. Dedicated Climate Action Co-ordinator and Climate Action Officer posts were largely maintained in 2025, with almost all local authorities having one or both roles in place at year-end. The few vacancies recorded were temporary and had been filled by early 2026, suggesting that staffing fluctuations reflected normal recruitment and retention issues rather than a weakening of the overall model. Community Climate Action Officer capacity also remained largely stable, with only a marginal reduction in local authority coverage and Full Time Equivalent (FTE).

Climate Action Teams (CATs) also remained embedded across the sector. While there was a slight reduction in the number of teams recorded as fully in place at year-end, the overall level of CAT meeting activity was almost unchanged from 2024. CAT membership also remained substantially above the levels recorded in earlier years, indicating that cross-departmental involvement in climate action continues to be a significant feature of local authority governance.

The most notable development in 2025 was the increased use of CAT sub-groups. More local authorities reported active sub-groups, and the number of sub-group meetings rose sharply. This suggests that, while the headline CAT structures are largely stable, more detailed implementation and follow-through may increasingly be happening through smaller, more focused working arrangements.

Overall, the Mainstreaming data point to a sector that has moved from building climate action structures to consolidating and operationalising them. The key issue for future years will be less

about whether structures exist and more about how consistently and effectively they are used to support implementation across all local authority functions.

Adaptation and Mitigation

The Adaptation and Mitigation indicators show a broad and active programme of delivery across the sector, but with different patterns of progress across the individual areas. Active Travel continued to grow in terms of project numbers, with the total pipeline increasing to 1,061 projects in 2025. The number of projects 'under construction' also increased, suggesting continued delivery momentum. However, this did not translate into higher kilometres delivered or higher funding drawdown in 2025, both of which decreased compared with 2024. This highlights that increased pipeline activity does not always result in immediate increases in physical outputs or expenditure within the same year.

Social housing retrofit activity showed gradual continued progress. A total of 10,033 social homes were retrofitted between 2022 and 2025, with 2,671 completed in 2025. The quality of retrofit outcomes also improved, with 99% of homes retrofitted in 2025 achieving BER B2 or above and 92% having heat pumps installed. The cumulative annual energy savings from local authority social housing retrofits are now substantial, equivalent to the energy required to run approximately 8,200 households for a year. This demonstrates the practical impact of the retrofit programme in reducing energy use, improving housing efficiency and contributing to wider built-environment emissions reductions.

The greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions indicator also shows continued improvement, although the latest available data relate to 2024. Total local authority GHG emissions from thermal, transport and electricity use were 36.3% below the baseline in 2024, improving from 33.9% in 2023. However, progress on non-electricity emissions remains more modest, with thermal and transport emissions 10.8% below baseline. This highlights a continuing challenge for the sector: while total emissions reductions are moving in the right direction, further progress on heating and transport will be important to sustain deeper reductions over time.

The LA CAPs provide one of the clearest signs of implementation momentum in 2025. The number of actions reported increased from 3,951 in 2024 to 4,260 in 2025, with the increase mainly concentrated in actions combining both adaptation and mitigation. This suggests that local authorities are increasingly identifying actions that deliver multiple climate benefits rather than treating adaptation and mitigation as separate areas of work.

The status data also show a stronger delivery profile, with more actions ‘completed’ and fewer recorded as ‘not started’ or ‘in progress’. Overall, the LACAP data indicate that local authorities are moving beyond plan development and into a more active implementation phase.

The severe weather indicators show a more complex pattern. Severe Weather Emergency Response Team meetings increased sharply in 2025, reaching the highest level recorded over the four-year period. At the same time, reported plan activations decreased. This may indicate greater coordination and preparedness activity, but it also points to the need for more consistent reporting and clearer activation criteria. The ongoing development of revised severe weather indicators should help strengthen this area in future reporting cycles.

Internal Behavioural Change and Capacity Building

The Internal Behavioural Change and Capacity Building indicators show strong recovery and continued growth in 2025. Climate action training for local authority staff and elected members rebounded significantly following the low point in 2024, when training provision was affected by the timing of the new sectoral training plan and budget. In 2025, 7,090 training places were provided, an increase of 151% on 2024. While this remains below the highest levels recorded in earlier years, it represents a clear recovery and indicates renewed capacity-building activity across the sector.

The Green for Business programme also continued to expand. In 2025, 1,094 small-medium enterprises participated, the highest annual figure recorded to date. This continued growth suggests that the programme is becoming an increasingly important route for supporting climate action in the local enterprise sector. However, participation still varies across local authority areas, indicating that local promotion, business demand and delivery capacity continue to shape uptake.

The Community Climate Action Programme (CCAP) also showed clear forward movement in 2025. A total of 706 projects were funded by year-end. Importantly, the status profile changed substantially whereby the proportion of projects recorded as completed increased from 12% in 2024 to 54% in 2025, while the share recorded as approved or in progress declined. This indicates that many community projects moved through the delivery pipeline during 2025, shifting from approval and implementation into completion.

Overall, the capacity-building indicators show that local authority climate action is extending beyond internal structures and technical delivery. Training, business supports and community funding are helping to widen participation in climate action across staff, elected members, businesses and communities. This is important because sustained climate action depends not only on infrastructure and plans, but also on the knowledge and engagement of the people and organisations involved.

Overall conclusion

Overall, the 2025 KPI results point to a sector that is continuing to mature in its climate action role (see Table 17 for a summary). Staffing and governance structures have largely been maintained; delivery is progressing across retrofit, emissions reduction, LA CAP implementation and community projects; and capacity-building activity has strengthened after a weaker year in 2024. The results also show that progress is not uniform. Some indicators reflect clear year-on-year gains, while others show consolidation, local variation or the need for more consistent measurement.

The value of the KPI framework is that it captures this mixed picture in a structured way. It highlights where local authorities are making clear progress, where delivery is becoming more embedded and where further attention may be needed. As the dataset continues to grow, the KPIs will become increasingly important in tracking the extent to which climate action is being integrated into the everyday work of local government and subsequently translated into practical outcomes for communities, businesses and the wider sector.

Table 21: Summary of 2025 Climate Action KPI Results by Theme and Indicator

Theme	Indicator	Summary of Results
Mainstreaming	1. Climate Action Staff	**Numbers maintained** by local authorities.
	2. Climate Action Teams	**Largely maintained but with a slight drop in membership and activity**, alongside stronger sub-group engagement.
Adaptation & Mitigation	3. Active Travel	**Growth in project numbers and pipeline activity,** alongside reduced kilometres delivered and lower expenditure.
	4. Social Housing Retrofit	**Gradual continued progress**, with cumulative increases in retrofits and energy savings.
	5. Greenhouse Gas Reductions	**Clear ongoing improvement**, with emissions reductions deepening against the baseline (latest data reported with a one-year lag).
	6. LA CAP Actions	**Positive implementation momentum**, with more actions completed and fewer remaining not started.
	7. Severe Weather Responses	**Shift from response to preparedness**, with increased coordination activity and fewer emergency activations overall.
Internal Behavioural Change and Capacity Building	8. Staff & Elected Member Training	**High engagement,** with a substantial increase following temporary pause while training plan approved in 2024.
	9.Green for Business Initiative	**Continued improvement**, with an increase in businesses supported, though progress varies by local authority.
	10. Community CA Programme	**Clear forward movement**, with a higher share of projects completed and fewer remaining in the pipeline.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