Climate Action Programme
April to May 2024

the arts council
an chomhairle
ealaíon

Julie's Bicycle
EUROPE

native events

Julie's Bicycle
CREATIVE · CLIMATE · ACTION

GREEN ARTS
INITIATIVE

Our Team

Delivering this programme as a partnership are:

Megan Best, Noreen Lucey, Michael Soro and Nicola Coetzer

Catríona Fallon

Claire Buckley

About us

Catriona

Catríona Fallon has worked in the Irish arts sector in venue management, visual arts, festivals, and more latterly in sustainability and climate action. With Theatre Forum, she is the co-founder of the Green Arts Initiative in Ireland. She has assessed the environmental impacts of arts venues and touring performing arts companies as well as managing a Creative Climate Action project in West Kerry.

Catriona is the Co-Chair of Kerry Sustainable Energy Co-op, Secretary of the West Kerry Dairy Farmers' Sustainable Energy Community and a member of the Steering Committee of Transition Kerry.

Claire

Claire is an environmental management expert with over 20 years experience. Since joining Julie's Bicycle in 2012, she has been working with the creative sector to build and support understanding and action on environment and climate change. Her previous work includes environmental management at the Guardian, project management at an environmental NGO, and consultant work.

She has a Masters in Environmental Management and is an Associate Member of the UK Institute for Environmental Management and Assessment. Originally Irish, she went on to live and work in Belgium, Germany and Austria, before coming to the UK.

About us

Megan

Megan has worked with festivals, councils, and institutions like Galway Theatre Festival, PRIDE Festival, Belfast City Council, and the Heritage Council of Ireland, providing environmental training and policy development. She delivers ESG sessions for the Arts Council's RAISE programme and trains nine festivals in the Naturally Wild Pilot Project.

Megan developed Sustainable Festivals guidelines for Failte Ireland and runs sustainability masterclasses. She also lectures on sustainable production and the circular economy at TU Dublin, TU Munster, and IAD.

Noreen

Noreen Lucey has been working in the international education sector for over ten years advising universities globally on sustainability and internationalisation strategies. She joined Native Events two years ago to work as sustainability coordinator.

She holds sustainability qualifications from University College Cork, TU Dublin and the UCD Innovation Academy. In her spare time she works on the family farm learning and practicing Regenerative agriculture.

Part I
Why are we here?

Why are we here?

- It's a Climate Emergency

- The Arts Council's Climate & Environmental Policy & Action Plan & 'ask' of organisations

- Your role as organisations funded by the Arts Council

- Our role to support, help, resource you…(scale and ambition may differ)

- In addition to the in-person sessions

- **BEAR WITH US!!**

Discovery Phase Findings

Arts Council Climate Action & Environmental Policy - Training & Supports: views from the sector.

What was the main aim of the discovery phase?

To **help us design** a training and support programme to help **SFOs and Arts Centres** in meeting the Arts Council's environmental **funding requirement**

Who have we consulted with?

30 organisations in total

- **10** resource organisations
- **6** venues
- **4** festivals
- **3** galleries
- **4** production companies
- 3 studios

From West Cork, Leitrim and Portlaoise to Longford, Galway and Dublin

From theatre, traditional music and street arts to opera, dance and poetry

Responses to funding requirement

Common concerns:

- Administrative **burden of compliance**

- Being **asked to do more** - but with standstill funding

- Operational **costs of action**

- Access to **capital funding** - especially for larger buildings

Clear information and guidance on what is expected is **crucial**

What did organisations cite as the key environmental impacts and issues?

Impacts are often specific to type of activity -

Building-based organisations: energy, water, procurement

Productions: travel, transport, accommodation, materials

Festivals: transport, audience travel, materials, waste

Resource organisations - travel, events, procurement, and support for the artists

Publications, printing and digital sustainability are a key area of concern

What training and support needs were requested?

Practical resources on what action they can take

Clear guidance on what policies and plans should look like

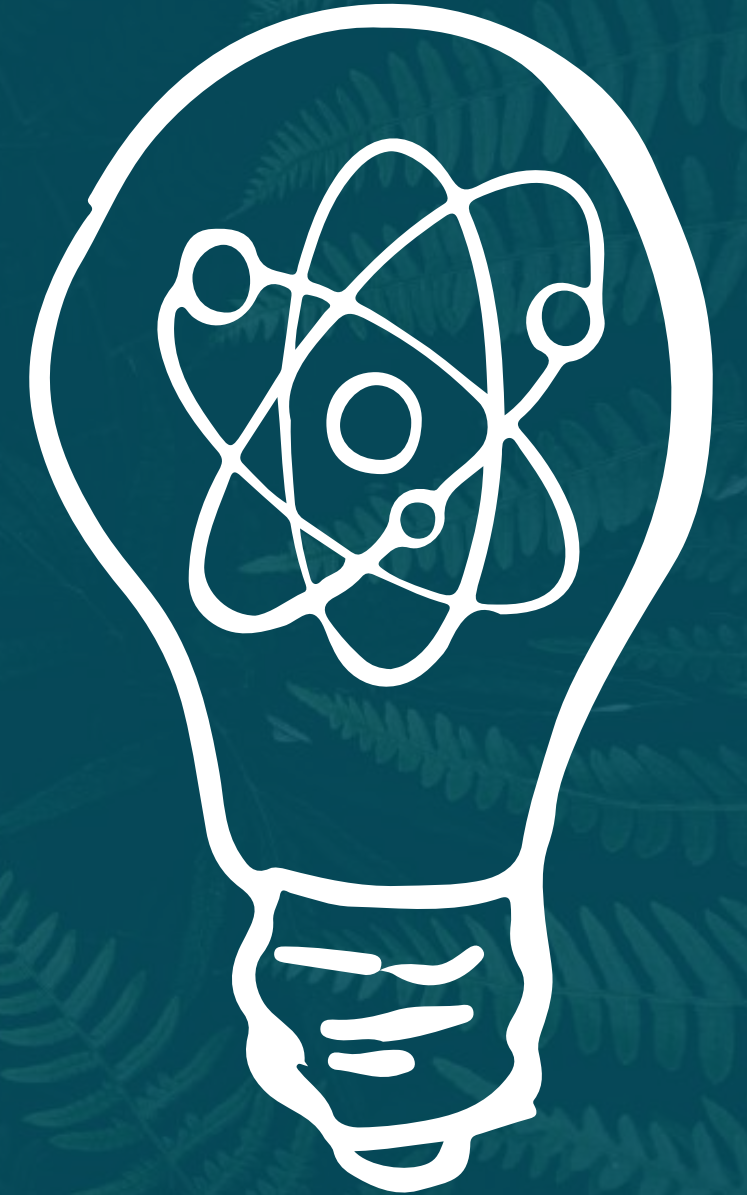**Peer-to-peer knowledge** sharing and best practice examples were popular supports requested

