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2022 Local Government Climate Action Key Performance Indicators

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Foreword

This is the first publication of Local Government's Climate Action Key Performance Indicators. The results for 2022 show that there is an extensive infrastructure of climate action staff and cross functional action teams in place. There was a lot of activity taking place via meetings, and through the implementation of adaptation actions, active travel actions, social housing retrofits and the activation of severe weather response plans. Work has taken place to enhance the capacity of staff and elected members through active participation in a series of climate action training modules designed specifically for local authorities, while small businesses were supported to reduce their emissions through practical supports via the Local Enterprise Office 'Green for Micro' coaching programme. Through this report, we can also demonstrate the greenhouse gas emissions reductions achieved across this sector in 2022, despite an increase in the range of services being provided to our growing population.

In the sector's Delivering Effective Climate Action 2030 (DECA 2030) report, local government commits to leveraging the capability, reach and resources of local authorities to effectively lead and coordinate climate action across Ireland. The mission is to deliver transformative change and measurable climate action across our cities and counties and within our own organisations, through leadership, example, and mobilising action at a local level. The production of this report helps us to measure and monitor what we are doing and to ensure we are addressing the key themes of mainstreaming, adaptation, mitigation and capacity building, as climate related actions will be most effective when a holistic approach is taken.

Going forward, we will work collaboratively to collect data from our local authorities and supporting organisations early in the 2024, so we can maximise opportunities to utilise the findings for the sector.

John McLaughlin
Chair
CCMA Climate Action, Transport, Circular
Economy and Networks Committee



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The staff of the LGMA Central Data Unit were instrumental in capturing the data from local authorities via their survey tool. Their contribution is very much appreciated, as is their current work on visualising the data that has been collected.

Climate Action KPI Working Group membership in 2022:

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- Claire Moran, Eastern and Midlands CARO (Project Support)

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Executive Summary

This report presents the findings of the 2022 Climate Action Key Performance Indicators (KPI) for all local authorities. The reported data was gathered from local authorities, Enterprise Ireland, the Local Authority Services National Training Group (LASNTG), the LGMA Housing Delivery Coordination Office (HDGO), and SEAI. The key findings for 2022 are:

Mainstreaming

Climate Action Staff

- 27 local authorities had at least one Climate Action Officer or Coordinator in place on December 31st, 2022. This was an increase of 3 local authorities compared with 2021.

Climate Action Teams

- 30 local authorities had a cross-departmental Climate Action Team in place or in progress, compared with 31 in 2021.
 - On average, there were 21 members on a local authority Climate Action Team.
 - 74% of Climate Action Team members had participated in local authority climate action training.
- 27 Climate Action Teams held meetings during 2022. There was a total of 116 meetings held across the sector over the course of the year.
- 22 of the local authority Climate Action Teams had sub-groups in place at the end of 2022, and combined they held a total of 154 meetings over the course of 2022.

Mitigation

Active Travel

- There were 1,554 active travel projects being delivered by local authorities: 33% were completed, 17% under construction, and 50% at design stage on December 31st, 2022.

Social Housing Retrofit Energy Savings

- 28 local authorities completed retrofitting 2,283 social housing units resulting in an estimated annual energy saving of 30,161KWh, which equates to 8,544 tCo2.

- Greenhouse gas emissions reduced by an aggregate of 25.4% compared to the baseline average for all local authorities between 2016 and 2018.

Adaptation

Climate adaptation actions being delivered

- The sector was implementing 2,526 adaptation actions detailed in the Local Authority Climate Action Plan/Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (2019 - 2024): 20% were completed, 68% were in progress, 9% were not started, 3% were new actions and 0.4% had been postponed.

Emergency Weather Events

- 199 Severe Weather Response Team meetings were held across 27 local authorities during 2022.
- There were 126 Severe Weather Emergency Response Plans activated during 2022. Rain accounted for 29% of activations, wind and coastal wind combined accounted for 47% of activations, snow/ice/low temperature for 20%, while thunderstorms and fog/freezing fog both accounted for 2% of activations each.

Internal behavioural change and capacity building

Climate action training

- Local authority staff accessed 3,394 training places relating to climate action in 2022.
- Elected members accessed 115 training places relating to climate action in 2022.

SME support

- 413 businesses were supported by local authority Local Enterprise Offices under Green for Micro Programme in 2022.

Introduction

This report contains details about the process used to develop key performance indicators (KPIs) for the local government sector, and the sectoral results for the nine indicators being monitored for 2022.

Background

In 2020, at the request of the CCMA Environment, Climate Change and Emergency Planning (ECCEP) Committee, the staff of the Eastern & Midlands Climate Action Regional Office (CARO) engaged in a process of review and consultation before proposing a number of KPIs that broadly reflected the key areas of work contained in the 2019 Climate Action Charter, the National Climate Action Plan 2021, as well the CARO work plans (CAROs had been established in 2018).

At the start of 2021, a Climate Action KPI Working Group (CA KPI WG) was convened by the CCMA Climate Action and Transport Networks (CATN) Committee¹. A member of the Committee was appointed as chair, and other members included CARO representatives, LGMA Research Unit staff, and local authority staff. The Working Group was tasked with using an evidence-informed approach to identify KPIs and to assess the feasibility of their use. They were also asked to oversee the development of the climate action KPI data capture system and to identify a transparent process for monitoring and reviewing KPIs going forward.

The KPIs selected were required to align to the goals and objectives detailed in Delivering Effective Climate Action 2030 (CCMA and CARO, 2020), the sector's strategy for addressing the issue of climate change. The report outlined the approach local government planned to take to deliver the sector's vision to leverage

"the capability, reach and resources of local authorities to effectively lead and coordinate climate action across Ireland" (2020, p. 30).

To support the work of the group, two research reports were commissioned. The first report was a literature review that explored the type of indicators that should be used to effectively track climate action activities in a local government context (Clarke, 2021). A particular emphasis was put on the need to include 'process' as well as 'outcome' indicators. The process indicators focus on tracking whether the required the infrastructure and the capacity building initiatives are in place to facilitate the delivery of outcome indicators. The second report identified a range of over one hundred possible indicators under a variety of themes, many of which were in use in other jurisdictions (Clarke 2022).

2021 Climate Action Key Performance Indicators

In 2021, the CA KPI WG reviewed the list of indicators that had been identified by the East and Midlands CARO staff. The group focused on selecting a limited number of key process indicators and outcome indicators, where data was readily available and could be collected easily across the sector. Four indicators were selected for 2021, while work progressed on exploring and testing additional indicators for 2022.

¹ Following a review of the CCMA Committees in October 2020, the CCMA ECCEP Committee was discontinued and responsibility for climate action passed to the newly formed Climate Action, Transport and Networks (CATN) Committee.

Table 1 2021 Local Government Climate Action Key Performance Indicators

| 2021 Local Government CA KPIs | DECA 2030 Theme |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Climate Action Staff | Mainstreaming |
| 2. Climate Action Teams + Sub-groups | Mainstreaming |
| 3. Councillor + Staff Training | Internal Behavioural Change and Capacity Building |
| 4. CAP Adaptation Actions | Adaptation |

2021 data was collected from four pilot local authorities, Carlow, Limerick, South Dublin, and Donegal in early 2022. This process facilitated a fine tuning of survey questions and data collection processes. In Quarter 3, 2021 KPI data for all local authorities was collected and analysed by the LGMA Research Unit and submitted to the CCMA CATN Committee in November 2022. The 2021 results have been used in this report to compare with the 2022 results where relevant.

Given the importance of climate action, the National Oversight and Audit Commission (NOAC) liaised with the CA KPI WG in 2022 and selected a summary of the staffing and Climate Action Team indicators for inclusion in their local government national performance indicators list. NOAC collected the indicator data for 2021 but, in line with its policy on testing indicators, it did not publish the findings for 2021 as the first year

of data collection is used to assess and verify the quality of the data. The results for 2022 were published by NOAC in September 2023.

