



National Youth Assembly on Climate 2023

The National Youth Assembly on Climate represents a delivery of the commitment under the Programme for Government and constitutes the medium through which young people can guide the direction of the national Climate Action Plan through the National Dialogue on Climate Action.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The National Youth Assembly on Climate took place on the 11th March 2023. 50 Youth delegates aged 12-24 from across Ireland attended, representing youth organisations, Comhairle na nÓg (Youth Councils) and other interested organisations. The delegates attended a preparation session in advance of the Assembly and then took part in a day of discussion. They have produced eight key messages for the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications to consider. These are outlined below.



Transport

Increase Routes

to and from **rural areas** to **major towns** and **cities**, taking into account **unused transport networks** i.e. old railway routes and lines.



Before considering penalties, it is important to provide adequate **incentives** for **reducing traffic and car use**, as well as **investing more in public transport.**



Circular Economy

A tariff or tax

on **fast fashion** should be imposed. The resulting revenue should be used to **make sustainable options more affordable and accessible.**



Offer financial incentives

to businesses/enterprises to **increase practices of circular economy** and create legislation to **promote long lasting, repairable production.**



Communication, Engagement and Climate Literacy

Have a structured **Climate education programme** for all ages and backgrounds. For example, education in **schools, colleges, PLCs, workplaces** and **communities** on the subject of **Climate change.**



Implement a **cohesive media and communication strategy** which is accessible and translatable into **multiple languages**

e.g. Irish, Braille, ISL.



Other

The Government should stop investing in **fossil fuels' infrastructure and finance**, instead **investing heavily** in **renewable sources**, reaching 100% green energy by 2035.



Farmers must receive **increased support**

in order to be more sustainable. This has to be done through **training, education, grants and incentives**, making them part of the **solution** by 2030.