Organisations asked that training and supports be tailored to different types of activity
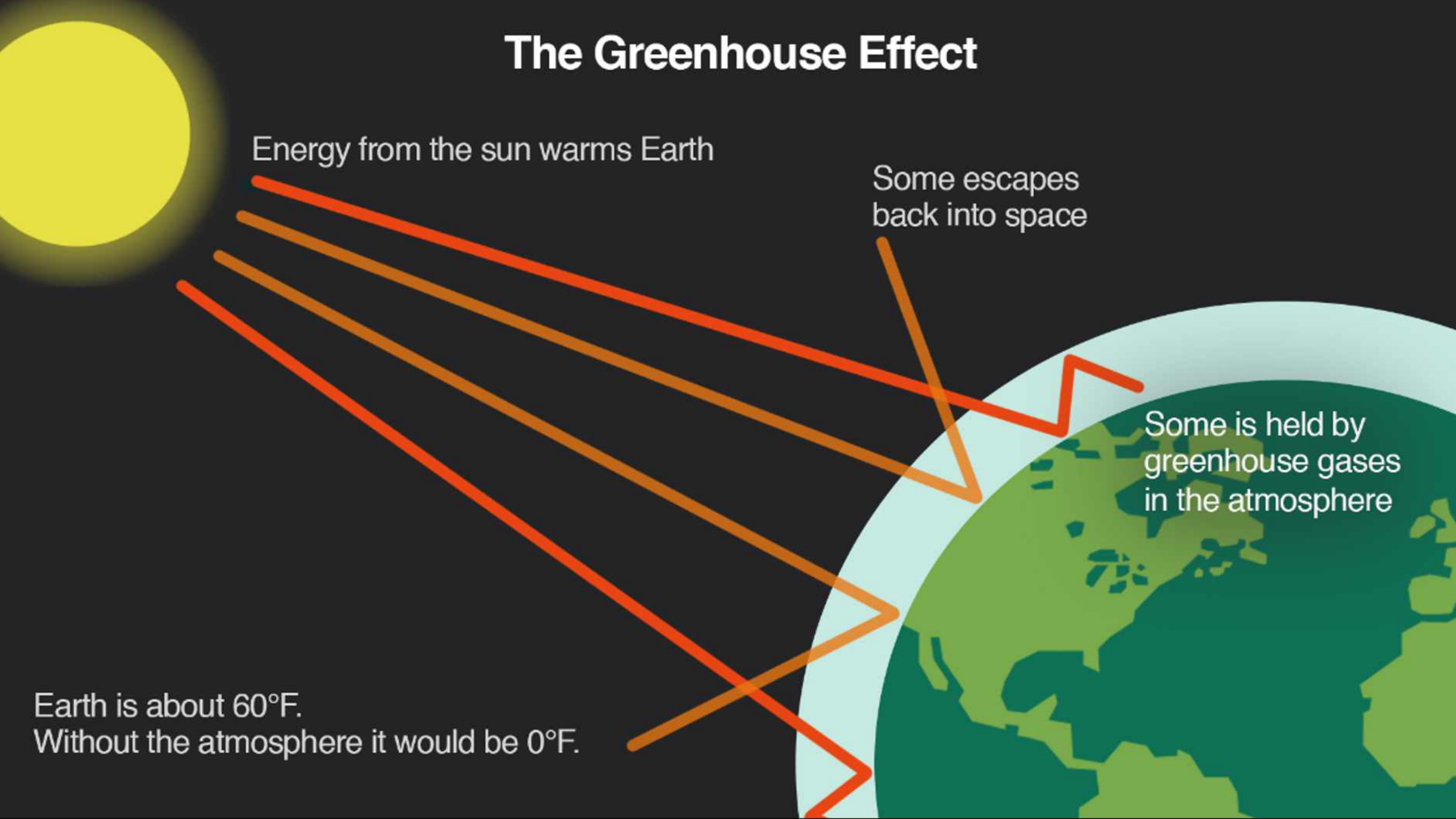
The Greenhouse Effect

Energy from the sun warms Earth

Some escapes back into space

Some is held by greenhouse gases in the atmosphere

Earth is about 60°F.
Without the atmosphere it would be 0°F.

Ireland's Green House Gas Emissions 1990-2022 (EPA)

2001

2017

2011

2022

1990

54.4 Mt CO2eq

2020

60.67 Mt CO2eq

Per Capita Emissions, Ireland
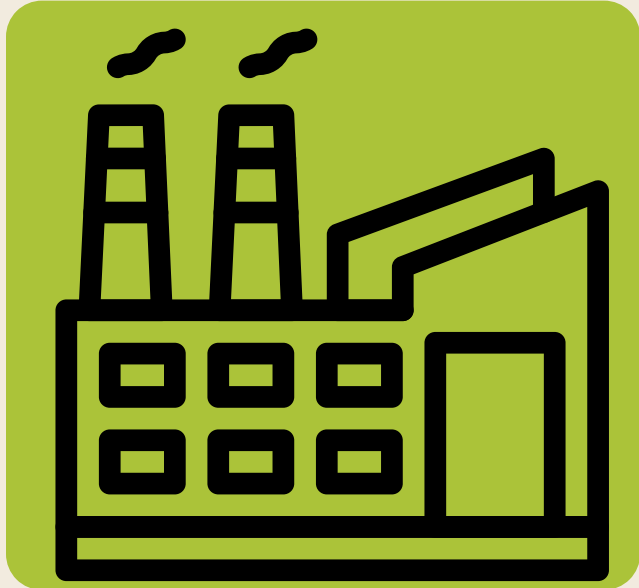
11.9

tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO2eq) (EPA) per person

Emissions 2022

-1.8% Energy Industries

-1.2% Agriculture

-12.7% Residential

+6.0% Transport

What Activities Create Green House Gas Emissions

Industry & Residential

Travel & Transport

Land Use (agriculture & forestry)

Where are we on climate legislation?

Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Climate Action and Low
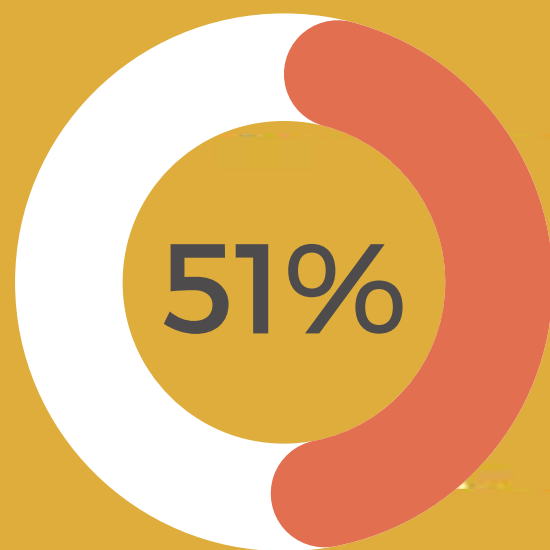Carbon Development
(Amendment) Bill 2021