2022 Climate Action Key Performance Indicators

A series of in-person workshops were held with local authority staff in 2022 to review a lengthy list of proposed indicators, including those contained in the CCMA and CARO research document (Clarke 2022). Local authority and CARO climate action staff were asked to assess whether these indicators were (1) easily measured or quantifiable, (2) reliable, (3) valid, and (4) relevant to organisational climate change targets/ambition. Following a rigorous review process, five new indicators were selected and added to the 2021 indicators. These related to active travel, severe weather responses, enterprise support, energy retrofitting, and greenhouse gas reductions.

Table 2 The Climate Action KPI Working Group local government climate action KPIs 2022

| 2022 Local Government CA KPIs | 2022 KPIs | 2021 KPIs | DECA 2030 Theme |
|---|-----------|-----------|---|
| 1. Climate Action Staff | ✓ | ✓ | Mainstreaming |
| 2. Climate Action Teams + Sub-groups | ✓ | ✓ | Mainstreaming |
| 3. Councillor + Staff Training - modified 2022 ² | ✓ | ✓ | Internal Behavioural Change and Capacity Building |
| 4. CAP Adaptation Actions | ✓ | ✓ | Adaptation |
| 5. Active Travel Projects | ✓ | | Mitigation |
| 6. Severe Weather Response Teams + Events | ✓ | | Adaptation |
| 7. Green for Micro Business | ✓ | | Internal Behavioural Change and Capacity Building |
| 8. Social Housing Retrofit Energy Savings | ✓ | | Mitigation |
| 9. Greenhouse Gas Reduction | ✓ | | Mitigation |

²Data for 2021 and 2022 was not directly comparable. 2021 data was collected from local authorities and related to number of individuals trained; 2022 data was collected from LASNTG and relates to number of training places provided to local authority staff and elected members during the year.

2022 Climate Action KPI data collection

Data was collected from local authorities in June 2023 for five of the nine KPIs using the LGMA Central Data Unit online survey tool. A detailed guidelines document was developed by the CA KPI WG and circulated with the survey to ensure there was a consistent interpretation of the data.

Four external organisations were contacted to provide the data for the additional indicators. Enterprise Ireland provided data for the Green

for Micro Business programme, the LGMA Housing Delivery Coordination Office (HDCO) supplied the Social Housing Retrofit data, the Local Authority Services National Training Group (LASNTG) supplied the staff and elected members' training data, and SEAI provided the greenhouse gas data.

Table 3 2022 CA KPI WG data sources and collection month

| 2022 Local Government CA KPIs | Supplied by | Month collected |
|--|--|-----------------|
| 1. Climate Action Staff | Local authorities | June 2023 |
| 2. Climate Action Teams + Sub-groups | Local authorities | June 2023 |
| 3. Councillor + Staff Training | Local Authority Service National Training Group (LASNTG) | September 2023 |
| 4. CAP Adaptation Actions | Local authorities | June 2023 |
| 5. Active Travel Projects – NEW 2022 | Local authorities | June 2023 |
| 6. Severe Weather Response Teams + Events – NEW 2022 | Local authorities | June 2023 |
| 7. Green for Micro Business – NEW 2022 | Enterprise Ireland | June 2023 |
| 8. Social Housing Retrofit Energy Savings - NEW 2022 | LGMA Housing Delivery Coordination Office (HDCO) | October 2023 |
| 9. Greenhouse Gas Reduction - NEW 2022 | SEAI | November 2023 |

2022 Data Findings

The findings from the 2022 data collection for all 31 local authorities are presented in this chapter. Where possible the 2021 findings were used for comparison. The results presented correlate to key themes running through DECA 2030; mainstreaming, mitigation, adaptation, and internal behavioural change and capacity building.

Mainstreaming

The literature review highlights the need to include process indicators, which focus on organisational support systems, including qualified employees and appropriate governance and oversight structures, as they are seen to be key to a functional and coordinated performance system (Clarke, 2021). The indicators identified as part of this work on mainstreaming fall into this category.

The objective under this heading was to ascertain whether the appropriate infrastructure (i.e., climate action staff and local authority Climate Action Teams and sub-groups) were in place across the local government sector. The staff involved directly as employees, or via involvement in Climate Action Teams or sub-groups are the people who are responsible for delivering on the commitments contained in the Climate Action Charter, Climate Change Adaptation Strategies, Climate Action Plans, and the sectoral strategy, Delivering Effective Climate Actions 2030 (CCMA and CARO, 2030).

Climate Action Staff

The local authorities were asked how many staff were in place in the role of Climate Action Officer and/or Climate Action Coordinator on December 31st, 2022. The objective was to track the recruitment of both climate resources which had been approved to advance the development and implementation of their Local Authority Climate Action Plans (LA CAPs).

There were 27 local authorities with climate action staff in place on December 31st, 2022. This is an increase of three local authorities when compared with 2021 results.

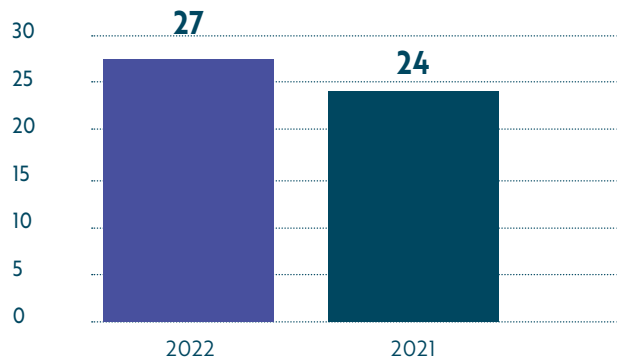


Figure 1 Local authorities with climate action staff in place

Of the four local authorities that did not have staff in place at the end of 2022, Donegal and Limerick had started 2022 the year with staff in place, but the staff members left during the year. Other staff were assigned to progress work while staff recruitment was underway. Roscommon, and Tipperary were actively recruiting staff during 2022 with staff commencing employment in 2023.

There was a combination of Officers and Coordinators in place across the sector. Five local authorities had only Climate Action Officers and 18 had only Climate Action Coordinators. The remaining four local authorities had both Climate Action Officers and Coordinators in place.

Local authorities with Climate Action Officers in place at 31/12/2022:

- Cork County Council
- Galway City Council
- Kerry County Council
- Laois County Council
- Mayo County Council
- Meath County Council
- Sligo County Council
- Westmeath County Council
- Wexford County Council

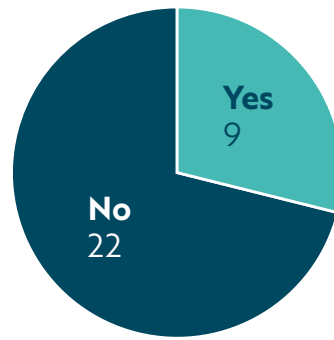


Figure 2 Number of local authorities with Climate Action Officers in place 31/12/22

Local authorities with Climate Action Coordinators in place at 31/12/2022:

- Carlow County Council
- Cavan County Council
- Clare County Council
- Cork City Council
- Cork County Council
- Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council
- Dublin City Council
- Fingal County Council
- Galway City Council
- Galway County Council
- Kerry County Council
- Kildare County Council
- Kilkenny County Council
- Leitrim County Council
- Longford County Council
- Louth County Council
- Meath County Council
- Monaghan County Council
- Offaly County Council
- South Dublin County Council
- Waterford City and County Council
- Wicklow County Council

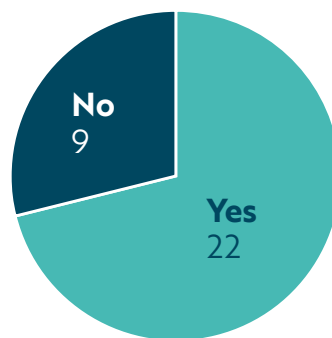


Figure 3 Number of local authorities with Climate Action Coordinators in place 31/12/22

In addition to dedicated climate action staff, local authorities committed to the establishment of multifunctional teams with membership drawn from the full range of local authority service areas. The objective of these teams was to have a diversity of local authority staff who assumed responsibility for implementing climate related actions, thus ensuring a holistic approach to implementation was adopted.

