



**Submissions to the Citizens' Assembly on the third topic for
consideration**

*How the State can make Ireland a leader in
tackling climate change*

Signpost Document for Assembly Members

Key issues raised and themes covered

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Submissions Process - Background information

The submissions process for the third topic considered by the Citizens' Assembly (Assembly), "How the State can make Ireland a leader in tackling climate change" was open from 9th June to 11th August 2017.

A number of steps were taken to encourage the public to engage with the submissions process. Advertisements were placed in a number of national newspapers on the 12th of June 2017. These papers included: The Irish Examiner, The Irish Times, The Irish Independent, The Irish Mirror and The Irish Farmers Journal.

The Assembly has over two thousand followers on Twitter (social network) and engages with the social media network during Assembly meetings via the hash tag **#citizensassembly**.

Submissions were invited across the full spectrum of issues in relation to Climate Change. In particular the Assembly requested to hear views on Ireland's energy, transport and agriculture sectors. A copy of the call for submissions is provided at Appendix 3.

In total, the Assembly received 1,205 submissions. Full details on the breakdown of these submissions are provided below.

Of the 1,205 submissions received, 1,180 were received online and 25 were received by post.

Of these, 1,185 have been published on the Assembly's website. In total 20 were not published. Of those submissions received and not published the reasons were as follows:

- 1 submission was withdrawn by the author;
- 5 submissions were not relevant to the topic;
- 14 submissions were duplicates.*

*(*Where an exact submission was made more than once by the same individual this was only published once. In many cases this happened because the individual made the same submissions in multiple formats, i.e. by post, on line and by email)*

The Secretariat began publication of the submissions received in late June 2017 and all of the submissions published have been available online since the end of August 2017. On 23rd August, Members of the Assembly were made aware by the Secretariat that submissions were available to view on the website over the summer period.

Purpose of this Signpost Document and Methodology

Purpose

This Signpost Document aims to identify, in order of popularity, the key issues/topics/themes which presented in the submissions. The full text of the 1,185 published submissions is available on the Assembly website (www.citizensassembly.ie). The Assembly Secretariat has grouped them into broad thematic areas and has attempted to present a selection of the perspectives which were received.

As the note below on methodology outlines, this document provides a brief summary of a selection of the submissions received. It is hoped that it will give the Members of the Assembly a good sense of the broad range of views which emerged.

In all cases, where an individual submission is referred to, the Secretariat has provided the corresponding reference number to allow that submission to be read in full.

The Secretariat acknowledges fully that a Signpost Document such as this cannot capture the full range of issues raised in all of the submissions made to the Assembly. Instead, this document is designed to give the Assembly Members an overview of the main issues and the range of perspectives which emerge in the submissions. It is hoped that it will be of assistance to them in considering the topic before them.

Methodology

The Secretariat took a number of steps to ensure that this Signpost Document presented a broad cross section of submissions. In order to get a broad cross section, the Secretariat has prepared this document with reference to a range of the total submissions selected as follows -

- 1) all **153** of the NGOs, advocacy and interest groups, academics and commercial entities who made a submission on the topic. A full list is provided in Appendix 1 of this document.
- 2) a random sample of **100** of the total 1,185 submissions published.

In respect of the random sample, the methodology applied to select the sample is identical to that used by the Secretariat for earlier samples and was developed with the assistance of the Central Statistics Office. The steps followed are as outlined below:-

- Each individual submission was given a unique alpha numeric identifier. This allowed each record to be individually identified and retrieved once the random selection took place.
- No categorisation or filtering took place in advance.
- A formula was applied using a random number generator and a sample of 100 submissions was selected.
- It is noted that this sample may include some level of duplication in the submissions already included (i.e. submissions from NGOs etc).

It should be noted that some submissions raised multiple issues and therefore appear in more than one category. Similarly, this Signpost Document may not include a specific

reference to each of the 153 submissions from NGOs, advocacy and interest groups, academics and commercial entities. As would be expected, many groups make similar points, and therefore this document merely attempts to bring the issues to the Members' attention.

Caveat

As outlined above, the purpose of this document is to provide the Members with a high-level overview of the key issues/topics/themes, in order of popularity, as they appear in the representative sample and the submissions received from NGOs, advocacy and interest groups, academics and commercial entities who made a submission to the Assembly.

The submissions detailed in this document contain a wide variety of views, perspectives and opinions. **Inclusion in this document does not mean that the views expressed are shared or supported by the Assembly. The Assembly does not endorse any of the assertions made in the submissions referenced in this document.** Descriptions of individual submissions are intended to give the reader an overview of the material that is contained in the longer, original submission.

Key Reference Documents

Readers of the Signpost Document should also be aware that in advance of their consideration of this topic, Members of the Assembly were invited to read the following key national and international documents associated with to this topic:

International Documents

- The work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, in particular the Fifth Assessment Report (AR5)
- The European Commission 2030 Climate and Energy Framework
- The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
- The Paris Agreement

National Documents

- Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015
- Environmental Protection Agency: State of the Environment Report
- Environmental Protection Agency: Fact sheet on Greenhouse Gases and Climate Change
- National Policy Position on Climate Action and Low Carbon Development
- The National Mitigation Plan, 2017
- Climate Change Advisory Council - First Report
- Climate Change Advisory Council - Periodic Review Report 2017
- Draft National Adaptation Framework- September 2017

Copies of these are available on the Assembly's website. Many of these were referred to during the Assembly's consideration of this topic.

Introduction

1,185 submissions were published by the Assembly in relation to the Climate Change topic, covering a broad range of issues from a wide variety of individuals and groups. Submissions were received from advocacy groups and professionals and academics with experience and expertise on the topic. However, the majority of submissions came from individual members of the public who wished to engage with the process and had viewpoints that they wished to see considered in the context of Climate Change.

A notable feature of many of the submissions was that many were solution focussed, with detailed analysis of existing policy presented and suggestions for alternatives presented.

These proposals included suggestions for action at National/International/EU policy level as well as suggestions on how an individual could reduce their own carbon footprint.

Many submissions directly addressed the core question as set out in the terms of reference of the Assembly “how the State can make Ireland a leader in tackling climate change”. In these submissions, many of the points raised were intertwined with comments about current Government policy.

A broadrange of submissions dealt with the science of Climate Change, with detailed information presented about the available data and analysis.

In addition to the Signpost Document, which identifies the substance of some of the key issues emerging in a sample of the submissions, it was also decided that it would be beneficial for the Members of the Assembly to have a list of all the issues raised in the full complement of published submissions. As such the Secretariat undertook a separate process of tagging the key issues raised in each submission, using key words/ themes. The Secretariat recorded the number of times a particular topic was raised. Details of this are provided in Appendix 2 below.

The following is a brief selection of some of the key points raised in the submissions.

1. Overarching Themes

Scientific evidence of Climate Change

Many submissions framed their contributions with reference to the science of Climate Change and the evidence of the role that humans have played in Climate Change as reflected in recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change reports. Many submissions providing consistent material in relation to the pressing and immediate risk that Climate Change poses. Some of the points which emerged on this issue were:

- *“Among the predicted adverse impacts of climate change are sea level rise, more intense storms, increased likelihood and magnitude of river and coastal flooding, adverse impacts on water quality, decrease in rainfall in spring and summer, an increase in intensity of storms and changes in distribution of plant and animal species”* **Social Justice Ireland** (C1-42NGAP53EBCB)
- *“While the direct effects of climate change are environmental, the indirect impacts are widespread, diverse and are felt across society.”* **Trócaire** (C1-YH8NB0FNIE1B)
- *“The data on climate change are stark. Unequivocal. We have delayed far too long. It is past time to act. We can change the ending and consciously direct our evolution in another direction. But we must move swiftly, deliberately, consciously and bravely.”* **Culturework** (C1-DJ27X8HS5AC9)

Others urged caution in taking a leadership role on Climate Change. **Prof. Ray Bates** from the **Meteorology and Climate Centre in UCD** (C1-KXMUQ7OT817K) states in his submission that *“the Assembly should be aware that the latest climate science points to lower climate sensitivity to increasing GHG levels than estimated by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Therefore the Assembly should exercise caution about recommending that Ireland play a leadership role in any costly emissions reduction measures.”*

In its submission, **Ógra Fianna Fáil** (C1-H9PWXOKV0E4W) state: *“While the fight to curtail climate change to a minimum (ideally at the 2 degrees Celsius as outlined in the Paris Climate Accord) is a valid one and one of the great challenges of our generation we recognize that it must not encroach on the cost of living and household incomes as much as it has in the past 10 years.”*

The role of Ireland in global emissions and policy efforts to date

An issue which frequently emerges in the submissions is Ireland's emissions foot print, and the efforts undertaken to date to make reductions. **Patricia Greene** (C1-6909FTBRFSUA) suggests that Ireland has amongst the highest emissions per person of any country in the world.

The concept of divestment in fossil fuels and seeking alternative energy sources emerges frequently. In its submission, the **Green Party** (C1-1C2DYCRHILFE) states: *“In order to hold the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C, we need large changes in investment patterns. We need to keep 80% of the already discovered fossil fuel resources in the ground. Unfortunately the reality of what is happening is that we are burning three times the amount that can be released in order for the world to have a chance of avoiding the worst impacts of climate change. Failure to incorporate this scientific reality into financial and market analysis poses a fundamental risk to the stability of the current economic system.”*

Trócaire (C1-YH8NB0FNIE1B) strongly advocates for “divestment from fossil fuels” as something “which offers the State the opportunity to show genuine global leadership in tackling climate change”.

Clean Air Network Ireland (C1-7WRXEIA10MEI) suggest: “a fundamentally simple approach that has been showed to work elsewhere”. “Essentially we need to decarbonise electricity and then electrify everything. Our government’s recent National Mitigation Plan unfortunately is a missed opportunity in presenting a clear effective vision for achieving a clean air, low emissions future for Ireland.”