Report and Final Stages – Dáil Éireann

www.gov.ie
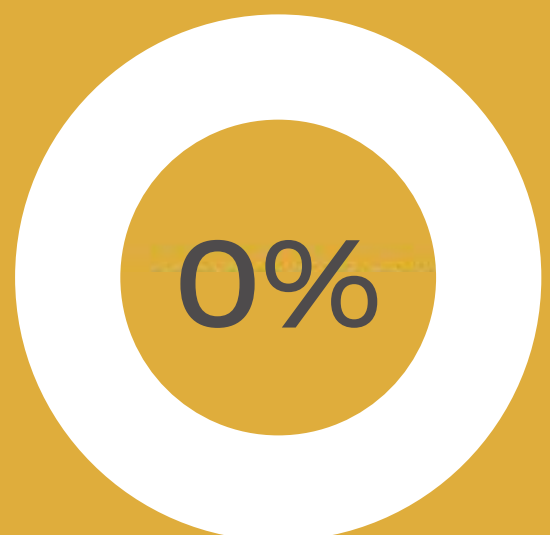
#ClimateActionIRL

**Green House Gas Emissions - National Targets as of 2022**

Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

51% **REDUCTION IN EMISSIONS BY 2030**

0% **NET ZERO BY 2050**

www.gov.ie

2018 is Baseline Year for Emissions

#ClimateActionIRL

"Ireland's national climate objective **requires the State** to pursue and achieve, by no later than the **end of the year 2050**, the transition to a **climate-resilient, biodiversity-rich, environmentally sustainable and climate-neutral economy.**"

Implementing Climate Change Policy - The Climate Action Plans
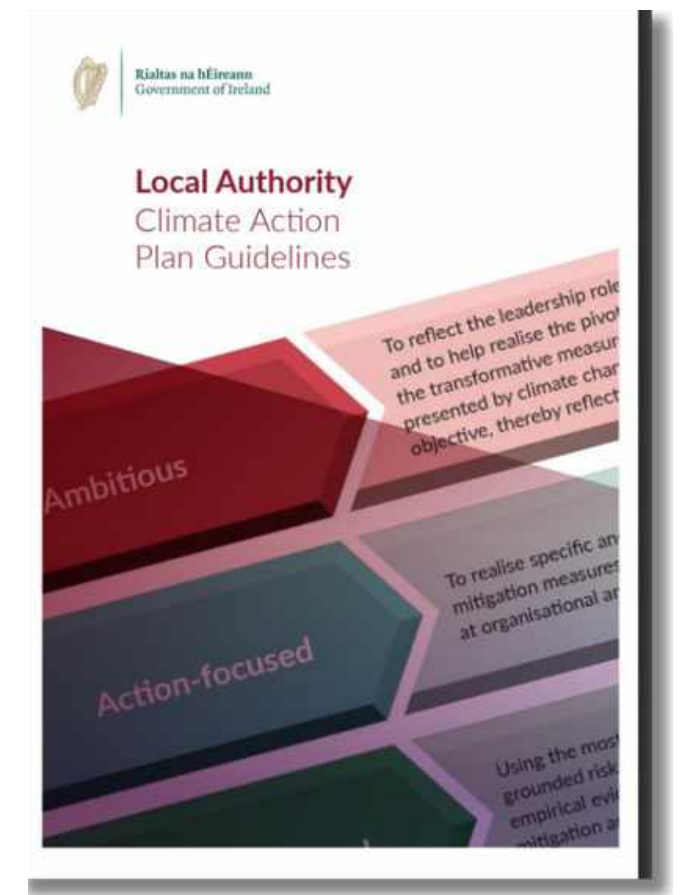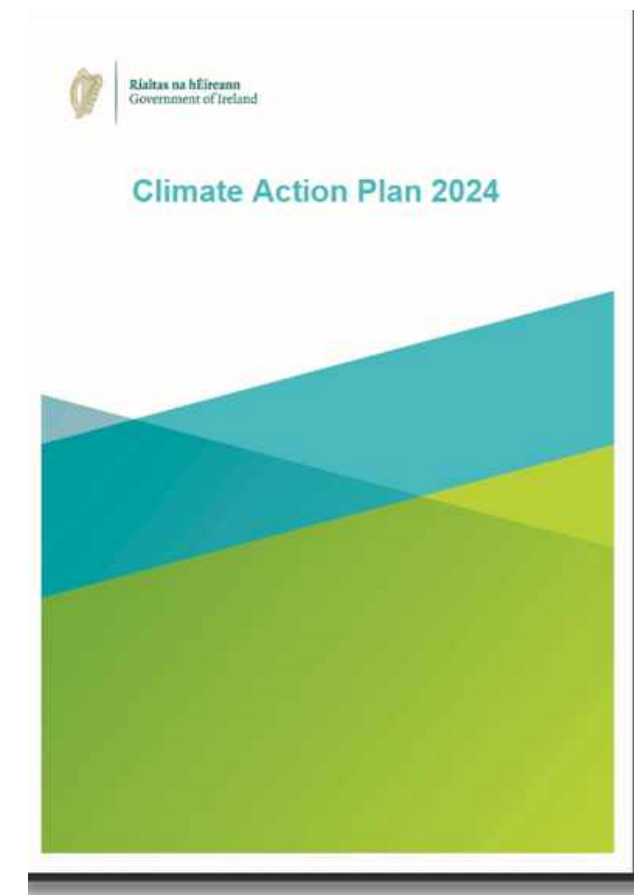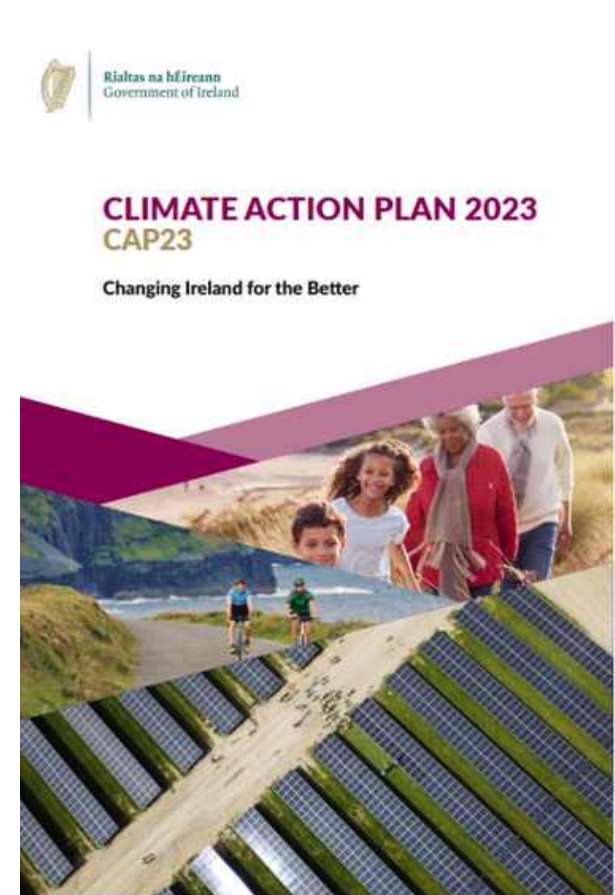
Arts Council Climate Action Roundtable

Where: Smock Alley Theatre 1662, Dublin

When: 10.30am-3.30pm, Tuesday 12th July

Lunch will be provided.

