

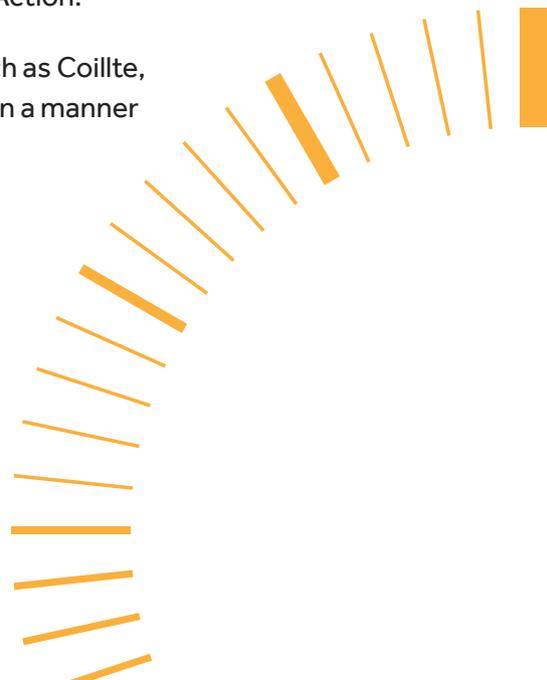


Key Policy Asks for
Faster and Fairer Climate Action

We want a Government that will:

Deliver much Faster Climate Action to avert climate breakdown

- Deliver annual reductions in climate-polluting greenhouse gas emissions of at least 8% a year over the lifetime of the next Government, i.e. the legally binding Carbon Budget for the period 2021 to 2025 would be equivalent to 8% reductions every year compared to 2020.
- Support the European Commission's proposal to put emissions reduction targets of 50%-55% by 2030 and net-zero by 2050 into European law.
- Enshrine a national net zero target for the whole economy in law, and implement, at a minimum, the package of policies and measures recommended in the cross-party report of the special Oireachtas Committee on Climate Action.
- Revise the legal mandates for key state and semi agencies, such as Coillte, Teagasc and ESB, to require that they perform their functions in a manner consistent with Ireland's climate and biodiversity obligations.



Deliver much Fairer Climate Action to ensure no one gets left behind

We need substantial government investment in public transport, warmer homes and community energy to make zero carbon options available for everyone.

- Ensure affordable and accessible transport for all
- Invest 2/3 of the transport budget in public transport, cycling and walking, as recommended by the Citizens' Assembly, with 20% going to cycling and walking as recommended by the UN.
- Invest an additional €50 million annually into the Rural Transport Programme.
- Free public transport for life for everybody born since 2008, the year of the bank guarantee, starting with the under 12's age cohort in Budget 2021.

Deliver a 'warmer homes for all' programme to reduce energy use and save money

- Commence and finance a deep retrofit programme for all local authority housing with an initial investment of €200 million, to be rolled out annually.
- Introduce a Government-backed low-cost loan scheme for home-owners to finance large scale deep retrofitting of homes with low BER ratings.
- Create a "One-Stop-Shop Energy Agency" for every county to give householders the project management support they need to retrofit their homes.
- Introduce measures to ensure that energy standards in the private rental sector are increased to a minimum BER rating by 2030 without penalising tenants.

Support communities to develop and own renewable energy projects

- Deliver microgeneration supports to unleash a community energy revolution across Ireland, and start by making every school a solar school by 2025.
- Support community energy groups with access to grid connection so that communities can lead the renewable energy transition, and build resilient, diversified local economies.

Speed up the move away from peat and coal while ensuring fair treatment of workers

- Sit down with the trade unions and other stakeholders to negotiate, in 2020, a Just Transition Agreement for peat and coal workers and their communities.
- End the burning of peat and coal for electricity by the end of 2021.
- End support for any new fossil fuel exploration or infrastructure
- Ban the issuing of new exploration licences for fossil fuel exploration in Irish waters.
- Ban the import of fracked gas and building of fossil gas infrastructure at Shannon and Cork.
- Help poorer countries to cope with climate change
- Contribute Ireland's fair share to international climate finance, prioritising public finance for adaptation in the poorest countries.



Align agriculture and land-use with our climate and biodiversity obligations

Support rural livelihoods and reduce agricultural pollution and emissions

- Develop an agriculture policy that is in line with our climate, biodiversity and water quality obligations; improves national food security and supports farmers in a just transition away from intensive livestock production.
- Support reform of the EU's Common Agricultural Policy to ensure it supports public money for public goods including High Nature Value farming and a just transition for farmers and rural communities.
- Place limits on nitrogen fertiliser and pesticides import and usage.

Reconnect, restore and protect nature

- Establish, in mid 2020, the Citizens' Assembly on biodiversity loss mandated by the Dáil's declaration of a climate and biodiversity emergency on 9 May 2019.
- Reverse the budget cuts suffered by the National Parks and Wildlife Service, allocating at least €100 million in Budget 2021 to protect habitats for people and wildlife.
- Develop a continuous cover forestry policy with the right trees in the right place under the right management, focusing on native tree species underpinned by ecological assessment of land to be planted.
- Ensure that 30% of land and sea is managed for biodiversity and achieve favourable conservation status for 50% of habitats and species by 2030.

One Future is the people's campaign calling for Faster and Fairer Climate Action. We need Government to deliver dramatic transformation within a short period of time. We want energy, transport, housing, food and economic systems that have zero climate impact. Through strategic investment, our communities can flourish, with improved public services, greater equality and social justice. Using our influence internationally, Ireland can become a powerful voice for faster and fairer global climate action.

#ClimateVote2020 #GE2020

Supporting Organisations include: National Women's Council of Ireland, Union of Students in Ireland, Dóchas, The Environmental Pillar, Stop Climate Chaos Coalition and Fridays for Future Ireland.

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