



2024 Local Government Climate Action Key Performance Indicators Summary Report

September 2025

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LGMA Research

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Finally, special thanks to the members of the Climate Action KPI Working Group who have worked year-round to develop the KPIs for the sector, with the approval of the CCMA Environment, Climate and Circular Economy Committee. The group has also supported the collection and interpretation of the data.

Climate Action KPI Working Group membership in 2024:

- Teresa O'Brien, (Chair) Wicklow County Council
- Breda Maher, Eastern and Midlands CARO (Project Manager)
- Bernie O'Donoghue Hynes, LGMA (Research Lead)
- Alex Grassick, Climate Action Coordinator, Kerry County Council
- Tina Ryan, Climate Action Coordinator, Galway County Council
- John McNally, Climate Action Coordinator, Offaly County Council
- Tara Kerins, LGMA (Central Data Unit)

Support:

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

Acknowledgements

While local authorities have been actively addressing climate action for many years, the sector began to formally track key performance indicators (KPIs) in 2021 focusing on a limited number of areas such as the recruitment of climate action staff and the delivery of training. Since then, the number of indicators has grown to ten, spread across three themes. These indicators consider the impact the sector is having on adaptation, mitigation, building capacity and changing mindsets. The mainstreaming indicators also monitor whether the required resources and infrastructure are in place to ensure that climate action is taken on as the responsibility of all local authority staff while also ensuring there are dedicated staff leading and overseeing actions.

The mainstreaming KPIs for 2024 showed positive results for the sector. There were more staff working as Climate Action Officers and Co-ordinators than any of the previous years. In addition, all local authorities had Community Climate Action Officers in place. These were very positive results as local authorities had reported lower numbers in previous years, due to difficulties with staff recruitment and retention. Similarly, there were more cross-departmental staff involved in Climate Action Teams and sub-groups in 2024 compared to previous years.

The increase in staff involvement was critical to the development of the 31 Local Authority Climate Action Plans (LACAPs). Each local authority produced a comprehensive five-year plan following extensive research and consultation, that was adopted by elected members on or before March 31st, 2024. There were almost 4,000 actions identified across the 31 plans and their progress will be tracked over the coming years via this report.

In parallel, work on the delivery of active travel measures continued, with an additional 181km of cycling/pedestrian infrastructure added in 2024. Over the past three years, local authorities retrofitted more than 7,300 houses. The total annual energy savings across the local authorities' retrofits, equates to the energy required to run more than 6,000 households. The SEAI results for 2023 indicated that local authorities were continuing to reduce emissions and saving energy annually compared to baseline years.

2024 was also a year in which there was a reduction in weather related emergency plan activations and meetings held, compared with 2023, however the activity was higher than 2022. As in previous years, most frequent responses were to wind and rain events, rather than snow, ice or low temperatures.

Another key area where local authorities were making a very positive contribution to capacity building in 2024 was through the delivery of the Green for Business initiative. The LEOs engaged with 1,016 SMEs, almost double the number compared to the previous year. The sector was also able to support 683 community climate action projects in 2024 under the community climate action programme.

However, 2024 results for staff and elected members participating in climate action training did not compare favourably to previous years. This was primarily because the new sectoral training plan and budget was being developed during the first half of 2024, so there was no training available. We expect to see a significant uptake in training when the 2025 figures are reviewed next year.

Overall, the 2024 local authority KPI report illustrates the broad range of activities being carried out by the sector and the positive impact these actions are having on addressing this critical issue. While using KPIs to monitor progress helps the sector to track positive impacts, they also hold the sector to account as they highlight areas where the sector is not performing well. The CCMA ECCE Committee takes on board these findings and works to address any shortcomings evident. The KPIs combine with the 31 LACAPs to provide focus and accountability as we progress towards jointly addressing climate change.

Frank Curran
Chair
CCMA Environment, Climate and Circular Economy Committee



This report presents an infographic summary of the 2024 Climate Action Key Performance Indicators. The full report, including data at a local authority level, can be accessed on localgov.ie.