Julie's Bicycle EU
CREATIVE · CLIMATE · ACTION

arts council chomhairle ealaíon

70

Theatre
Amharclann

The Six Vital High Impact Sectors

Powering renewables

75%
reduction in emissions by 2030

We will facilitate a large-scale deployment of renewables that will be critical to decarbonising the power sector as well as enabling the electrification of other technologies.

Accelerate the delivery of onshore wind, offshore wind, and solar.

Dial up to 9 GW onshore wind, 8 GW solar, and at least 7 GW of offshore wind by 2030 (with 2 GW earmarked for green hydrogen production).

Support at least 500 MW of local community-based renewable energy projects and increased levels of new micro-generation and small-scale generation.

Phase out and end the use of coal and peat in electricity generation.

New, dynamic Green Electricity Tariff will be developed by 2025 to incentivise people to use lower cost renewable electricity at times of high wind and solar

Building better

commercial/public **45%** | residential **40%**
reduction in emissions by 2030

We will increase the energy efficiency of existing buildings, put in place policies to deliver zero-emissions new builds and continue to ramp up our retrofitting programme.

Ramp up retrofitting to 120,000 dwellings to BER B2 by 2025, jumping to 500,000 by 2030.

Put heat pumps into 45,000 existing and 170,000 new dwellings by 2025, up to 400,000 existing and 280,000 new dwellings by 2030.

Generation up to 0.8 TWh of district heating by 2025 and up to 2.5 TWh by 2030.

Transforming how we travel

50%
reduction in emissions by 2030

We will drive policies to reduce transport emissions by improving our town, cities and rural planning, and by adopting the Avoid-Shift-Improve approach: reducing or avoiding the need for travel, shifting to public transport, walking and cycling and improving the energy efficiency of vehicles.

Change the way we use our road space.

Reduce the total distance driven across all car journeys by 20%.

Walking, cycling and public transport to account for 50% of our journeys.

Nearly 1 in 3 private cars will be an Electric Vehicle.

Increase walking and cycling networks.

70% of people in rural Ireland will have buses that provide at least 3 trips to the nearby town daily by 2030.

Making family farms more sustainable

25%
reduction in emissions by 2030

We will support farmers to continue to produce world-class, safe and nutritious food while also seeking to diversify income through tillage, energy generation and forestry.

Significantly reduce our use of chemical nitrogen as a fertilizer.

Increase uptake of protected urea on grassland farms to 90-100%.

Increase organic farming to up to 450,000 hectares, the area of tillage to up to 400,000 ha.

Expand the indigenous biomethane sector through anaerobic digestion, reaching up to 5.7TWh of biomethane.

Contribute to delivery of the land use targets for afforestation and reduced management intensity of organic soils.

Greening business and enterprise

35%
reduction in emissions by 2030

We're changing how we produce, consume, and design our goods and services by breaking the link between fossil fuels and economic progress. Decarbonising industry and enterprise is key to Ireland's economy and future competitiveness.

Decrease embodied carbon in construction materials produced and used in Ireland by at least 30%.

Reduce fossil fuel use from 64% of final consumption (2021) to 45% by 2025 and further by 2030.

Increase total share of heating to carbon neutral to 50-55% by 2025, up to 70-75% by 2030.

Significantly grow the circular economy and bioeconomy.

Changing our land use

Exact reduction target for this sector is yet to be determined.

The first phase of the land use review will tell us how we are using our land now. Then, we can map, with evidence, how it can be used most effectively to capture and store carbon and to produce better, greener food and energy.

Increase our annual afforestation rates to 8,000 hectares per annum from 2023 onwards.

Rethink our Forestry Programme and Vision. Promote forest management initiatives in both public and private forests to increase carbon sinks and stores.

Improve carbon sequestration of 450,000 ha of grasslands on mineral soils and reduce the management intensity of grasslands on 80,000 ha of drained organic soils.

Rehabilitate 77,600 hectares of peatlands.
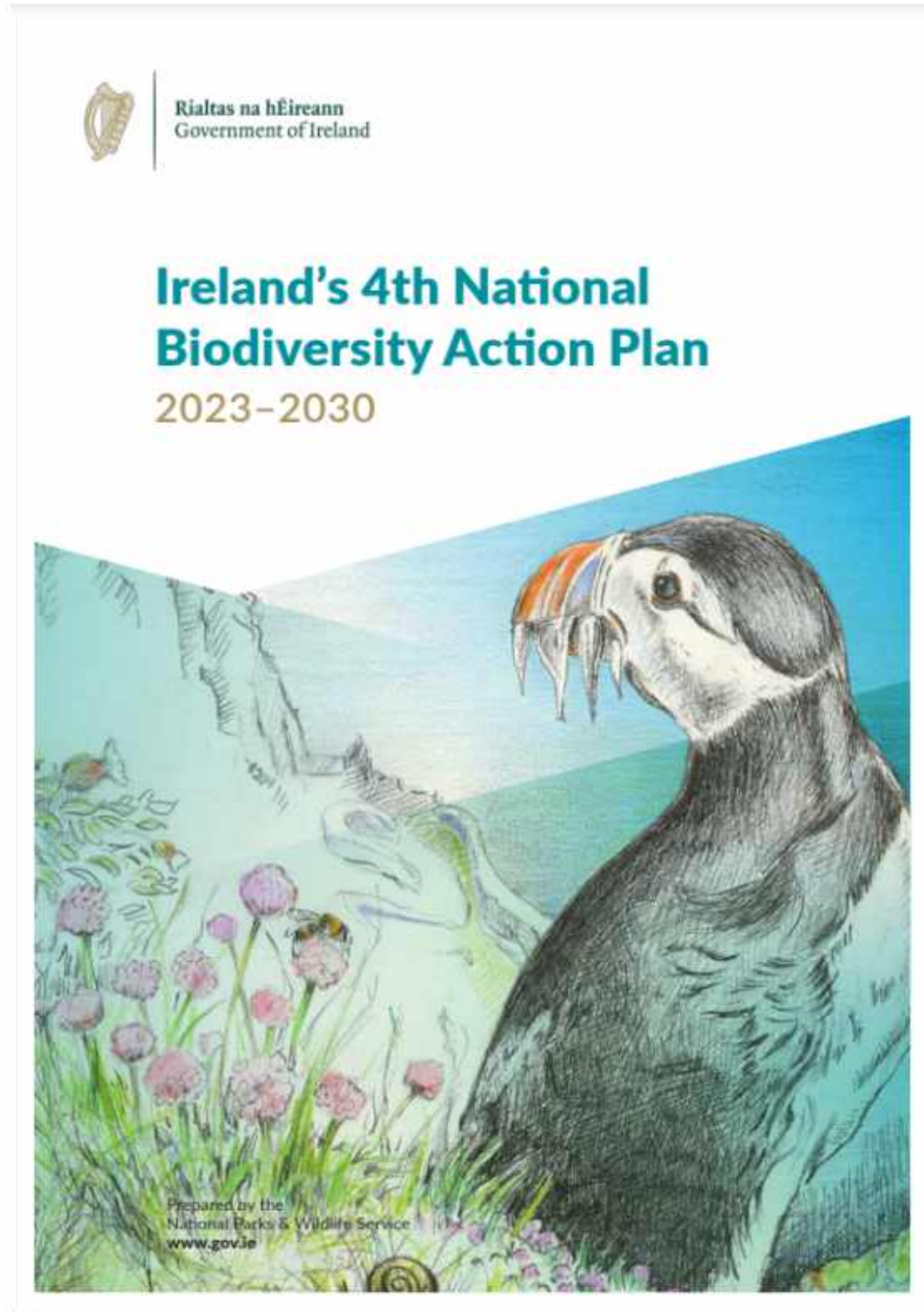
Arts Council's Climate Action & Environmental Policy

