

# CLIMATE NEWS



Comhairle Cathrach  
Bhaile Átha Cliath  
Dublin City Council

Dublin City Council Climate Action Team Official  
Newsletter



## EAT THE STREETS



Dublin City Council 'Eat the Streets!' Festival is the creation of Michelle Darmody - journalist, food educator, researcher, and former owner and chef of Cake Café and Slice. Michelle was approached by Dublin City Council to bring to life a conversation around food and climate change - What does it mean to eat local? 'Eat the Streets!' explores the answers by drawing attention to Dublin's agriculture history as the vegetable basket of Ireland. From March to May, we are asking young people and their families to plant seeds and grow roots for a tastier tomorrow, while asking older generations for the recipes of yesteryear. And to share photos and drawings of your growing projects and recipes through the Eat the Streets website and via social media with the #eatthestreets.

By focusing on food and having young people talk to their grandparents and parents about recipes, we are fostering an intergenerational dialogue on eating local and stopping food waste, and tackling a climate change issue in a meaningful way.

To accommodate any Covid restrictions, 'Eat the Streets!' will culminate in a 10-day online festival in June from the 11th to the 20th that will bring together chefs, food experts, growers, and producers to cook, create and discover our rich food history. Participants will be equipped with tips and tricks to grow some of the best vegetables and herbs on their street.

<https://www.eatthestreets.ie/>

# SUCCESSFUL BID TO ENTER EUROPEAN GREEN CAPITAL AWARD

Dublin City Council is proud to announce that Dublin has been accepted as 1 of 16 cities bidding to win the European Green Capital 2023 Award.

A panel of independent experts will now begin a technical assessment of each application to select a shortlist of finalist cities for the award. The panel will assess the European Green Capital applications on the basis of 12 environmental indicators. Winning the European Green Capital and European Green Leaf Awards is a seal of approval by the European Commission and brings many benefits: increased international media coverage, a boost in local pride, a greater focus on environmental projects, and increased foreign investment. All finalists and winning cities also gain access to a network of previous finalists and winning cities where they share learnings on how to overcome key challenges.

For full details see Dublin City Council Website

<https://www.dublincity.ie/news/dublin-bids-european-green-capital-2023-award>

and also - [https://ec.europa.eu/environment/news/new-batch-european-cities-embark-path-sustainability-2021-02-18\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/environment/news/new-batch-european-cities-embark-path-sustainability-2021-02-18_en)



## MODOS AND THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY



MODOS is a circular economy programme for micro, small and medium enterprises and it is a joint initiative of Dublin City Council and the Eastern Midlands Waste Regional Office. The programme comprises dynamic training and online classes on the topic of circular economy principles, sustainable supply chain, resource efficiency, design thinking and customer engagement, as well as networking events and webinars.

New Award - Mentoring and Innovation Awards:

This initiative offers a **FREE mentoring** service and **innovation award of up to €2,500** for micro -enterprises, SMEs and social enterprises interested in implementing circular economy within their business. This pilot project is funded by Enterprise Ireland and the Regional Waste Management Planning Offices.

For more details on MODOS, check out the website here: <http://modos.ie/>

# SEAI AWARD FOR DCC

DCC has won the 'Leadership in the Public Sector' Category at the recent 2020 SEAI Energy Awards.

DCC has delivered energy savings of 37.5% (2019) and 17,315 tonnes of CO2 since beginning its energy journey, surpassing its 2020 target of 33% Energy Savings, ahead of time. It has used innovative contracts to achieve its objectives, exhibiting to other public bodies what can be achieved through replication and coordination. There is extraordinary support from the Senior Management Team to address the 5 key Climate Action Areas, which include:

Energy and Buildings, Transport, Flood, Nature and Resource with many teams across the Council's Significant Energy Users delivering on projects to achieve our targets. An additional factor highlighted by the judges was that the Council recognises the multiple benefits of energy efficiency such as alleviating energy poverty in social housing and, through sustainable urban mobility plans, improving the air quality in the city.

See the video here - [YouTube Video SEAI Awards](#)

## BIODIVERSITY SNIPPET

Are you aware of the fact that we tend to leave bigger dead wood in the park to support biodiversity? They are valuable habitats for a large number of species. Also, as you can see they can even serve as a great seating element! The images are from Herbert park :)



# THOUGHTS FROM LIAM BERGIN

## NEWLYAPPOINTED EXECUTIVE MANAGER, ENVIRONMENT & TRANSPORTATION



“I have the great privilege of leading the Climate Action Team in Dublin City Council and am excited and energised by the challenges we face and the opportunities that growing recognition at government policy level and the support and commitment that our partners in the community, present us.

Our excellent team here in Dublin City are centrally positioned to ensure co-ordination of all of our efforts to achieve the synergies needed to build a city and future that we can all be proud of.

I would like to recognise the efforts of all of the staff in Dublin City and in our communities to ensure that our environment has been to the forefront during Covid 19 and that parks / playgrounds and other amenity areas have remained available to the public. I doubt the value of recreation spaces has ever been so widely appreciated by us all and the stress relieving properties of our natural environment is now keenly understood by us all. I heard, many years ago, that the Japanese frequently refer to a walk in the woods as “bathing in the woods” and as someone living between the mountains and the sea in Bray, I have to say, that I felt especially lucky to have had both the forests of Wicklow and the shore of the Irish Sea within 5k.

As a relatively small city on the coast, we have many natural advantages and a growing appreciation of the importance of preserving and enhancing these advantages. An African proverb tells us “If you want to go fast go alone, if you want to go far we have to go together,” I believe that we can only tackle Climate Change if we go together and I ask that you recommit to working co-operatively to ensure that this journey and environment is something that we proudly pass down through the generations to come.”

## CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

For full details on Dublin City Council's Climate Action Plan - see below:

<https://www.dublincity.ie/residential/environment/dublin-city-councils-climate-change-action-plan-2019-2024/dublin-city-council-climate-action-plan-2019-2024>