KPI 1

Climate Action Staff

2024

Dedicated climate action staff are critical to effective and coordinated delivery of climate action



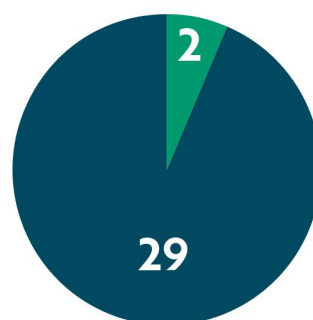
Every local authority had **Climate Action Staff** in place on 31/12/24



60.5

There were 60.5 FTE dedicated Climate Action Officers and Coordinators in place at year end

Number of local authorities with community climate action staff at 2024 year-end



■ **Full-time** Community Climate Action Staff

■ **Part-time** Community Climate Action Staff

In addition, Community Climate Action staff were in place in all local authorities at year end

KPI 2

Climate Action Teams

Staff from across all work areas contribute to Climate Action Teams



823

staff members were involved across the 31 local authority climate action teams



21

local authorities had subgroups to support the work of Climate Action Teams



122

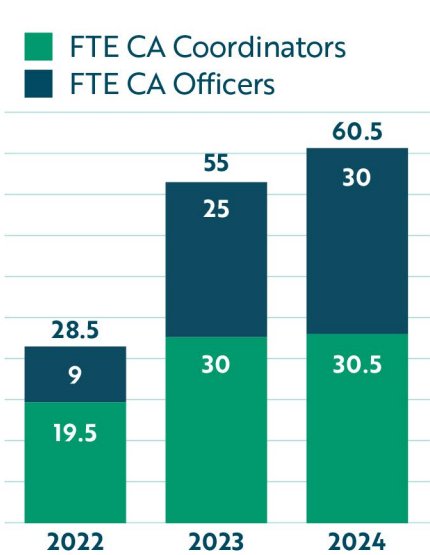
meetings were held nationally by Climate Action Teams during 2024

163

meetings were held nationally by Climate Action subgroups

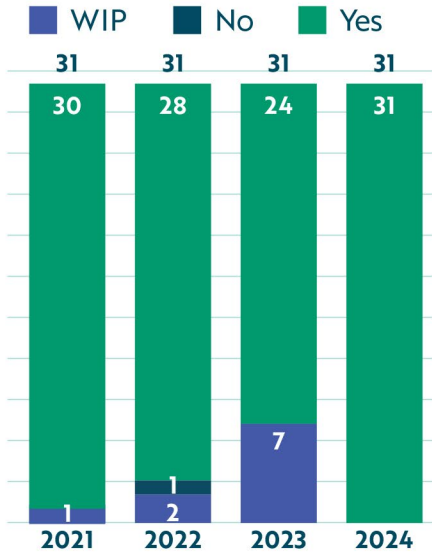
Climate Action Staff and Team Trends

The number of dedicated climate action staff increased each year



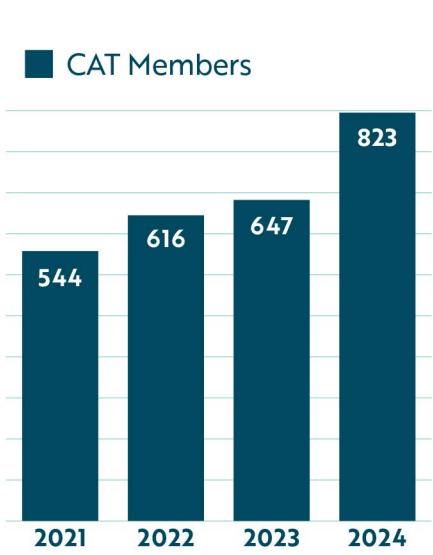
Number of climate action staff in place at year end

All local authorities had Climate Action Teams in place by the end of 2024



Status of local authority Climate Action Teams at year-end

The number of members on Climate Action Teams increased each year



Number of CAT members at year end

ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION

KPI 3 Active Travel Projects

2024

Active travel projects are key to the development of environmentally sustainable transport solutions



1,012

projects were actively being worked on by local authorities in 2024



153

projects were completed during the year resulting in 181km of additional active travel infrastructure

Active Travel Trend

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

KM	168.8	181.1
€Million	330.77	310.16

KPI 4 Social Housing Retrofits

2024

Social housing retrofits reduce costs for tenants and reduce energy use and carbon emissions



