



Mayo's Initial Decarbonising Zone Community Application Form

SECTION 1: APPLICANT DETAILS

NAME OF APPLICANT GROUP:	Ballina - Green Town
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Contact Names for Correspondence:	1. Susan Heffernan	2. Kevin Loftus
Position in Group/Organisation:	The Mary Robinson Centre	Ballina Green Town
E-mail Addresses for Correspondence:	info@maryrobinsoncentre.ie	irelandsgreentown@gmail.com

Please confirm which category you apply to:

1. urban areas and agglomerations with a population not less than 5000 persons,	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. rural areas with an area of not less than 4km ²	<input type="checkbox"/>

About your community:

Name	Ballina town (5km radius)
Population	13,599
Size – km sq	79 km sq
Townlands included (please provide outline google map of area)	Map - https://www.maps.ie/draw-radius-circle-map/?lat=54.1135624090199&lng=-9.155044555664064&radius=5000

	Abbeyhalfquarter Ardagh Ardnaree Ardoughan Ballina Ballybeg Ballyderg Ballyhiernaun Ballyholan Ballymanagh Ballynahaglish Ballynaraha Ballynaraha Behy Beg Behy More Behybaun Belleek Breaghwy Bunree Carrowcushlaun Carrowcushlaun West Carrowkelly Carrowmore Carrowntreila Cloonagh More Cloonglasney Cloonslaun Cloonturk Cloontykillaw Cloonyarigaun Cloonyvollow Commons Coolcran Corimla North Corimla South Crannagh Creggaun Croftonpark Culleens Derreen Farrandeelion Farranmorgan Farrannasculloge Farrannoo Garrankeel Garrycloonagh
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	<p>Glebe Gortatogher Gorteen Greenaun Kilmoremoy Knockanelo Knockanillaun Knockatinnole Knockegan And Cloonagh Beg Knocklehaugh Knocklehaugh Knocknalyre Knocksbarrett Laghtadawannagh Mullauns Nure Quignalecka Quignalegan Quignamanger Quignashee Rahans Raish Rathbal Rathbaun Rathkip Rathmeel Rathnaconeen Rathroeen Slievenagark Tullyegan Tullysleva</p>
<p>Number of schools and are they registered with Green-Schools (if so, which theme)</p>	<p>8 primary schools, 6 with green flags 3 post-primary schools, 1 with a green flag</p>
<p>o Primary</p>	<p>8 Primary Schools</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Behy National School, Behy Road 2. Breaffy National School, Breaffy 3. Gaelscoil Na Gceithre Maol, Market Square 4. Scoil Íosa, Convent Hill 5. Scoil Naomh Bríd, Culleens 6. St Michael's National School, Church Road 7. St. Joseph's National School, Rehins 8. The Quay National School, Creggs Road

<p>o secondary</p>	<p>3 Post-Primary Schools</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Moyne College, Cathedral Road 2. St Muredach's College, Sligo Road 3. St. Mary's Secondary School, Convent Hill
<p>o third level</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Significant/High Energy Users in Zone (recommend letters of support)</p>	<p>An Post Archers Ballina Beverages/Coca Cola Ballina Community Hospital Ballina Leisure Centre Ballina Manor Hotel Ballina Mart Belleek Castle Bus Eireann Charles River Connolly Motors Department of Rural & Community Development Heyco Hollister Ice House Hotel Irish Rail Lionbridge Lundy Foods Lundy Haulage Michael Carr Foods Moyne College, Cathedral Road Road Safety Authority Sonas Nursing Homes St Muredach's College, Sligo Road St. Mary's Secondary School, Convent Hill Twin Trees Hotel</p>
<p>Main employment in area</p>	<p>The largest employer in the town is the Wholesale, Retail and Commerce sector, accounting for 28.6% (national average 25.7%).</p> <p>The Education, Human Health and Social Work (21.6%) and Manufacturing Industries (17.3%) are also important with Manufacturing Industries having a higher proportional share than the State average (13%).</p>

SECTION 2: COMMUNITY INFORMATION (SCORED)

To meet the ambitious targets of reducing emissions by over 50% by 2030 will require a whole of community approach. In acknowledging this Mayo County Council have put together a scoring sheet focused on

1. community track record,
2. an ambitious vision for 2030 and
3. proof of community structure and engagement to meet the 2030 vision.

1. Community track record (40 marks)	
Please answer with information from 2015 on only.	
a) Outline previous successful community projects (10 marks)	
1. Community awards eg. Pride of Place, other community awards.	<p>2020</p> <p>Bank of of Ireland Begin Together Awards Winner Ballina (population 7,001-14,000)</p> <p>‘Sound Town’ May winner Ballina</p> <p>Pride of Place 2020: Ballina Lions Club Population over 5,000</p> <p>Ballina Karen Community Green Garden - Irish Seed Savers Association Seed Guardian Programme 2020</p> <p>International Green Flag for the Collection’s Walled Heritage Garden, Jackie Clarke Collection</p> <p>First Place in all Six Categories of the “Museum & Me” Awards, Jackie Clarke Collection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Best in Ireland ● Best for Big Kids ● Best for Nature ● Best Programmes ● Best for Under 3’s ● Best for Families <p>Excellence in Local Government Award, Chambers Ireland, supported by Ballina Chamber:</p> <p>Local Authority of the Year 2020, Mayo County Council</p> <p>Health & Wellbeing: Mayo County Council – Making Positive Choices,</p> <p>Local Authority Innovation: Mayo County Council – Weather Impact Register App – WIRE,</p>

	<p>Festival of the Year: Mayo County Council – Virtual Mayo Day 2020.</p> <p>2019 Bank of Ireland National Enterprise Town Awards, Rising Star, Ballina - Runner up</p> <p>Purple Flag - Ballina 2019-2020 (only town in Connacht with this award)</p> <p>Mayo's Forgotten Famine Girls Remembrance Group Ballina, Meitheal Award/Mayo Dublin Association</p> <p>Ballina Karen Community Green Garden Green Flag International Green Flag for the Collection's Walled Heritage Garden, Jackie Clarke Collection</p> <p>Ballina Tidy Town Bronze Medal 2019</p> <p>2018 Tidy Towns Best Kept Large Town in Ireland, Ballina Bank of Ireland National Enterprise Town Awards - Runner up Connacht</p> <p>International Green Flag for the Collection's Walled Heritage Garden, Jackie Clarke Collection Ballina Tidy Town Bronze Medal 2018</p> <p>2017 EDEN-European Destination of Excellence Award for sustainable tourism runner up; Céide Coast Ballina-Belderrig Purple Flag - Ballina 2017-2018 Ballina Tidy Town Bronze Medal 2017 Ballina Men's Shed named as People's Choice winner at national Fisherman's Friends Shed Series Competition</p> <p>International Green Flag for the Collection's Walled Heritage Garden, Jackie Clarke Collection Nominated in 2017 of the LAMA Awards – Jackie Clarke Collections "1916 Collections" in the Best Education & Training Project.</p> <p>2016 Ballina Tidy Town Bronze Medal 2016</p>
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Revitalising Ireland's Towns, A collaborative initiative by The Heritage Council & RGDATA, National 'Pilot' Town Centre Health Check (TCHC) Training Programme, Ballina. Annual Association of Landscape Contractors of Ireland (ALCI) National landscape award for Ballina Town Park and Playground.