Climate Action Teams and sub-groups

A Climate Action Team (CAT) was defined as a team that represented all or most departments, skillsets, and disciplines relevant to climate action across the local authority. The status and size of the CATs at the end of 2022 was assessed to explore whether the required decision-making structures were in place. Data relating to the number and size of the sub-groups was also recorded, as combined, they gave an indication of the extent of the infrastructure that existed to deliver climate actions across the sector in 2022. The number of meetings for both groups, was reviewed to gauge the level of activity across the sector during that period.

Climate Action Teams and sub-groups established

Thirty local authorities had CATs operating or were a 'work in progress' on the 31st of December 2022. Only one local authority did not have a CAT in place (Limerick). This contrasts with the 2021 results when 30 CATs were operational and one a work in progress at year-end. Therefore, there was a slight decrease in CAT infrastructure.

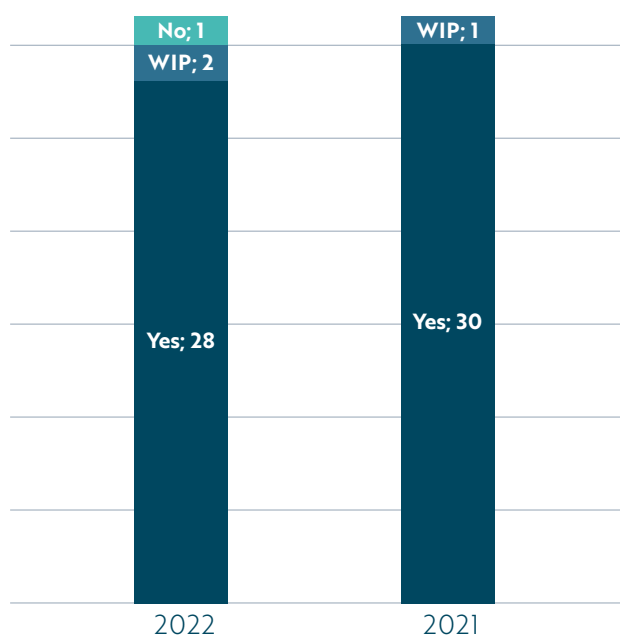


Figure 4 Status of LA Climate Action Teams at year end

Dublin City and Kilkenny had CATs operating in 2021 but due to significant staff turnover across various departments, they needed to reconstitute their CATs, so their status at year end 2022 was 'work in progress'.

To deal with this, Dublin City held quarterly cross departmental workshops to monitor and implement the various climate action projects in place. In Kilkenny, their Climate Action Office was established and operational by September 2022 and was finalising the recruitment of members for the CAT at year end.

Limerick had no CAT operating but was delivering climate actions through a variety of cross-departmental teams that were managing specific climate action projects (e.g., Energy Management Committee, Active Travel Delivery Team, Horizon 2020 CityXChange project, etc.), but these groups were outside the definition of a sub-group for this survey.

In addition to their CATs, 22 local authorities also had CAT subgroups operating at the end of 2022. This is eight more local authorities than in 2021 when 14 local authorities had sub-groups. As can be seen in Table 4, both Dublin City and Kilkenny had sub-groups operational while their CATs were being established or reconstituted.

Table 4 Status of Climate Action Teams and sub-groups 31/12/22

| Local Authority | 2022 Climate Action Team | 2022 climate action sub-group |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Carlow County Council | Yes | Yes |
| Cavan County Council | Yes | Yes |
| Clare County Council | Yes | Yes |
| Cork City Council | Yes | No |
| Cork County Council | Yes | Yes |
| Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council | Yes | Yes |
| Donegal County Council | Yes | No |
| Dublin City Council | Work In Progress | Yes |
| Fingal County Council | Yes | Yes |
| Galway City Council | Yes | Yes |
| Galway County Council | Yes | Yes |
| Kerry County Council | Yes | No |
| Kildare County Council | Yes | Yes |
| Kilkenny County Council | Work In Progress | Yes |
| Laois County Council | Yes | No |
| Leitrim County Council | Yes | No |
| Limerick City and County Council | No | No |
| Longford County Council | Yes | No |
| Louth County Council | Yes | Yes |
| Mayo County Council | Yes | Yes |
| Meath County Council | Yes | Yes |
| Monaghan County Council | Yes | No |
| Offaly County Council | Yes | Yes |
| Roscommon County Council | Yes | Yes |
| Sligo County Council | Yes | Yes |
| South Dublin County Council | Yes | Yes |
| Tipperary County Council | Yes | Yes |
| Waterford City and County Council | Yes | No |
| Westmeath County Council | Yes | Yes |
| Wexford County Council | Yes | Yes |
| Wicklow County Council | Yes | Yes |

CAT characteristics

Table 5 Number of Climate Action Team members

| | 2022 | 2021 |
|--|------|------|
| Total number of CAT members nationally | 616 | 544 |
| Number of LAs with members in place | 29 | 30 |
| Average members per CAT | 21 | 18 |

Twenty-nine local authorities had a CAT with full membership in place. Limerick had no CAT in place and Dublin City were reconstituting their CAT. Similar to Dublin City, Kilkenny's CAT was a 'work in progress' but they had all members appointed to their CAT before year end 2022.

In total, there were 616 local authority staff sitting on the 29 CATs from across various departments at the end of 2022. This was an increase compared to 2021, when there had been 544 CAT members across 30 CATs. The average size of a CAT increased from 18 in 2021 to 21 in 2022.

Table 6 Climate Action Team members trained

| | 2022 | 2021 |
|-------------------------------------|------|------|
| Total number of CAT members trained | 453 | 413 |
| Total number of CAT members | 616 | 544 |
| Percent trained | 74% | 76% |

Additionally, local authorities reported on the number of the CAT members who had undertaken formal climate action training, specifically, Pillar 3 of the Local Authority Climate Action Training Programme. As of December 31st, 2022, 74% (or 453) of the 616 CAT members had participated in Climate Action Training. While

the number of staff trained increased from 413 in 2021 to 453 in 2022, the percentage of CAT team members trained fell slightly from 76% in 2021 to 74% in 2022.

CAT and sub-group activity levels

Table 7 Number of Climate Action Team meetings

| CAT meetings | 2022 | 2021 |
|--|------|------|
| Number of LAs that held CAT meetings during 2022 | 27 | 29 |
| Number of LAs that did not hold CAT meetings during 2022 | 4 | 2 |
| Total number of meetings held nationally | 116 | 113 |
| Average number of meetings held by active CATs annually | 4 | 4 |

The total number of meetings held by CATs and their sub-groups in 2022 was measured to assess the level of activity across the sector.

In total, during 2022 there were 116 CAT meetings held nationally across 27 local authorities. This equates to an average of four meetings per annum for each local authority CAT, which is

similar to the activity levels reported for 2021. Kilkenny, Dublin City and Limerick did not have their CATs in place, therefore held no meetings. Longford reported having a CAT in place but did not report holding any CAT meetings due to changes in staff and reporting structures during 2022.

Table 8 Number of Climate Action Team sub-group meetings

| CAT sub-group meetings | 2022 | 2021 |
|------------------------------------|------|------|
| Number of LAs with sub-groups | 22 | 14 |
| Number of subgroup meetings | 154 | 105 |
| Average number per local authority | 7 | 7.5 |

The CAT sub-groups held a total of 154 meetings across 22 local authorities in 2022 which is 49 more than in 2021.

Over the course of 2022, each sub-group held an average of 7 meetings, compared with 7.5 meetings in 2021.

Overall, activity levels for both CATs and their sub-groups increased between 2021 and 2022.

Mitigation

Mitigation refers to the steps needed to prevent further climate change from occurring. The climate action mitigation themes under this heading include active travel, energy savings from the Social Housing Retrofit Programme, and greenhouse gas reductions. Each of these initiatives should reduce the demand for energy or involve a switch to more sustainable energy sources.