2,634

In 2024, local authorities retrofitted 2,634 social houses



93%

of retrofitted units were BER B2 or higher



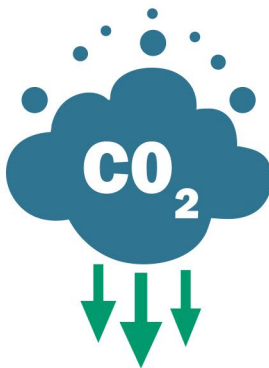
91%

of retrofitted units had heat pumps installed



37,712 MWh/Yr

Annual energy savings were calculated to be 37,712 MWh/Yr



10,360 tCo2/Yr

Annual carbon reductions were calculated to be 10,360 tCo2/Yr

Social Housing Retrofit Trend

Social Houses Retrofitted	2022	2023	2024	Total
Number houses	2,283	2,445	2,634	7,362
BER B2	88%	95%	93%	92%
BER Cost Optimal	11%	5%	6%	7%
Heat pumps installed	68%	90%	91%	83%

MWh/Yr energy savings	29,954	35,663	37,712	103,329
tCo2/Yr Carbon savings	8,600	10,376	10,360	29,336

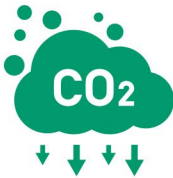
Total energy saving equates to the energy needed to run 6,000 homes a year

KPI 5

Green House Gas Emissions

2023*

SEAI calculate local authority emissions reductions annually



Local authorities reduced total CO2 emissions by 33.9% in 2024



There was an emissions reduction of 9.6% from thermal and transport sources

Emissions Trend

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

Reductions based on comparison with base year 2016–2018 average

*2024 SEAI Green House Gas Emissions data was not available when this report was being published

KPI 6

Local Authority Climate Action Plans

2024

Each local authority prepared a five year Climate Action Plan that was formally adopted by the elected members by March 2024



3,951

actions were identified by local authorities in their climate action plans



476

actions

were categorised as adaptation

1,659

actions

were categorised as mitigation

1,816

actions

were categorised as combined (both adaptation and mitigation)

