



SNI – Valuable work and further development

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6th June 2024

Sustainable

Northern Ireland



About us

We promote and enable sustainable development in Northern Ireland. We are founded on collaboration, sharing our expertise and knowledge.

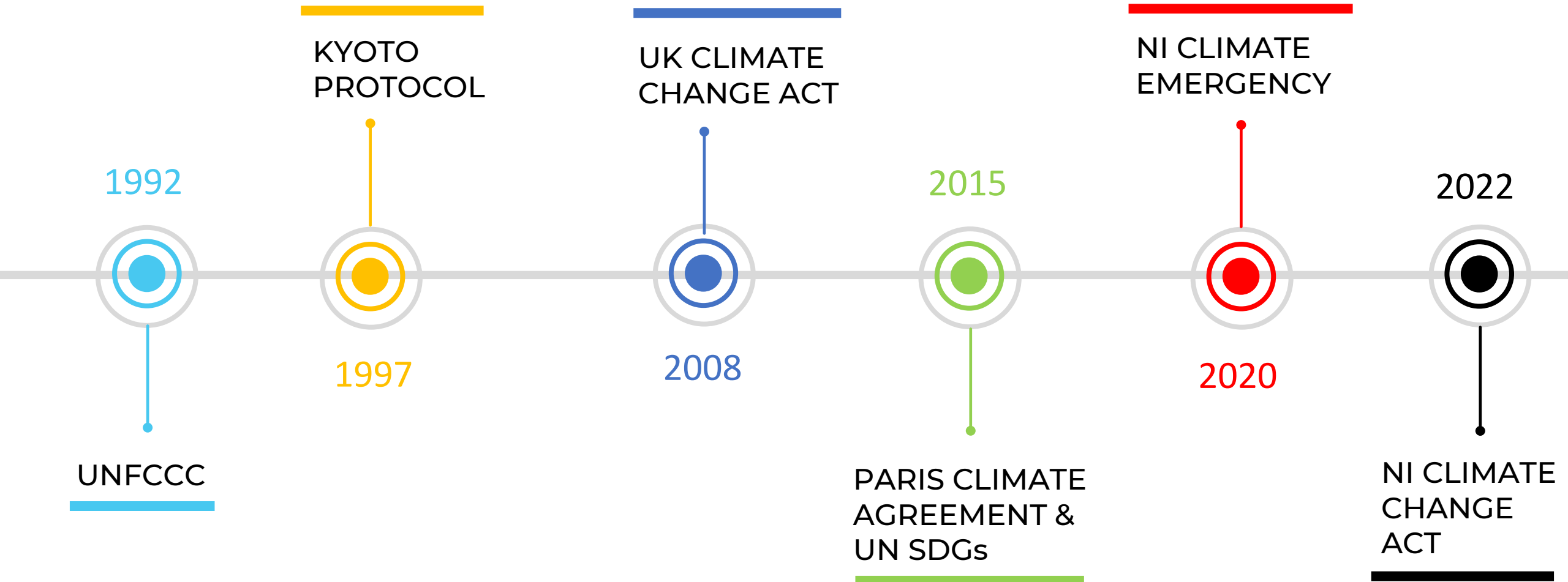
**But our goal is not change.
It is transformation.
We are quiet revolutionaries.**

www.sustainableni.org

Sustainable
Northern Ireland

The logo for Sustainable Northern Ireland features the word "Sustainable" in a bold, dark blue sans-serif font, with "Northern Ireland" in a smaller, lighter blue sans-serif font below it. To the right of the text is a circular emblem composed of several overlapping, semi-transparent circles in various shades of blue and teal, creating a textured, watercolor-like effect.

POLICY TIMELINE



Our Services

Practical Support

Secretariat for Forums and Working Groups

Tools and Resources

Bespoke Training

Advocacy Support

Policy Advice

Compliance Reporting

Strategy Development

What we do



INFORM

Empower positive change through education and information



REFORM

Advocate for green policy and legislation



TRANSFORM

Support organisations with their Net Zero commitments



Support for businesses, governments and civil society

Provide practical advice, tools, knowledge and expertise

Manage the Sustainable Development Forum

Sustainable Development Forum



A community of sustainability practitioners from across the public sector dedicated to accelerating the transition to a low-carbon and climate-resilient economy.



The mission of the Forum is to coordinate and support local government and public bodies to lead transformative change and measurable climate action across the region.