Gluaiseacht (C1-GUO7T28HDYKR) suggest that the emissions from cement production “accounts as the third largest contributor to carbon emissions globally at around 5% of total emissions”, with an Irish company part of the top 20 companies globally involved in cement production. Governments internationally account for half of all cement purchases and the industry must be encouraged to adopt more sustainable measures of production and the CSI (Cement Sustainability Initiative) recommendations should become mandatory.

In its submission the **IE-NETs Team from Trinity College Dublin (TCD) and Dublin City University (DCU)** (C1-08NQHFMPVYC) notes that even if we reduce ongoing emissions very rapidly, this may not be sufficient on its own to align Ireland’s transition to a low-carbon society with the Paris Agreement goals. The submission continues “In that case, it is now being argued that we will also have to try to proactively remove some, or a lot, of the greenhouse gases that are already accumulating to dangerous levels in the atmosphere: that is, through achieving some level of “negative emissions”. This is true on a global basis, but is especially true for countries like Ireland that have very high current (per capita) emissions.”

Dr Peter Brennan, EPS Consulting (C1-78QKD8O06591) refers to the National Mitigation Plan (NMP) and proposes that the draft NMP¹ is not a fully resourced action plan to put Ireland on a pathway towards sustainable climate neutrality. However, the paper concludes “It is to be hoped that the final version of the NMP will explain how Ireland’s renewable energy, energy efficiency, climate change and agriculture emissions policies and supporting taxation and subsidy arrangements will be better aligned and somewhat more consistent than is the case today....The current version of the NMP needs substantial re-editing to meet the OECD benchmark and the wishes of the Climate Change Advisory Council”.

In its submission the **Presentation Sisters** (C1-ZR4SQP790TDK) state: “speaking plainly the NMP is unfinished, non-binding, un-costed (in many places), not incisive or insightful enough with many proposed actions not time defined”.

Rathgar Action for a Cleaner Earth (RACE) (C1-A6FH965ZAJ03) believe that the NMP is “wholly lacking in the ambition, targets and policy approaches required for the State to take its climate obligations in any way seriously. We believe that the State must have a climate change plan which contains concrete policy recommendations and emissions reduction targets which are guided by the science. Therefore the NMP requires urgent and fundamental improvement. In particular, the NMP should be amended to include an overall carbon budget for the achievement of the mitigation element of the National Transition Objective by 2050 (i.e., an 80% reduction in combined emissions from energy, transport and

¹ Some of the submissions refer to the National Mitigation Plan (NMP) which was published in draft for consultation in March 2017, pursuant to Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act, 2015. The final NMP was published in July 2017.

buildings and an approach to carbon neutrality in agriculture by 2050 that does not compromise sustainable food production).”

In its submission, **Dóchas** (C1-CTHUDH8JVHV) recommends that the NMP should set out clearly how Ireland will reduce emissions over the time-frame of that plan as they feel that the *“recently published plan is vague on these points”*.

Leadership

Many submissions express the view that greater Government ownership of/ responsibility for this issue is required to make a change. There was an overall sense that individuals cannot make an impact on Climate Change unless there are clear Government policies backing climate action.

The Environmental Pillar (C1-X00EV658P85J) expresses the view that *“Climate change is clearly not a priority for Government. This is because actions necessary to address it would compromise short term profitability for key interests in agriculture and transport”*. They go on to assert that *“Due to the short-term nature of our electoral system very few politicians are willing to support the necessary binding long term strategies that hold fast through changes of government.”*

Eric Glitzenstein (C1-A56OAPQXOGTU), a partner in a public interest environmental law firm in Washington DC, urges Ireland to *“do whatever is feasible to take a leadership role on this issue while also being sensitive to the importance of minimizing avoidable adverse wildlife impacts”*, given the negative effect the position the current administration of the USA has on the climate crisis.

Ivana Bacik, on behalf of the **Labour Party** (C1-2K4EQOQOYWQI) submits that *“Climate Change demands systematic action from all areas of State and climate action needs to get communities, rural and urban, all involved. We need to mitigate against the worst impacts of climate change while also adapting to a carbon-free world.”*

An Taisce, the National Trust for Ireland (C1-T2MBA7F9N15O), believes the State can make Ireland a leader on tackling Climate Change *“by incorporating the over-riding imperative for urgent climate action directly into our fundamental law, Bunreacht na hÉireann, the Constitution of Ireland. Action to cut greenhouse gas emissions continues to be delayed with each change of Government. By constitutionally defining Ireland’s ‘forever’ national carbon budget – our fair share of the global carbon budget – Irish society can plan a path to zero carbon emissions in line with reality”*.

This view is again echoed by the **Environmental Pillar** (C1-X00EV658P85J) in its submission notes: *“Below we outline the challenge and the lack of action to date by Irish governments, and the detailed reasons why a constitutional amendment is the only way to ensure that Ireland moves from being a laggard to a leader in its actions on climate change. This is a unique moment for the people of Ireland to decide the constitutional basis for a framework that reflects the significance of climate change and its impacts, as well as our commitment to safeguarding an environment that supports our wellbeing both for now and for future generations”*.

Tony J.Carey (C1-ZOSFKAC76BL4) suggests that there is strong confirmation that theoretical models based on the greenhouse effect of carbon dioxide and other gases have overestimated their contribution to global warming. *“Such an additional factor is emerging from research since the last IPCC report and is described below. It could prove game-*

changing to the whole area of climate change. So, being still at an early stage of development and with potential for international interest, this perspective represents an opportunity for Ireland, through focus of its climate research, to create for itself a leadership role in this area – something that could be ‘kick-started’ by Ireland organising a conference on the weaknesses in, and alternatives to, the presently dominant greenhouse gas models of climate change”.

Joe O’Brien (C1-C6VWD036IBE9A) proposes a national programme to make towns throughout the country carbon neutral within 10 years. He provides a concept document on this proposal for Skerries in North County Dublin.

Galway City Community Network (C1-OESQJ0HON7NR) notes in its submission that , *“The state could take real leadership on climate change by setting clear targets and roadmaps that will catalyse a transformation of Ireland’s energy system to meet the challenges posed by climate change”.*

The Green Foundation Ireland submission (C1-J2CADABN62K4) recommends the creation of an *“Ombudsman for future generations – similar to the one in Wales- to have a long term vision and to make recommendations on plans and projects”.*

In his submission, **Thomas Noone** (C1-IW83X5GUAQQ7) discusses the role that public figures can play in helping to make in promoting the efforts required to tackle Climate Change.

Public Engagement, education and awareness

The importance of public engagement, education and awareness on this issue came through in many of the submissions. A prominent theme which emerged is that many people feel that they cannot contribute meaningfully to addressing Climate Change in their everyday lives.

The Waterford Constituency Branch of the Green Party (C1-YCB9C8SHJ58Z) is of the view that *“If the State wants to make Ireland a leader in tackling climate change, we need to engage ordinary citizens and communities with climate change issues, and empower everyone to participate in the ‘just transition’ to a carbon-free Ireland. We need to highlight positive alternatives and to give people, communities and businesses strong incentives to move away from fossil fuel dependency”.* The submission notes also a number of other considerations such as renewable energy at a community level, domestic planning regulations, rethinking what we eat, how our food is produced and waste.

The **Eco-UNESCO** (C1-HLNQLPPT0567) submission states: *“with over 600,000 young people in Ireland between the ages of 10 to 19 (CSO 2016) young people are a key stakeholder in any discussion on Climate Change as they are not only citizens of the present they will also be the ones most affected by changes in our Climate into the future. Young people should be provided with opportunities to become actively engaged in sustainability and Climate change to ensure they have the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values to make positive contributions to mitigate climate change”.*

University College Cork (UCC) (C1-O4AMIBOT5MIP) identifies a number of ways they engage with the public - workshops and dialogs and continuing professional development and masters programs.

In its submission, **Transition Monaghan** (C1-329JOW7X1P8U) draws attention to a public survey of 90 participants compiled by **Ms Theresa O'Donoghue** of the Transition Ireland Northern Ireland Steering Committee, to see how the systems in our society are perceived concerning knowledgeability, capability, importance and what actions each should take.

Many submissions called for a direct media campaign directed at engaging people on the issue of Climate Change. **Brendan Meghan** (C1-D9MZ11OBI83I) notes there are many visible campaigns in the media on various issues but states: *"I have not seen a Government sponsored campaign to explain why we need to act urgently on climate change. There appears to be either a lack of education or a resistance to change"*.

Mary O'Donnell (C1-3S129Y02YWGK) suggests that we should be *"using TV and technology to heighten awareness on this so as to change behaviour. We spend millions advertising other things!"*

Joan Campbell, for **Wicklow Planning Alliance** (C1-I5TGP51TNTJ1) states: *"Climate Change, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, CO -2 Emissions, Agricultural Emissions, Transport Emissions; energy inputs and outputs (NOx, methane). This terminology is difficult to understand. What are fossil fuels? We need a better language and narrative to explain Climate Change"*.

Duncan Martin (C1-FCFGHYEX106O) outlines the success of the **Cloughjordan Ecovillage** and says *"there are few places where so many of the approaches to tackling climate change are demonstrated in one place, let alone in the context of a thriving community"*. This submission notes a number of the measures used which demonstrate an example of action on Climate Change including 55 energy-efficient homes, all constructed of renewable materials with heating and hot water exclusively from renewable energy.

Pat Breerton from **The School of Communications, DCU** (C1-5TXT82Z9YXJ8) calls for the development of environmental literacy at all levels of education, including higher education as well as the promotion of documentary and fictional coverage of Climate Change. These, the submission notes, will help create a tipping point for Irish citizens and a change in behaviour.

Verena Brennan (C1-A540O1MM9N6K) points to the importance of social marketing which *"is the discipline of changing people's mindsets and having a positive influence on their lives"*. This, the submission notes *"is something not currently valued or maybe recognised in Ireland"*. However Germany, which the submission provides as an example, has embraced a *"national movement towards a low-carbon economy: the Energiewende. In fact it has become so popular that the German word is used in various countries now to show the power of this movement and a Twitter hashtag has been trending. What Ireland needs is a push to change people's mindset and cooperate with a range of organisations to send out this message. This does not require a huge budget but rather utilising existing communication channels and creating synergies among companies to work together on this"*.

