

Dundalk Institute of Technology (DkIT) Sustainability Policy - *Climate Action Roadmap, Climate & Sustainability, Energy & Environmental Policy (CARCSEE Policy)*

Version Control and Change History

Approved version	Sustainability Policy - <i>Climate Action Roadmap, Climate & Sustainability, Energy & Environmental Policy (CARCSEE Policy)</i>
Approved by:	Executive Board
Responsibility:	VP of Strategic Planning, Communications & Development
Control Document:	Version 1.0 - June 2024
Amendments:	
Policy Review schedule	Annually

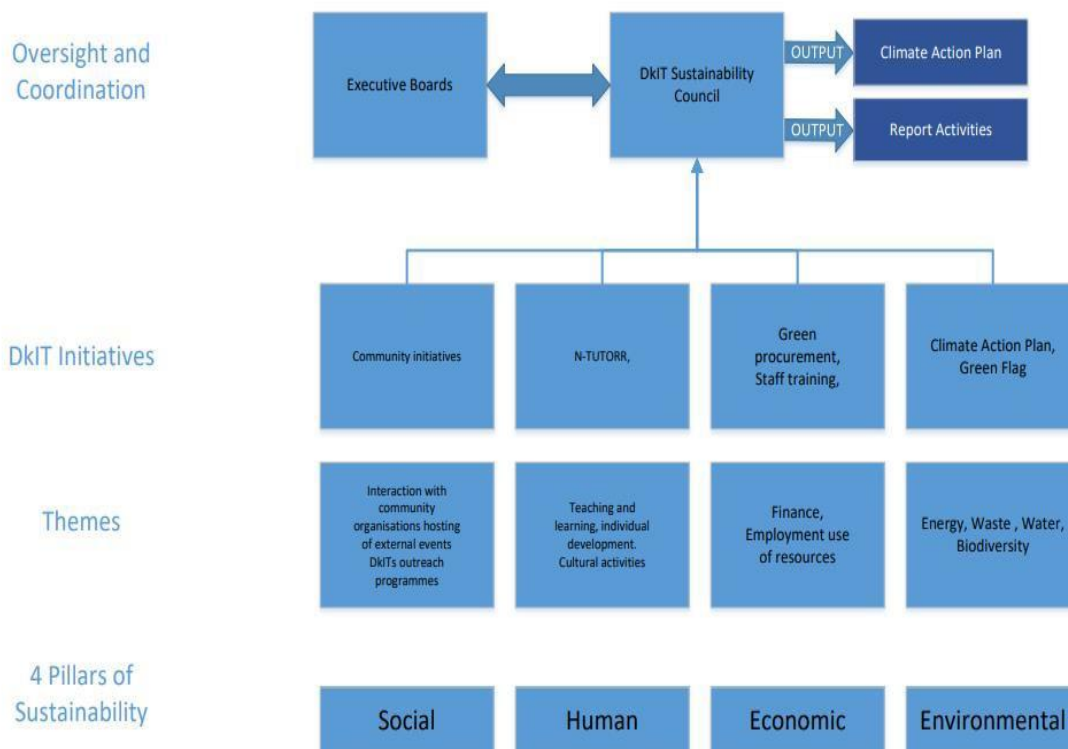
Dundalk Institute of Technology (DkIT) has been at the forefront of delivering excellence in higher education to meet the educational, economic, social and cultural needs of the North East and cross-border region since 1970. Set in an 87-acre campus, DkIT provides quality learning and teaching to circa 6,000 full-time and part-time students across four Schools in Business and Humanities, Health and Science, Engineering and Informatics and Creative Arts at undergraduate and postgraduate degrees from Level 6 to Level 10, in addition to its track record of excellence in craft and higher apprenticeships. DkIT is situated within an unique, rural border landscape strategically positioned at the nexus of the island’s two capital cities along the vibrant M1 Corridor. It is a region rooted in innovation and creativity with a strong and proud heritage and cultural expression. The Institute’s Campus Development Plan 2024-2034 (in development) will reflect the capital requirements to meet the needs of current and future learners, staff and the wider community. Greater utilisation will be made of the existing 87-acre campus infrastructure reflecting the climate action and sustainability agenda.