All Party Group on Climate Action



The All-Party Group on Climate Action is a forum for discussion between politicians, NGOs, business leaders and academics, to advance climate action through legislative and regulatory change in the Assembly and Executive.

Where to begin?

Our sustainability assessment helps organisations measure, manage and communicate their sustainability.

We pinpoint ways to improve environmental and social impact, and governance, forming the basis of a meaningful action plan.

www.sustainableni.org

The Boulevard Sustainability Audit Report 2021

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About the assessment

Our sustainability assessment is a simple, confidential tool designed to help measure and manage a company's impact on people and the planet. It assesses the impact of a company's day-to-day operations and its business model — what you do and how you do it.



ENVIRONMENT

Evaluates your environmental management practices as well as your impact on the air, climate, water, land, and biodiversity.



SOCIAL

Evaluates the extent to which you look after your customers, invest in your staff and whether you support the community in which you operate.



GOVERNANCE

Evaluates your overall mission, engagement around social and environmental impact, ethics, and transparency.

Training

What SNI offers...



intro

Sustainability & Net Zero introduction

Be inspired to engage



climate

Carbon Literacy

Become aware of your climate impact



procurement

Sustainable Procurement

Embed sustainability into procurement decisions



design

Sustainable Capital Projects

Design capital projects for sustainability



strategy

Sustainability Strategy

Create a sustainability or climate strategy

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Challenges, Barriers, Drivers and Key Priorities