Active Travel Projects

Local authorities were asked to detail the number of active travel projects supported by funding drawn down from the NTA's Active Travel Investment Programme and to specify how many projects were at 'Design Stage', 'Construction Stage' or had been 'Completed'. These stages

were chosen to align to the stages used by the National Transport Authority (NTA).

Nationally, there were 1,554 active travel projects being delivered by local authorities on December 31st, 2022, of which:

- 517 (33%) had already been **completed**
- 262 (17%) were **under construction**
- 775 (50%) were at **design** phase

The number of projects being carried out by local authorities varied considerably. Cork County and Donegal were at the higher end, managing 343 and 100 projects respectively, while Kerry reported working on ten projects.

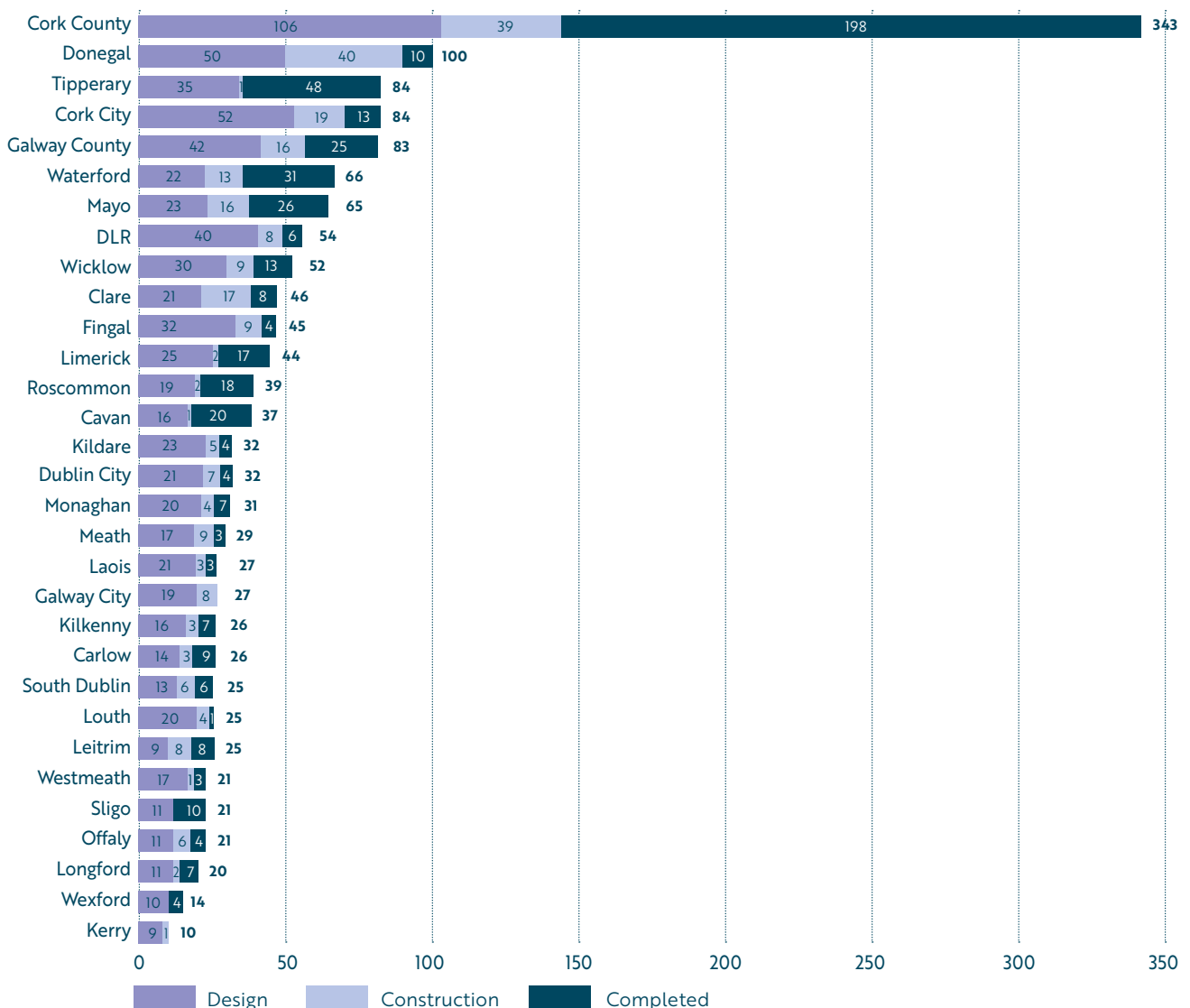


Figure 5 Status of local authority active travel projects at 31/12/22

Social Housing Retrofit Energy Savings

The Housing Delivery Coordination Office (HDCO) gather data from local authorities in relation to the Local Authority Social Housing Retrofit Programme, funded by the DHLGH. Data for 2022 was supplied relating to the calculated MWh savings annually for each local authority, the calculated Co2 savings, and number of social housing units retrofitted.

Table 9 Housing units retrofitted 2022

| Number of housing units retrofitted 2022 | |
|--|--------------------------|
| Dublin City | 384 |
| Cork County | 174 |
| Laois | 96 |
| Donegal | 141 |
| Galway County | 120 |
| Tipperary | 98 |
| Wicklow | 108 |
| Kildare | 149 |
| Louth | 163 |
| Longford | 78 |
| Clare | 64 |
| Offaly | 44 |
| Monaghan | 73 |
| Kilkenny | 44 |
| DLR | 82 |
| Fingal | 92 |
| Wexford | 36 |
| Roscommon | 42 |
| Sligo | 40 |
| Carlow | 39 |
| Meath | 39 |
| Galway City | 26 |
| Cavan | 20 |
| South Dublin | 64 |
| Waterford | 24 |
| Cork City | 13 |
| Leitrim | 7 |
| Kerry | 3 |
| Grand Total | 2,283³ |

The savings were calculated by comparing BER certificates before and after the retrofit. The data shows that 28 local authorities completed retrofitting 2,283 social houses during 2022 resulting in an estimated annual energy saving of 30,161MWh. This equates to 8,544 tCo2.