Tom Ruane Park voted among Best 50 parks in Ireland.

LAMA (Local Authority Members Association) Award for Best Piece of Art Sculpture for Flow on Pearse Street

2015

Ballina Tidy Town Bronze Medal 2015

Dr John Igoe Rehab Community Award, Jackie Clarke Collection

2014

Purple Flag - Ballina 2014-2016

Tidy Towns Sustainable Development Award - Ballina Karen Community

National Heritage Council's – National Heritage Week Overall winners for "the Most Innovated Event," Jackie Clarke Collection

2013

Pride of Place, Ballina 2013.

IDI (Institute of Designers in Ireland) Exhibition Design Award, Jackie Clarke Collection

2012

Salmon Weir Pedestrian Bridge – Association of Engineers of Ireland, President's Award for Excellence in Design Engineering in 2012.

Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Award (Social & Community Development) for the Council ran Amenity Grant Scheme.

Prior to 2012, but of great community pride

Belleek Forest Park- numerous awards.

Anglers facility on Cathedral Rd - National Tidy Towns award and also RIAI Award for Best Leisure Building.

	<p>National Tidy Towns Heritage Award for the Salmon Weirs.</p> <p>National Tidy Towns Best Urban village Award for the Quay Village.</p> <p>Excellence in Local Government Award, Chambers Ireland, supported by Ballina Chamber: Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government – Tom Ruane Park.</p> <p>Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government – branding of Ballina as Salmon Capital of Ireland.</p> <p>Chambers Ireland Excellence Award for Jackie Clarke Collection.</p>
<p>2. Community assets eg. Community centre, playground, community walks etc.</p>	<p>Facilities & Services include:</p> <p>Ballina Community Centre, Ballina Arts Centre, Ballina Leisure Centre, Ballina Family Resource Centre, Ballina Library, Ballina Cinema, Ballina Community Hospital HSE Ballina Tourist Office, Mary Robinson Centre, Newman Institute, Ballina, 7 parks - Tom Ruane Park, Green Park on the Killala Rd, Cluain Na Ri Neighbourhood Park, Greenhills Neighbourhood Park, Foxford Rd Neighbourhood Park, Crossmolina Rd Neighbourhood Park, Belleek Cross Country Park,</p> <p>Ballina Sensory Park,</p> <p>Tom Ruane Park and green space,</p> <p>Additional community facilities; Ballina Stephenites GAA, Ardnaree GAA, Ballina Rugby, Ballina Town FC,</p> <p>Ballina Athletic Track, Ballina Town Cycle Route, Monasteries of the Moy Greenway from Belleek Woods along the River Moy and into Killala, Canalside Walk, Ballina, Ballina Slí na Sláinte walking trail, Belleek Woods Nature Trail, Belleek Caravan and Camping,</p>

	<p>Ballina Quay pontoon, slipway & moorings, Batchelor's Walk jetty, Tlr Saile Heritage trail – runs through Ballina.</p> <p>Jackie Clarke Collection and community garden, Ballina Military Barracks covered market/event space, Ballina Market Square, River Moy, Ballina Salmon Capital of Ireland, Belleek Woods, a 1,000 acre woodlands which holds the title of one of the largest urban forests in Europe, Belleek Castle, Connacht Whiskey Distillery, Rathroeen Landfill and civic amenity, Ballina Railway Station, Ballina Bus Station, Ballina Golf Course, Mayo Sligo Mart, Ballina, St Muredach's Cathedral, (Catholic) St Patrick's Church (Catholic) St Michael's Cathedral (Church of Ireland) Ballina bench trail and Historical Walking Tour of Ballina, Ballina Lower Bridge 1833-35 Ballina Upper Bridge 1835-6 Pedestrian Bridge 2009 Wild Atlantic Way – destination point at the Quay village. Route Millenia</p> <p>Over 70 community groups and organisations exist; some for leisure purposes; others with a mission to improve and enhance their community.</p> <p>Ballina Adventure Hub will open Summer 2021</p>
<p>3. Participation in previous Mayo County Council environmental and/or biodiversity campaigns eg. Cleaner communities, Community Action Fund, LAWPro.</p>	<p>Local Authorities and Communities Water Programme (LAWpro) – regular River Moy clean-ups by Ballina Tidy Towns and River Moy Search and Rescue in conjunction with LAWpro.</p> <p>Participation in Greener Community Campaign.</p> <p>Participation in Council's Cleaner Community Campaigns.</p>

	<p>Participation in Litter Action initiatives such as recent dog fouling campaign, litter awareness etc.</p> <p>Participation in Council's Anti-Litter and Anti-Graffiti Awareness schemes.</p> <p>All of the local schools participate in the Green School award scheme.</p> <p>Participation in WEEE collections.</p> <p>Participated in the Swift conservation project - the provision of tailor made bird boxes at Ballina Arts Centre, funded under Agenda 21.</p> <p>Participated in Rainwater harvesting and composting projects funded under Agenda 21.</p> <p>Participate in Annual Tree Planting as part of Tree Week.</p> <p>Participate in Annual Tidy Towns Competition.</p> <p>Air quality monitor recently installed in Jackie Clarke Garden.</p> <p>Ballina Vacancy & Town Enhancement Task Force organising the National Spring Clean and the Earth Day Great Global Cleanup this Saturday 17th April from 8am to 10am.</p>
<p>4. Registered with Mayo Public Participation Network (PPN)?</p>	<p>Yes</p>

<p>b) Existing relevant environmental community plans (10 marks) <i>Please include relevant plans in application pack</i></p>	
<p>1. Are you Sustainable Energy Communities (SEC), Renewable Energy Communities (REC), Energy Cooperatives or the Renewable Electrical Support Scheme (RESS).</p>	<p>Ballina Green Town Sustainable Energy Community</p>

2. Do you have a SEC Energy Masterplan or other renewable energy plan.	Ballina SEC is currently in the final stages of submitting an application to SEAI for an energy master plan with the ultimate ambition of Ballina becoming Energy Independent.
3. Do you have a Biodiversity Plan?	Draft plan to be presented to Ballina Municipal District Councillors at April 2021 meeting
4. Other relevant plans eg. Flood alleviation plan, climate action plan, carbon sequestration.	OPW River Moy Flood Relief Scheme ongoing

c) Previous climate action projects (20 marks)

Provide details on previous climate action projects. Highlight if the project was a success and give metrics to prove success. If project was not as successful as envisaged please provide details as to why.

