

Community Climate Action Programme



Supporting Waterford community groups, large and small, rural and urban, to build low carbon communities

Waterford's Community Climate Action Programme Strand 1 and Strand 1a

Overview of the programme
- Online Webinar -

9 November 2023



Comhairle Cathrach & Contae Phort Láirge
Waterford City & County Council



Climate Action
A Smarter, Greener Waterford



Rialtas
na hÉireann
Government
of Ireland

Tionscadal Éireann
Project Ireland
2040

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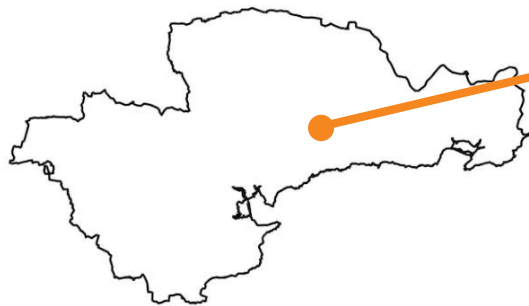




Community Climate Action Programme Strand 1

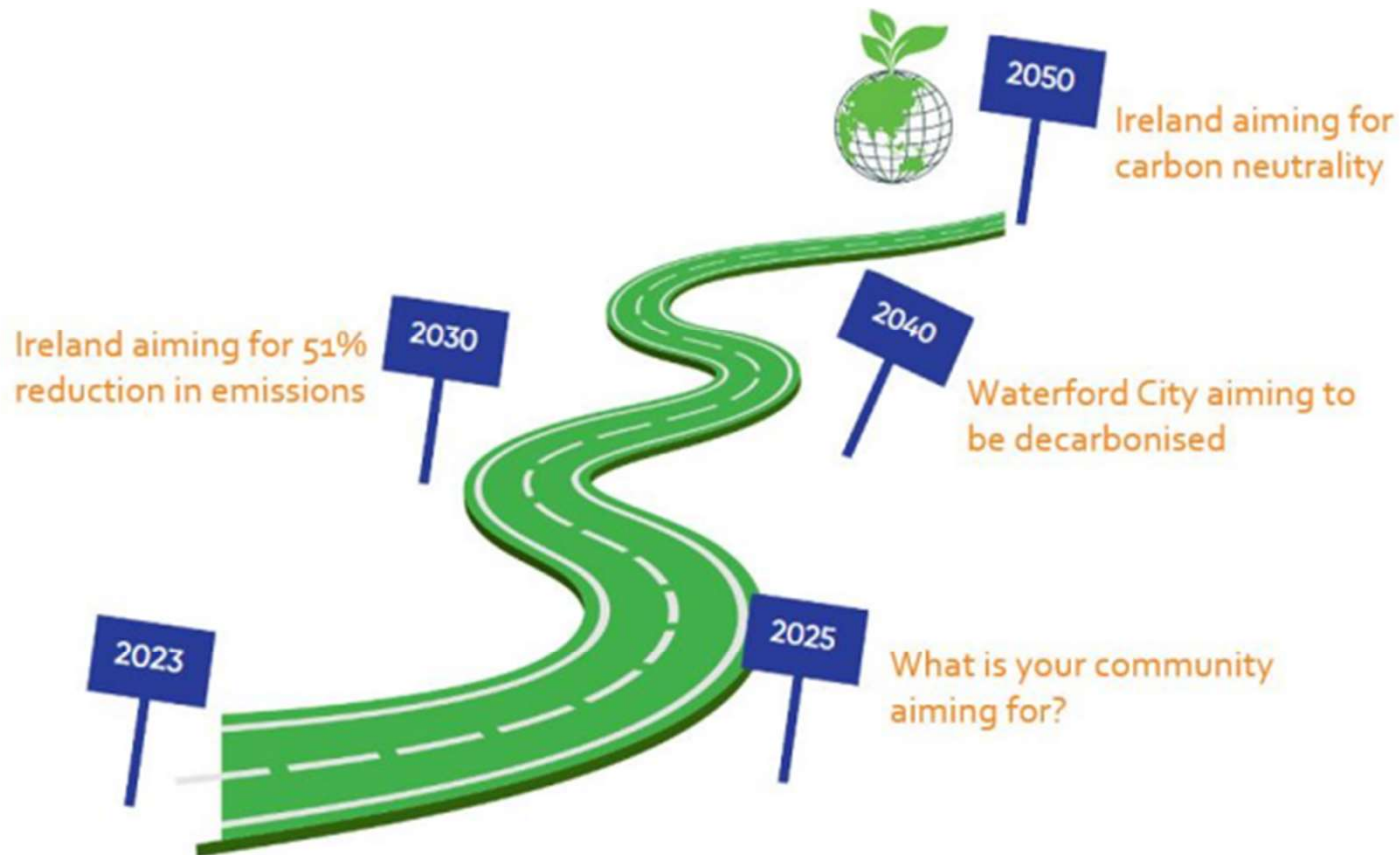
...to shape and build low carbon, sustainable communities in a coherent way to contribute to national climate and energy targets...