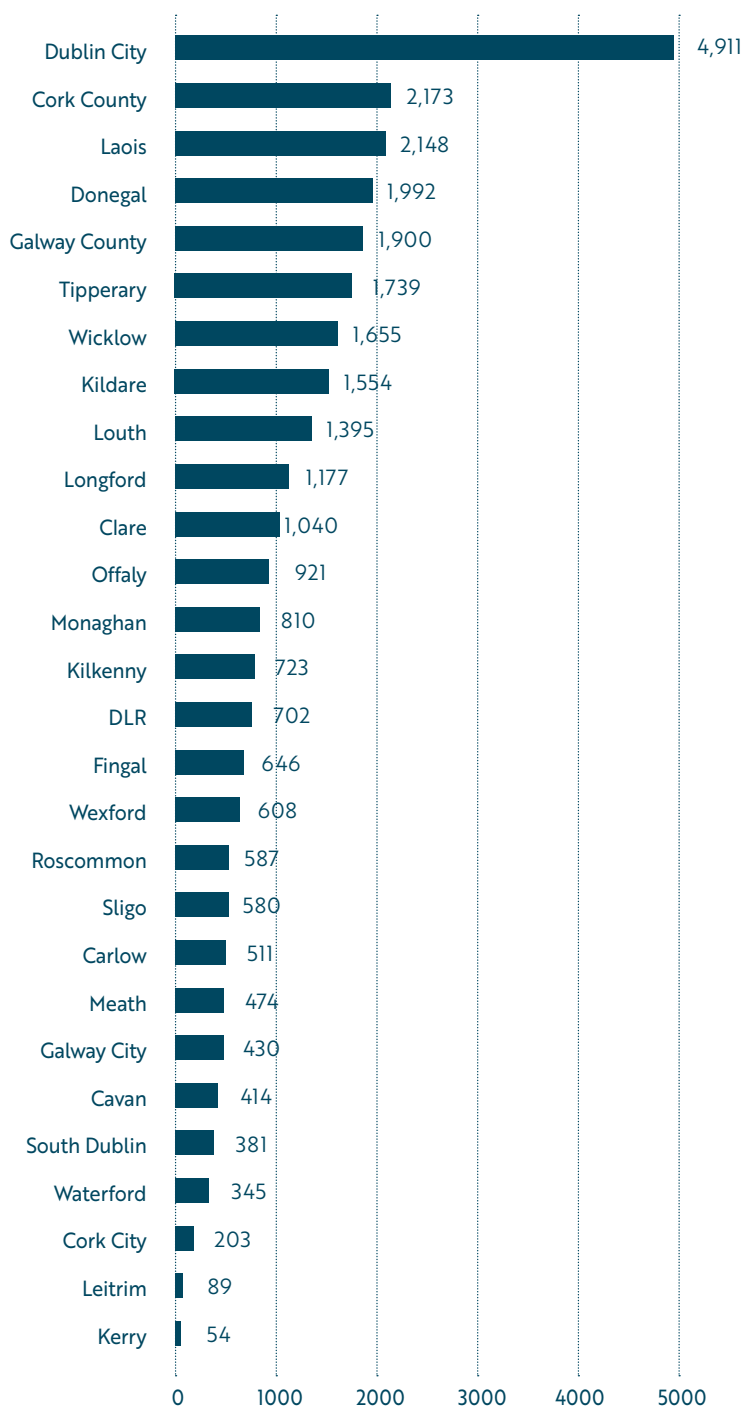


Figure 6 Energy Savings MWh per annum

³ The figure includes 20 units where data was not available to calculate energy savings. The units were in Dublin City, Kildare, Louth, Monaghan, Roscommon, South Dublin and Tipperary.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Savings

The SEAI reported that local authorities had reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 25.4% on aggregate, relative to the baseline average for all local authorities between 2016 and 2018.

The emissions relate to thermal, transport and electricity emissions. If electricity is excluded, the sectoral savings are 6.7%.

Table 10 Greenhouse gas emissions savings

| | Change in non-electricity GHG emissions since GHG baseline | Change in total GHG emissions since GHG baseline ⁴ |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| | Thermal and Transport | Thermal, Transport and Electricity |
| Carlow County Council | -5.2% | -27.8% |
| Cavan County Council | 6.2% | -29.0% |
| Clare County Council | 2.1% | -17.1% |
| Cork City Council | -21.7% | -14.7% |
| Cork County Council | 16.7% | -29.7% |
| Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council | -41.3% | -39.9% |
| Donegal County Council | -3.3% | -21.2% |
| Dublin City Council | -16.7% | -38.3% |
| Fingal County Council | -2.4% | -34.0% |
| Galway City Council | 6.3% | -28.4% |
| Galway County Council | -18.0% | -26.2% |
| Kerry County Council | -9.5% | -21.1% |
| Kildare County Council | -16.6% | -21.5% |
| Kilkenny County Council | 30.4% | -17.0% |
| Laois County Council | -3.5% | -28.2% |
| Leitrim County Council | 22.9% | -10.5% |
| Limerick City and County Council | -3.6% | -34.2% |
| Longford County Council | 4.7% | -23.2% |
| Louth County Council | -11.3% | -26.3% |
| Mayo County Council | -5.9% | -17.7% |
| Meath County Council | -9.3% | -21.3% |
| Monaghan County Council | -11.5% | -40.7% |
| Offaly County Council | -7.3% | -21.9% |
| Roscommon County Council | -12.2% | -22.8% |
| Sligo County Council | -12.1% | -20.3% |
| South Dublin County Council | 4.0% | -24.4% |
| Tipperary County Council | -6.4% | -31.5% |
| Waterford City and County Council | -10.8% | -20.4% |
| Westmeath County Council | -8.2% | -25.1% |
| Wexford County Council | 25.3% | -23.4% |
| Wicklow County Council | -4.0% | -16.6% |
| Local authorities (aggregate) | -6.7% | -25.4% |

⁴Baseline = 2016-2018 average for all LAs

Adaptation

Adaptation involves responding and adjusting to the actual or expected consequences of climate change and taking steps to prevent or minimise the damage. Under this heading, local authorities were asked for information relating to the implementation of the Local Authority Climate Action Plans/Strategies (2019 – 2024). The second KPI relates to the numbers of severe weather emergency response plan meetings as well as plan implementations.

Climate Adaptation Actions

Table 11 Status of climate adaptation actions

| Stage of Development | Number of Actions 2022 | Number of Actions 2021 |
|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Completed | 493 ↑ | 320 |
| On-going | 1,724 | 1,741 |
| Postponed | 11 | 23 |
| Not started | 217 ↓ | 344 |
| New | 81 | 76 |
| Total | 2,536 | 2,504 |

Each local authority was asked how many actions were captured in their Local Authority Climate Action Plan/Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (2019 - 2024) and to indicate the status of each action.

In 2022, a total of 2,536 actions were reported across the sector, up from 2,504 in 2021. Overall, there was a visible increase in completed actions and a reduction in the number of actions that had not been started by the end of 2022.

All local authorities reported commencing at least some of their actions. Nationally, 20% or 493 actions were completed by December 31st, 2022, compared to 320 that had been completed by the same time in 2021. In addition, 69% (1,740) of local authority adaptation actions were ongoing, 9% (218) had not started, 3% (81) actions were new additional actions, and under 1% (11) actions were postponed.