Examples of projects to include:

Community Energy

- Ballina Arts Centre which is adjacent to the River Moy is actively pursuing the opportunity of hydroelectric potential to power the Building.
- Ballina SEC is currently in the final stages of submitting an application to SEAI for an energy master plan with the ultimate ambition of Ballina becoming Energy Independent.
- Members of the Ballina SEC are actively supporting one of the largest energy users and employers in the town to become carbon neutral.
- On domestic level, Ballina SEC are engaging with the local Credit Union to create a one stop shop for Ballina households to retrofit and upgrade their homes in a financially feasible and hassle free manner.
- One of Ballina's hotels is exploring renewable energy (solar/hydroelectric) options for their business

Carbon sequestration

- As part of National Tree Week 2021, residents of Greenhills Estate supported by Mayo County Council planted 300 native trees in the area with the intention of contributing to the offset of Greenhills carbon footprint.
- Sustainable Ballina Based clothing company, Pure Clothing have begun the planting of 1,000 native trees in their efforts to reduce their carbon footprint for 2021.
- Ballina Stephenites in their role as GAA Green Club have committed to planting over 1,000 trees within the town in conjunction with other community groups and organizations.

Climate adaptation measures eg. Flood alleviation/prevention

- The Ballina Flood Relief scheme is currently putting in place plans for flood alleviation around Ballina. As part of this, they are liaising with the Ballina Green Town initiative to find opportunities for integrating principles of the Green Town vision.

Smarter Travel projects

- Ballina's vision is to become a 10min town, creating transformational walking and cycling infrastructure, which will connect communities with schools, amenities and workplaces. Global leaders in green infrastructure and creators of the 10min town concept have signalled their support for the project and have offered pro-bono advisory support to the efforts.
- Ballina MD has been awarded €150,000 to create a transport master plan that identifies targeted projects to enhance walking and cycling in the town.
- Projects in the pipeline to improve walking and cycling in the town include:
- *The Falcon Trail*. This will connect Ballina town Centre with the continuation of the canal side walkway linking over 1,000 employees of Hollister and Charles River Laboratories along with the staff and guests of Mount Falcon Hotel and the Great National Hotel.
- *The Monasteries of the Moy*. This is a Greenway project aimed at connecting Ballina and Killala via the two historic Monasteries of Moyne and Rosserk Abbey. This year, funding of €200,000 was announced to extend the trail from Belleek woods to Rosserk.

Biodiversity

- Ballina's Biodiversity Plan developed by Mayo County Council and Heritage Officer Deirdre Cunningham is near completion. Draft to be presented and the next meeting of Ballina Municipal District.
- **Beelieve in Ballina** is an initiative by Ballina Community Clean-up Group due to the decline in the bee population. The initiative sets out to protect areas of biodiversity from grass cutting and the addition of native wildflowers in all of their projects and on all four approach roads towards Ballina town centre.
- The final remaining town centre green space in public ownership has been designated as a town centre park, which will create a green biodiversity corridor in the town centre. This project is a part of a joint motion by all Ballina Councillors to improve biodiversity and carbon sequestration in Ballina.
- Ballina's Biodiversity vision is looking at all opportunities to create green space including rooftops. One example is the rooftop of Ballina Arts Centre, which has been identified as the suitable location for a rooftop garden. This project has unanimous support from the board of Ballina Arts Centre and all Ballina Councillors.
- Ballina Stephenites GAA Club is one of 45 clubs along with two regional venues, selected to participate in Phase One of a new GAA Green Club programme launched December 2020. (Only Club in Mayo and one of four Clubs in Connacht participating)

The GAA Green Club Programme, supported by the County & City Management Association and the local authority Climate Action Regional Offices, is delivered in partnership with the LGFA and Camogie Association, with additional support from expert agencies across the five thematic focus areas of the programme, namely: Energy, Waste, Biodiversity, Water, Travel & Transport. It will see clubs explore a range of sustainability projects designed to enrich their physical and

social environments. The Ballina Stephenites GAA Club is focusing primarily on the Biodiversity theme but will not be limited to this area of work.

- Ballina Stephenites GAA Club is collaborating with St Mary's Secondary School Ballina, creating Natural Pesticides with transition year students, combining biodiversity and enterprise.

Other

The Ballina Green Town initiative is a community inspired and driven initiative that aims to make Ballina Ireland's Greenest town by 2025. As well as already running actions and projects in collaboration with a wide range of cross-community groups and businesses, the group is in the early stages of putting together a number of plans under the area areas of Energy, Mobility, People, Ecology and Economy with fixed targets and roadmaps to achieve these targets. As part of this the group is collaborating with Arup, MVRDV, Elgin Energy and UCD CfIT.

The Mary Robinson Centre

A centre for change that uses the archive and legacy of Mary Robinson, Ireland's first female President, former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and UN Special Envoy on Climate Change as an educational resource for communities, visitors to Ballina and students and researchers. Mary Robinson's vision for the Centre is that all visitors will leave feeling compelled to take action for change in their own lives. The Centre brings global leaders to the community, partners with Mayo County Council and NUI Galway to arrange events and activities that connect communities, students and researchers with the key themes of Mary's work - human rights, gender equality and climate change.

Ballina Athletics Club

The outdoor athletics track at Ballina Athletics Club will this year upgrade to LED lighting throughout.

Ballina Stephenites GAA Club

Training Pitch, playing pitch, grounds and clubhouse is in the process of upgrading to LED Lighting.

Climate Ready Academy

Climate Ready is a five year initiative that will enable businesses to respond to climate change, offering Irish businesses the practical skills and insights needed to help them respond to climate change. Working with Skillnet Ireland and Chambers Ireland and the Department of Further & Higher Education, the climate academy will be providing support and practical tools to businesses to maximise the opportunities presented, as we transition to a low-carbon economy. Further information at

www.ballina.ie/your-journey-to-becoming-climate-ready-begins-here.

Mayo County Council projects

- Social housing in Bunree and St Patrick's Estate, Ballina regeneration and energy upgrade projects were completed in recent years
- Public lighting LED retrofit programme was completed in Ballina in 2020

2. Vision (30 marks)

Each applicant will be required to set out a high level vision setting out how they imagine their low carbon community will look in 2030.

10 marks will be allotted for a standard vision, 20 for an ambitious vision and 30 ambitious and innovative visions.

Please begin with **In 2030** (max 500 words)

Tip: Use the expanded definition of a DZ below for ideas for your 2030 future

In 2030

In 2030, Ballina aims to be a European exemplar for large scale de-carbonization and a model for the green transition.

Thinking Global, Acting Local

The EU plans to become the first carbon neutral continent by 2050, recognising that action and leadership must come from communities to achieve this. We believe Ballina can become a model for towns to de-carbonize by prioritizing local action within a defined framework.

The urgency to respond to climate change has never been more present. In Mayo we are seeing yearly increases in flooding, storms and dry periods and a large reduction in the nature and wildlife on which we depend.

