

<b>Business Owner:</b>	<b>Organisation Support &amp; Development</b>
<b>Document Title:</b>	<b>Sustainability Policy Statement</b>
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<b>Approved By:</b>	<b>Chief Executive LWETB</b>
<b>Noted by:</b>	<b>LWETB Board</b>
<b>Date Noted:</b>	<b>November 2025</b>

# Longford and Westmeath Education and Training Board

## Sustainability Policy

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## Sustainability Policy

### Purpose

The Longford and Westmeath Education and Training Board (LWETB) delivers high-quality education and training services in Longford and Westmeath. As a statutory body established under the Education and Training Boards Act 2013, LWETB has a responsibility to lead by example in climate action and sustainability.

### Commitment

We are committed to integrating sustainability and climate action across our organisation, in line with:

- The Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021
- The National Climate Action Plan, the Public Sector Climate Action Mandate and the School Sector Climate Action Mandate
- Circular 17/2025: Updated Green Public Procurement Instructions for Public Sector Bodies
- The EU Circular Economy Action Plan

### Our Role

LWETB is a statutory body with recognised legal standing and responsibilities. Our role extends beyond our own operations to the wider education community of staff, learners, families, and local communities. We collaborate with public bodies such as SEAI, SOLAS, Local Authorities, and Government Departments to support decarbonisation, energy efficiency, and sustainable practice.

### Principles and Practices

LWETB will:

- Minimise the impact of our activities through continual improvements in sustainability and energy efficiency
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions, manage water responsibly, and prevent waste
- Implement Green Public Procurement criteria in purchasing decisions
- Promote sustainable travel and reduce unnecessary journeys

- Raise awareness among staff, learners, and communities to champion climate action

### Controls and Measure

- Waste and Water Management
- Green Public Procurement procedures (Circular 17/2025)
- Sustainable Transport and Travel Policy
- Education and Awareness programmes
- LWETB Climate Action Roadmap (2024–2030)
- Energy Policy

We will communicate our Sustainability Policy, plans and performance to staff and we recognise the significant contribution our staff make towards improving the overall performance of LWETB, in particular the various activities driven by volunteers on LWETB’s staff-led Climate Action Steering Group.

The Board of the LWETB has ultimate responsibility for the environmental performance of the organisation. It will ensure that the necessary environmental policies and resources are put in place to minimise the environmental impacts of the organisation.

### Review & Implementation

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Senior Leadership Team in line with best practice, or in light of changes in legislation and guidance from sources such as Internal Audit, C&AG, the Department of Education, the Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science and the Department of Public Expenditure & Reform, on the issuing of circular letter or by the Chief Executive in response to business needs. The date of implementation is the date of LWETB Chief Executive approval.

### Ownership and Approval

OWNER	DATE	SIGNATURE
Organisation Support & Development Director	23/10/25	<i>P.P. Denis McDermott</i> <small>P.P. Denis McDermott (Oct 23, 2025 14:22:56 GMT+1)</small>
AUTHORISED BY		SIGNATURE
Chief Executive	23/10/25	<i>Siobhan Lynch</i> <small>Siobhan Lynch (Oct 23, 2025 14:44:19 GMT+1)</small>