€564,000 (€24m nationally)



- National programme
- Community Groups
- Fund direct climate action projects
- Receive 100% funding for capital projects
- Be completed in 18 months
- Supported by Waterford City & Council

How can you make your community more low carbon and sustainable?



Who is this
programme for?

Waterford Community Groups

Eligibility

To apply your group must be:

1. be a not-for-profit organisation
2. be located in the operational area of WCCC
3. be registered with a PPN **or** connected with other collectives such as the Wheel, Tidy Towns **and /or** a community group with Articles of Association or a Constitution, which hold an AGM, and for which approved minutes are available

Examples of community groups eligible:

- Community groups (e.g. neighbourhood associations, Women's/ Men's Sheds, Community Development Groups etc.)
- Sports Clubs (e.g. GAA, Football, badminton etc.)
- Local charities
- Local environmental groups
- Social enterprises

Communities not eligible:

- Private individuals
- Commercial undertakings (including sole traders)
- Schools, third levels institutions etc.
- National community and environmental organisations

What projects are eligible?

Direct climate action projects
which address the five
programme themes and
national climate targets

Five Programme Themes



1. Community & Energy:
Improving energy efficiency and increasing renewable energy.



2. Travel
Contribute to a reduction in travel related emissions.



3. Food & Waste
Reduce food waste.



4. Shopping & Recycling Food & Waste
Increase the variety and facilities for reduce, reuse, repair and recycling of materials.



5. Local Climate & Environmental Action
Managing the local physical environment, including in relation to climate action.

Theme	Project examples include but are not limited to:
1. Community & Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • small community renewable energy projects (solar, hydro, wind) • retrofitting community buildings • LED community lighting • community EV charging point(s)
2. Travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cycle parking • improving access to cycle/ walkways • community EV charging point(s)
3. Food & Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • community gardens/ allotments • repair hubs • community composting facilities • community fridge
4. Shopping & Recycling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • community repair hubs • sport reusable kits • toy/ equipment library of things • water filling stations
5. Local climate & environmental action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mini forests • community gardens/ roof gardens • pollinator projects • water harvesting • climate resiliency projects

What level of funding is available?

Small to big projects - up to
€100,000



Project sizes

Small scale projects

Projects valued at **less than €20,000**

[10% ≈ 3-4 projects]

Medium scale projects

Projects valued in the range of **€20,000 to €50,000**

[40% ≈ 4-5 projects]

Large scale projects

Projects valued in the range of **€51,000 to €100,000**

[50% ≈ 3-5 projects]

- Groups must self-certify that they do not have the funding available to undertake the work without support, OR alternatively that the support will enable them to undertake more work which they otherwise would not be able to afford.
- This is a reimbursement grant but if groups require bridge financing WCCC can provide that
- Project selection numbers are only an estimate and the final selection may vary

What is funded?

Eligible costs must be:

- Predominantly capital
- For the sole purpose of implementing the project and necessary for delivery
- Verifiable and reasonable
- No duplicate public funding but can have match funding as long as the CCAP funding component can stand on its own merits and be independent of the other funding.
- Must comply with State Aid requirements

Ineligible costs:

- Projects that solely benefit an individual or income generating projects
- Operating costs
- Training, staff costs, travel, banking, legal etc.
- Costs incurred before the Letter of Offer
- When more appropriate funding opportunities already exist

VAT can be included with costs if your group cannot reclaim their VAT

Can a project include more than
one action?

Your projects can include a
suite of measures, not just one
action.

