

Document Title

Introduction to Energy Management

Donegal County Council now has an energy management system (EnMS) in place to effectively manage energy used by the Council. This leaflet gives an overview of what is involved for all staff.

What is energy management?

Energy management is a systematic approach to manage energy and continuously improve energy performance. It concentrates on reducing usage in the first place through improving behaviour and implementing simple controls followed by projects to reduce usage. This can be complimented by the use of renewable energy but priority is given to conservation. The purpose is also to minimise energy use but without negatively effecting service levels for citizens or staff.

A number of steps are key in having a system that works:

- **Commitment** – the organisation commits at senior management level to this approach across the whole organisation and appoints a team to drive the improvement.
- **SEUs** – a review is done to assess where energy is used, what the significant energy uses (SEUs) are, what the spend is etc. On the basis of this review, priority is given to the SEUs as having the most potential for improvement.
- **EnPIs** – energy performance indicators (EnPIs) are used to check progress of the SEUs
- **Operational Controls** – these are perhaps the most important element of an energy management system. These are regular operational or maintenance checks to make sure no more energy than necessary is being used.
- **Opportunities for Improvement**
These may be technical, behavioural or related to how things are organised. The Council maintains a register of opportunities

for energy performance improvement and from these selects the most feasible for implementation.

- **Review** – on a regular basis, reviews are carried out to check that performance is improving

The Council has carried out all these steps and continues to promote energy management.

Why do we have a system?

- The Council has obligations under law to take steps to improve energy efficiency and having a system has been chosen by the SMT as the most effective structure to do this as better practices are built into the way the organisation is managed.
- The Council is also intent on demonstrating good practice in the public sector
- There is a national target to make a 33% reduction in public sector energy use by 2020 (based on 2009 figures)
- Energy is a significant cost at about €4m per year and conservation helps relieve financial pressure

What does it mean for you?

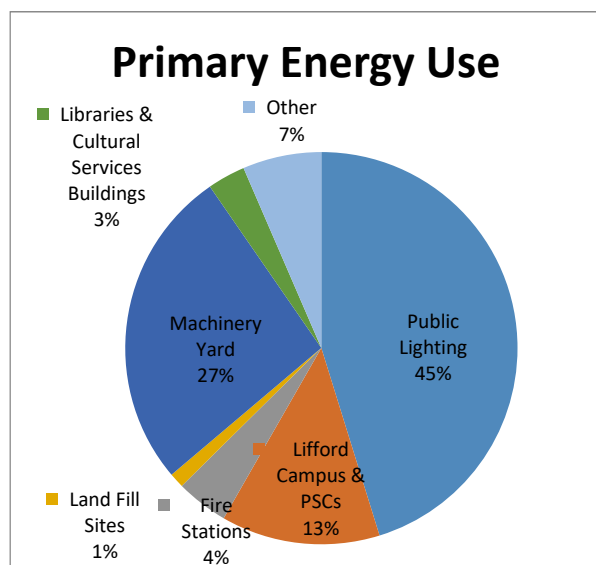
Significant improvement can be achieved by improving general culture and behaviour akin to how safety culture has improved in recent decades. We are asking Council staff (and people working on their behalf) to:

- Contribute to improved energy housekeeping and behaviour – you know your own area – how can it be improved – what can be switched off, turned down and so on without causing too many issues?
- Make suggestions and proposals for improvements in energy consumption, however simple.
- Co-operate with and contribute to energy awareness campaigns.

What are the Significant Energy Uses?

SEUs have been identified for Donegal County Council. Each also has an allocated “owner” which is the first point of contact for improvement ideas. These areas are the priority.

Significant Energy User	SEU “Owner”
Public Lighting	Street Lighting Representative
Lifford Campus & PSCs	Facilities Manager
Fire Stations	Fire Service Representative
Libraries & Cultural Services Buildings	Cultural Services Representative
Machinery Yard	Machinery Yard Representative



What about the rest?

The “Scope” of the system *comprises the use of electricity, thermal and transport fuel in the Buildings, Facilities and Activities of the Local Authority where the Council pays for and manages energy use directly.*

Therefore, if it’s not an SEU, it is still expected that normal good practice would be followed. Also, some areas are outside the “scope” of the Energy Management System as the Council does not “directly” pay the bill. These include water services, leisure centres, social housing, contracted services including transport. Energy use in these areas ultimately contributes to

Council carbon impact and energy cost and responsible staff are encouraged to cooperate with the energy team for mutual benefit.

Who is on the energy team?

The Council has a core energy management team to support continual improvement of the EnMS and a broader energy team covering all areas of energy use from the respective directorates.

*Joe Peoples	Director of Services Housing & Corporate Services
*Peadar Espey	Facilities Manager
*John Gallagher	A/SE Housing Capital & Facilities
Clíodhna Campbell	SE Roads & Transportation
Brendan O’Donnell	A/SE Roads & Transportation.
Edward Gallagher	Fire Service
Judith McCarthy	County Museum Curator
Anne Marie Conlon	Communications Officer
Tanya Kee	Management Accountant, Finance
Aidan Smith	SEE in Street Lighting
Tony Brogan	Procurement Officer
Emmett McCabe	Facilities Management
Julie McMahon	Executive Environmental Officer
Éadaoin Healey	County Laboratory

*Energy Management Team

Who do you contact if you have a good idea? Please contact the energy team member in your area or energy@donegalcoco.ie

What is ISO 50001?

The energy management system in Donegal County Council has been implemented and certified according to an international standard (ISO 50001) and is checked on a regular basis by a certified third party body to determine the energy performance improvement.

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Date	Rev	Reason for Revision
14/2/17	0	Initial Version
01/2/2018	A	Updating members of Energy Team
09/11/2018	B	Updating Primary Energy data
15/07/2019	C	Updating members of Energy Team