Challenges Top List | Barriers Top List | Key priorities

Skill gaps

Lack of expertise

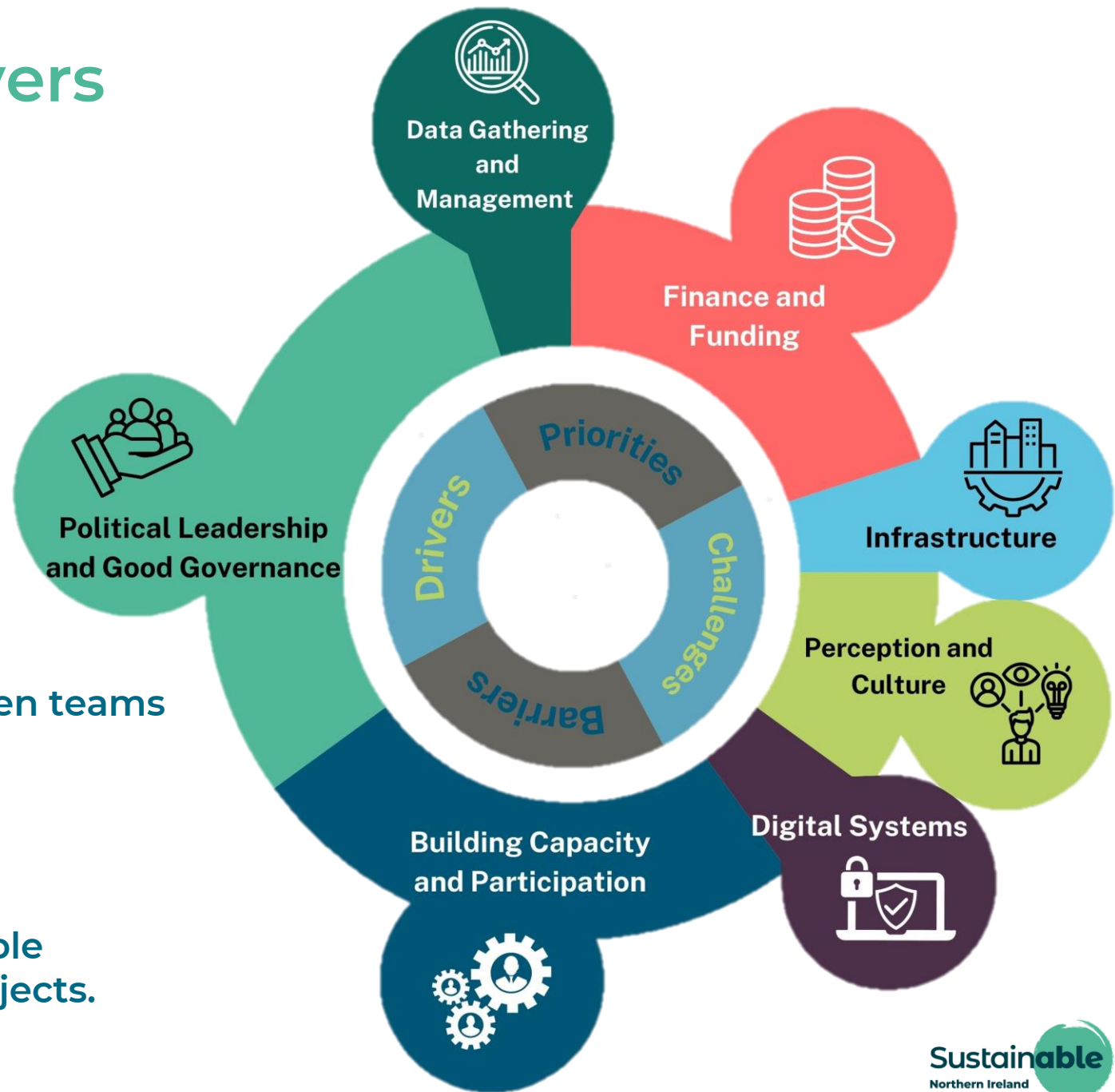
Lack of resources

Teams of sustainability/climate champions both among elected members and officers as preliminary action!

SNI can organise and guide these green teams



- training delivery
- 1-2-1 advice
- ✓ basic sustainability understanding
- ✓ more specific overview of responsible procurement and green capital projects.

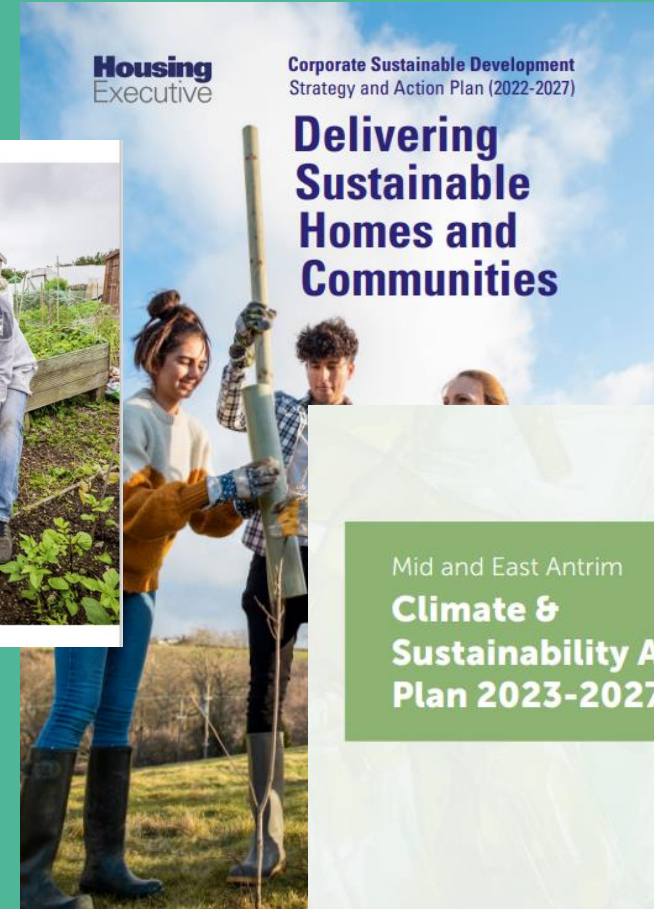


Some of our work

Sustainability Strategies

Climate Action Plans

Green Procurement Strategy



Some facts and figures

Northern Ireland imports and extracts around **31.5 million tonnes** of materials annually.

Only **7.9%** of the resources Northern Ireland uses are cycled back into the economy after use.

Our current Linear Economy means that **92.1%** or **29 million tonnes** of this is virgin material.

It is estimated that each person in Northern Ireland is consuming some **16.6 tonnes** of resources per year.