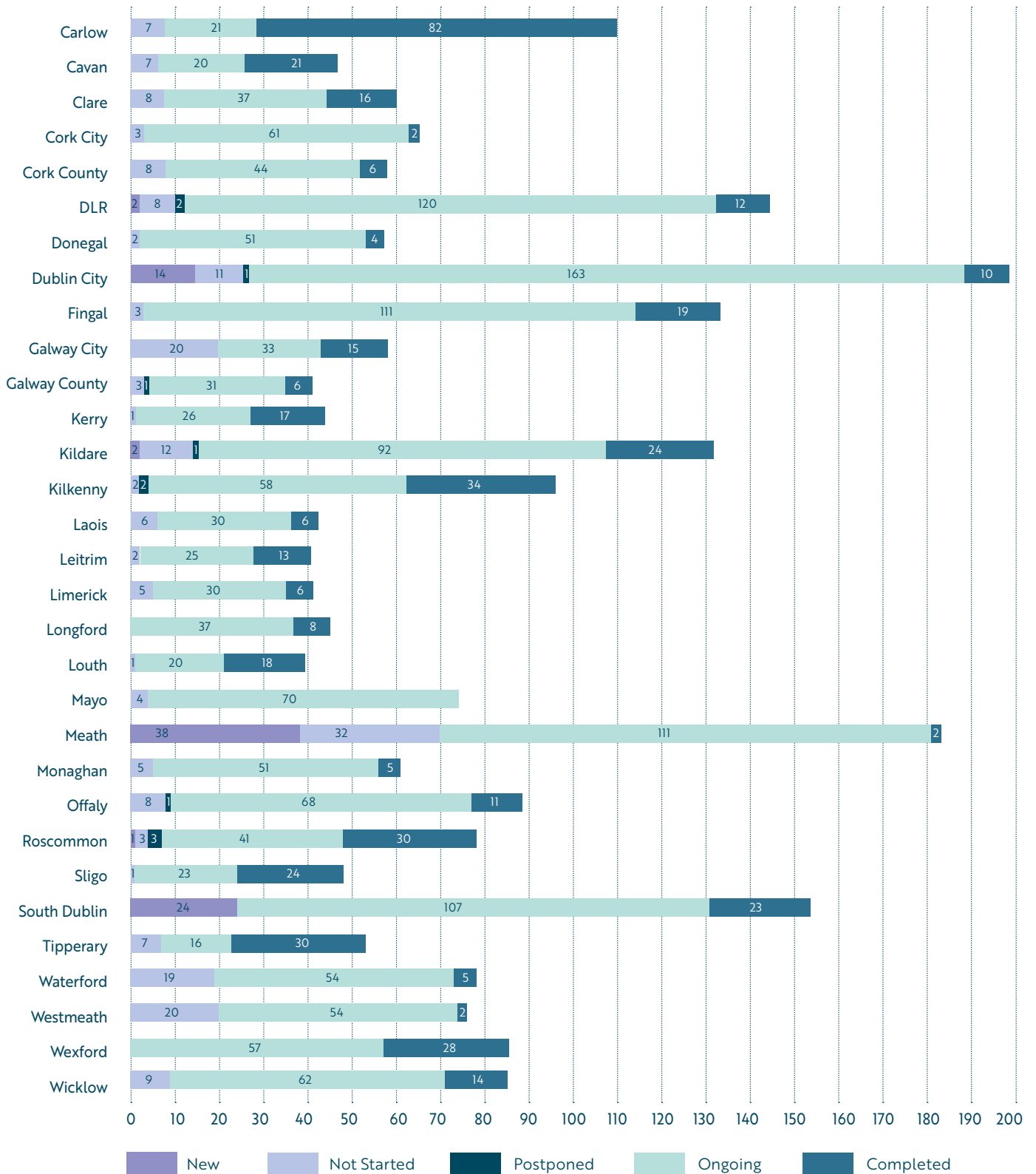


Figure 7 Climate Adaptation Action Status 31st December 2022

Emergency Weather Events Team Meetings and Response Plans Activated

Local authorities were asked how many times Severe Weather Emergency Response Teams met in 2022, to gauge the level of activity taking place across the sector. There were 199 Severe Weather Response Team meetings held across 27 local authorities during 2022. The number of meetings held ranged between one and 53 meetings.

There were four local authorities that did not hold Severe Weather Emergency Response Team meeting (Fingal, Limerick, Longford, and Roscommon) but all reported they were operating through sub-groups such as High Tides

and Weather Assessment Teams, (e.g., in Limerick where they were meeting weekly), or sub-groups of the Severe Weather Assessment Team, as was the case in Roscommon.

Local authorities were also asked the number of times the Severe Weather Emergency Response Plans (SWERP) were implemented and to identify the primary weather events that led to the activation of the plan. There were 126 SWERPs activated during 2022. The most frequent reason for implementing a SWERP was in response to rain (19%) and wind (17%) and coastal wind (14%). Snow/ice and low temperatures combined accounted for 20% of plan implementations.

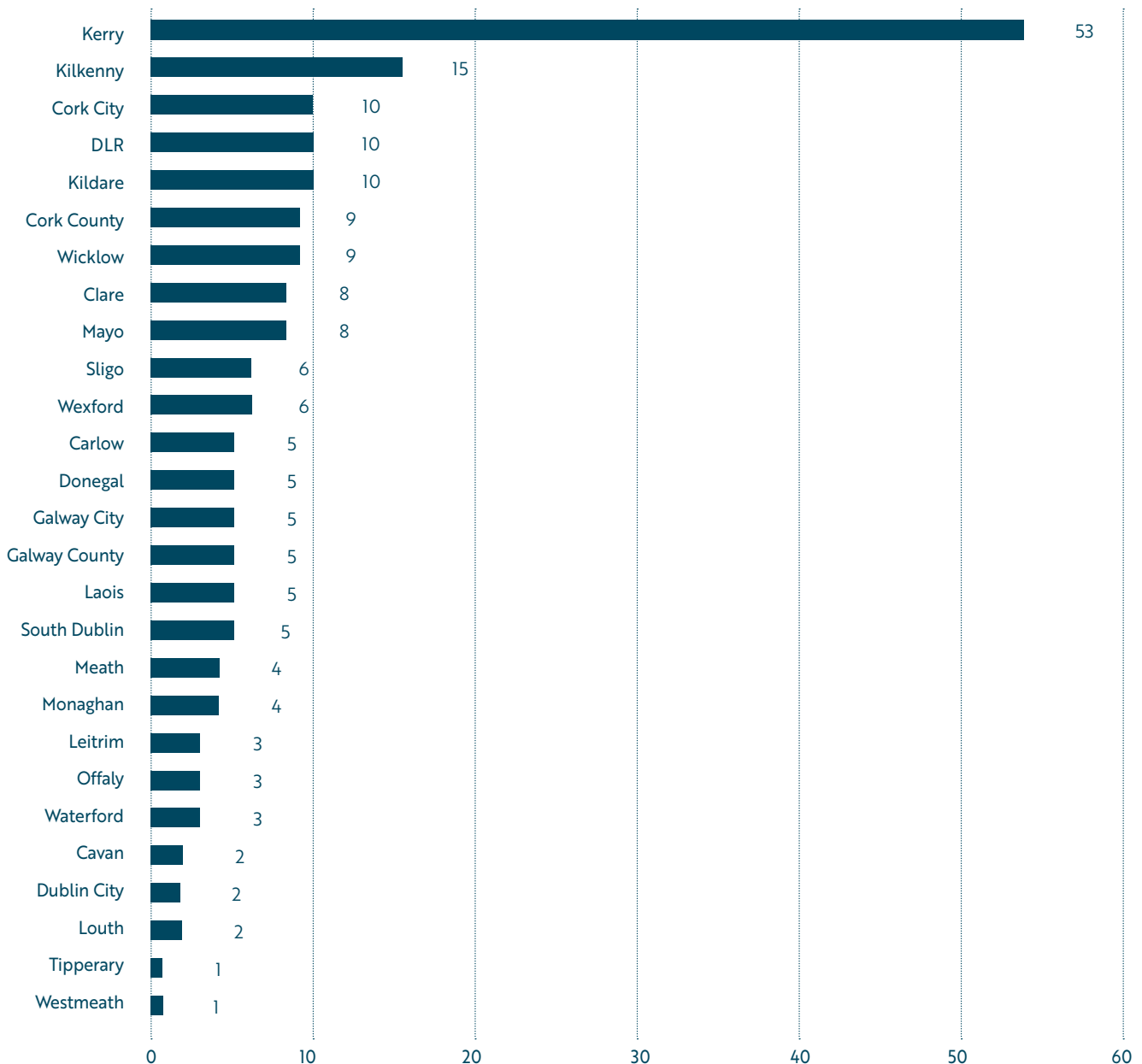


Figure 8 Local authority severe weather response team meetings held 2022

Table 12 Primary reason for implementing a severe weather emergency response plan 2022

| Primary Weather Event | Number | Percent |
|-----------------------|------------|-------------|
| Rain | 36 | 29% |
| Wind | 33 | 26% |
| Coastal Wind | 27 | 21% |
| Snow/Ice | 15 | 12% |
| Low Temperature/Ice | 10 | 8% |
| Thunderstorms | 3 | 2% |
| Fog/Freezing Fog | 2 | 2% |
| High Temperature | 0 | 0% |
| Total | 126 | 100% |

The number of times each local authority activated their plan varied a lot. Kerry, the county that experiences the highest rain fall nationally, implemented their plans more than any other local authority primarily in response to rain (15 events) and coastal winds (15 events). In contrast, Sligo, Galway City and Tipperary implemented their plans once.

While the variation in the number of meetings and plans implemented was influenced by weather conditions experienced in the relevant local authority areas, it was also impacted by the variety of processes that existed across the sector to monitor and respond to severe weather events. Many local authorities had groups in place that monitored weather events and responded to issues such as ice as part of their ordinary business, and only expediated to the Severe Weather Emergency Response Team if needed (e.g., Fingal), while other local authorities, held regular Severe Weather Emergency Response Team meetings as the consequences of weather events were more unpredictable and required localised responses (e.g., Kerry).