79%

of actions

had been started by year end

5%

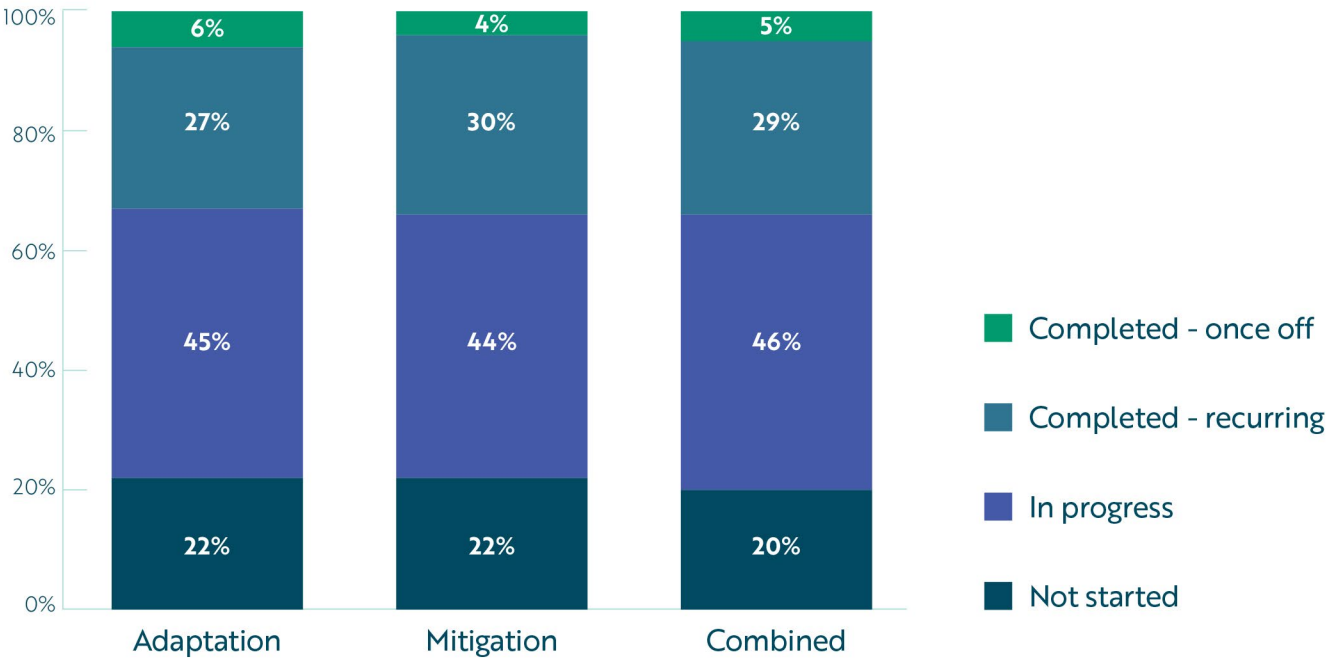
of actions

were completed by year end

29%

of actions that are annually (or regularly) recurring were completed in 2024

Status of 2024 LACAP actions



KPI 7 Severe Weather Emergency Response

2024

Local authorities have local arrangements in place that determine how and when their Severe Weather Emergency Response Teams meet and when they activate Emergency Response Plans



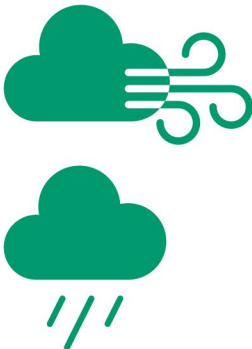
28
local authorities held
Emergency Response
Team meetings in
2024



A total of
254
meetings were
held during the
year



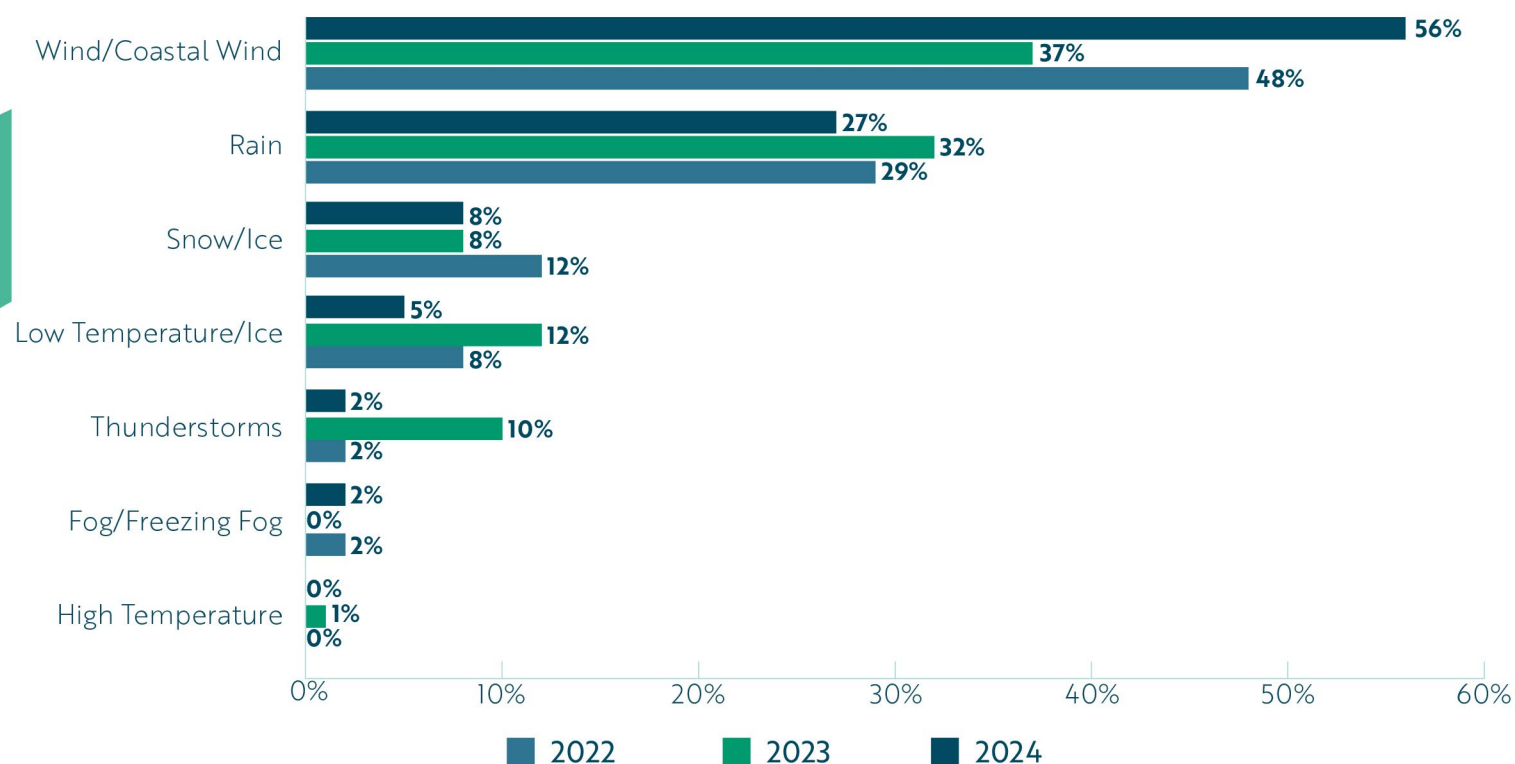
133
Severe Weather
Emergency Response
Plans were activated
across 24 local
authorities