However, by transforming how we produce and use things by applying circular thinking, we can reduce up to **45%** of our emissions and scale up our low-carbon and renewable energy economy

This is our material footprint

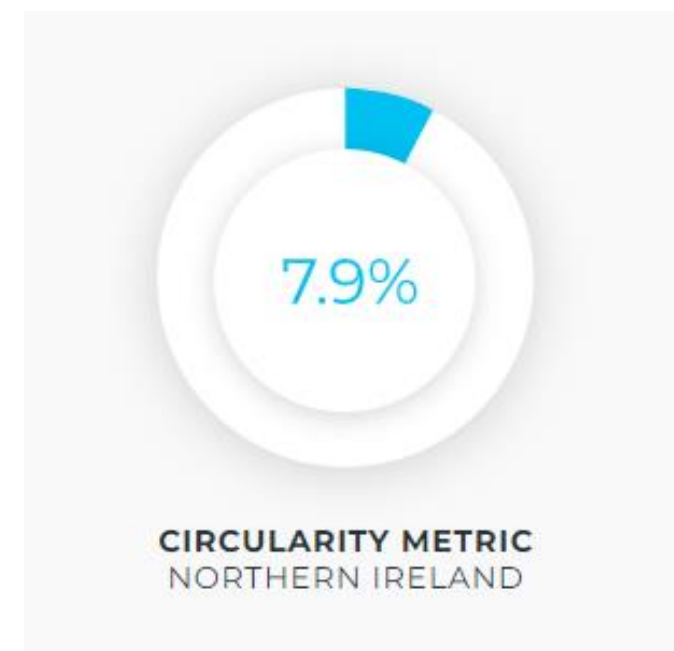
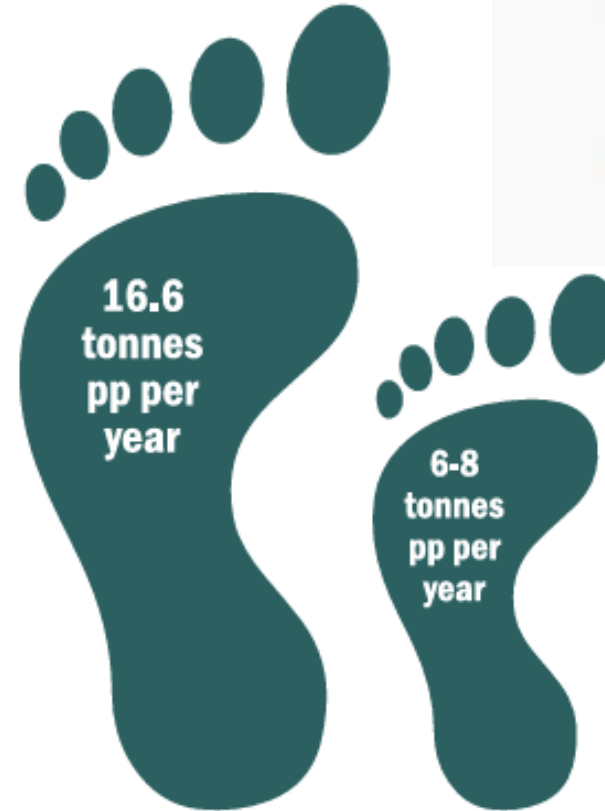
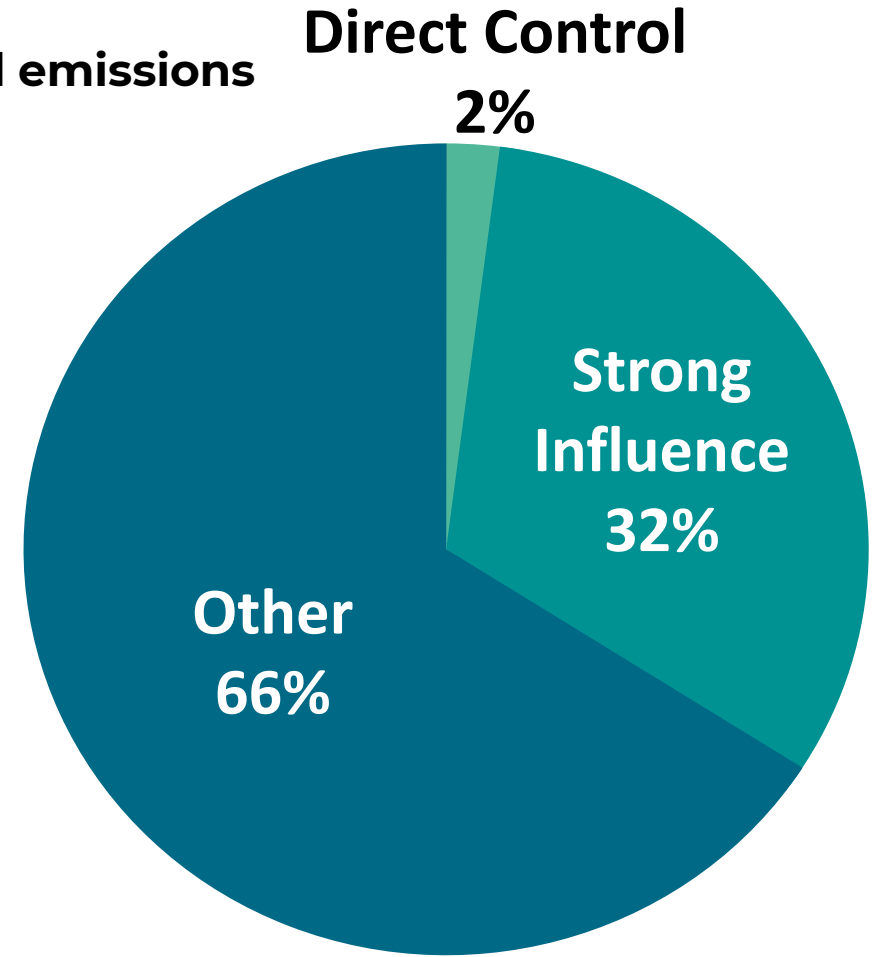
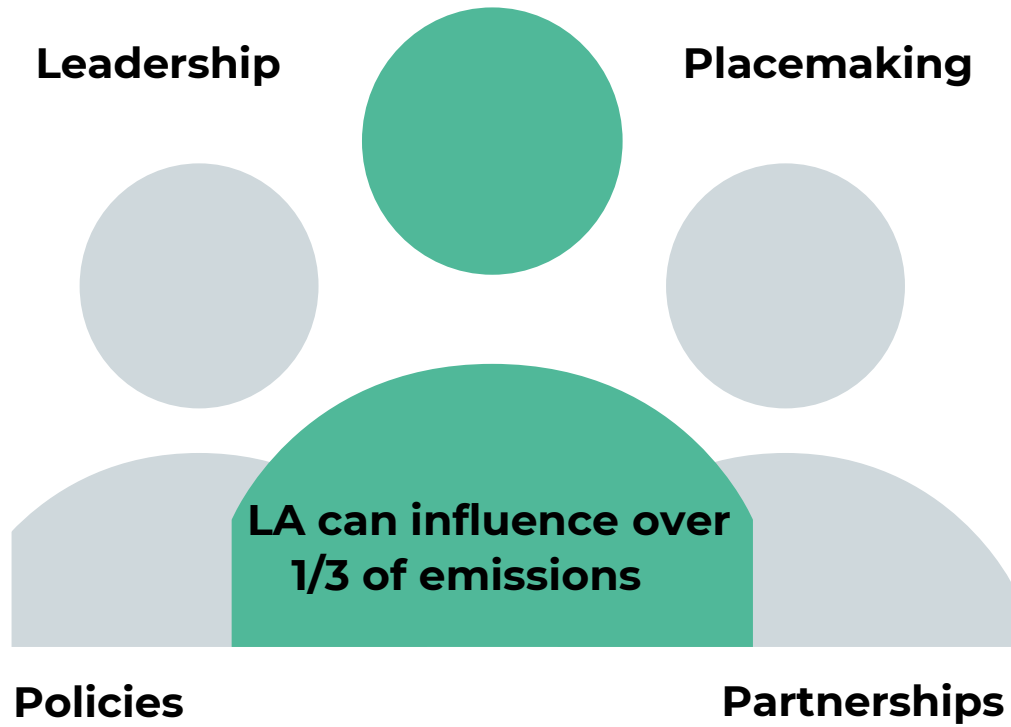
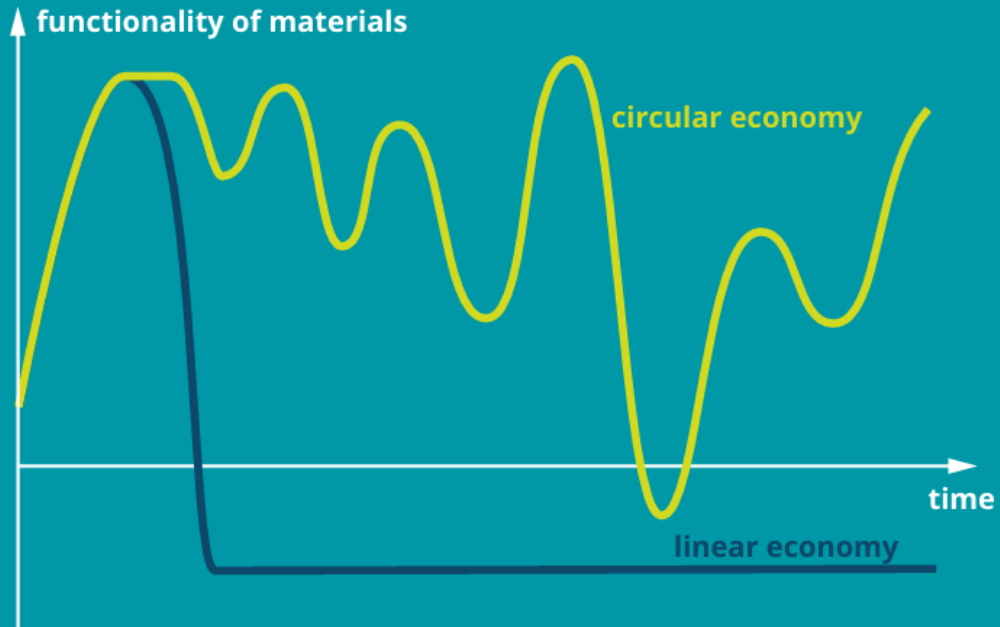