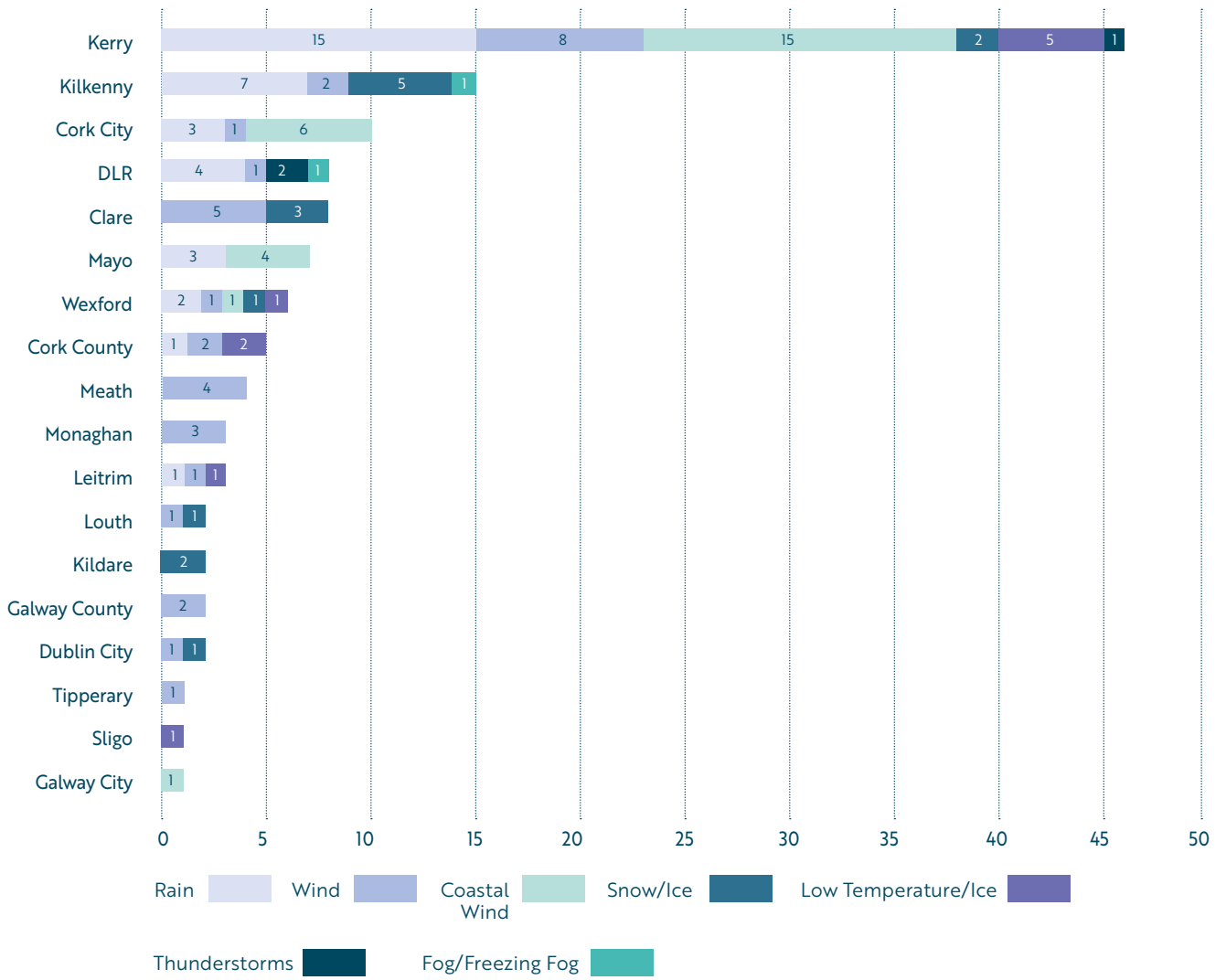


Figure 9 Reason for each local authority implementing a severe weather emergency response plan 2022

Internal Behavioural Change & Capacity Building

The topics explored under the theme of Internal Behavioural Change and Capacity Building related to climate action training for both local authority staff and elected members, as well as supports provided to SMEs through the local authority LEOs via the Green for Micro programme. All initiatives aimed to enhance the capacity of individuals to understand how behaviour impacts on climate and to make more informed decisions in their work and personal lives.

Climate Action Training

The training being tracked for staff and elected members was part of the Local Authority Climate Action Training Programme.

Local authority staff had accessed a total of 3,394 training places relating to climate action in 2022. Every local authority had staff who participated in training during the 2022. Dublin City Council, as the largest local authority, had the highest number of participants, 746. In addition, during 2022, a total of 115 training places were provided to elected members across 14 local authorities.