The number
one reason
for plan activations
was wind related
events, followed by
rain related events

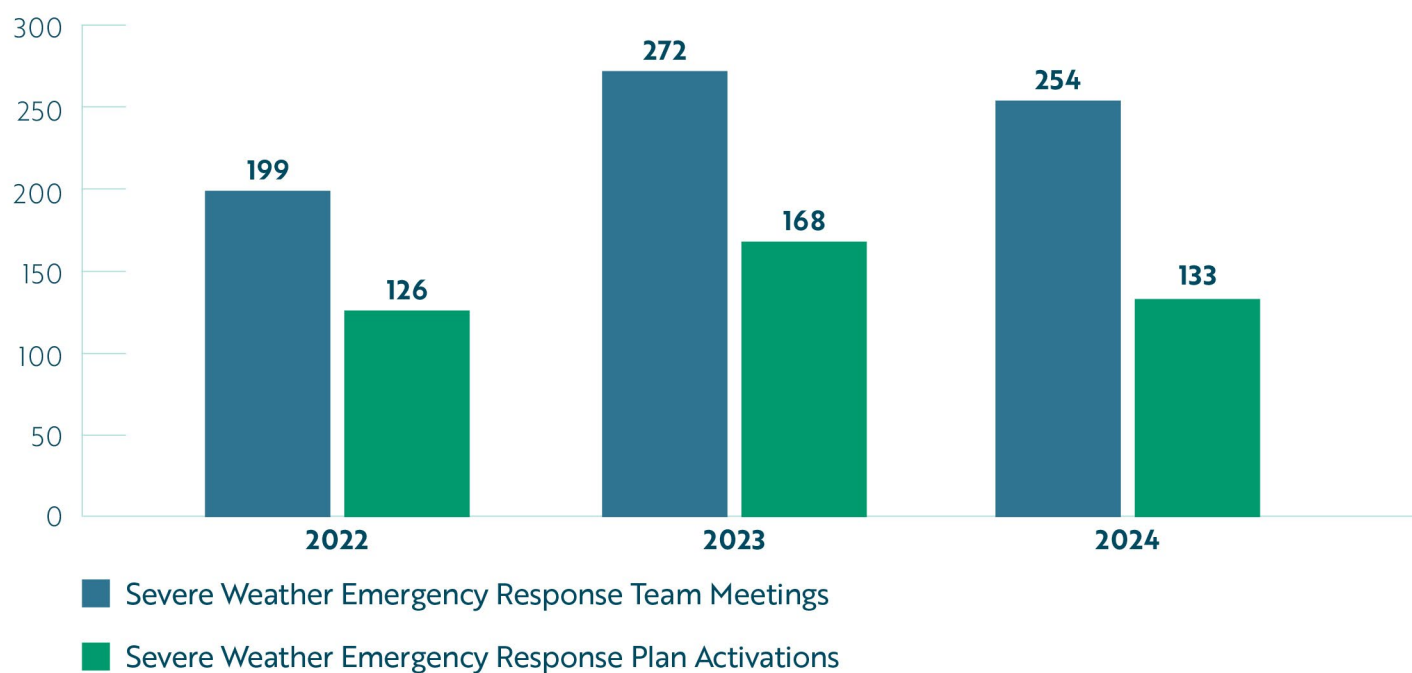
Severe Weather Emergency Response Trends

Reasons for Severe Weather Emergency Response Plan activations 2022 – 2024



* 2024 Galway County data was not available.