Small Project Example: Community group with an allotment



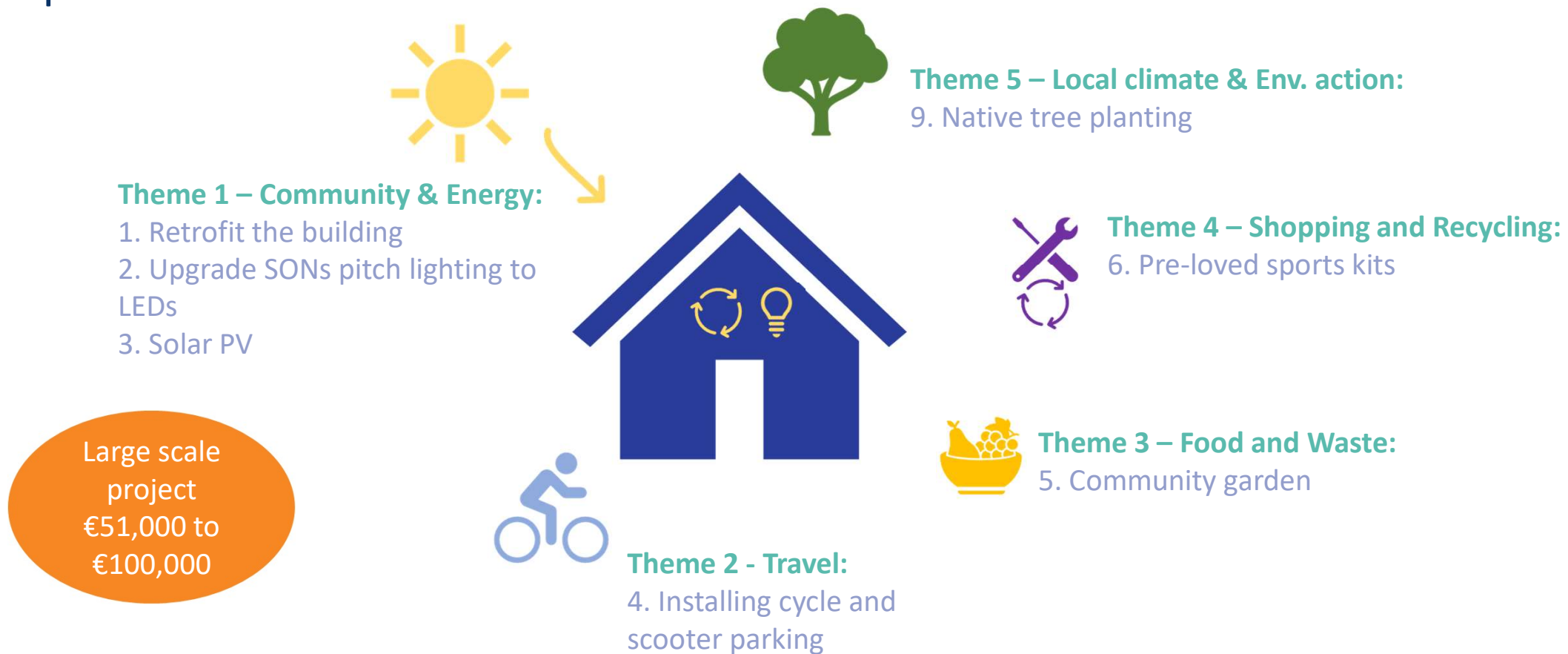
Theme 3 – Food and Waste:
1. Wormery



Theme 5 – Local climate & Env. action
2. Seed library
3. Rain water planter

Small
scale
project
<€20,000

Large Project Example: Community group with a building and football pitch



When you are planning your project remember the objective...

All project
sizes
welcome!

...to shape and build low carbon, sustainable communities...

Programme themes:

1. Community & Energy
2. Travel
3. Food & Waste
4. Shopping & Recycling
5. Local Climate & Environmental Action

Climate Action:

- Reducing emissions
- Increasing energy efficiency/ renewables
- Increasing/ protecting biodiversity
- Creating local climate resilience
- Reducing waste/ Circular Economy
- Just Transition

Where can projects take place?

Any location that is under the operational area of Waterford City & County and is available to the community.



Project locations

- Community owned building or land
- Community leased building or land (5 years from the end of the project)
- Public space (may need permission)

Shared Island Initiative



Strand 1a “Shared Island Community Climate Action”

- €3m available for projects across the whole island of Ireland
- Same objective as strand 1
- Same 5 programme themes as strand 1
- 50% funding must go to the northern partner

Key difference: Waterford Community would have a partner group in Northern Ireland.