Required.....
by the **Public Sector**

Desired.....
by many within the sector who are **committed and concerned** and want the Arts Council to do more to support their ambition.

Climate Action Sector Consultation 2022

The arts community believes it has an important role to play

91% agree that "The arts community has a unique and **crucial role** to play in meeting this moment of climate and environmental crisis – through its **own actions** and through its **ability to engage with people**, inform and mobilise change."

Most are in the early stages of taking action

22% 'well on the way'
47% 'making initial progress'
20% 'at the very beginning'

Action can bring opportunities

74% believe action can bring opportunities - from **new creative and engagement** opportunities to **improved health** and wellbeing
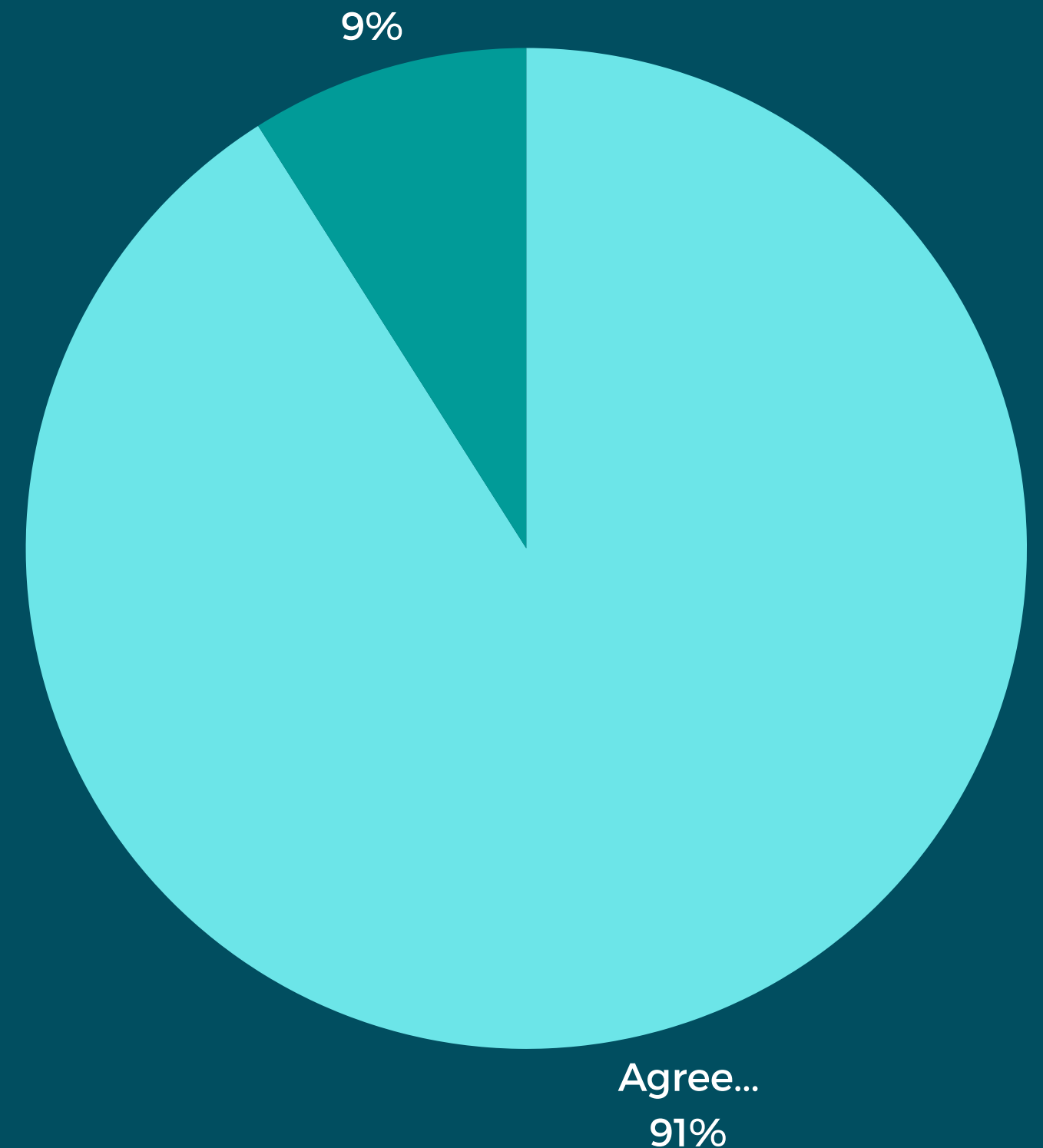
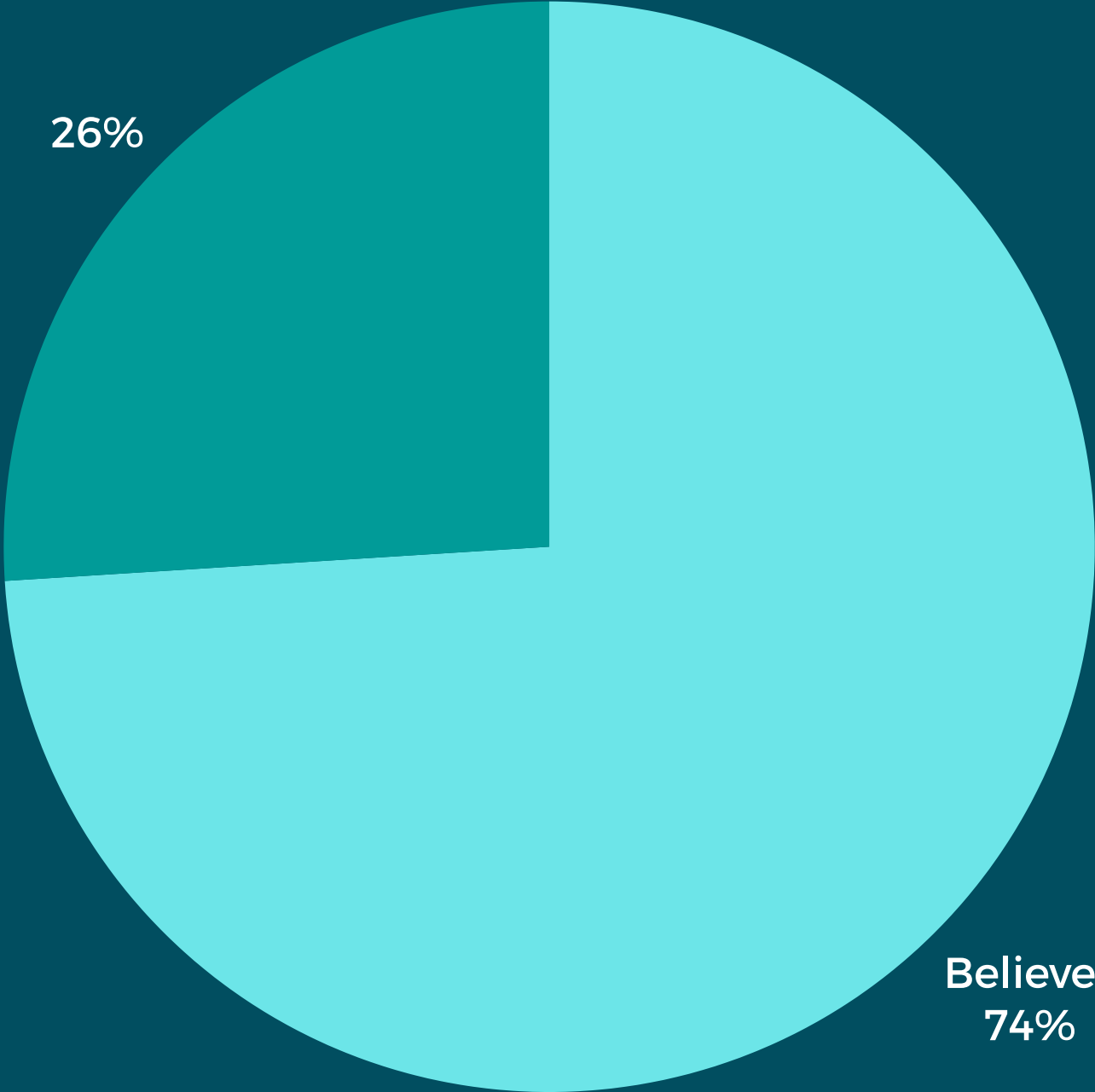# Climate Action Sector Consultation 2022