Fairness, climate justice and social justice

The Green Party (C1-1C2DYCRHILFE) notes that we need to ensure that Ireland's and EU's Climate Change policies do not have a negative impact on developing countries. The submission quoted former Secretary General of the UN, Ban Ki Moon who stated in 2015: *"Ireland has been a champion of efforts to conquer hunger. But today, one cannot be a leader on hunger without also being a leader on climate change. The rise in extreme*

weather associated with climate change could drastically reduce harvests and degrade arable land. I encourage Ireland to align its climate efforts with its admirable work against hunger”.

In its submission, **Sinn Féin** (C1-0EJT417V8UHK) notes *“There is an onus on Western nations to lead the way in fossil fuel reduction at home, whilst encouraging renewable energy led development both at home and abroad.”*

In her submission, **Margaret Murphy** (C1-FW97LXICK7CM) shares her belief that food subsidies which prevent developing countries from being able to compete should be banned, while **Dóchas, the Irish Association of Non-Governmental Development Organisations** (C1-CTHUDH8JVFHV) points to a recent report by **Trócaire** and **Maynooth University** which projected the impacts of climate change in five countries where **Trócaire** are working, which stated that not all areas of the world are experiencing the effects of Climate Change at the same rate.

The **Dóchas** submission recommends that we *“endorse global solidarity by progressing Ireland’s development programming and increase Overseas Development Assistance to 0.7% of GNI to support those most affected by climate change”.*

In its submission **SIPTU Trade Union** (C1-G45P0L5BSU4O) states: *“a just transition for all towards an environmentally sustainable economy needs to be well managed and contribute to the goals of decent work for all, social inclusion, and the eradication of poverty “.* The SIPTU submission goes on to say that *“Communities dependent on high carbon industries will be hardest hit by a shift to clean energy. Governments and industries must support a strong social protection system to ensure communities are supported as their workforce retrain and builds new clean industries“.*

Christian Aid Ireland’s (C1-YCPV5LEW9IEQ) submission to the Assembly notes how the poorest countries in the world did the least to contribute to Climate Change, but it is they who are suffering the impacts of our Climate Change. The submission highlights their active membership in the Stop Climate Chaos coalition and also notes how Governments in the developed world constantly defer essential, drastic action to some later date. The submission includes a case study on El Salvador.

The Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland (AMRI) (C1-5FXB1OHCUSDN) state: *“if climate change is not tackled we know there will be more humanitarian disasters, more forced migrations, and potentially more conflicts. We in AMRI have witnessed Ireland’s leadership in supporting the eradication of global poverty and therefore, appeal to the Government to ensure that it strengthens its multilateral identity promoting and pursuing reliable increased financing for international poverty-focused climate change action, overseas development aid and humanitarian response.”*

Paul Donnelly (C1-EE37G2PX4JI4) discusses the Paris Agreement in his submission and notes a number of issues with the agreement *“such as the pace of reduction of emissions for countries at different levels of wealth and development have not been agreed”.*

Impacts of Climate Change

A number of submissions were made on the health implications of Climate Change. **The Royal College of Physicians of Ireland** (C1-E9NGX291A5G2) recommend *“mainstreamed and funded climate change adaptation planning in the health sector, so that any*

opportunities from climate change are maximised and adverse health impacts are prevented or minimised”.

Claudia Tormey (C1-I5XAP1KX2XIX) suggests that Climate Change affects not only our external environment but also our mental health which should be invested in.

The Cork Greens (C1-F1E74LNVWA7P) raise the issue of flooding and note that a more proactive approach should be taken if Ireland is to become a Leader in Climate Change. The effects of increased rainfall, the submission notes, could be reduced by planting forestry. The submission further discusses forestry and biodiversity.

Ruth Minogue (C1-480NFKMPKXHV) believes that there needs to be a greater cross sectoral interaction to adapt and mitigate impacts of Climate Change. She continues *“For example forestation as a means to mitigate our carbon footprint needs to be carefully considered at landscape scale and to ensure adverse effects on other habitats, species, humans and landscape are avoided”.*

Barry Foster (C1-40EVIFPE9DII) notes the increase of forest fires and their contribution to air pollution stating *“The regular occurrence of large scale fires in our forests, uplands and moorlands is a major contributor to air pollution and climate change.”*

2. Transport

The Assembly received more submissions which mentioned transport than any other topic. In these submissions, significant points were raised in the following broad subcategories: cars (including electric vehicles), public transport, cycling and other public transport models.

Provided below is a brief summary of some of the issues raised in these submissions.

Domestic Cars

Many submissions referred to the role that domestic cars play in producing Green House Gas (GHG) emissions in Ireland. Many mentioned the need to divest from fossil fuel and move towards other forms of sustainable transport.

Cosáin (C1-SD3NHFAWMGF8) notes that, in the context of gradually increasing population and ongoing growth in the Irish economy, it is essential that Government policy does not prioritise private motorised travel. Its submission focuses on the prioritisation of urban planning and design for pedestrians and cyclists. The submission includes eight principles to guide sustainable transport and development.

In her submission, **Jane Jackson** (C1-YGCMEI5BUHRP) advocates the reduction of the speed limits on all roads to 80km/ hr. She contends that research completed in the Netherlands shows that a maximum speed of 80km/hr on all roads will reduce emissions by 30% in the long term and 16% in the short term.

Sinn Féin (C1-0EJT417V8UHK) notes that 22.4% of new sales market and 1 out of every 100 vehicles on Norway's roads are electric

Elena Soldatkina (C1-XMCVFB412YBE) proposes that Ireland should take steps towards cancelling Vehicle Registration Tax (VRT) on electric cars, so the price of such cars becomes comparable to the US and other EU countries.

In her submission **Bridget Bennet** (C1-F4G97CAA1DZG), has sought a commitment that Ireland would make a statement that new cars running on fossil fuels will no longer be sold in the country after 2020.

Robert Goss (C1-J3W1PWOPH38H) notes that *"local government needs to take the lead in installing 4 EV chargers, ideally with local micro generation in the form of a solar carport, at each of their council offices"*.

In its submission **80 Max** (C1-YGCMEI5BUHRP) calls for *"energy rating labels on cars for sale the same as home appliances and BER rating"*.

David Timoney (C1-KZMWB48MK1CR), Director of the **Master of Engineering (Energy Systems)** degree programme at **UCD** states: *"Electric vehicles (EVs) are most certainly not "Zero Emissions" vehicles. Based on a CO2 intensity estimate of 450 gCO2 per kWh for Irish electricity used to charge them, the emissions from an EV equate to about 81 gCO2 per km as compared to about 140 g per km for a diesel vehicle. This calculation ignores the very substantial amount CO2 emitted (elsewhere) in the manufacture of the battery. For a 30kWhr battery (such as used in the 2016 Nissan Leaf), the manufacturing process will*

generate approximately 4,500 to 6,000 kg of CO₂. This will offset the gains made during the first 75,000-100,000km of vehicle operation”.

Public Transport

A large number of solutions were offered in submissions regarding public transport utilisation over private vehicles. Many other submissions note there should be a preference for public transport, walking and cycling over privately owned transport. Many submissions spoke about the need for a fundamental reimagining of transport options in Ireland.

Catriona Finnegan (C1-C4WCOMBQJGJB) mentions amongst other things in her submission, that *“large scale housing developments should be build where there are pre-existing good transport links and networks”*. This, the submission notes, cuts down on car use and carbon emissions. She proposes that all housing developments should be within walking distance of shops and public amenities.

In her submission **Elly Shaw** (C1-1D894EWCW8IK) argues that *“we need better public transport options all around the country and smarter ways of thinking about how people work and go to work. Watching everyone drive into the city in lines of traffic (Dublin) at the moment and then drive out again in rush hour traffic is ridiculous. If it is accepted that people are going to have to live outside Dublin (or Cork, Galway, Limerick etc) then there needs to be fast commuter trains or trams (or driverless buses with special lanes!) that are practical for the average commuter to use than actually drive.”*

The lack of public transport facilities in rural areas was referred to in a number of submissions. **Irish Rural Link** (C1-5U5D2GRBSRKS) state that this *“necessitates car ownership in order to access employment, basic services and amenities. Census 2016 showed that 91% of rural households had at least one car, highlighting the high dependency rate people in rural areas have on a car”*.

Trinity College Environmental Society (C1-UEMW8AX6GFYF) suggests that well serviced connections between towns and into cities was necessary to revitalise rural areas.

Cycling/ Walking

Cork Cycling Campaign (C1-MHJHED0IU9SO) along with many other submissions called for more use of ‘the ordinary bicycle’. *“There has been much talk recently about electric cars but these will not reduce emissions significantly and will simply move the emissions from the vehicles to the power stations. Renewable energy is of course ideal but this will take a long time to become reality. In the meantime the ideal solution is right under our noses, the ordinary bicycle!”*

The importance of safe cycling infrastructure was identified by student **Rachael Carter** (C1-7UFD0DH3HKWQ) in her submission where she says *“I think that it is too dangerous to cycle anywhere in rural Ireland, there’s not much public transport and not many people can afford electric cars.”*

In its submission, **Cyclist.ie** (C1-0F5Y34515QPA) states that none of the targets in the 2009 Smarter Travel policy are being met. They argue that *“as a minimum 10% of our capital spending on transport should be allocated to cycling”*, pointing not just to the air quality benefits, but also to other health benefits. That submission goes on to say *“81% of total commuting trips in the morning were for a journey time of up to 30 min. Many of those*

distances lend themselves to a walking or cycling modal-shift. A 5 km urban morning commuting trip can be made easily by bicycle in 20 min. We note that in The Netherlands, for example, that 26% of all trips in the Netherlands are made by bicycle while in Ireland approx 2.5% of trips have the bicycle as the main mode of transport “.

In her submission, **Margaret Murphy** (C1-FW97LXICK7CM) states that a “bike to school” scheme should be introduced and compliance monitored.