Figure 2 Current Material Footprint vs Recommended Material Footprint

Local authority directly responsible for 2-5% of local emissions





The Problem

Linear Economy =

Waste and Emissions at each stage

+

Massive loss of value

The Solution

Circular Economy = no waste production

- Eliminate waste and pollution
- Circulate products and materials
- Regenerate nature

Procurement = essential strategic enabler of CE

>90% of NI carbon footprint is from good and materials we produce, consume and waste

The Benefits

Socio-economic

- Whole life savings and value
- More resilient (and local) supply chains
- SMEs and Third sector development and social value
- Innovative businesses
- Skills, Training & Employment

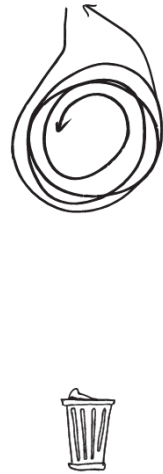
Environmental

- Support transition to 'Net Zero' Decarbonisation
- Maximises value from products, assets, materials and services procured
- Keeps materials in circulation for longer
- Minimises waste

LINEAR ECONOMY

RECYCLING ECONOMY

CIRCULAR ECONOMY



CC by Circular Planners

The role of procurement in achieving net zero

Most organisations have started analysing and reducing their scope 1 and 2 emissions – areas with more direct control.

Scope 3 emissions account for the largest share.

A credible and effective net zero emissions strategy must cover the entire value chain, and because it manages the council's external resources, the procurement function plays a key role in reducing upstream scope 3 emissions with its suppliers.

Buyers are responsible for bringing their partners on board, which is essential for the successful implementation of their company's net zero emissions strategy.

According to a report from the Science-Based Targets initiative (SBTi), a supplier is **68%** more likely to commit to this approach if asked by two companies, and **76%** more likely if asked by three companies. It is time to initiate the movement!



WHAT OUR CLIENTS SAY

The staff training provided by Sustainable NI was positively received, with many senior members of staff valuing the practical ideas and suggestions to integrate sustainability into everyday decision-making at the Council.

- Emma Adair, Compliance Officer, Ards and North Down Borough Council

The APG is a great way to keep abreast of climate and environmental policy and legislation and influence policymakers at the highest level in Northern Ireland.

- Ciaran Fox, Director, Royal Society of Ulster Architects

Sustainable Northern Ireland is a mine of information, experience and knowledge on sustainability and climate issues. They supported us in writing our Sustainable Development and Climate Action Plan and challenged us to be ambitious in our commitments and targets.

- Alison McCullagh, Chief Executive, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council

Sustainable NI is an invaluable resource. We use the Forum to collaborate with other public sector stakeholders committed to sustainability and connect the Council to a wider movement of change.

- Debbie Caldwell, Climate Commissioner, Belfast City Council

The Forum is a valuable platform for knowledge sharing and collaboration. The Housing Executive gains valuable updates and information from Councils and other public bodies to learn how to incorporate sustainability into our work across Northern Ireland.

- Kelly Devlin, Environmental Lead Auditor, Northern Ireland Housing Executive



Thank you!

Further Information

For more information on any of our services, please contact the team, and we'll be happy to assist.

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