91 % agree that:

"the arts community has a unique and crucial role to play in meeting this moment of climate and environmental crisis – through its own actions and through its ability to engage with people, inform and mobilise change."

9%

Agree…
91%

Climate Action Sector Consultation 2022
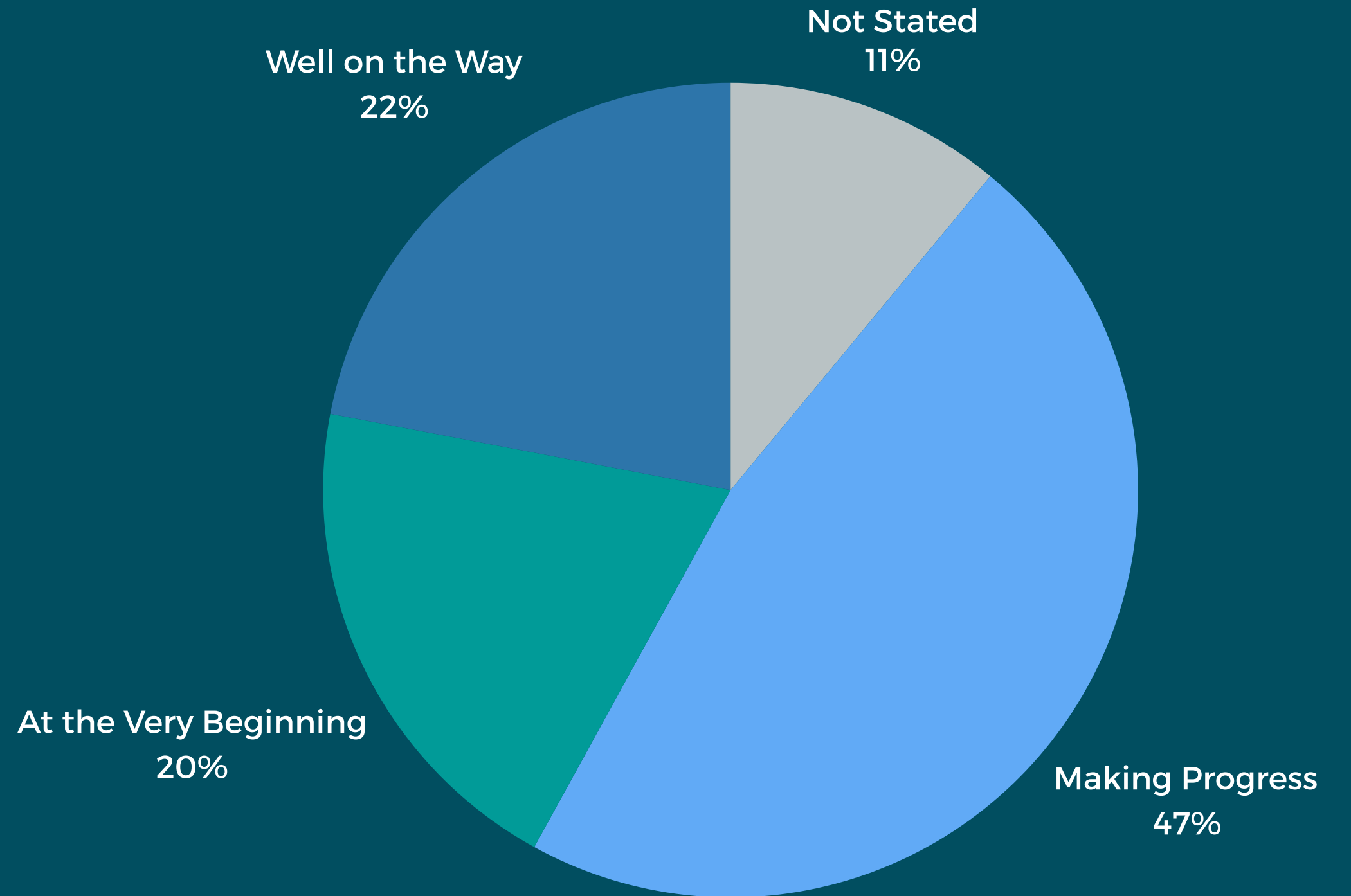
74 % believe that:

Action can bring opportunities - from new creative and engagement opportunities to improved health and wellbeing

26%

Believe..
74%

Climate Action Sector Consultation 2022

Most are in the early stages of responding to the Climate Crisis

Well on the Way
22%

Not Stated
11%

At the Very Beginning
20%

Making Progress
47%

Climate Action & Environmental Policy

- **Approved** by the Council in **2023**

- To be launched in **2024** as a pillar of the **new National Policy Framework** on Culture, Creativity and Climate

- Covers both:
  - **corporate** action
  - role vis-à-vis the **sector**

What are the stated policy outcomes?