Emergency weather response teams and plan activations 2022-2024



2024

Climate Action Training has been developed for local authority staff and elected members to raise awareness about climate action and build the capacity of the sector



2,825

climate action training places
were accessed by local authority staff and
elected members in 2024



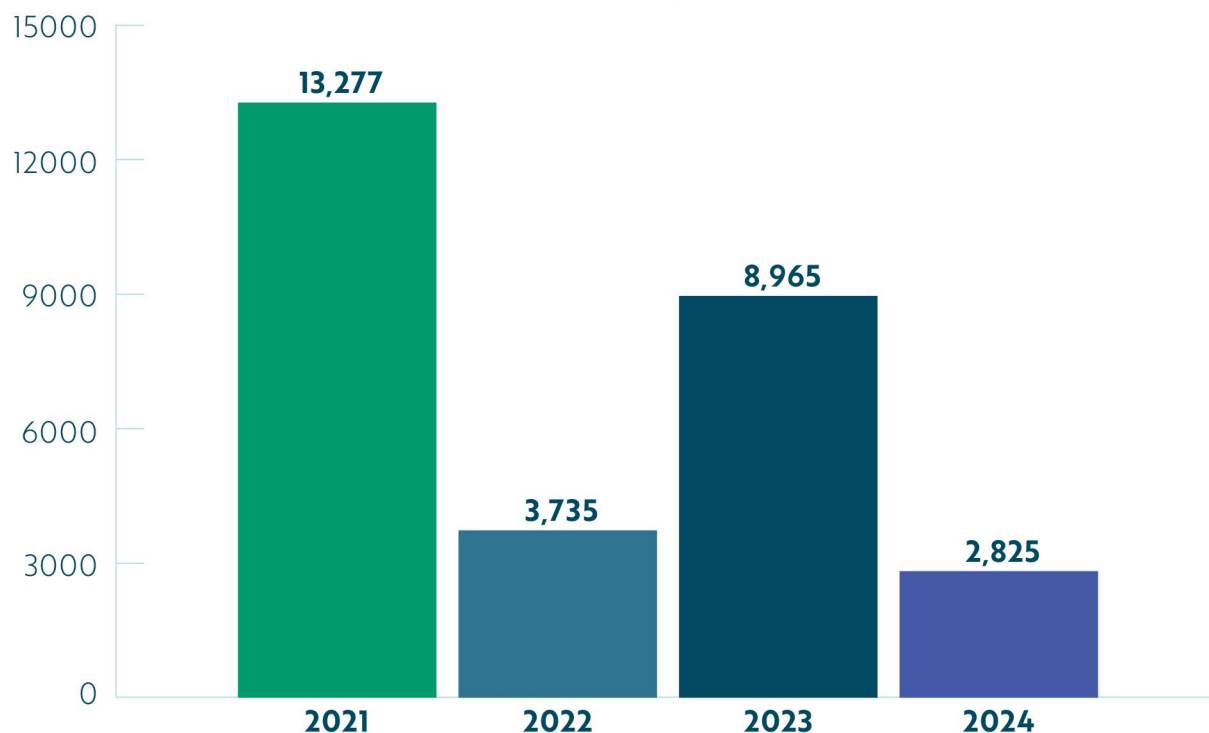
A new Local Authority
Climate Action Training Plan
was produced and approved mid-2024



Local Authority Climate Action Training Trend

28,802 climate action training places were accessed between 2021 and 2024

Number of climate action training places accessed by staff and elected members 2021 - 2024



2024

The local authority Local Enterprise Offices (LEOs) help small businesses to become more sustainable by making small changes that have a big impact through the Green for Business Initiative