Working towards carbon neutrality needs an ambitious shared vision and collective action. We know change is needed. Ballina is stepping up to this challenge. We recognise our green ambition will bring social, economic and environmental opportunities for Ballina, we understand that the future is green and we will lead the way in this space.

Building the Future

Our vision is for a future where people are prioritized, where household energy consumers become energy producers, where nature blends with our town, is rejuvenated and thrives, where you are never more than 10mins by bike from where you want to be and where products and produce are produced locally and sustainability!

We will achieve this by working with and for our natural systems, with innovative energy solutions, rethinking our economy, re-imagining the way we live and travel and by working together.



Motivation through Inspiration

Ballina’s green ambition is inspired by amazing grassroots efforts in cleaning, greening and reviving the town and by the impact of advocacy by people like Mary Robinson on our community.

Ballina Green Town brings together local stakeholders, responding to the urgency of the current situation and exploring ways to empower our community to individual actions while defining town-wide strategies and projects to achieve our goal.

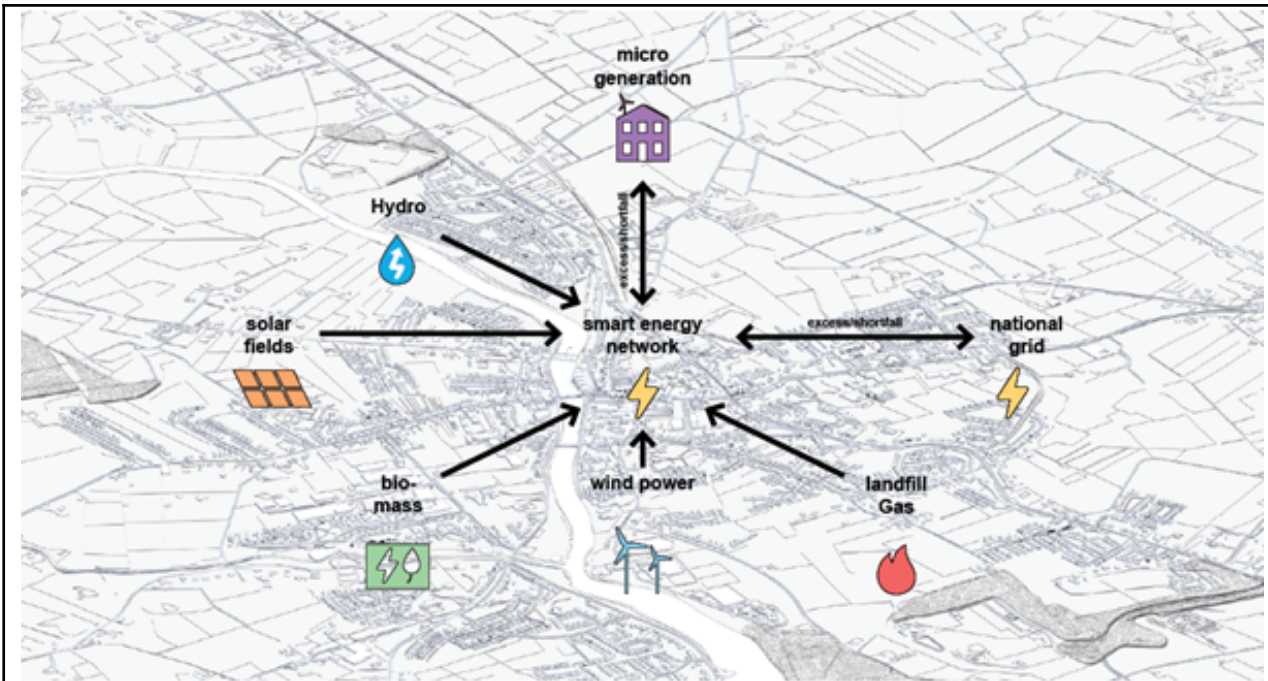
Strategic Action

Our vision includes five interdependent core areas - Energy, Mobility, Economy, Ecology and People. Each has a high level target and three strategies, reflecting best practice, tested methodologies and an understanding of the critical social-ecological systems relating to Ballina, prompting actions from the individual to town-wide.



Vision in Action

Ballina SEC is one such project, developing a plan for energy independence by 2030, engaging with Ballina Credit Union to provide a deep retrofit finance model for homeowners, working with large energy users to produce their own energy and identifying opportunities for community energy projects.



Aligning the Top-down with the Bottom-up

We know our transition to a green future means aligning our efforts from top-down to bottom-up.

We will create a 'green ecosystem', encouraging community activism, empowering and supporting grass roots pilot projects, providing a 'how to' toolbox of ideas, connections, resources and methods to get started.

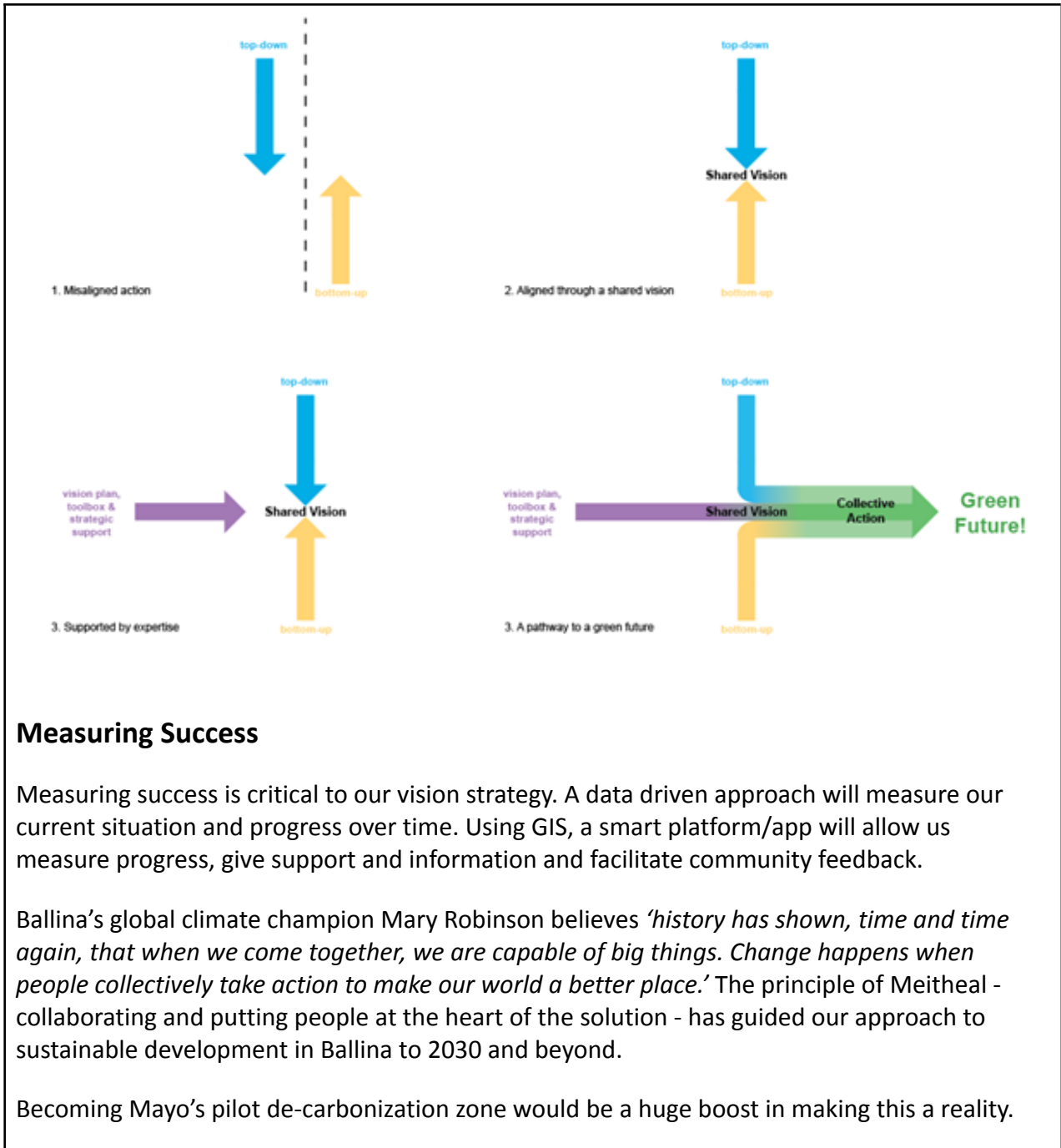
We will work with local authorities, government bodies and elected representatives to contribute to the vision. In July 2020 Ballina Municipal District passed a motion to adopt the goal of becoming Ireland's Greenest town by 2025 and to support initiatives to this end, including preserving a town centre green space as a public park and converting flat roof space in town into green roofs.