Freight

A significant number of submissions suggested that sustainable models for freight transport need to be integrated into the solution for emissions from the transport sector. In its submission, **Young Friends of the Earth** (C1-BU09V6MB5MCW) suggest that “*we need to stop building unsustainable motorways and build new electrified railway lines. Freight needs to move from road to rail and ports need to be in this network.*”

Gas Networks Ireland (C1-BWSSHDDFVX4P) notes the effect of Ireland’s reliance on imported oil on the transport industry. They suggest that transport in Ireland is 98% reliant on imported oil at present. The organisation is actively working on the development of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) for use in transport vehicles and has commenced a rollout programme of a network of CNG refuelling facilities.

John Cross (C1-4R5Y0BKMIQRV) suggests that we should improve commuter rail services and make railways more attractive for carrying freight. This suggestion was made in a number of submissions.

Aviation

A number of submissions outlined the effects of air transport on Climate Change.

TCD (C1-UEMW8AX6GFYF) notes that flying is the fastest growing cause of Climate Change and states: “*If aviation was a country, it would be the 7th worst polluter globally. However flying is an elite activity; only one in twenty people worldwide have ever flown. Therefore a tiny minority of wealthy frequent flyers are making an enormous contribution to climate change. Furthermore the majority of flights are taken by a small percentage of frequent flyers, for example in Britain 15% of people take over 70% of flights. Therefore a tax on frequent flyers, which gets progressively higher with each additional flight taken per year, has the potential to reduce the total number of flights taken by Irish people while avoiding negative impacts on those citizens who fly only occasionally.*”

3. Energy

Submissions on this topic were broad-ranging and included references to renewable energy, energy efficiency and alternative sources of energy, as well as a wide variety of submissions noting the role the sector plays in relation to Climate Change.

This section of the Signpost Document draws attention to some of the most significant themes and viewpoints which emerged on this topic. It should be noted that there were differing views on the viability of wind energy in particular.

A move away from fossil fuels

Once again use of fossil fuels was a very common and urgent thread in submissions around energy, with many identifying a need to prioritise a move away from all fossil fuels. However, there was a significant degree of variation in the responses and suggestions as to how this should be achieved.

The submission from **Friends of the Earth** (C1-2QS8KITQEZ2N) outlines, amongst other things, how we can phase out fossil fuels for generating electricity, retrofit buildings to reduce energy demands and “*ramp up renewables*”.

The Electricity Association of Ireland (C1-9UITLJYOSG32) believes that “*good progress has been made by the electricity sector at national level in removing carbon dioxide from electricity generation to date and the sector is committed to full “decarbonisation” by 2050 at the latest*”.

Gluaiseacht (C1-GUO7T28HDYKR), suggests that the State should identify all subsidies and licences regarding fossil fuels and then work to cease subsidising these fuels.

In his submission **Mr Fran Brady** (C1-Z8O6B874QLHG) states: “*The Fossil Fuel Divestment Bill [a private members Bill proposed by Thomas Pringle T.D. in 2016] offers an opportunity to ensure strategic and ethical use of public money and offers an opportunity to send a much needed signal with regard to Ireland’s intentions in meeting its international climate obligations under the Paris Agreement*”.

Biodiversity

A number of submissions mentioned the impact of fossil fuel extraction on biodiversity.

In her submission, **Eimear Manning** (C1-OFA27IV2KJHW) notes that continued drilling for oil and gas will have a negative effect on our marine ecosystems. “*They expect to find 5 billion barrels of oil, which ultimately will push our country over the safe 2 degrees limit of global warming - not to mention how decimating this will be for Ireland’s fish and marine mammal populations, and also for our plankton communities - the basis of our marine ecosystems.*”

The campaign group **Not Here, Not Anywhere** (C1-7EHOF6XYDL5M) states that one blast from oil exploration “*can kill up to 64% of zooplankton*” – which is the basis of the marine ecosystem in the area.

The role of Renewable energy - Wind, Wave and Solar

The submission from **Mieke Vanflerteren** (C1-UD63BG9CB7N7) proposes sustainable forestry, a move to small scale community solar energy projects and making green energy production cheaper than “polluting” energy production.

James McLaughlin (C1-7C4SL9MCQC3N) suggests that the cost of solar/photovoltaic roof panels could be reduced and states: “*As Germany, Austria and the Scandinavians are to the forefront of best environmental practices, could a fact-finding delegation not undertake some visits?*”.

The use of wind and wave as energy sources is often mentioned in submissions. In its submission **Funky Renewables** (C1-UT18HQTF4B07) states: “*Irelands landmass is 70,000km² with over 10 times the amount of sea which can be used for off shore wind both fixed and floating wind turbines, wave power and tidal. With so much resources Ireland has the potential to export surplus energy and become a World leader in off shore renewable energy. More R&D funding into this area and Government support in terms of grants and feed in tariffs*”.

The Irish Wind Energy Association (IWEA) (C1-MSRXI7116TU1) states that Ireland is in a very fortunate position since it has one of the best renewable electricity resources in the world in the form of onshore wind and that Ireland has the resources, skills, knowledge and investment to lead the transition to a 100% renewable energy system by 2050, primarily based on existing technologies.

Wind Aware Ireland (C1-8J4UQGCM1PF) argues that “*...wind turbines spread over some of the most beautiful parts of Ireland save a paltry 3 to 4% of overall CO₂ emissions...according to the SEAI, and possibly half of this according to other analysts*”. The submission goes on to say that “*The social impacts of wind energy in rural Ireland are enormous.... ‘Community gain funds’ and payouts have resulted in disharmony and disagreement...*”.

Catriona Finnegan (C1-C4WCOMBQJGJB) suggests that energy companies must be legally bound to provide energy to households that is clean and affordable but she recognises that with privatisation of the energy sector, this area becomes very difficult.

Community Involvement in/ Acceptance of renewable energy development

The thread of community energy was common in many submissions. Amongst its many proposals, the **Green Party** (C1-1C2DYCRHILFE) notes “*At the same time as we divest from fossil fuels we can make the switch to a renewable alternative that is owned by the Irish public. The deployment of renewable energy technology will become increasingly contentious if we prioritise large private developers over communities or state-owned enterprises.*”

Kevin Dennehy (C1-FQ81S7OE3DKJ) outlines how community energy schemes set up on a co-operative basis could do a lot to reduce carbon emissions, improve local economies, in both rural and urban areas, and help reduce reliance on imported oil and gas.

In its submission, **Community Energy** (C1-1NW4191R8DC0) states: “*for individuals and community groups who are not in a position to develop their own renewable energy project, it is essential that they have the right to participate in developer-led projects in their areas.*”

This must include more than just a consultation exercise, and more than compensatory 'benefit' or 'gain' payments. It must, rather, require developers to enter into partnerships with communities and offer them the opportunity of an equitable stake in any development."

A number of submissions made suggestions for models of shared ownership which might be acceptable. Amongst other proposals in her submission, **Kylie O'Brien** (C1-G2B2XWAWN45L) suggested that where a developer is proposing a renewable energy project, it should be made compulsory that they offer 20% of the ownership to the local community through reasonably priced shares.

Martin Lavelle (C1-5J5SVLV7LP3E) suggests that surplus energy created could be sold back to the grid. He also suggests that grants could be provided to towns and villages to become energy sustainable.

Energy Efficiency

Many submissions highlighted the ancillary benefits that a move towards greater energy efficiency provides. In its submission, **Climate Action Network Europe** (C1-PMSGP8TLOUVM) notes that *"ambitious energy efficiency targets will generate huge economic and social benefits"*.

A number of submissions also suggest that taking action on energy efficiency is a sensible way to reduce emissions. In its submission, **Energy Conservation Options** (C1-LSDO9FL0GZW4) suggest that there should be *"increase emphasis on helping public and financial decision makers understand that efficiency should take economic and environmental priority over alternative energy. (This does not mean don't do alternatives, rather do efficiency first)"*.

As part of a very comprehensive and wide-ranging submission, **Brian Ó Gallachóir** from the **MaREI Institute, UCC** (C1-ZSAKYTOPXLJV) made the following observation in relation to energy efficiency: *"The real challenge therefore is to reduce the amount of energy we use in heating our homes, in our workplaces, for industry, the energy to transport ourselves and transporting goods around the place. We have made progress with new homes (through building regulations) and improving the efficiency of our car fleet (through taxation). But this is not nearly enough. We also face challenges in retrofitting existing homes and workplaces so that they use less energy"*.

Energy efficiency in households is a major factor that impacts on consumption levels, as well as causing energy poverty in an estimated 28% of the population, suggests **The Society of St Vincent de Paul** (C1-NZA8UJ8U9GAS). A solution could be to extend the warmer home scheme to those other than owner occupiers. The submission states: *"SVP proposes therefore that the Warmer Home Scheme be extended to landlords who agree to make their properties available to social housing tenants for at least three years"*. The submission recommends that planned consultation on energy standards in the rental sector be progressed. Additionally, *"The take up of Pay-As-You-Go electricity and gas meters over the last number of years, which SVP has been closely involved in advocating for and promoting, have helped families to keep track of energy usage and better budget their expenses. However, many private landlords do not allow the installation of Pay-as-You-Go meters and SVP recommends that new standards for the rental sector should remove this potential barrier. We further recommend that surcharges on top ups should not be allowed."*

It was suggested by **Lucy Jago** (C1-X218ARFUFNU4) that in relation to energy, the State should *"increase the promotion and uptake of the Better Energy Homes Scheme for*

improving the energy efficiency of private dwellings, and extending this scheme to include commercial property.”

Orla Hegarty, Architect, Assistant Professor at the **UCD School of Architecture, Planning and Environmental Policy** (C1-H9NMGLQA8VKC) discusses a range of issues in relation to energy efficiency. She notes the challenges of achieving energy-efficiency standards in newly constructed buildings against the backdrop of a fractured construction sector stating: *“recovering from almost 10 years of recession and a critical loss of staff and skills. Higher energy standards have been introduced during this period of very low levels of building activity, meaning that there have been limited opportunities for education and up-skilling”*.