Communities eligible for strand 1a:

- be a not-for-profit organisation
- be located in the operational area of WCCC
- can be a national community and environmental organisation
- be registered with a PPN **or** connected with other collectives such as the Wheel, Tidy Towns **and /or** a community group with Articles of Association or a Constitution, which hold an AGM, and for which approved minutes are available
- have at least one partner organisation in Northern Ireland, Partner organisations must be either a:
 - not-for-profit organisation
 - Local Authority
 - local/ national community and environmental organisation registered in Northern Ireland

Communities not eligible:

- Private individuals
- Commercial undertakings (including sole traders)
- Schools, third levels institutions etc.

How to apply?

1. Contact the Community Climate Action Officer to discuss your project ideas

2. Design and cost your project (3 quotes)

3. Complete and submit your application form (Deadline – 19th January 2024)

How to apply?

Same
deadline
for all!

Option 1 - Online application form:

- Complete the online form at <https://waterford.submit.com/>
- Recommended method
- You can save your form as you go, so you do not need to complete and submit the application in one sitting.
- You will also be able to upload all relevant documentation.

Option 2 – By email/ post:

- Download the Word version of the form and submit a typed/ written form with your supporting documentation.
- Email: climateaction@waterfordcouncil.ie
- Post: “Community Climate Action Officer, Climate Action Team, Environmental Department, Waterford City and County Council, The Mall, Waterford”.

Application form

Section 1 – Details on your group/ organisation

Who, what, where etc.

Section 2 – Project details

Smaller (<€20,000):

- Description of the project
- Costs
- Necessity for Grant Funding

Medium/ Large (€20,000 to €100,000):

- Description of the project
- Costs
- Achievability
- Necessity for Grant Funding
- Impacts
- Innovation/ Scalability
- Value for Money
- Governance

Section 3 – State Aid Questionnaire

Determine if the funding is State Aid (will depend on the organisation and type of project)

Section 4 – Supporting Documentation

Governance documents, costings & supporting documentation (optional)

**Due 19th
January 2024 at
3:30pm**

How will projects be selected?

To be successful chosen for funding a project would need to first pass the evaluation stage, then the selection stage and finally the approval stage.

How will projects be evaluated, selected and approved?

1. Evaluation by WCCC:

Need to achieve at least 50% and the minimum requirements

2. Selection by WCCC:

Final selection of projects taking account of:

- scores
- the geographical distribution of projects
- the desirability to fund a variety of different projects and across multiple themes
- the contribution of the projects to the climate action objectives of WCCC

3. Approval by DECC:

Decision made by Minister of the Environment, Climate and Communications

Evaluation criteria for <u>strand 1</u>	Weighting	Min. required
Relevance and impact	30%	15%
Innovation and scalability	20%	-
Value for money	20%	10%
Achievability	10%	5%
Partnership approach	10%	-
Governance arrangements	10%	5%
	100%	

→
Detailed breakdown of the evaluation criteria available in the Briefing Note and Guidelines for Applicants document available online

For more details visit:

www.waterfordcouncil.ie/CommunityClimateActionProgramme

1. Briefing Note and Guidelines for Applicants – All details on the programme
2. Examples of community led climate action projects – Case studies of projects done by other groups, including hints and things to consider for different types of projects
3. Planning projects and applying for funding – General guidelines and tips to help you plan your project and make an application for funding
4. Understanding the UN SDGs – Quick overview of the goals, links to learn more and how they are relevant for climate change projects