Collaboration is Key

Collaboration is at the heart of Ballina Green Town. We are working with schools, business, community groups, households and government, and believe everyone has something to offer.

On a specialist level, we're building a passionate team who have offered their time and expertise because they believe in our vision. This includes academic and research teams at UCD, the Centre for Irish Towns (CfIT) and NUIG, energy specialist Elgin and world-leading urban planning and infrastructure experts ARUP and MVRDV.

Our shared vision allows us to coordinate community ambition, policy, projects and expertise while keeping our goal in clear view.

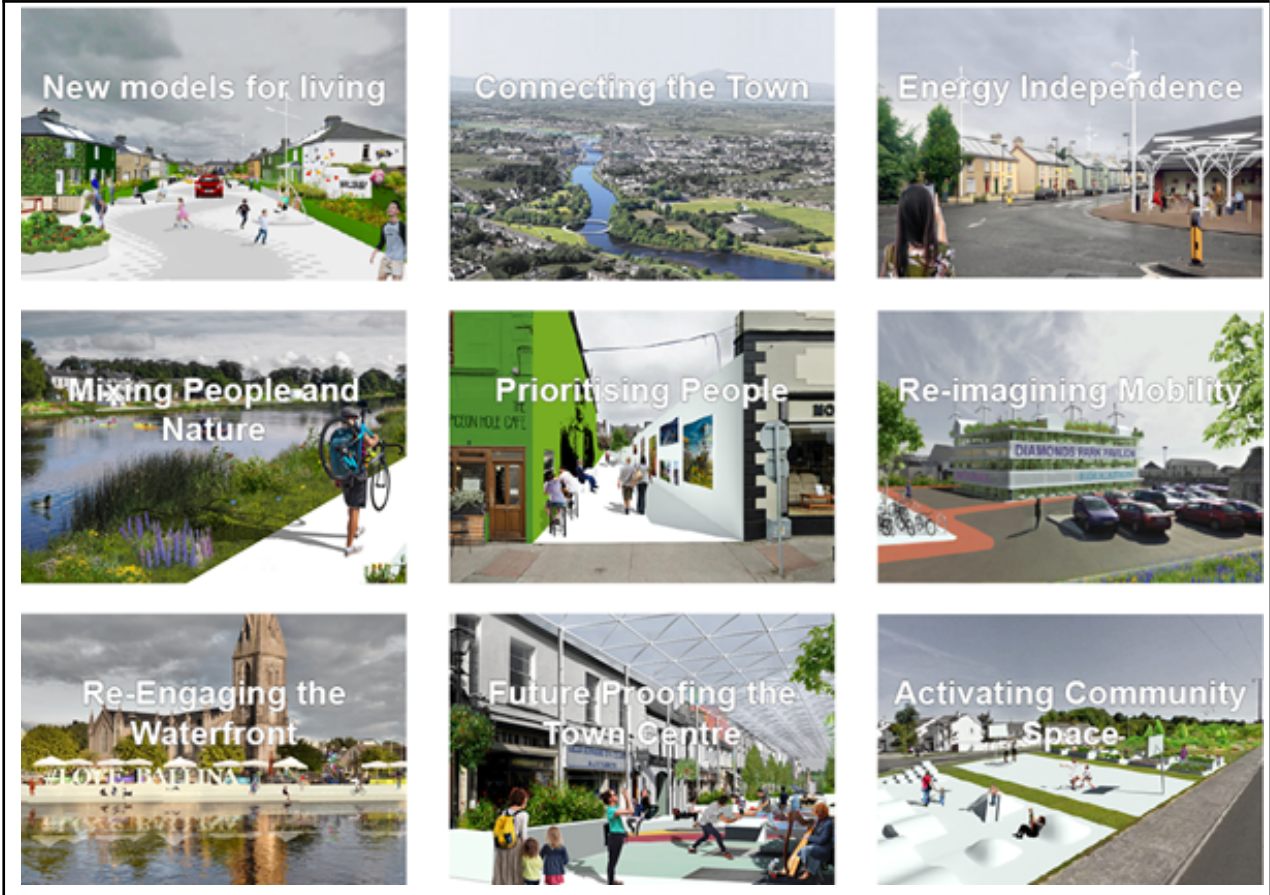


Measuring Success

Measuring success is critical to our vision strategy. A data driven approach will measure our current situation and progress over time. Using GIS, a smart platform/app will allow us measure progress, give support and information and facilitate community feedback.

Ballina’s global climate champion Mary Robinson believes *‘history has shown, time and time again, that when we come together, we are capable of big things. Change happens when people collectively take action to make our world a better place.’* The principle of Meitheal - collaborating and putting people at the heart of the solution - has guided our approach to sustainable development in Ballina to 2030 and beyond.

Becoming Mayo’s pilot de-carbonization zone would be a huge boost in making this a reality.



We aim to document Mayo communities decarbonizing journey and so request your permission to share your vision on the Mayo.ie website and on other media?

