

ADAPTATION STRATEGY APPROACH.

Donegal County Council followed a five-step process provided for within the Local Authority Adaptation Strategy Development Guidelines (DCCAE, 2018).

STEP 1	Development of Climate Adaptation Team.
STEP 2	Assessment of past weather events.
STEP 3	Future Climate Impacts, Vulnerabilities & Risks identified.
STEP 4	Adaptations Actions identified, assessed and prioritised.
STEP 5	Strategy drafted.

Strategy implementation and monitoring will follow.

CLIMATE READY GOALS

GOAL 1	Increase the Resilience of Critical Infrastructure & Buildings
GOAL 2	Increase the Resilience of our Natural & Cultural Capital
GOAL 3	Increase the Resilience of Water Resources & Flood Risk Management
GOAL 4	Increase Resilience of Community Services

CLIMATE READY OBJECTIVES

The Objectives are common across all four Goals and set out the steps to implementing the Strategy.

ENGAGE	Improve education, awareness-raising and capacity on climate change, adaptation (and mitigation),
PLAN	Integrate climate change measures into policies, strategies and planning
ADAPT	Strengthen resilience, adaptive capacity to climate risk where needed.



HAVE YOUR SAY

The Donegal County Council Draft Climate Change Adaptation Strategy, the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening Report and Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Report, are available for inspection during normal office opening hours at the following locations from 6th August 2019 to 3rd September 2019 inclusive, between the hours of 9.30 am to 4.30 pm at:

- County House, The Diamond, Lifford, Co. Donegal, F93 Y622
- Donegal Public Services Centre, Drumlonagher, Donegal Town, Co. Donegal, F94 DK6C
- Dungloe Public Services Centre, Gweedore Road, Dungloe, Co. Donegal, F94 H4CF
- Carndonagh Public Services Centre, Malin Road, Carndonagh, Co. Donegal, F93 YVIN
- Letterkenny Public Services Centre, Neil T Blaney Road, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal, F92 TNY3
- Milford Public Services Centre, Main Street, Milford, Co. Donegal, F92 TD0P

and at

- All 13 Donegal Libraries, during normal opening hours.
- The documents may also be viewed and downloaded at www.donegalcoco.ie

SUBMISSIONS

Submissions can be made as follows:
By email to: climatereadydonegal@donegalcoco.ie **Or**
By post / hard copy addressed to: Climate Adaptation Strategy, County House, The Diamond, Lifford, Co. Donegal, F93 Y622

Submissions or observations will be accepted from 6th August 2019 to 3rd September 2019 inclusive. The closing date for receipt of submissions is 4.30pm, 3rd September 2019.



CARO
Climate Action Regional Office



CLIMATE READY DONEGAL

ENGAGE | PLAN | ADAPT



DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL
Draft Climate Change Adaptation
Strategy 2019 - 2024 Information Booklet



ADAPTATION & MITIGATION

Climate change Adaptation and Mitigation are distinct but complementary activities.

Adaptation means anticipating the adverse effects of climate change and taking appropriate action to prevent or minimize the damage that it causes, additionally it means taking advantage of opportunities that may arise. This includes green growth, innovation, jobs and ecosystem enhancement as well as improvements in areas such as water and air quality, the natural and built environment.

Mitigation is the process of reducing carbon pollution and greenhouse gas emissions to limit the extent to which our climate changes in the future. It involves improving energy efficiency, switching to more sustainable energy sources and trapping and storing carbon in vegetation and soils.

This Strategy is concerned with preparing for the changes that a changing climate will bring through climate adaptation.

Donegal County Council's Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2019-2024 sets out our strategic priorities, measures and responses for adaptation in County Donegal over the next five years; as required by the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015.

The aim of this first strategy is to identify the risks, challenges and opportunities that need to be considered and to take coherent coordinated action. The Strategy is based on four main themes: Critical Buildings and Infrastructure, Natural and Cultural Capital, Water Resource & Flood Risk Management and Community Services and provides for many actions that will be developed and implemented over the next five years.

Priority is awarded to actions where severe weather has impacted the safety of citizens and critical infrastructure, however assets which are currently or may in the future be susceptible to severe weather impacts are also considered.



PROJECTED CLIMATE CHANGE**



Rising Sea Level

Sea Level is projected to rise by up to 0.82m relative to 1986-2005.

Higher Temperatures

Maximum and minimum average temperatures are projected to rise.

Hotter & More Frequent Hot Days

Increase in temperatures reached on hottest days, and an increase in frequency of hot days.

Warmer & More Acidic Ocean

Sea surface temperatures are expected to increase, and the ocean will become more acidic.

Fewer Frost

A decrease in the frequency of frost risk is projected.

More Frequent Sea Level Extremes

Higher sea levels will increase the risk of coastal storm surge and storm tide inundation.

More Intense Rainfall Events

High variability in rainfall, with the intensity of heavy rainfall events likely to increase. (NAF, 2018)

IMPACTS & OPPORTUNITIES OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Critical Infrastructure & Buildings - damage due to extreme events & sea level rise, risk of overheating in buildings, innovation in buildings & green infrastructure.

Natural & Cultural Capital - impacts on biodiversity, increase in non-native Species, damage to cultural and heritage assets, increased tourism.

Water Resources and Flood Risk Management - increased risk of flooding, potential for water quality to be affected, water supply capacity, longer bathing season.

Community Services - Engagement and collaboration with communities, support for innovation and enterprise, emergency warnings, response and management.

Our Vision for a Climate Ready Donegal

A County that understands how climate change will affect the region, our communities, heritage, economic prosperity and well being and actively working together to reduce our exposure to climate risks and to capture new opportunities