The Irish Green Building Council (IGBC) (C1-4MBS84X54F) states that buildings must play a key role in reducing carbon emissions as they cross nearly all sectors driving carbon emissions in Ireland. A more integrated approach is needed by Government for lower carbon communities and buildings. The submission notes that considerable progress has been made in the residential sector towards the Nearly Zero Energy Buildings (NZEB) standard.

The Royal Institute of Architects of Ireland (RIAI) (C1-B4W4QW2H8CLI) is supportive of the implementation of the EU Directive on Energy Performance of Buildings including NZEB standard for new and existing buildings. They state however, that suitable regulation, guidance and supports should be forthcoming from government to ensure that there is a suitable qualified cohort of design and building professionals available to meet the challenges posed by the implementation of the NZEB standard.

A submission from **David Hughes, Passive House Association of Ireland** (C1-UNJKO8UATZ6I) advocates the use of a low energy design methodology called the “Passive House”, which started with new builds and was subsequently extended to deal with existing buildings, known as retrofitting. The Passive House Standard of retrofit can save 90% and a less onerous standard can easily save 75% of the energy consumed in a residential building. This methodology shows it is possible to design a new building or retrofit an old one using substantially less energy than one built according to traditional building regulations – without the loss of comfort.

In his submission, **William Mc Sweeney** (C1-62NCBH5HOIBB) suggests that Ireland should retrofit houses with high quality insulation, instead of focusing on allowing wind farm developers to become wealthy, *“from an overhyped self publicized industry that will make very little difference to solving the issue of global warming”*.

Other Energy Sources

Natural Gas

Ervia (C1-9KNG47755NEA) outlines its belief that *“natural and decarbonised gas have an essential role in tackling climate change in Ireland. Switching from coal and peat to natural gas in the power generation, oil and diesel to gas in the heating and transport sectors can achieve significant reductions in emissions”*.

TCD (C1-UEMW8AX6GFYF) notes in its submission that Fracked gas is a fossil fuel and a significant contributor to Climate Change. While welcoming the ban on this in Ireland, the submission continues to note it is highly hypocritical that Ireland should import fracked gas from the USA and other countries.

Gas Network Ireland (C1-BWSSHDDFVX4P) notes in its submission that *“gas-fired power stations are a vital system component to accommodate sudden changes in electricity demand or supply. Ireland has one of the highest levels of wind penetration in Europe and requires the security of gas fired power plants and the gas network to back up this intermittent source of renewable energy. The severe weather conditions experienced in both January and December 2010, demonstrated the need for significant backup to renewable generation”*.

Nuclear Energy

Nuclear fusion, the **Marconi Institute** (C1-C43SMXE37G6C) submission states, is a clean source of nuclear energy, and the time to get involved is now. It argues that Ireland should join the international consortia researching this. With sufficient funds it suggests, full fusion power generation should be available within a decade.

Laois Ógra Fianna Fáil (C1-H9PWXOKV0E4W) echoed the call for using nuclear energy and called for a full and frank reinvestigation and debate of the viability of nuclear power in Ireland which is currently forbidden by the Electricity Regulation Act (1999).

In its submission, **Better Environment with Nuclear Energy** (C1-RAMT56SR6FHY) calls on the Assembly to consider recommending *“removal of the statutory prohibition on the construction and operation of nuclear power plants in Ireland. This would entail two simple amendments to current legislation⁶ and would have no meaningful impact on an actual decision to construct a nuclear power plant in Ireland. It would, however, enable a genuine consideration of the pros and cons of nuclear energy in an Irish context”*.

Biomass

Biofuelwatch.org.uk (C1-MF4G348N6K6D) makes the following observation: *“the accounting now used for assessing compliance with carbon limits in climate legislation generally does not count CO₂ emitted from tailpipes and smokestacks when biomass is being used. It also does not count changes in emissions from land use when biomass for energy is harvested or grown. This accounting erroneously treats all biomass as carbon neutral regardless of the source of the biomass, which may cause large differences in net emissions”*.

The **TCD/DCU Team** (C1-08NQHFMPVYC) also proposes a process called *“BioEnergy with Carbon Capture and Storage (BECCS) ” which can exploit the energy embodied in plant material (the “biomass”) while at the same time, re-capture the CO₂ that is released, and put it into some kind of stable, long term, storage. A second possible approach to negative emissions is proposed to echo the role of plant photosynthesis in BECCS with machinery that is capable of filtering and concentrating CO₂ from air directly. This is called “Direct Air Capture [of CO₂]” or DAC.*

In relation to Bio fuel, **Margaret Murphy** (C1-FB13MY1X3KVW) states that moving towards biomass burning stations is not a good idea. In her submission she states: *“It is highly unlikely that sufficient biomass could be produced in Ireland to support the running of these power stations. For example, over 300,000 hectares of land would be required to grow biomass to fuel Moneypoint alone”*.

Other potential energy sources

Detailed below is a selection of some of the other alternative energy sources which were suggested in the sample of submissions which the Secretariat examined. The Secretariat is aware that this is not a comprehensive list of available alternative energy sources.

Richard O'Donoghue (C1-4ZZ2HLMRYED) proposes alternatives to wind energy and his submission makes a number of suggestions in this regard such as: *“Convert Money Point to Bio fuel and re-forest the country - costed and proven solution. More grants for Forestry - Native Irish trees that encourage bio diversity and a future supply of valuable hard woods when managed correctly. Stop on shore Wind Turbines- They destroy the local environment, killing animals and limiting tourism and not a dependable source of power. Re-create our bogs - carbon sink - at the moment they are covered in industrial sized wind turbines with massive concrete foundations - hardly the way forward. Future generations will laugh at the way we are destroying this rare eco system. Stop supporting the wind industry with subsidies and use this money to upgrade our current housing stock with extra insulation - so we use less energy to heat them. This is not done because energy companies would lose profits. Hydro power is one of the most efficient ways to produce electricity - we are inundated with rain and possible areas this could be a possibility. Off shore Wind - There is a practically an unlimited amount of powerful wind coming from the Atlantic ocean - this we can tap, again once the wind turbines are off shore and not destroying environments. There is no point trying to save the planet whilst destroying local environments.”*

Tim Vierhout (C1-UL1E2WUCRKSF) proposes the use of vacuum operated toilets which would generate energy and which would use considerably less water. Significant economies of scale would be available he suggests, for larger facilities such as hospitals, prisons etc.

In her submission, **Natasha Harty** (C1-WOXFBP0KMXV) states how “biochar” products should be encouraged. She states: *“Biochar is ground up charcoal, charcoal is wood burned without oxygen. Biochar is a very stable form of carbon, so long as you don't burn it. According to the World Bank, biochar is the most efficient way to lock up carbon in the soil. Each kg of biochar is the equivalent of 2 1/2 kg of CO2 in the air. Bury it in the soil and the carbon is locked away for 1,000 years”.*

4. Agriculture and Food Production

Many submissions refer to the tension which exists between Agricultural policy (the current Government Strategy for the food sector, Food Wise 2025) and Climate Change. Responses on how to deal with this vary from improving agricultural production practices, changing the makeup of our diets and increasing the diversification of our land use. A selection of some of the perspectives raised is provided below.

The future shape of Ireland's agricultural sector

In her submission, **Norma O'Hea** (C1-FY4SNIF8FZCM) makes the following observation: *"Both Food Harvest 2020 and Food Wise 2025 are industry-led policies which have been adopted by Government and heavily promoted by the agri-food industry. Food Harvest 2020 (coinciding with the abolition of milk quotas) has already led to a major expansion in livestock numbers, particularly in the dairy sector, which will inevitably have negative effects on biodiversity, water and soil quality, and GHG emissions, despite assertions to the contrary by the agri-food industry"*.

In its submission, **Transition Galway** (C1-OBWKDRT7AU56), notes that in relation to the NMP on Climate Change *"Decisions are being made in agriculture in the name of climate change policy which is unsustainable in terms of soil fertility, monoculture and biodiversity destroying pesticide use"*.

In his submission, **Wendel Trio**, Director, **Climate Action Network (CAN) Europe** (C1-PMSGP8TLOUVM) highlights that the Effort Sharing Regulation (ESR), is an opportunity for Ireland to modernise its agriculture sector and reap the co-benefits of reduced emissions.

A significant thread in submissions is the proposal that Ireland should make an effort to move away from animal based agriculture. **Barbara Bourke** (C1-9HUAXIRE5FD2) suggests that we set a target of a 50% reduction in agricultural emissions by 2030. She suggests that emissions from cattle will account for 47% of Irish domestic sector emissions by 2020.

Robin Keenan (C1-GC88EXSHR7GB) states that red meat and dairy production are major contributors to CO2 emissions in Ireland. He concludes that low carbon alternatives should be incentivised with incentives through grants for vegetable and fruit farming.

Biba Hartigan from **CLIMATES Network** (C1-FPZHJWB8XYIZ) outlines a diet they have developed which provides people with an easy and effective way of cutting their carbon. *"The climatarian diet aligns low carbon climate friendly food choices with a healthy diet promoting an increased consumption of seasonal, local fruit and vegetables and reduced meat consumption, especially of red meat which is not only the most carbon heavy but is also linked to an increased risk of heart disease and cancer"*.

In its submission, **Macra na Feirme** (C1-QPDAT2UVVJWW) outlines how research has shown that both methane and nitrous dioxide emissions can be reduced through targeted and accurate land management. The submission also makes the point that *"Increasing the use of Anaerobic Digestive units as (a) method to reduce the need for electricity to be produced from non renewable energy should be incentivised"*.

The Irish Creamery Milk Suppliers Association (ICMSA) (C1-UJENGQ3AS7EA) concludes its submission by stating: *"from an agricultural perspective great strides have been made to make Ireland a sustainable country to produce food in, tackling climate*

change while ensuring food security will be a constant challenge for the industry. However the temperate grass based system of farming employed here is one of the most environmentally viable ways of producing beef and dairy in the world. This needs to be highlighted and realised.”