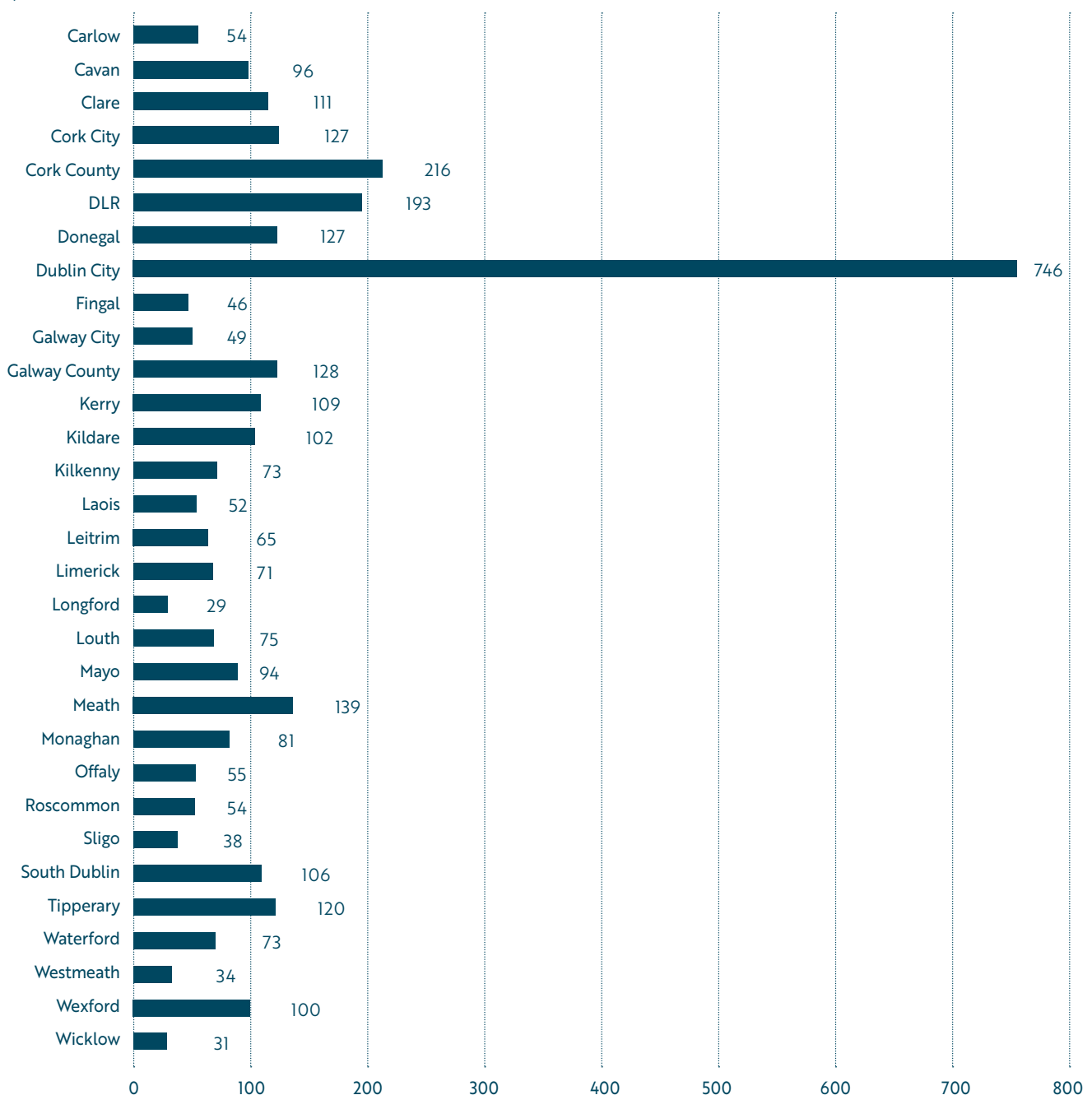


Figure 10 Number of local authority staff training places accessed during 2022

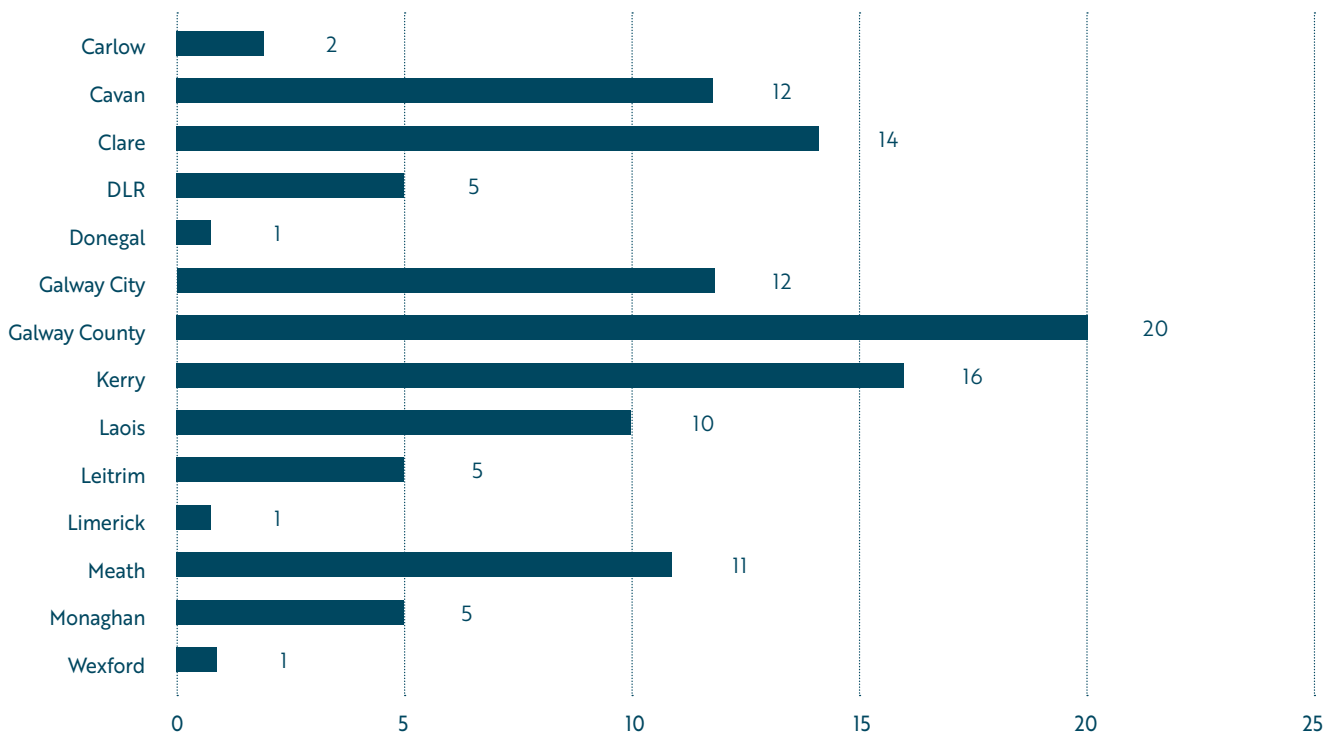


Figure 11 Number of elected members access climate action training 2022

Green for Micro Business Initiative

Enterprise Ireland provided information on the number of businesses in their area supported under the Green for Micro Business Initiative. The programme was free and helped small businesses become more sustainable through access to a green consultant.

All local authorities had businesses that participated in the scheme, and a total of 413 businesses were supported by local authority LEOs under Green for Micro initiative in 2022.

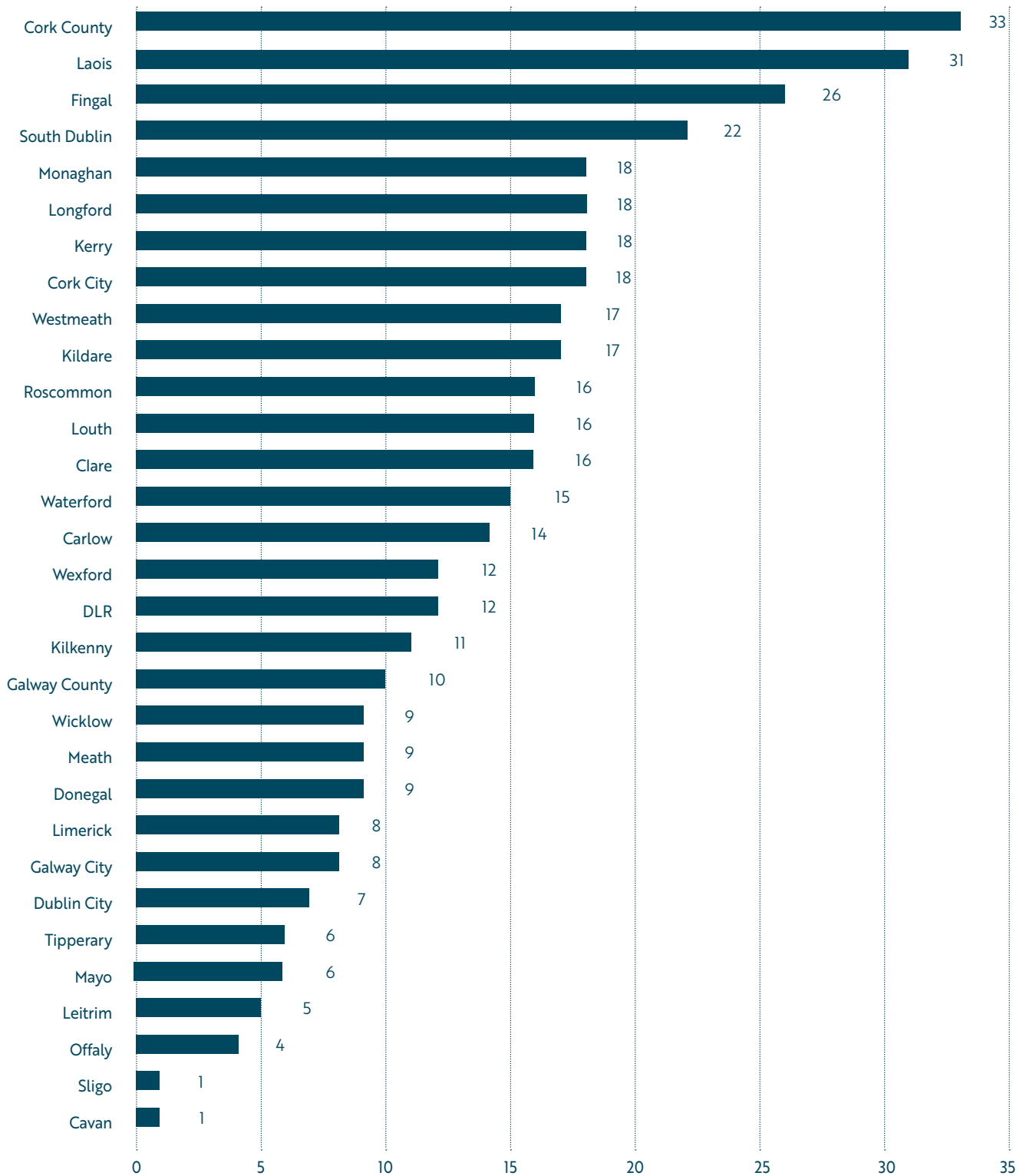


Figure 12 Number of SMEs participating in the LEO Green for Micro initiative during 2022

Conclusion

This is the first year the CCMA have published results for national climate action indicators. The number of indicators has grown from four in 2021 to nine in 2022, giving a wider picture of how the sector is progressing a variety of climate action initiatives and the infrastructure needed to implement the actions.

The CA KPI WG will continue to engage with the sector to explore additional KPIs and bring these proposals to the CCMA CATCEN Committee for approval. This work will happen in consultation with local authority staff, and stakeholders. The group will work with stakeholders to shorten lead times for receiving data, where feasible, so that 2023's progress can be reported at an earlier point in 2024.

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