The purpose of this document is to set out the Institute’s Sustainability Policy to include its terms of reference and structure. DkIT, in its four-year Strategic Plan 2024-2028, has set out its commitment to DkIT becoming a sustainable campus in all its dimensions. The Institute will seek to support sustainable development and embed the UN Sustainable Development Goals across its activities to generate demonstrable impact. In this regard, DkIT is committed to be a leader in the development of a wholistic approach in including all aspects of sustainability based on the four recognised pillars of sustainability as shown below.

These include:

- Social
- Human
- Environmental
- Economic

These four pillars are not individual supports but are interacting on each other. Consequentially DkIT will have to engage in all aspects of sustainability to variant degrees.

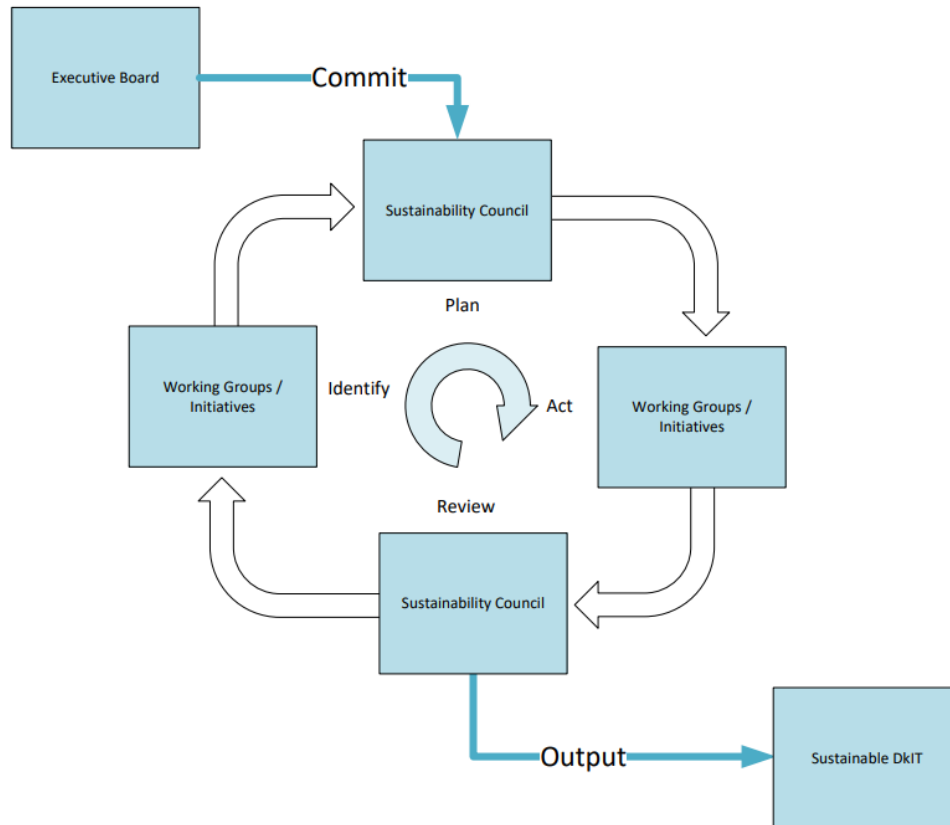


Economic and environmental sustainability are relatively easy to define, and can have measured outputs, while social and human sustainability are less easily measured.

To ensure that DkIT is engaging equally in all four areas, a Sustainability Council will be established. This Council, with the support of the Sustainability Manager, will guide all efforts

that are being made in the various undertakings, groupings, initiatives and projects (see Appendix 1: Sustainability Council and Sub Structure and Appendix 2: Current Initiatives).

Our Way of Working



The Council will coordinate efforts so they align with each other and needs to ensure compliance where necessary. It will provide an overview of all DkIT's activities to the Executive Board. All this should be achieved in the spirit of co-operation and collaboration.

Feeding into the Sustainability Council will be the various groups on campus that are contributing to the development of more sustainable processes which are part of everyday activities of DkIT.