In its submission, **The Irish Farmers Association (IFA)** (C1-Y9ZJ7Q88NZDU) contends that 87% of the measures in Ireland’s Rural Development Programme have climate reducing elements. These measures include the Green Low-Carbon Agri-Environment Scheme, or GLAS, the Beef Data and Genomics Programme and the Targeted Agricultural Modernisation Scheme, which assist farmers to reduce emissions and increase productive efficiency. The IFA also contends that *“Ireland is the only country in the world that monitors, measures and manages carbon from farm to fork”*.

The **Green Party** (C1-1C2DYCRHILFE) recommends that we should build on the success of agri-environmental schemes that have been shown to serve both our environment and farmers that engage with them, and develop new ones that address the concerns we have today.

The Uplift Community (C1-8PTL3X3XDDWR) raises the subject of rural communities. The submission notes the results of a survey on Climate Change issues which has been taken from their 173,000 members over the last 18 months and from the responses to the survey that *“it was clear from members’ responses that any changes to Ireland’s climate change policies should make sure that rural and marginalised communities are taken into account”*.

Gas Networks Irelands (C1-BWSSHDDFVX4P) submission in relation to agriculture states that the use of farm-wastes to produce biogas - is a way of addressing emissions and creating a useful source of energy. The submission continues: *“Biogas can be upgraded to biomethane, which is also a form of renewable gas, and injected directly into the gas network. This can be done where the network is close to the source of biomethane, or can be collected and centrally injected to the gas network where it is not close to the network. Renewable gas provides diversity of supply, enhancing energy security and increasing the penetration of renewable”*.

Changing the makeup of our diets

Fran Brady (C1-Z8O6B874QLHG) suggests that *“subsidies are paid to keep beef farming and the meat industry afloat in an over saturated beef market”*. He believes that subsidies and support payments would be better spent on supporting local organic food growing which would also result in the reduction of food-miles and thereby lower emissions from long distance transportation of food.

Janet Hawker (C1-JOVPFUVRD3UP) makes the following observation *“localising food production has great potential to create jobs, reduce long distance transport, improve health with better produce. We can grow vegetables all year round here without protection and increase variety and growing period with some protection. In August in Kerry in an extreme coastal garden I currently have peas, french beans, runner beans, spinach, salads, courgettes and sweet corn coming on. And there are lots of other things that could be on that list. Yet except in small wholefood shops I won't find hardly any of these vegetables produced in Ireland”*.

Diversification of land use and Biodiversity

Many submissions refer to the damage which the effects of Climate Change are having on our biodiversity. In their submission, **The Religious Sisters of Charity** (C1-DO3JZWM41OIW) state: *“the loss of biodiversity – of plants, insects and animals (birds and other species) is something to be regretted not just by the few but by the many. Yet, unfortunately, there are many of our citizens who are totally unaware of the devastation being wreaked on our natural habitat by our actions.”*

Birdwatch Ireland (C1-8I2J0Z1VM7Z0) outline the effects of Climate Change on birds and biodiversity and it notes that Ireland must cut GHGs for all sectors to reduce the impacts of Climate Change. Birdwatch Ireland advocate that Ireland must work to protect birds and other biodiversity from the effects of Climate Change by better protecting our network of protected sites and ensuring permeable landscapes.

Klaus Harvery (C1-9PXN4NUFCBZ7) suggests that *“Specific emphasis should be placed on feeding the soil and building soil fertility. Explore and use agroforestry as a way to produce food such as fruit and nuts, prevent or reduce flooding and as a means of carbon storage.”*

In its submission, **The Community Wetlands Forum** (C1-WBG4Q53ODHD1) outlines the importance of wetlands stating that *“in the past, the value of wetlands was significantly undervalued by society in terms of its economic, education and social value. In more recent times, the value placed on wetlands has increased significantly”*.

Rathgar Action for a Clean Earth (RACE) (C1-A6FH965ZAJ03) submits that we should *“Repair, restore and re-wet Ireland’s bogs”*. Ireland’s peat lands should undergo an intensive restoration programme so they can be turned from a carbon source, into a carbon sink. *“Such work would also create sustainable, climate friendly jobs in the midlands”*.

Trinity College Dublin Environmental Society (C1-UEMW8AX6GFYF) recommends the restoration of the peat lands to forested lands so they can become function carbon sinks instead of carbon sources.

5. Reduce/ Prevent Waste/ Prevalence of Plastic

There were a large number of submissions on the topic of waste, with many focussing on the prevalence of plastic and the effect that consumerism is having on the environment. Many submissions noted the importance of having less packaging on items, increased promotion of recycling and the importance of reducing food waste. The manner in which we dispose of our waste was also raised in a number of submissions. A snapshot of some of the perspectives which appeared is provided below.

Consumerism, Recycling and dealing with waste

Mindy O'Brien from **VOICE Ireland** (C1-EBWUQJ9YH9ZE) suggests some action points including transitioning Ireland to a more circular economy and moving away from single use, throw away consumption.

Some submissions recommend that there should be a cash reward for recycling of bottles and cans while other suggest that we should ban supermarket waste, as has been done in France.

Natasha Harty (C1-WOXFBP0KMXV) states that we should *“act in line with the EU Commission's January 2017 recommendation to EU member countries to have a moratorium on new incinerators”*.

In order to reduce waste, **Finbar Hurley** (C1-JNNVEUXWNDWH) suggests that a law should be passed to *“ensure that any article being sold to the public should have clear, functional instructions from the manufacturer how to recover, and recycle the packing, when no longer required... Manufacturers of all products should have labels on each product re sustainable disposal of the product”*.

In her submission, **Catriona Finnegan** (C1-C4WCOMBQJGJB) proposes that recycling symbols on packaging should be more uniform, and that bin collectors should be legally required to provide a leaflet with the recycling symbols that would appear on plastics that they recycle.

Geraldine Reilly (C1-GV0CRRHKWCQD) notes: *“The continuous improvements in recycling green and brown waste are very welcome but landfill is a major issue. Incinerator emission standards in line with those in Vienna as an example of waste would make us self sufficient in waste management and public fears of incineration could be allayed with a policy of transparency of the issues involved”*.

Clodagh O'Rourke (C1-BJIJTBECRIJ3) opposes the use of incinerators and feels that we should seek to have most of our waste compostable.

Impact of Plastic on the Environment

The submission of **Zero Waste Ireland Group** (C1-4VAUM2U77MW8) deals with the interaction of plastics with marine life. The submission points to a waste reduction bill that was proposed by the Green Party and supported by Labour and Fianna Fáil. Furthermore, it notes the effect on the environment of microbeads used in cosmetic and hygiene products' such as toothpaste and body scrubs. *“These microbeads are washed down Irish drain each day by the billion, entering directly into our waterways in many cases. The British government have recently announced a plan to enforce a ban on microbeads in the UK, with*

the US and Holland also among leaders moving to ban these products from sale in their countries.”

In her submission **Aisling Cunningham** (C1-YOMRIKDW58TR) suggests *“banning of one use plastics (especially cutlery) and better monitoring of microplastics in products both produced in Eire and imported. Banning of non-recyclable packaging in our supermarkets at a national level would severely reduce our need for general waste bins”*.

Zero Waste Alliance Ireland (ZAWI) (C1-VNAHT22I3AZK) proposes to *“Implement an affordable Food Waste prevention strategy to ensure Food Waste is no longer rotting in Landfills. This means regulation, monitoring and enforcement. They cannot rely on the private sector alone to deliver a nationwide solution.”*

6. Taxation/ Funding/ Incentives

There were a number of submissions in the area of fiscal and taxation measures to bring about action on Climate Change. Some submissions also stated that some current fiscal supports are contrary to Climate Change objectives. A snapshot of some of the perspectives raised is provided below.

Corinne Voces (C1-DKLYA2DDVL25) notes in her submission that there is very little incentive to “be green”. People often have to make a choice between their environment and their pocket. In her view *“It is the responsibility of the government to allow citizens to have more options to move to environmentally friendly choices”*.

Clare Public Participation Network (PPN) (C1-0B268LIMF53X) believes that the Government should pilot a program where it rewards communities and individuals who come up with ways to reduce Ireland’s carbon footprint. Clare PPN also calls for a national and local programme of financial and administrative support for individuals and businesses to become self-sufficient in energy needs.

The Green Party (C1-1C2DYCRHILFE) notes: *“The Citizens’ Assembly is considering this climate change issue at the same time that that Department of Finance and Public Expenditure and Reform is conducting a midterm review of our National Capital Plan. If our ambitions to reduce Greenhouse Gas emissions are to mean anything then we need to see a radical redirection of money to new low carbon transport systems within that plan”*.

Sinn Féin (C1-0EJT417V8UHK) suggests that Ireland should invest in green economy to provide sustainable employment opportunities through public investment in infrastructure for water and waste systems and invest in ‘distributed power’ grid and renewable energy generation.

Ross Walsh (C1-E4H9J0G0NITJ) proposes: *“the Citizens Assembly should recommend that the State divert more funding into research on renewable energy. By increasing the funds available for Ireland's scientific community to develop new and improved methods of harnessing the energy of the sun, the wind, and sea and other sources, our state can not only help save our planet but also provide an example to other countries around the world”*.

Amongst many other suggestions, **Una McNamara** (C1-LB3IN9ZQXBFK) puts forward the following: *“Grants and incentives be given to all areas that promote sustainable living in Food/Agriculture, Energy, Transport and Housing”*. She goes on to suggest that *“Grant aid, promotion and awareness of solar panels for heating, hot water and electricity to be a priority for the state. All the above would create new jobs and renewable local industry”*.

Amongst many of its recommendations **Gluaiseacht**, (C1- GUO7T28HDYKR), suggests that subsidies to the aviation and fossil fuel industries be reduced or eliminated and we should begin incentivising micro-generation of renewable energy from households by paying a generous Feed-In-Tariff for small scale producers of wind and solar energy so as to make the pay-back period for the initial investments a short number of years.

