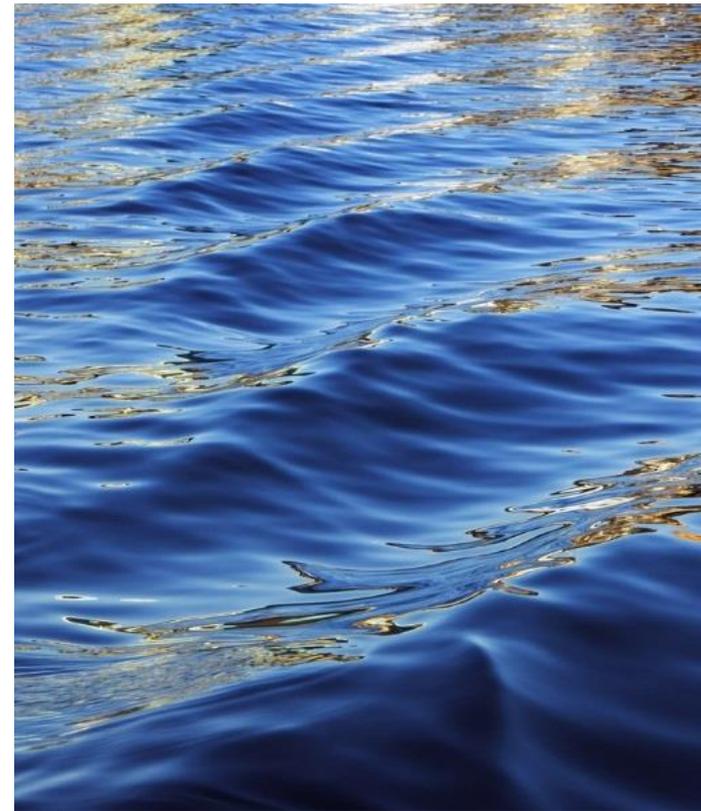




# Sustainable Energy Communities

Dr Irene Cadogan, Sustainable Enniscorthy



Sustainable Enniscorthy is a voluntary community group established in 2019 to focus on the incorporation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals and bring about positive change in Enniscorthy.

# Community Groups and Sustainability

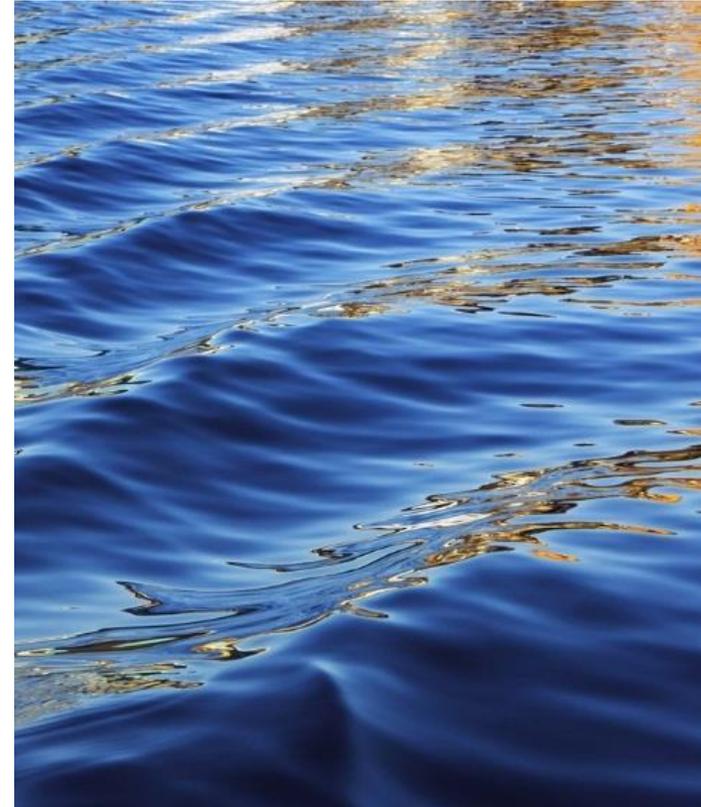
What do we mean by sustainability –

*the ability of a community to meet the needs of its members without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.*

But – now more about making changes that will have both immediate and longer-term impacts

Communities want to effect change to improve their areas – better quality of life

- More and more focus on delivery of policy through community groups
- Increased funding in this area
- Communities have better understanding of the local contexts
- Want to see more co-ordinated approach – make the most of their local assets
- Often more effective than centralised policy approach



# Our Energy Master Plan Journey

# Timeline of the Process

# Key Points

- Lots of meetings
- Getting application ready was good exercise but also time consuming
- Be very clear on what you need when tendering
- Have a good understanding of the area for the plan and potential issues
- Plenty of time required
- Talk to others who have been through the process
- Key the main team small – but you will need a wider team to implement
- Our support from Fiona has been essential
- Bridge funding from Wexford County Council also essential

# Issues with the Master Plan

## Sustainability Energy Community Enniscorthy

- SEAI – Develop an energy master plan and pathway for energy efficiency improvements
- Master plan high level – doesn't integrate other data – Census etc
- Need to know energy efficiency of the current stock and retrofitting options which is included in the Master Plan
- However we also need to understand
  - Where the most inefficient housing is
  - What might be the barriers to uptake of improvements in these areas
  - Solar installed/potential
  - How to engage community
  - How to manage a retrofitting project with 7 volunteers!

An Glasán



Daphne View



**Legend**

BER by Band

- AB
- CD
- EFG

Percentage Model EFG

- 15.35 - 27.80%
- 27.81 - 38.00%
- 38.01 - 50.75%

## Issues with the Master Plan / Energy Community

- Process can be very confusing for community groups
- Not sure the final document is enough to help get action underway
- Grants are important but having funding for a person to manage is actually really important as well
- Not enough focus on community engagement and understanding likely uptake – need to make sure you are doing this as a group throughout
- What happens next? – Still not 100% sure – needs to be better set out by SEAI earlier in play
- Do you really need a master plan?

What are the key barriers for communities around these kinds of sustainability projects?

Time

Data

Knowledge

Training

People

Power

# What next for Sustainable Enniscorthy

- Launch of Energy Master Plan - September
- Community Solar – TASC Project launch 29<sup>th</sup> June
- Repair Café – 17<sup>th</sup> of June
- Water Events – focus on the Slaney from August - November

# Thank you



Contact [sustainableenniscorthy@gmail.com](mailto:sustainableenniscorthy@gmail.com)

Or checkout <https://www.sustainableenniscorthy.com/>