

Kilkenny Education Support Centre Climate Action Roadmap 2025–2030

1. Introduction

Kilkenny Education Support Centre (KESC) is committed to supporting Ireland’s Climate Action Plan 2025 and the Public Sector Climate Action Mandate 2025, and will update this roadmap in line with future national plans.

Our aim is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 51% by 2030 (from a 2018 baseline) and achieve carbon neutrality by 2050.

This roadmap summarises our progress, targets and key actions aligned with Department of Education and SEAI requirements.

2. Our People and Governance

Climate & Sustainability Champion:	Director, Kilkenny ESC
Green Team:	To be formalised Q1 2026 (cross-functional staff team)
Governance:	Overseen by the Management Committee, reporting annually through SEAI’s M&R system
Staff Engagement:	Annual workshops, SEAI Energy Academy completion by 2026, and Green Week awareness initiatives

The Green Team will report to Management Committee quarterly.

All Senior Management (Director and Management Committee) will complete Climate Action Leadership Training and Green Team will report completion rates annually.

3. Our Targets and Baseline

Baseline emissions (2018):	40.13 tCO ₂ e*
2024 emissions:	25.46 tCO ₂ e (–36.1%)
2030 target:	≤19.7 tCO ₂ e (–51%)

Projected reduction through planned measures:	–17.91 tCO ₂ e, exceeding 2030 targets by approx. 4 tCO ₂ e.
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4. Our Buildings and Energy Use

Main Building: BER D1, 796 m², gas heating

Annex: BER C1, 181 m², gas heating

Any construction/retrofit works will:

- (a) specify low-carbon methods & cement where practicable;
- (b) include Resource & Waste Management Plans; and
- (c) target a minimum recycled content in materials in line with the Circularity Roadmap.

Total annual energy consumption (2023–2024):

114,901 kWh (electricity 39,800 kWh, gas 75,101 kWh), costing €19,969 and generating 25.46 tCO₂e.

The 2024 SEAI energy audit (EA5523) identified a 73% emissions reduction potential and annual savings of €4,200 per annum.

5. Planned Measures (2025–2030)

Measure	Cost (€)	Annual Saving	CO ₂ Reduction (t/yr)	Payback
Energy Monitoring System	€1,000	€613.00	0.51	2 yrs
Smart Radiator Controls	€1,000	€310.00	0.62	3 yrs
Building Fabric Upgrades (Main Building)	€150,000	€1,240.00	2.48	>10 yrs
Heat Pump (Main Building)	€50,000	Not definable	9.30	>10 yrs
Solar PV (10 kW)	€12,000	€2,042.00	2.08	6 yrs
Heat Pump (Annex)	20,000	—	2.92	>10 yrs

Total investment required: €234,000. It is expected that these projects can be funded through retaining unrestricted reserves. Combined, they will reduce emissions by 17.91 tCO₂e annually, achieving and exceeding KESC's 2030 target.

6. Operations and Procurement

Implement SEAI EnergyMAP by end of 2026 and evaluate ISO 50001 pre-certification.

Eliminate paper-based processes where practicable and maintain use of recycled paper.

3-bin waste segregation in place; full elimination of single-use items by mid 2026.

Maintain public Display Energy Certificates for all buildings.

We implement GPP per *Buying Greener: GPP Strategy & Action Plan 2024–2027* and Circular 17/2025, using EPA GPP criteria/OGP tool; we will track GPP uptake from 2025.

For ICT, ≥80% of end-user devices bought under new contracts will be EPEAT Gold/TCO or remanufactured; we will monitor this share annually.

For paper, recycled is the default; we will measure & report paper use annually and set a reduction target after baseline year 2025.

For events/catering, new contracts will:

- (a) require food-waste measurement & prevention,
- (b) ensure segregation of biowaste, and
- (c) aim for ≥10% organic by value across relevant food categories, where possible.

7. Transport and Travel

Staff travel in 2024 totalled 2,923 km.

No vehicles are owned by the Centre.

Actions: reduce travel emissions to 51% of 2018 levels by 2030 through virtual meetings, car-pooling, and public transport promotion.

We will promote active travel.

8. Monitoring and Reporting

Progress will be reported annually through SEAI's M&R system and included in KESC's Annual Report, covering GHG** emissions, energy use, sustainability initiatives, and compliance with Circular 1/2020.

The roadmap will be reviewed and updated annually within six months of publication of the national Climate Action Plan.

We will measure & monitor water use for the whole organisation and maintain drinking water refill points for staff and visitors.

Annual Report will include: GHG vs 2016–18 baseline, Mandate implementation progress, sustainability activities, and evidence of compliance with Circular 1/2020 (official air travel)

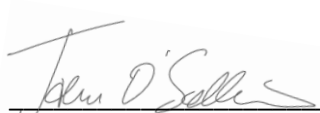
9. Additional Compliance Notes and Approval

In line with the Public Sector Climate Action Roadmap Guidance (August 2025), Kilkenny Education Support Centre confirms the following additional measures:

Water refill points have been installed to reduce plastic bottle use.
Single-use items being phased out from all operations and events.

This Roadmap will be submitted to the SEAI Public Sector Team and published on <https://www.eckilkenny.ie/>

Signed:



Name:

John O'Sullivan

Position:

Director / Climate & Sustainability Champion

Date:

15 October 2025

* *tCO₂e = tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent, a standard unit used to express the combined impact of all greenhouse gases as an equivalent amount of CO₂*

** *Greenhouse Gas, any gas that traps heat in the Earth's atmosphere (e.g., CO₂, CH₄, N₂O, F-gases)*