In its submission, the **Foundation for the Economics of Sustainability (Feasta)** (C1-N9H0MSVKJVIL) offers many suggestions for incorporating action on climate with substantive action on inequality and poverty and significant improvements to the quality and freshness of food. Feasta believes that amongst other measures, the Irish Government should lobby on the EU level for changes in the way Euros are issued by the European

Central Bank, phase out the use of the GDP growth as a measure of progress and a shift in the tax base in all European countries towards taxing of unearned income from the use of collective goods.

Taxation

Social Justice Ireland (C1-42NGAP53EBCB) propose: *“one way of tackling this challenge, whilst also broadening the tax base, is through environmental taxation. Eco-taxes, which put a price on the full costs of resource extraction and pollution, will help with the transition towards a resource efficient, low carbon green economy. Environmental taxation enforcing the polluter pays principle and encouraging waste prevention can help to decouple growth from the use of resources and support the shift towards a low carbon economy”.*

Rathgar Action for a Clean Earth (RACE) (C1-A6FH965ZAJ03) propose: *“the State should make contributions to the UN Green Climate Fund that are in line with Ireland's capacity and responsibility in order to support developing countries to adapt to climate change and contribute to the global effort. The Government's current contribution of €2million is over 30 times lower than the EU average”.*

Appendix 1- List of Submissions from Advocacy Groups

Submissions Process on Climate Change

**Submissions received from NGOs, advocacy groups, commercial entities,
academics**

**If you are an organisation that made a submission to the Assembly and are not on
this list please contact us at info@citizensassembly.ie.**

This list is presented in alphabetical order according to Group name

	Name	Surname	Group	Ref
1	Ciara	Barry	'Not Here, Not Anywhere' Campaign	C1-7EHOF6XYDL5M
2	Jane	Jackson	80Max	C1-YGCMEI5BUHRP
3	Kieran	Cunnane	A Vision for Galway	C1-OBWKDRT7AU56
4	Joseph	Murray	Afri	C1-Z3DGUMSGCBPD
5	Ryan	Fintan	Airline Captain*	C1-87KTVAUPLF48
6	Gerald	Doherty	All Together in Dignity Ireland	C1-XZ48TGM2GFBO
7	Sheila	Curran	AMRI	C1-5FXB1OHCUSDN
8	Attracta	Uí Bhroin	An Claiómh Glas	C1-5UBR5KFJJANT
9	Maria	Flanagan	An Cosán VCC, Carlow Institute of Technology	C1-CNGOTIY22M6
10	Phil	Kearney	An Taisce	C1-T2MBA7F9N150
11	Sheila	Curran	Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland*	C1-5FXB1OHCUSDN
12	Denis	Duffy	Better Environment with Nuclear Energy	C1-RAMT56SR6FHY
13	Pete	Deane	Biofuelwatch	C1-MF4G348N6K6D
14	Oonagh	Duggan	Bird Watch Ireland	C1-8I2J0Z1VM7Z0
15	Caroline	Whyte	CapGlobalCarbon	C1-H9S94VLTE760
16	Jennifer	Higgins	Christian Aid Ireland	C1-YCPV5LEW9IEQ
17	Andrew	Orr	Church of Ireland & Society	C1-Y6IGDXLYIKNJ

			Commission	
18	Sarah	Clancy	Clare Public Participation Network*	C1-0B268LIMF53X
19	Pat	Morrissey	Clean Air Network Ireland	C1-7WRXEIA10MEI
20	Wendel	Trio	Climate Action Network Europe	C1-PMSGP8TLOUVM
21	NJ	Crowley	Climate Conversations Activist Group	C1-QMPGGPBWXQXO
22	Biba	Hartigan	Climates Network	C1-FPZHJWB8XYIZ
23	Duncan	Martin	Cloughjordan Eco-Village	C1-FCFGHYEX106O
24	Helen	Gelletlie	Coastal Concern Alliance*	C1-6BCDEKI1UPJ3
25	Dara	Ó Maoildhia	Comharchumann Fuinnimh Oileáin Árann Teoranta	C1-HI5FQZX4RPBU
26	Kate	Ruddock	Community Energy	C1-1NW4191R8DC0
27	Louise	Lennon	Community Wetlands Forum	C1-WBG4Q53ODHD1
28	Roisin	Cuddihy	Cork Climate Action	C1-OYT2L32F3DGZ
29	Adam	D'Arcy	CORK CYCLING CAMPAIGN	C1-MHJHED0IU9SO
30	Lorna	Bogue	Cork Greens	C1-F1E74LNVWA7P
31	Simon	Comer	Cosain	C1-SD3NHFAWMGF8
32	Hugh	Weldon	Counting Carbon	C1-BAUZHEHGOSIX
33	Paula	Downey	Culturework	C1-DJ27X8HS5AC9
34	Dr. Mike	McKillen	Cyclist.ie	C1-0F5Y34515QPA
35	David	O'Flynn	Dawn Meats	C1-EXDSWABIBZVY
36	Suzanne	Keating	Dóchas*	C1-CTHUDH8JVFHV
37	Ollan	Herr	Dundalk Cycling Alliance	C1-P8AMR906VYXJ
38	Eugene	Conlon	Dunleer Community Development Board*	C1-1G6239OM2DO5
39	Andrew	Orr	Eco-Congregation Ireland	C1-HF8G429I4BTM
40	Richard	Bloomfield	EcoQuakers	C1-TXWDB0HKDSEZ
41	Elaine	Nevin	ECO-UNESCO	C1-HLNQLPPT0567
42	Valerie	Hedin	Eirgrid	C1-LCNMMMOGNEM1Z
43	Owen	Wilson	Electricity Association of Ireland	C1-9UITLJYOSG32
44	Michael	Doyle	Energy Conservation Options	C1-LSDO9FL0GZW4
45	David	Widdis	Energywise Consultants	C1-AN3MOZFBGLGX
46	Tim	Vierhout	ENVIERHO AQUA PROTECT LTD	C1-UL1E2WUCRKSF

47	Michael	Ewing	Enviroment Pillar	C1-X00EV658P85J
48	Eilish	Scott	Eriva	C1-9KNG47755NEA
49	Peter	Brennan	EPS Consulting	C1-78QKD8O06591
50	Rachelle	Sena de Freitas	Europe Insoumise	C1-U5V6C3JN6ZH6
51	Eimhin	McEvoy	Fianna Fáil Ogra	C1-H9PWXOKV0E4W
52	Fergal	Anderson	Food Sovereignty Ireland	C1-UTMMDZCGX8LZ
53	David	Connolly	Former Associate Professor in Energy Planning, Aalborg University, Denmark	C1-ZA8U575MCI69
54	Colm	Tong	Fossil Free TCD	C1-IBHQ96T3KCG
55	Morag	Friel	Foundation for the Economics of Sustainability (Feasta)	C1-N9H0MSVKJVIL
56	Oisin	Coghlan	Friends of the Earth	C1-2QS8KITQEZ2N
57	Fergal	McEntee	Funky Renewables	C1-UT18HQT4B07
58	Paul	Leech	GAIA ecotecture.eu	C1-HPARN2Z8GDBI
59	Ann	Irwin	Galway City Community Network	C1-OESQJ0HON7NR
60	Pauline	O'Reilly	Galway City West Representative of the Green Party	C1-ZP85O230SAMR
61	Ann-Marie	Colbert	Gas Networks Ireland	C1-BWSSHDDFVX4P
62	Eoin	O'Leidhin	Gluaiseacht	C1-GUO7T28HDYKR
63	Aedín	McLoughlin	Good Energies Alliance Ireland	C1-48J9PS3EA07D
64	Duncan	Stewart	GREEN FOUNDATION IRELAND	C1-JE4HSU9VQVTB
65	Ann	O'Conarain	GREEN FOUNDATION IRELAND	C1-J2CADABN62K4
66	Eamon	Ryan	Green Party	C1-1C2DYCRHILFE
67	Marc	O'Cathasaigh	Green Party	C1-YCB9C8SHJ58Z
68	Mark	Henry	Green Party	C1-O3ZYSZBR8OS7
69	Claire	Byrne	Green Party Councillor for Pembroke – South Dock	C1-FY0YKG90SCU0
70	Joe	O'Brien	Green Party Fingal	C1-C6VWD036IBE9

71	Peter	Cunnane	Hands Across the Corrib Ltd.	C1-JQZ5MACS9FVW
72	Aine	O'Connell	ICMSA	C1-UJENGQ3AS7EA
73	Barry	McMullin	IE-NETs Project Team, Trinity College Dublin and Dublic City University *	C1-08NQHFPMPVYC
74	Hamilton	Hamilton	IFNC Irish Forum on Natural Capital	C1-KEIF37OGUV2A
75	Matt	Kennedy	International Energy Research Centre	C1-QCBDWNA60LQ3
76	Joe	Healy	Irish Farmers Association	C1-Y9ZJ7Q88NZDU
77	Marion	Jammet	Irish Green Building Council	C1-4MBSPS84X54F
78	Patrick	Shannon	Irish Offshore Operators' Association	C1-DB1YKNKJS88T
79	Tristram	Whyte	Irish Peatland Conservation Council	C1-MXT7PH3N3ZUE
80	Louise	Lennon	Irish Rural Link	C1-5U5D2GRBSRKS
81	Adam	Ledwith	Irish Wind Energy Association	C1-MSRXI7116TU1
82	Donal	Whelan	Irish Timber Growers Association	C1-ZBAV5762VJ9V
83	Catherine	Devitt	Jesuit Centre for Faith and Justice	C1-X5RS5NRTKIJL
84	Jim	O'Brien	Jim O'Brien CSR Consulting*	C1-WXPNNB6986V7
85	Mary	Shanahan	Kerry Sustainable Energy Co-Op	C1-574D9ESQZF9W
86	Ivana	Bacik	Labour Party	C1-2K4EQOQOYWQI
87	Hilary	Scanlan	Local Link Kerry	C1-USADS6GOUFR4
88	Mark	Dearey	Louth East Meath Green Party Constituency Group	C1-G9P6X5SMAYX1
89	Paul	Smith	Marca na Feirme	C1-QPDAT2UVVJWW
90	A	Wisdom	Marconi Institute	C1-C43SMXE37G6C
91	Brian	O'Gallachoir	MaREI	C1-ZSAKYTOPXLJV
92	Denise	Boyle	Mercy International Association	C1-A2XHPJDV7404
93	Ray	Bates	Meteorology and Climate Centre, UCD	C1-KXMUQ7OT8I7K