	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	No	<input type="checkbox"/>

A **Decarbonising Zone** is an area spatially identified by the local authority, in which a range of climate mitigation measures can co-exist to address local low carbon energy, greenhouse gas emissions and climate needs.

The range of policies and projects developed are specific to the energy and climate characteristics of the spatial area covered by the DZ. This can include a range of technologies and measures addressing electricity, heat, transport, building energy efficiency, carbon sequestration, energy storage, grid frequency/inertia etc.

A Decarbonising Zone should also address the wider co-benefits of air quality, improved health, biodiversity, embodied carbon, agricultural practices, sustainable land management, lower noise levels, waste, water, circular economy etc., and should integrate with smart data and 'smart cities' initiatives (as relevant).

A Decarbonising Zone can also explore the co-benefits of climate adaptation, and examine a range of local measures such as climate proofing, afforestation, green and blue infrastructure, reducing heat island effects, citizen awareness and behavioural change.

3. DZ team Structure (30 marks)

a) Collaboration of 3 or more established community groups.

Please name all community groups involved in the DZ application process

Ballina - Green Town
Ballina Chamber of Commerce
Ballina Community Clean Up Group
Ballina Karen Community Garden
Ballina Lions Club
Ballina Presbyterian Church
Ballina Soroptimists
Ballina Stephenites GAA Club
Ballina Tidy Towns
Belleek Woods Enhancement Committee
Mayo North Tourism
The Mary Robinson Centre

b) Evidence of community support through Letters/emails of support eg. From local school, church, sporting groups, businesses etc.

Please list the letters/emails of support here and include copies in application pack

1. 5th Mayo Scouts Ballina
2. Aesthetic Services Ltd (Handy Hut)
3. AIB Ballina
4. An Post Ballina
5. Ballina 2023
6. Ballina Arts Centre
7. Ballina Beverages/Coca-Cola
8. Ballina Chamber of Commerce & Tourism
9. Ballina Community Clean Up
10. Ballina Fringe Festival
11. Ballina Lions Club
12. Ballina Logistics & Storage Ltd
13. Ballina Salmon Festival
14. Ballina Sports Centre
15. Ballina Stephenites GAA Club
16. Ballina Tidy Towns
17. Bishop John Fleming, Bishop of Killala
18. Bus Eireann
19. Champion Freight Service
20. Charles River Laboratories
21. Clarke, Flynn, McCole Solicitors
22. Cliona Boland, Barrister-At-Law
23. Cllr Annie May Reape, FF
24. Cllr Jarlath Munnely, FG
25. Cllr Mark Duffy, Independent
26. Dara Calleary, TD, FF
27. Ezewarm Ireland Ltd
28. Folkdore
29. Food Fleadh Ballina
30. Fr Aidan O'Boyle, Parish Priest
31. Garda Siochana Ballina
32. Glacken Accountants
33. Gobus.ie
34. Gortnor Abbey Secondary School
35. Heffernan & Associates
36. Hogans Bar
37. Hollister
38. Jackie Clarke Collection
39. Kevin Connolly Motors
40. Killala Tidy Towns

41. Local Link Mayo
42. Lundy Foods
43. Luskin's Bistro
44. MacHale Solicitors
45. Mayo North Tourism
46. Melvin Financial Services
47. Michelle Mulherin
48. Moy Valley Resources
49. Moyne College
50. Mr A
51. National Energy Assessors
52. Paddle and Pedal
53. Rachel's Irish Adventures
54. Rathroeen Civic Amenity Centre
55. River Moy Search & Rescue Ballina
56. Rouse Insurance
57. Sonas Nursing Homes
58. Soroptimists International Ballina
59. St Mary's Secondary School
60. St Muredach's Secondary School
61. Terry Reilly - Mayo's Forgotten Famine Girls Committee
62. The Junction Restaurant
63. The Mary Robinson Centre

We have also enclosed a list of the signatories of the Ballina Green Town charter and their pledged actions.

c) DZ Committee – min of 5 people.

The committee should represent your community eg. Youth, business, community groups, large energy users, etc.

Please also highlight any community Expertise that will be assisting you with your DZ journey eg. Ecologists, energy engineers, project mgmt., climate champions, etc.

Ballina DZ Committee

- Susan Heffernan, The Mary Robinson Centre
- Mags Downey Martin, Ballina Chamber of Commerce & Tourism (representing business & industry)
- Gerry Luskin, Mayo North Tourism
- Mark Duffy, Ballina Green Town

- Kevin Loftus, Ballina Green Town
- Denise Kilgallon, St Mary's Secondary School
- TY Social Outreach student, St Mary's Secondary School (this representative will rotate as the module rotates)
- Fran McKeever, Ballina Stephenites GAA Club
- Laura Kenny, Soroptimists International Ballina
- Jim Friel, Ballina Tidy Towns
- Vanessa Forde, Ballina Community Clean Up Group
- David Roache, Ballina Lions Club
- Rev Molly Dethridge, Ballina Presbyterian Church
- Sinead Caheny, Belleek Woods Enhancement Committee
- Keith Maughan, Involve Ballina
- Michael Slack & Arlene Walsh, Ballina Karen Community Garden
- Michelle Mulherin, former TD, Senator and member of the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Climate Action and Joint Oireachtas Committee on Agriculture, Food and Marine.

Anthony McGarry, Global Sustainability Officer with Coca Cola in Ballina has expressed an interest in joining this committee. His participation is subject to approval from Coca-Cola head office in Atlanta.

This committee recognises that a great number of public sector organisations and State agencies active in Ballina may have expertise to share and will collaborate with those agencies, such as Irish Rail, Coillte, An Post, Inland Fisheries Ireland on relevant initiatives.

Community Expertise

Archers

Local family run hardware, builder's merchants, farm supplies and garden centre. Archers has a range of relevant experts within their team, including trained horticulturalists who are happy to participate in Green Town initiatives.

Ballina Karen Community Garden

A joint project between Ballina's Karen Community and GIY (Grow-it-Yourself) Ballina. It is quickly becoming a model for community gardens everywhere. In 2014 the efforts were recognised when the garden was awarded first prize in all Ireland in the national Tidy Towns Competition under the category 'Sustainable Development'. However, the garden does not stand still and each year strives to continuously improve and develop.

Ballina Stephenites GAA Club supports with GAA pilot Green Club

As one of the GAA's pilot Green Clubs, Ballina Stephenites has access to national expertise for pilot projects and can share that expertise with local sports clubs and members.

Úna Fitzpatrick (Biodiversity Ireland)

Claire Moran (Kildare County Council, Eastern & Midlands Climate Action Regional Office (CARO))

Basil Mannion, Local Authorities Water Programme

Tom Carolan, Mayo Community Water Officer

Expert Partners

Expert Partners for the five thematic areas of Phase One of the Green Club programme are:

- Energy – **Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI)**
- Water – **Irish Water and the Local Authority Waters Programme (LAWPro)**
- Waste – **Regional Waste Management Offices**
- Biodiversity – **National Biodiversity Data Centre**
- Travel & Transport – **the National Transport Authority (NTA) and the Road Safety Authority**

President Joe Biden

Proud Ballina diaspora, long-time friend of Mary Robinson and global climate advocate, fully committed to connecting meaningfully with Ballina.