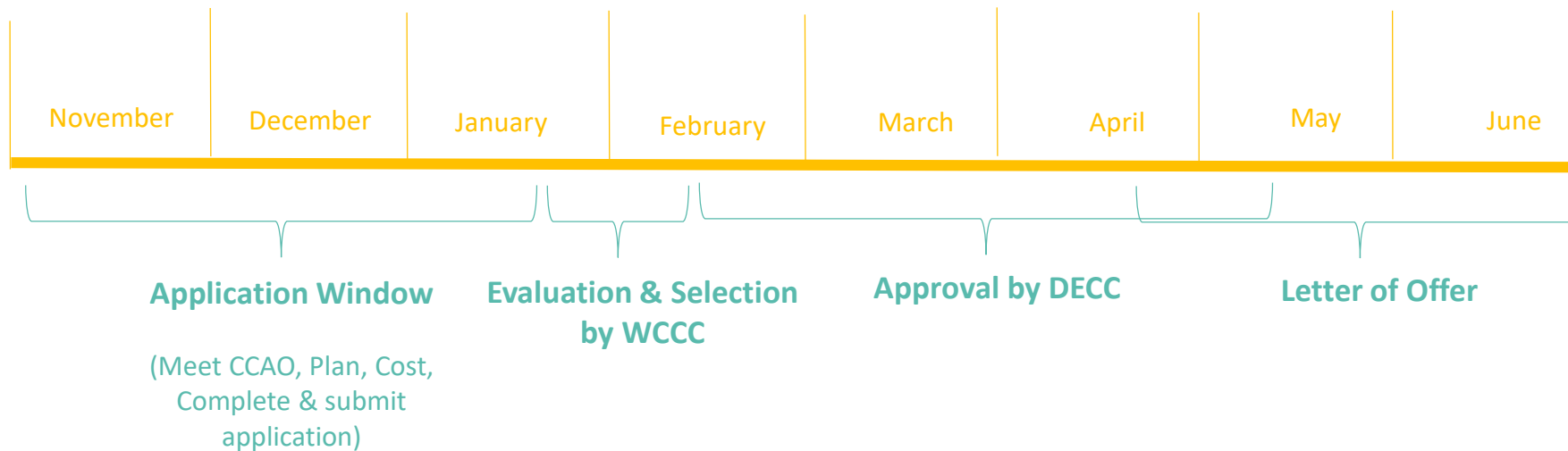
After this webinar, next steps

1. Organise a meeting with the Community Climate Action Officer to discuss your idea project (online/ in person) – Highly recommend!
2. Plan your project & get your quotes
3. Complete your application form (Deadline - Friday 19th January @3:30pm)

Give yourself time!



Approx. Timeline



18 months to complete the project



Important dates

Webinar on planning your project

Tuesday 14th November 2023 (1:00-1:40pm)

Application deadline

Friday 19th January 2023 (3:30pm)

Not first come first serve! All applications will be reviewed after the closing date.

Other Programmes/ Funding

Administering Body	Programme	Area
Accenture (ChangeX)	Accenture Sustainable Community Challenge in Ireland	Environmental connection, awareness & Protection; Food & Waste; Circular economy
Community Foundation for Ireland in partnership with the National Parks and Wildlife Service	Biodiversity Grant	Environmental connection, awareness & Protection
Community Foundation Ireland	Circular Economy Supports	Circular economy
Department of Rural and Community Development	Community Centres Investment Fund	Community centre upgrades - energy, safety, access etc.
Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sports and Media	Sports Capital & Equipment Programme	Sports and physical recreation facilities and the purchase of non-personal sports equipment throughout the country (incl. energy works, biodiversity etc)
Heritage Council	Community Heritage Grant Scheme	Heritage; Conservation; Environmental assessment & protection; Biodiversity
LAWPRO	Community Water Development Fund	Water Quality, Biodiversity
Pobal	Shared Island Sports Club EV Charging Scheme	Travel
SEAI	Community Grant Programme (Better Energy Communities)	Energy
	Renewable Energy Support Scheme (RESS)	Energy
	Sustainable Energy Communities	Energy
	Non-Domestic Microgen Scheme	Energy
The Ireland Funds	Heart of the Community Fund	Covers a number of different areas but Climate Action is one
Waterford City & County Council	Community Recognition Fund	Community travel; Upgrades for structural and natural amenities; Community gardens; Environmental awareness & connection
	Clár	Developing Community Facilities & Amenities; Mobility & care transport
	Community Environment Action Fund (LA21)	Environmental connection, awareness & Protection; Waste
	Community Support Fund	Grounds upkeep and maintenance; Environmental connection; Social and community facilities
	Local Circular Economy Grant 2023 (Waste Prevention Grant)	Waste
	Local Litter Awareness & Anti-graffiti Grant	Waste
	Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS)	Outdoor recreation facilities
	Town and Village Renewal Fund	Enterprise; Tourism
Waterford Leader Partnership	Leader	Social inclusion and economic development in rural areas.

Questions?

Susan Lee – Community Climate Action Officer

Contact details: climateaction@waterfordcouncil.ie / 087 279 7577

Website: www.waterfordcouncil.ie/CommunityClimateActionProgramme



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The above presentation is a brief overview of the Community Climate Action Programme.

All details are available on
www.waterfordcouncil.ie/CommunityClimateActionProgramme

Interested groups are encouraged to contact the Community Climate Action Officer to discuss their project and applying for the programme.



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