- **That t**he Arts Council will be **leading by example**

- <u>That the arts will have the skills, resources and support to take action.</u>

- That the arts are **empowered** to lead change

- That Arts Council funding will **drive and enable action**

- That the Arts Council is working with others to **unlock further funding opportunities**

- That the Arts Council is **advocating** for the role of the arts in positive change

Arts Council commitments

- Climate & Sustainability **Champion** on the Senior Management Team

- Programme Delivery Manager - Climate, Environmental, Spatial and Digital programmes

- **Energy performance officer**

- **Green Team** - 14 members from different departments

- **Training and awareness**-raising being developed by Julie's Bicycle for SMT, Green Team, Arts Managers, All staff

The Arts Council

Climate Action Roadmap 2023

Climate Action Webpage

Overview

The arts are being increasingly recognised as a resource for transformative change

Government funding

A list of climate action governmental funding supports

Sector specific resources

A selection of climate action resources for the arts sector

Government training

A selection of climate action training programmes and upskilling resources

Tools for measuring impact

A set of toolkits and other resources to measure your environmental impact

General climate and environmental information

A selection of general climate action resources and guidelines

Climate action and environmental policy consultation

Informing the development of our Climate Action Policy

https://www.artscouncil.ie/Arts-in-Ireland/Climate-Action/

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What is the ask of SFOs and Arts Centres?

2023 **funding guidelines** - for **SFOs** and **Arts Centres** applying for 2024 funding - stated the following:

- Organisations **awarded funding** for 2024 will be **required to** develop environmental commitment and reporting **during 2024.**

- To support organisations in this process, we will offer **training** and other **resources** in early 2024.

- Having an **organisational climate policy** that demonstrates environmental commitment and reporting will become a **condition of funding in 2025.**

What will this mean in practice?

SFOs and Arts Centres should provide **a document,** or **set of documents,** when signing **funding agreements in January 2025** which covers:

- POLICY - **statement of topline** environmental ambition, commitment, goals, values, principles...

  - which is specific to **size, scale and nature**

  - which makes clear who is **accountable** and who is **responsible** overall

  - which provides a **framework** for environmental **action and reporting**

What will this mean in practice?

- That each organisation, funded as an SFO or Arts Centre, will have a PLAN - **a plan of action** for how they will achieve their ambition, commitment, goals and/or put their environmental values or principles into practice e.g.

- The plan will note:

  - actions to **reduce impacts** and green place, practice or production

  - actions to **inform, inspire** or support change e.g. programming, sector support

 - environmental **comms and engagement**

What happens then?

- Our team will work with the Arts Council in 2024 to **develop a monitoring approach for 2025.**

- Key considerations for this approach: That monitoring is **light-touch** and easy for SFOs and Arts Centres

- What will the Arts Council do with the information provided? e.g. - **We will share and celebrate progress and good practice**

There are no plans to ask organisations to submit environmental **data or carbon footprints in 2025** however this will be considered at a later stage

Part III
Sharing Knowledge & Experience
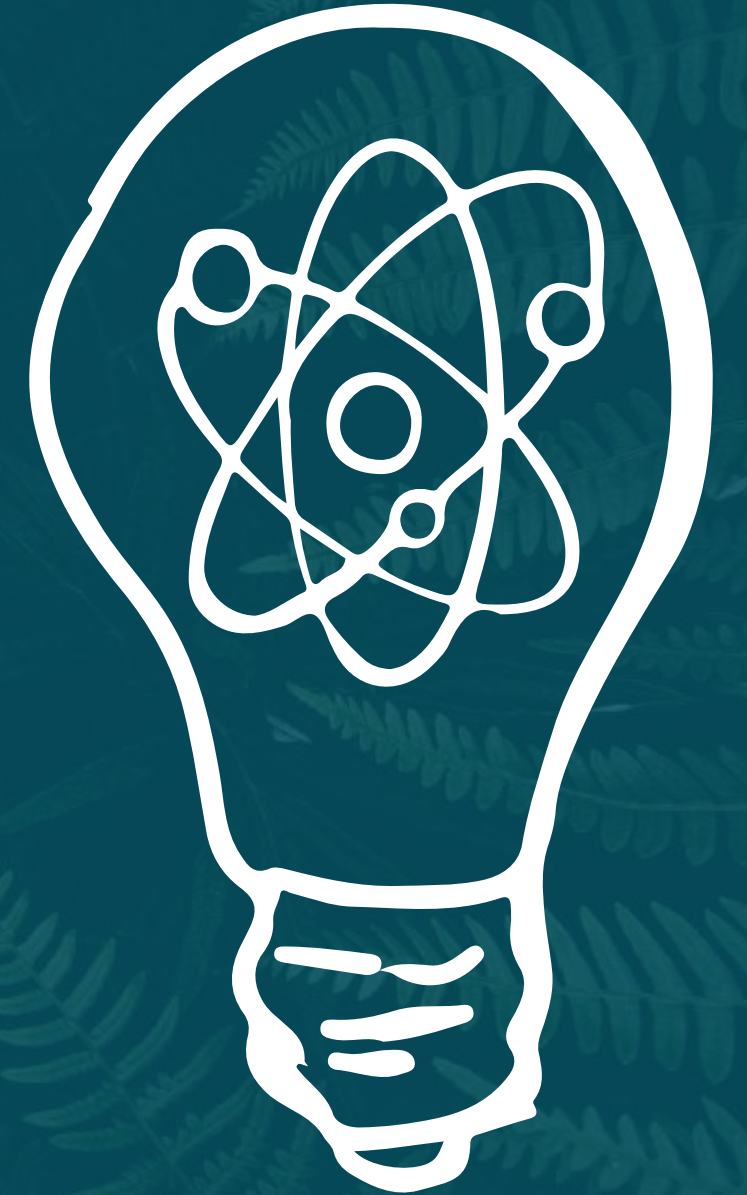
Sharing Session

Sought feedback from the participants using the following questions:

- What **actions** has your organisation taken to **reduce** its environmental **impacts?**

- What actions would your organisation **LIKE** to take to reduce its environmental impacts?

- What are the **obstacles** for your organisation to reducing its environmental impacts?

- What **supports** would help you to reduce your environmental impacts?