“Farm to Fork” local food producers in hospitality, Ballina

Joe Lavelle of The Merry Monk, Alex Lavarde organic gardener at Belleek Castle, Tom Doyle head chef Mount Falcon and team of organic gardeners.

Foodiesave

A Mayo business, Foodiesave works with businesses in the commercial food sector to sell their unsold surplus food at the end of their business day - thereby reducing food waste. Foodiesave is active in Ballina and eager to engage with local businesses and the community.

Gary Goggins, Wild Atlantic Nature

Public Awareness Manager with Wild Atlantic Nature LIFE Integrated Project working with farmers, local communities and land owners to add value to the myriad services provided from our Special Area of Conservation network of blanket bogs and associated areas.

Peter Heffernan

Former CEO of the Marine Institute and ocean ambassador. He has played a fundamental role in developing Ireland’s ocean research capacity, increasing collaboration in marine research and innovation in Europe, as well as driving sustainable development across a range of maritime sectors. Peter has played an active role in launching Ballina Green Town.

Susan Heffernan

Susan Heffernan is a project management expert, based in Ballina, Co. Mayo. A particular focus of Susan’s work is on stakeholder engagement, largely in the heritage, tourism and not-for-profit sectors. Her strengths lie in inclusive community engagement on challenging issues and developing sustainable tourism destinations. Susan has a MSc in Tourism Management, trained with the Global Sustainable Tourism Council and is a member of Sustainable Tourism Ireland.

The Heritage Council

Ali Harvey, The Heritage Council; Planning & Development Officer, Project Manager of the Collaborative Town Centre Health Check Programme and a strong supporter of Ballina’s work in developing a sustainable and vibrant town centre.

Ruairi Heverin, Heverin Renewables

Ruairí has achieved an Honours Degree in Mechatronic Engineering from DCU (Dublin City University) and has extensive experience working in the Renewable Energy, Pharmaceutical and Medical Devices sectors as a SME (Subject Matter Expert), Design Engineer, Project Engineer and Process Engineer. Mechatronic Engineering is a combination of Mechanical and Electronic Engineering.

Ruairí has been deeply involved in the design and manufacture of many robotic and automated machines used in factory settings in Ireland. Continuous improvement projects and novel technical advancements were part of Ruairí's duties while working in the mentioned Engineering roles.

Ruairí founded MPE-Online in 2015 as a One Source Supplier of Industrial and Renewable Energy components. Based in Crossmolina, Co. Mayo, MPE-Online are now particularly focused on the design and supply of components for PV Solar Systems, Small Scale Wind Turbines and Back-Up Power Systems.

David Horkan, Paddle & Pedal

Canoeing Ireland Kayak Instructor in whitewater, surf and sea-kayaking, and ISKGA Coastal Guide, Leave No Trace Trainer and environmental educator.

Christian Jenne

Christian Jenne qualified as a mechanical engineer after completing a three year apprenticeship in Germany. After his mechanical engineering graduation he worked for many years as a Project Engineer in Germany and Switzerland in the Research & Development area. In 2007 he moved to Ireland where he graduated with a Management Business degree from the Michael Smurfit Business School in University College Dublin.

Subsequently, he graduated with a Master's degree in Renewable Energy Systems from DKIT in 2010. In 2014 he started a 4 year EU Horizon 2020 research programme under the "ATBEST" research collaboration project between Germany, Ireland, UK and Sweden investigating "Biogas storage and distribution concepts for the transportation sector". His main focus was on biogas distribution technologies coming from Anaerobic Digestion. During that research time he published 11 scientific papers and peer-reviewed documents which were presented in form of a presentation in Austria, Sweden, Germany, Scotland, Republic of Ireland, Chile, Brussels and Northern Ireland.

In addition to this he was a co-author of a book "Handbook on Smart Cities as a Solution for Reducing Urban Waste and Pollution - Increase of Transportation Efficiencies and Emission Reduction within a City" IGI Global, pp. 91 - 124, ISBN: 978 1522 5030 26.

Gary Loftus, Loftus Recycling Ltd

Established in 1995, Loftus Recycling Ltd. provides waste and recycling collection services to commercial, domestic and industrial customers in the Mayo and Sligo area. Gary and his team specialise in greener waste management systems and recycling.

Kevin Loftus

Kevin is passionate about the potential of a green future. He is originally from Ballina but has spent the last decade living, working and studying abroad. Since finishing his studies at the University of Edinburgh, Kevin has worked as an architect in China and the Netherlands, contributing to the design of skyscrapers and city plans at a large scale and homes and urban

interventions at a smaller scale. In addition to his main work, Kevin is a guest architecture tutor at The University of Central Lancashire. Beyond his professional work, he has organized and led volunteer design and build projects in both Borneo and Palestine. His passion for all things green and social means Kevin pushes the core ideas of sustainable development in his work. He is a proud member of Ballina SEC and is also working on the wider initiative to make Ballina, Ireland's Greenest Town.

Annette Maughan, Moy Valley Resources

Annette is CEO of Moy Valley Resources. Originally from Donegal, Annette has a Degree in Agricultural Science (Land Hort) from UCD. Annette moved to Mayo in 1999 to take up the Head Gardener position at Enniscoe House and later began her own company, AM Landscapes providing landscape design, consultancy, and training services throughout the West of Ireland before joining Moy Valley Resources.

Mayo County Council

Ballina collaborates closely with Mayo County Council on many initiatives. Pamela Bergin, Acting Senior Executive Scientist and Leo Brogan, Acting Assistant Scientist have offered their expertise to assist with Ballina Green Town.

Michael Hegarty, Rathroeen Civic Amenity Centre is a strong local advocate for responsible waste management, driving innovative initiatives and community engagement in the local area.

Michelle Mulherin

Former TD, Senator and member of the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Climate Action and Joint Oireachtas Committee on Agriculture, Food and Marine. Michelle was also instrumental in developing a government road map as to how we can tackle greenhouse gas emissions in the agricultural sector. She is presently practicing as a solicitor, specialising in renewable energy projects, environment, planning and agri-business.

Rachel Nolan, Rachel's Irish Adventures

An ultra-distance endurance & adventure racer, qualified Krav Maga self-defence instructor, personal trainer, yoga instructor and passionate explorer, fully committed to sustainable tourism.

NUI Galway

Through The Mary Robinson Centre's partnership with NUI Galway, the Department of Geography & Archaeology, Whitaker Institute for Innovation & Societal Change and Ryan Institute - Research for Sustainability are available and interested in collaborating with Ballina and its community on Green Town related projects in both research and academic study.