The most important of these are those which deliver on our legal obligation and therefore form part of the core of DkIT's engagement. Staff members acting on behalf of DkIT in these areas are the permanent members of the Council. In addition, DkIT will have several initiatives and groups that are engaged in activities that are centred around sustainability. Each of these should have representation on the Council to ensure that their voice is being heard and their contribution acknowledged.

Individual groups or initiatives can, once established, request a seat on the council to participate in the process. A nominee from each group will report about the activities of the group and take back communication regarding the efforts of others in their respective areas.

The efforts of the individual groups as well as the Councils are communicated via a dedicated outlet on the DkIT website and/or via a dedicated service on the mail system.

The Sustainability Council will have the following members:

DkIT Sustainability Council (DSC)

Vice President Development - Climate and Sustainability Champion
(Chair)
Sustainability Manager (Estates Rep)
Nominee School of Engineering
Nominee School of Health and Science
Nominee School of Informatics and Creative Arts
Nominee School of Business and Humanities
Nominee from Office of Vice President for Finance, Resources and
Diversity
Nominee from Office of Vice President for Academic Affairs and
Registrar
Student Representative
Staff Representative from N-TUTORR Project
Nominee from Research Centres and Groups
Media & Communications Officer
Representative from the Green Flag Group
Environmental Student Society
Initiative 1
Initiative 2
Initiative 3
Initiative 4

Due to the rapid development in the area of sustainability DkIT will need to be able to react quickly to the changes that are presenting themselves. To be able to respond appropriately the Council shall meet at least four times a year. At these meetings any items emerging can be discussed and responsibilities assigned.

The standing agenda will be:

- Minutes of the Last Meeting and Matters Arising
- Progress since the last Meeting / Review
- Planned Initiatives/ Projects
- Actions taken
- Resources / Inputs required

A detailed description of how DkIT will intend to achieve its commitments is set out in the DkIT Climate Action Roadmap. The Climate Action Roadmap is based on the Climate Action

Mandate which stipulates what actions DkIT will need to take to fulfil its obligation with current climate policies.

The Climate Action Roadmap document will need to be updated on an annual basis and will form one of the outputs of the Sustainability Councils work.

Appendix 2: Current DkIT Initiatives

DkIT Commitments					
Name of Initiative	Date signed off	Status	Person/Department Responsible	Theme	Sustainability Pillar
Climate Action Roadmap	01/09/2023	legal requirement	Sustainability Manager	All the below	All
Campus Engage	16/06/2014	?	?	Education / Inclusion	Social
Bike to Work Scheme	?	?	Finance - Hugh Nolan	Transport	Combination
Fair Trade College	17/10/2011	?	?	Society / Food	Combination
Healthy College	20/02/2023	?	Edel Healy	Health / Food / Waste	Human
Anti Racism Principals	?	ongoing	Diarmuid O'Callaghan	Education / Equality / Inclusion	Social
Education for Everyone	?	?	?	Education / Equality / Inclusion	Social
Green Campus	?	lapsed	Meave McArdle	Education / Waste	Environmental
DkIT Energy Policy	02/03/2021	ongoing	Estates Department	Energy	Environmental
N-TUTORR	?	ongoing	Registrars Office - Ronan Bree	Education	Human
Athena SWAN	?	ongoing	Hugh Nolan	Equality / Inclusion	Human
Smarter Travel Campus	?	?	?	Transport	Environmental
Green Procurement	?	?	?	CO ₂	Economic
F-Gas Regulations	since 2008	legal requirement	Departments and Schools	GHG	Environmental
Clean Vehicles Directive	?	legal requirement	?	Transport	Combination
DEC	?	legal requirement	Estates Department	Energy	Combination
Public Service M&R	?	legal requirement	Estates Department	Energy / CO ₂	Environmental
Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD)	?	legal requirement	Estates Department	Building / Energy / CO ₂	Combination
Energy Efficiency Directive (EED)	?	legal requirement	Departments and Schools	Energy / CO ₂	Environmental
Credit Research	?	ongoing	Engineering / Research	Energy / CO ₂	Environmental
Fresh Water Research	?	ongoing	Science / Research	Biodiversity	Environmental
Environmental Society	?	ongoing	Students - Grainne Cumiskey		Combination