94	David	Hughes	Passive House Association of Ireland and ICOMOS National Scientific Committee on Energy Sustainability and Climate Change	C1-UNJKO8UATZ6I
95	Theresa	O'Donohoe	People's Energy Charter*	C1-GGVLJI4FVB96
96	Tom	Crilly	Peace and Neutrality Alliance	C1-3GLYAAQNLLIK
97	Brian	O' Toole	Presentation Sisters	C1-ZR4SQP790TDK
98			Rathgar Action for a Clean Earth (RACE)	C1-A6FH965ZAJ03
99	Mairead	Ni Chuiric	Religious Sisters of Charity	C1-DO3JZWM41OIW
100	PJ	McCarthy	Renewable Gas Forum Ireland	C1-R5CZA1ZMFYWX
101	June	Simmons	Rescue The River Shannon Group	C1-ZERGMKJ6MWWO
102	Tony	Carey	Psychologist*	C1-55KOKMLU14Z6 C1-8M5RSSTAKWEO C1-ZOSFKAC76BL4
103	Tom	Kirley	Royal Dublin Society RDS	C1-SOOR95GH8HTS
104	Mike	Jones	Royal Irish Academy (RIA)	C1-OGD5HF8IHIHY
105	Justin	Kilcullen	Sage - Shankill Action for a Green Earth	C1-CBO9YRLJ5TBY
106	Pat	Brereton	School of Communications, DCU	C1-5TXT82Z9YXJ8
107	Yvonne	O' Callaghan	Services, Industrial, Professional and Technical Union (SIPTU)	C1-G45P0L5BSU4O
108	Alan	Nolan	SIMI	C1-6K367R4XNVMJ
109	Ilmea	Nicholson	simplenowastelife	C1-VPN0EWBWY6H2
110	Sam	Roch-Perks	Simply Blue Energy	C1-PFPVX9UDVO4E
111	Brian	Stanley	Sinn Féin	C1-0EJT417V8UHK
112	Michelle	Murphy	Social Justice Ireland	C1-42NGAP53EBCB
113	Tim	Gleeson	Soil Scientist*	C1-IO2PS811RL04
114	Gerard	Doyle	Society for Co-Operative Studies for Ireland	C1-W3MGZ2AF5EBT

115	Sinéad	Mercier	SIPTU's Global Solidarity Committee, IMPACT's Just Transition Committee, researcher for the Green Party	C1-YN6DO1EKG2D
116	Lisa	Fahy	SSE	C1-CTY8LS3D3SM6
117	Brian	Farrell	Stop Climate Chaos and the Trinity Environmental Society	C1-M22RC9IDVEIT
118	Jerry	MacEvilly	Stop Climate Chaos & the Environmental Pillar*	C1-1GL4ZVESROY
119	Raoul	Empey	Sustineo	C1-05AEJ399FZTQ
120	Jessie	Dolliver	Trinity College Dublin Environmental Society	C1-UEMW8AX6GFYF
121	Owen	Wilson	The Electricity Association of Ireland (EAI)	C1-9UITLJYOSG32
122	Valerie	Duffy	The National Youth Council of Ireland	C1-RO8JSTUGSOTP
123	Ina	Kelly	Royal College of Physicians of Ireland	C1-E9NGX291A5G2
124	Joe	Miller	The Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland (RIAI)	C1-B4W4QW2H8CLI
125	Hazel	O'Byrne	The Society of St Vincent de Paul	C1-NZA8UJ8U9GAS
126	Siona	Cahill	The USI -Equality & Citizenship	C1-YI1GCT1UWW4J
127	Kevin	Dennehy	TINI	C1-FQ81S7OE3DKJ
128	Paul	Kenny	Tipperary Energy Agency	C1-U3RF34BUKJZD
129	Mícheál	Callaghan	Transition Ireland and Northern Ireland	C1-RLKAC1J55SMV
130	Thomas	O'Connor	Transition Kerry	C1-WMNJ3NF730DZ
131	Thomas	O'Connor	Transition Kerry	C1-FE91SO3TAJSQ
132	Micheal	Callaghan	Transition Monaghan	C1-329JOW7X1P8U
133	Elizabeth	Garvey	Trócaire	C1-YH8NB0FNIE1B
134	Paul	Deane	University College Cork	C1-87A0UZ5H7DWU
135	James	Glynn	University College Cork	C1-EHILF0CIA7IL
136	Orla	Hegarty	UCD School of Architecture, Planning and Environmental	C1-H9NMGLQA8VKC

			Policy	
137	John	O'Halloran	University College Cork	C1-O4AMIBOT5MIP
138	David	Timoney	University College Dublin	C1-KZMWB48MK1CR
139	Emily	Duffy	Uplift	C1-8PTL3X3XDDWR
140	John	McAreavey	Various Bishops	C1-XZHEXVDDFB9H
141	Rory	Harrington	VESI Environmental Ltd.	C1-WZCGCBP5BRZJ
142	Mindy	O'Brien	Voice	C1-EBWUQJ9YH9ZE
143	Joan	Campbell	Wicklow Planning Alliance	C1-I5TGP51TNTJ1
144	Kathleen	Connelly	Wind Aware Clare	C1-EQ82J9AGEKQO
145	Henry	Fingelton	Wind Aware Ireland	C1-8J4UQGCMT1PF
146	Paula	Byrne	Wind Aware Ireland	C1-C56HGO9XS055
147	Sarah	Caughey	YMCA Ireland	C1-GLN1OY87FAA1
148			Young Friends of the Earth	C1-FZKCZKOL8J3Q
149	Paul	Allen	Zero Carbon Britain	C1-7SUPOPOAI8RY
150	Sean	Cronin	Zero Waste Alliance Ireland (ZWA)	C1-VNAHT22I3AZK
151	David	Desmond	Zero Waste Ireland Group	C1-4VAUM2U77MW8
152	Jessica	Beresford	Zoological Society of Trinity College	C1-RL4Q93K4U3LO
153	Daniel	Dunleavy	Zoological Society of Trinity College	C1-EAOGC1E65H1A

** This list was originally circulated to members in advance of the Citizens' Assembly's first meeting on Climate Change in September 2017. The list has since been updated to include additional organisations which were inadvertently omitted from the original list. For clarity these have been marked with an asterisk.*

Appendix 2 – List and frequency of issues raised in submissions process

Issue	Occurrence
Transport	376
Energy	363
Agriculture	317
Food	220
Fossil Fuels	215
Waste	190
Education	186
Plastics	149
Government	127
Electric Vehicles	106
Infrastructure	105
Targets	91
Forestry	86
Incentives	86
Solar	79
Housing	78
Leadership	76
Greenhouse Gases (GHG)	71
Cycling	66
Community	57
Wind	51
Smart Grid	43
Economy	38
Paris Agreement	37
Retro Fitting	35
International Examples	35
Taxation	28
Stop Climate Chaos	27
Wind Negatives	23
Fracking	21
Environment	21
Aviation	20
National Mitigation Plan	19
Rural	19

Goals	18
Ocean	17
Health	14
Water	14
Biomass	13
Constitution	12
Tourism	12
Peat lands	10
Bog lands	10
Climate Justice/ Social Justice *	9
Nuclear	9
Planning	9
Co-operatives	8
Wave	7
Seaweed	7
Population	7
Corporations	7
Flooding	7
Laudato Si	6
Hemp	6
Eco Driving	6
Heating	5

* It should be noted that the issue of fairness also featured prominently; this is reflected in the Signpost Document. This list captures the number of times that the phrases Climate Justice/ Social Justice were mentioned.

Appendix 3 – Call for Submissions

This call for submissions appeared in the Irish Times, the Irish Independent, the Irish Examiner, the Irish Mirror and the Irish Farmers Journal on 12th of June 2017.

Submissions to the Citizens' Assembly invited on Climate Change

The Citizens' Assembly is inviting submissions on the third topic the Assembly will consider - How the State can make

Ireland a Leader in Tackling Climate Change.

The Citizens' Assembly was established following a Resolution passed by both Houses of the Oireachtas. The Assembly is an exercise in deliberative democracy, placing the citizen at the heart of important legal and policy issues facing Irish society today.

Submissions can be made online or by post to Citizens Assembly, 16 Parnell Square, Dublin 1, to arrive no later than

5pm 11 August 2017.

All documents received by the Assembly secretariat may be listed on the website, in order of date received and displayed

with a name/name of organisation, and the title of the submission.

For more information on the Assembly or to make an online submission visit

www.citizensassembly.ie

Fáiltíonn an Tionól Saoránach roimh aighneachtaí ar an dara hábhar atá le breithniú ag an Tionól - Mar a fhéadfaidh an Stát tír cheannródaíoch a dhéanamh d'Éirinn maidir le dul i ngleic le hathrú aeráide.

I ndiaidh do dhá Theach an Oireachtais glacadh le Rún is ea a bunaíodh an Tionól Saoránach. Is ionann an Tionól is pléghrúpa daonlathach a chuireann an saoránach i gcroílár ceisteanna tábhachtacha dlí agus beartas atá roimh phobal na hÉireann sa lá inniu.

Is féidir aighneacht a dhéanamh ar líne nó tríd an bpost chuig An Tionól Saoránach, 16 Cearnóg Parnell, Baile Átha Cliath 1, tráth nach déanaí ná an 5pm 11 Lúnasa 2017.

Is féidir doiciméid a fhaigheann rúnaíocht an Tionóil a liostú ar an láithreán gréasáin, de réir na ndátaí a bhfuarthas iad, agus a thaispeáint mar aon le hainm/ainm na heagraíochta, agus teideal na haighneachta.

Chun tuilleadh eolais faoin Tionól a fháil nó chun aighneacht ar líne a dhéanamh, téigh chuig

www.citizensassembly.ie