North Mayo Heritage Centre

The organic market garden in the old walled garden beside Enniscoe House produces vegetables, soft fruits and herbs; sells direct from the garden and from Mayo North Heritage Centre as well as to local hotels and restaurants. The garden runs training courses and is participating in a Europe-wide phenology research project at present.

Norah Patton

Citizen Scientist-Astronaut Candidate at the International Institute for Astronautical Sciences (IIAS) Project PoSSUM (Polar Suborbital Science in the Upper Mesosphere) and has participated in several citizen science campaigns. Norah is an Emerging Space Leader Award recipient; 2018 Limerick's Top 40 under 40; and a PoSSUM Science Educator award recipient and an award-winning author.

Pure Clothing

Peter Timlin & Richard Grimes, 3rd Year University Students.

Sustainable clothing brand based in Ballina, Co Mayo. Stylish and modern clothes produced using sustainable supply chains and eco-friendly materials.

Ethical Sourcing; garments are mainly comprised of organic cotton that is free from any chemicals. This is complemented with recycled polyester produced from recycled bottles and is set between two layers of organic cotton to avoid any form of skin irritation.

Ethical Manufacturing; Production of garments is 100% sweatshop free and Fair Wear approved, meaning workers receive a fair wage and are provided with fair working conditions. Products are PETA approved, certifying them as vegan friendly. Labels are made using a 100% recycled polyester yarn and these are also sewn on with a 100% recycled polyester thread!

Designs are embroidered by a wind powered, sweatshop free factory in Co. Mayo.

Ethical Disposal; Packaging is 100% biodegradable and compostable as it is comprised of water based ink printed on corrugated natural kraft cardboard. Shipping labels are made of 100% post-consumer waste and packing paper is made of recycled materials, is vegan friendly and is fully recyclable. Waste from the ginning process of our organic cotton is re-used for the animal feed industry.

Denis Quinn

BA Hons Heritage Studies and Certified Failte Ireland Local Marine and Countryside Guide, Director of Wild Atlantic Cultural Tours specialising in bespoke tours and family foraging experiences along Mayo's Wild Atlantic Way.

Mary Robinson, global climate advocate

Former President of Ireland, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and UN Special Envoy on El Nino and Climate Change, Chair Mary Robinson Foundation - Climate Justice

Kieran Sherry, Voltswagon

Leading the way in developing renewable energy solutions for domestic homes to facilitate the growth in EVs.

St Vincent de Paul Ballina

One of Ballina's busiest and most active charity shops is run by St Vincent de Paul, leading the way in developing and promoting the circular economy in Ballina, with an ethos of inclusivity for all.

UCD

Through their collaboration with Ballina Green Town, UCD's Centre for Irish Towns Co-Directors Orla Murphy and Philip Crowe are available and interested in collaborating with Ballina and its community on Green Town related projects.

SECTION 3: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED (NOT SCORED)

Does your community have (please expand where relevant)?	
Public Transport	Yes. Rail & freight depot. Bus Terminal and serviced by Local Link buses.
Natural Gas connection	Yes Ballina is serviced across the town with natural gas.
Fibre broadband connection	Fibre Broadband is currently being rolled out across the town with many homes already connected.
Wastewater Treatment Plant connection or Septic Tanks	Ballina has a waste water treatment plant serving the whole Ballina region.
Green and blue Spaces ie. rivers, lakes, parks etc.	Ballina has an abundance of Green and Blue Spaces. The River Moy runs through Ballina, often known as the Salmon Capital of Europe. The Belleek Woods area of Ballina is Europe's largest urban woods. The Belleek area also includes excellent outdoor recreational facilities with 3 football pitches, an all weather running track, greenway and a cross country trail. The town is also home to large areas of green space including Tom Ruane Park.
Agriculture (identify type ie. Beef, dairy, sheep, tillage, vegetable, other)	Ballina Mart serves as the focal point for farmers throughout North Mayo and West Sligo. The Ballina urban area is also home to farm lands with primary use for beef and dairy.
Forestry (identify type ie. Amenity forests, urban forests, native woodlands, farm forests, upland and peatland forests)	Belleek Woods - urban native woodlands
Wetlands/bogs	The Church Road, just 2km from Ballina Town Centre is home to extensive wetland bogs and is a haven for wildlife including Pine Martins and Pheasants.
Cycle/walk ways	Ballina has an urban cycle plan and trail, however a new plan will be created to improve the cycling and walking potential of the town. The Monasteries of the Moy Greenway runs from Ballina through Belleek Woods and will ultimately connect with Killala.
EV charging points (no.)	Ballina has 12 EV charging points at present.
Remote working hubs	Ballina is home to one privately operated remote working hub in Ballina with additional hot-desking facilities at Moy Valley Resources IRD

Public buildings in Zone	<p>Mayo County Council - Ballina Municipal District Civic Offices</p> <p>Ballina Library</p> <p>Ballina Arts Centre</p> <p>Government Buildings, Ballina (Intreo, Dept Rural & Community Affairs)</p> <p>Ballina Post Office</p> <p>Jackie Clarke Collection</p> <p>Ballina's schools - 8 primary and 3 post-primary schools</p> <p>Ballina Fire Station</p> <p>St Joseph's District Hospital, Ballina</p> <p>St Augustine's Community Nursing Unit, Ballina</p> <p>HSE Primary Care Centre, Ballina</p> <p>HSE Health Centre, Ballina</p> <p>Ballina Garda Station</p> <p>Road Safety Authority</p> <p>OPW</p> <p>Ballina Train Station</p> <p>Ballina Bus Station</p> <p>Ballina Court House</p> <p>Ballina Tourist Office</p> <p>Glasgow Kennedy Centre</p> <p>Rathroeen Civic Amenity</p>
Protected Areas eg. SACs, SPAs	<p>The river Moy SAC runs through Ballina</p> <p>Ballina is currently developing its local area plan, public consultations are open at the moment. Contributions will include a strong influence on a low carbon future for Ballina.</p>
Local Area Plans	<p>Ballina is currently developing its local area plan, public consultations are open at the moment. Contributions will include a strong influence on a low carbon future for Ballina.</p>
Brownfield and former commercial / industrial sites	<p>Ballina has an estimated dereliction rate of 23%</p>
Social Housing and/or fuel poor homes (provide no.)	<p>Estimated at 1,000</p>
What is the Median BER of community (ArcGIS Web Application)	<p>Median BER is estimated to be D</p>

INCOMPLETE OR LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

Please submit your completed application form and any additional information by email to:
Laura Dixon, Climate Action Officer, Mayo County Council, ldixon@mayococo.ie

**Closing date for receipt of completed application forms is
4.00 p.m. on Friday 16th April 2021.**



Comhairle Contae Mhaigh Eo
Mayo County Council

Office Use Only:

Date Application Received: _____ *If eligible, Ref. No. assigned:* _____