Outline of the Programme of Supports & Training

Environmental Policy Development:

- Three Sessions:

  - Where to start

  - Engaging the team and wider stakeholders

  - Action Planning

Environmental Policy Development

- Action Planning will be divided into three separate sessions, depending on the type of organisation:

    ○ Building open to the public
    ○ Based in a shared building
    ○ Festival or production company

Training Topics

Energy:
- Large Buildings Energy
- Office Space in a Shared Building Energy
- Outdoor Events

Materials & Procurement:
- Festivals and Production Companies
- Other organisations

Travel & Transport:
- Touring
- Audience Travel
- Business Travel

Impact Measurement

Nature & Biodiversity

Climate Adaptation

Content, Programming & Communications

Further Topics:

Guides and templates, but not specific modules -

Waste Management

Water

Food & Beverage

Digital

Climate Justice

Sponsorship

Training Format:

APRIL/ MAY:
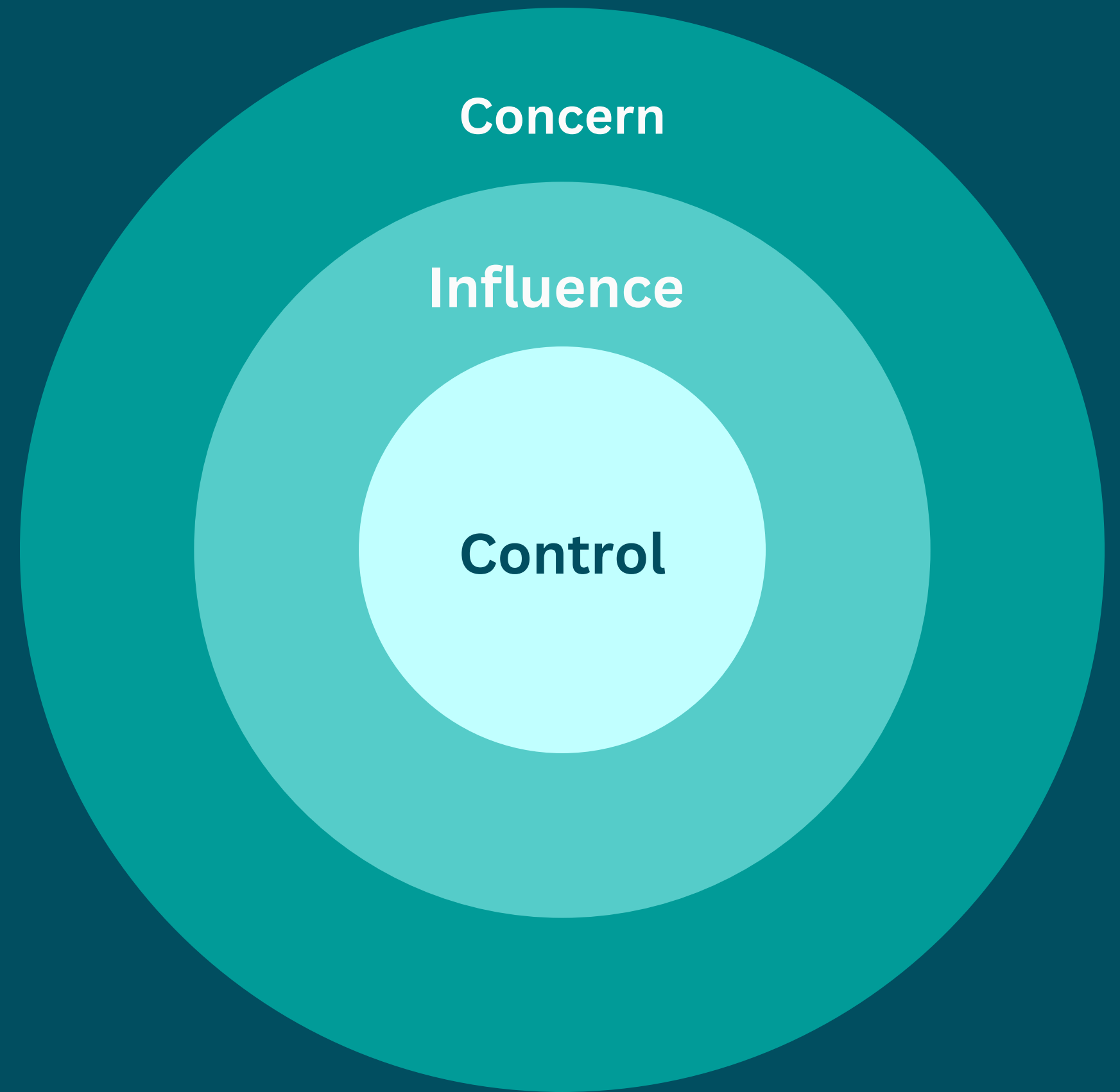IN PERSON HALF DAY WORKSHOPS ALL OVER IRELAND

MAY/OCTOBER:
ONLINE WORKSHOPS AND WEBINARS FOR KEY TOPICS
ONLINE SESSIONS RECORDED AND HOSTED ONLINE FOR
FURTHER REFERENCE

OCTOBER:
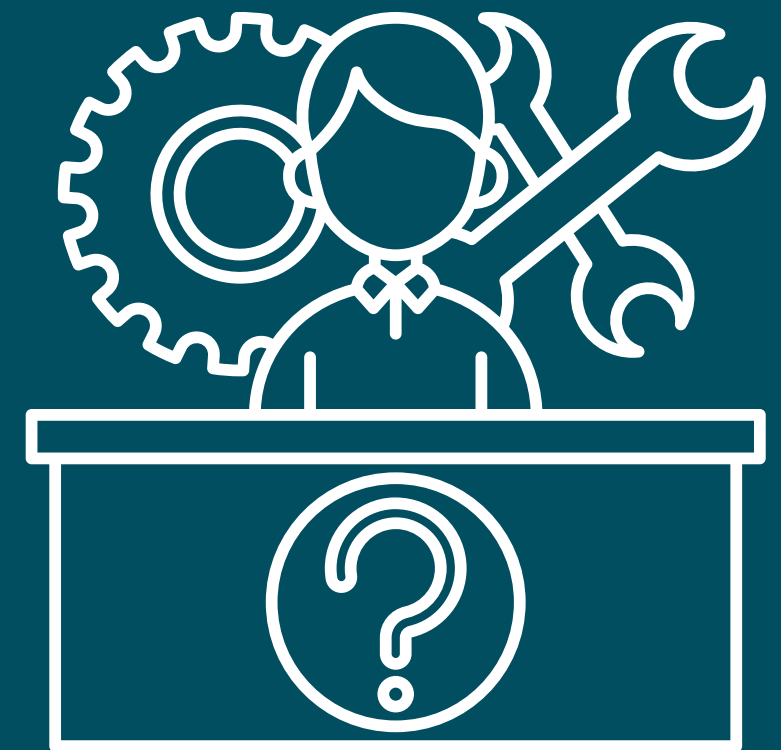FACILITATED ROUNDTABLES
ONE TO ONE SESSIONS

Some Practical Tips & Advice

- Starting Your Climate Journey (GAII Handout)

- Addressing your Digital Footprint (Guide)

- Measuring your Impacts - a sample measurement tool

The resources listed above will be made available via the Arts Council website

Thank you!
& Good luck

Contact details

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Brecken@nativeevents.ie

Noreen@nativeevents.ie

Claire@juliesbicycle.com