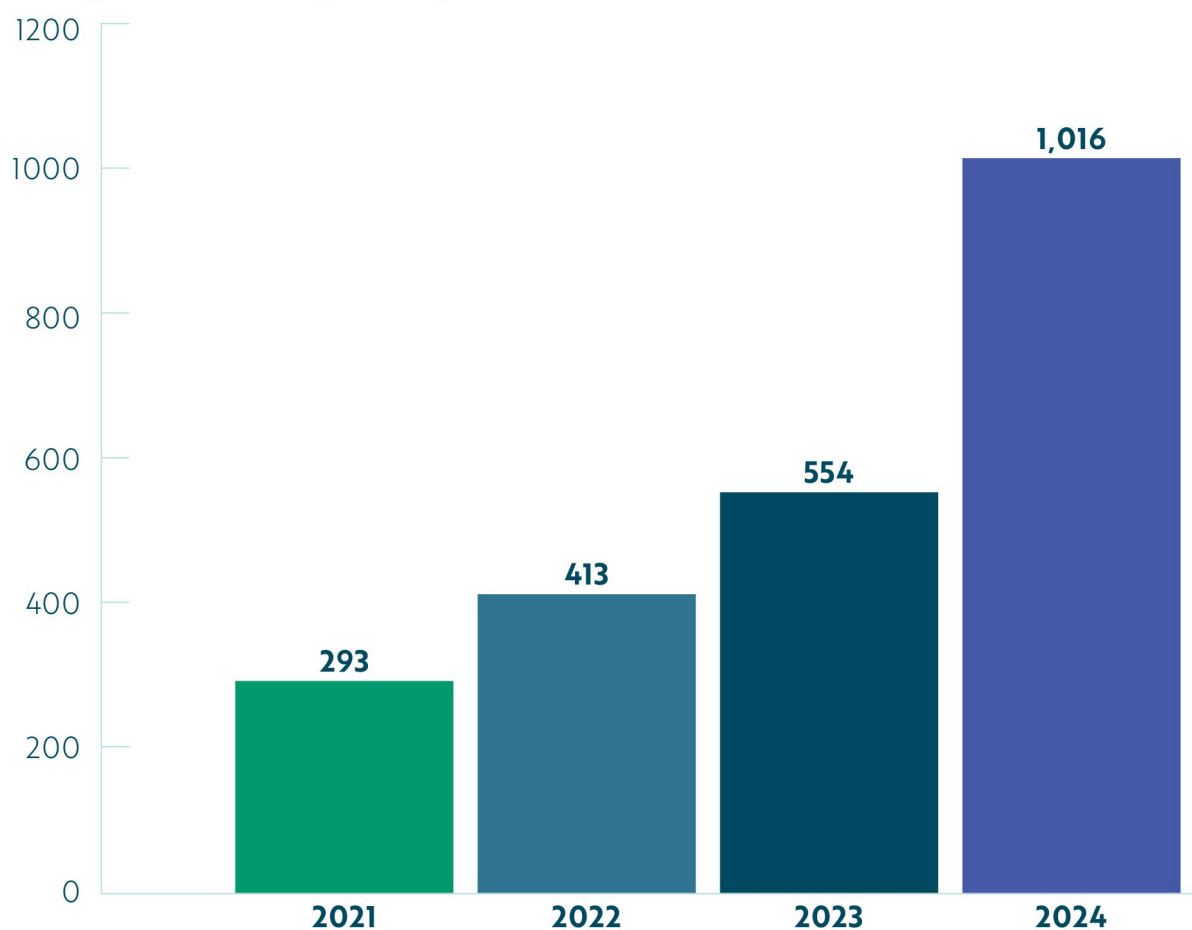
1,016

SMEs accessed the
Green for business
initiative in 2024

In 2024, significant growth in the uptake of the programme was evident. 1,016 represents the highest number of participating businesses recorded to date

Green for Business Trend

Number of SMEs accessing Green for Business 2021 - 2024



2,276

SMEs have participated
in the initiative between
2021 and 2024

2024

Grants are provided to community groups by local authorities through the Community Climate Action Programme



683

Community Climate Action projects
were funded by local authorities in 2024



154

were
large projects



244

were
medium projects



285

were
small projects

Local authority community climate action programme actions status 2024

