

An Taisce
2025 Annual Report

Protecting Ireland's heritage, safeguarding its future

AnTaisce.org

An Taisce
The National Trust for Ireland

Company Information

An Taisce
The National Trust for Ireland

Company Name:

An Taisce

Company number
12469

Charity registered number
CHY4741

CRA number
20006358

Registered office
Tailors' Hall, Back Lane, Dublin 8, D08 X2A3, Ireland

Business address
5 Foster Place, Temple Bar, Dublin 2, D02 V0P9, Ireland

Auditor
Browne Murphy & Hughes Chartered & Certified Accountants &. Statutory Auditor Firm,
28 Upper Fitzwilliam Street, Dublin 2, Ireland

Bankers
Bank of Ireland, 2 College Green, Dublin 2, Ireland

The An Taisce Family

Founded in 1948, An Taisce is one of Ireland's longest-serving environmental heritage charities, fostering connections throughout Irish society. It is dedicated to preserving and protecting the nation's precious natural and built heritage. An Taisce is an authoritative, independent advocate for environmental and heritage issues and it is not a part of government or a semi-state agency.

It's also the national operator of a number of highly successful environmental education, sustainability and behaviour change programmes including Green-Schools, Blue Flag, National Spring Clean, Clean Coasts and Climate Ambassador.

An Taisce is proud to work with a wide range of participants, supporters and sponsors to deliver these programmes across Ireland. In 2025, An Taisce became an SDG Ambassador following its SDG Champion status by the Government of Ireland.

Cover images from An Taisce programmes include Green-Schools Travel, GLOBE Ireland, Learnging about Ecosystems and Forests (LEAF), Clean Coasts, and An Taisce's traditional HQ in Tailors' Hall Dublin.

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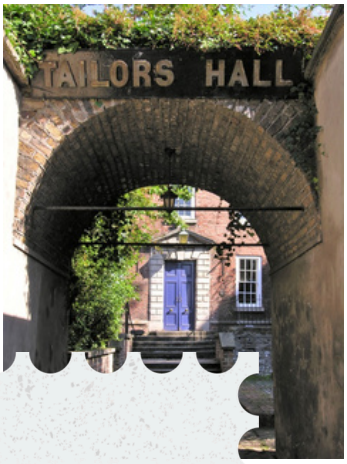
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Clean Coasts Love Your Coasts Photography Competition 2025 'Wildlife and the Coast' Category Winner Tom Ormond with Humpback Whale taken in Donegal Bay 2025



Introduction

Welcome to the 2025 Annual Report of An Taisce – the National Trust for Ireland



Together, we are protecting Ireland's heritage and safeguarding its future

For more than seventy-five years, An Taisce has worked to protect and celebrate Ireland's natural environment, built heritage and cultural identity.

As climate change, biodiversity loss and the growing challenges facing communities across Ireland reshape our future, our mission has never been more important

Throughout 2025, An Taisce continued to bring people together in support of nature, heritage and a more sustainable future. Through environmental education, community action, heritage conservation and planning advocacy, we worked with individuals, schools, local authorities, businesses and communities across the country to protect the places we value and promote positive change.

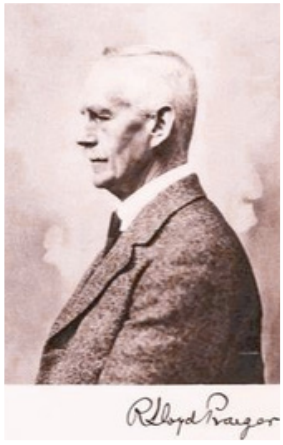
This report reflects the breadth and impact of that work. It highlights the achievements of our programmes, the dedication of our members, volunteers and staff, and the strength of the partnerships that help us deliver lasting benefits for people and the environment. Together, these efforts are helping to build a more resilient Ireland and a deeper appreciation of the natural and cultural heritage that enriches all our lives.

As Ireland's National Trust, An Taisce remains committed to being an independent and trusted voice for nature, heritage and environmental stewardship. By connecting people with the places they cherish, championing sustainable solutions and advocating for future generations, we continue to play our part in safeguarding Ireland's unique character and living environment.

We extend our sincere thanks to all who support our work. Your commitment, expertise and generosity make a lasting difference.

Together, we are protecting Ireland's heritage and safeguarding its future.

Throughout 2025, An Taisce continued to bring people together in support of nature, heritage and a more sustainable future.

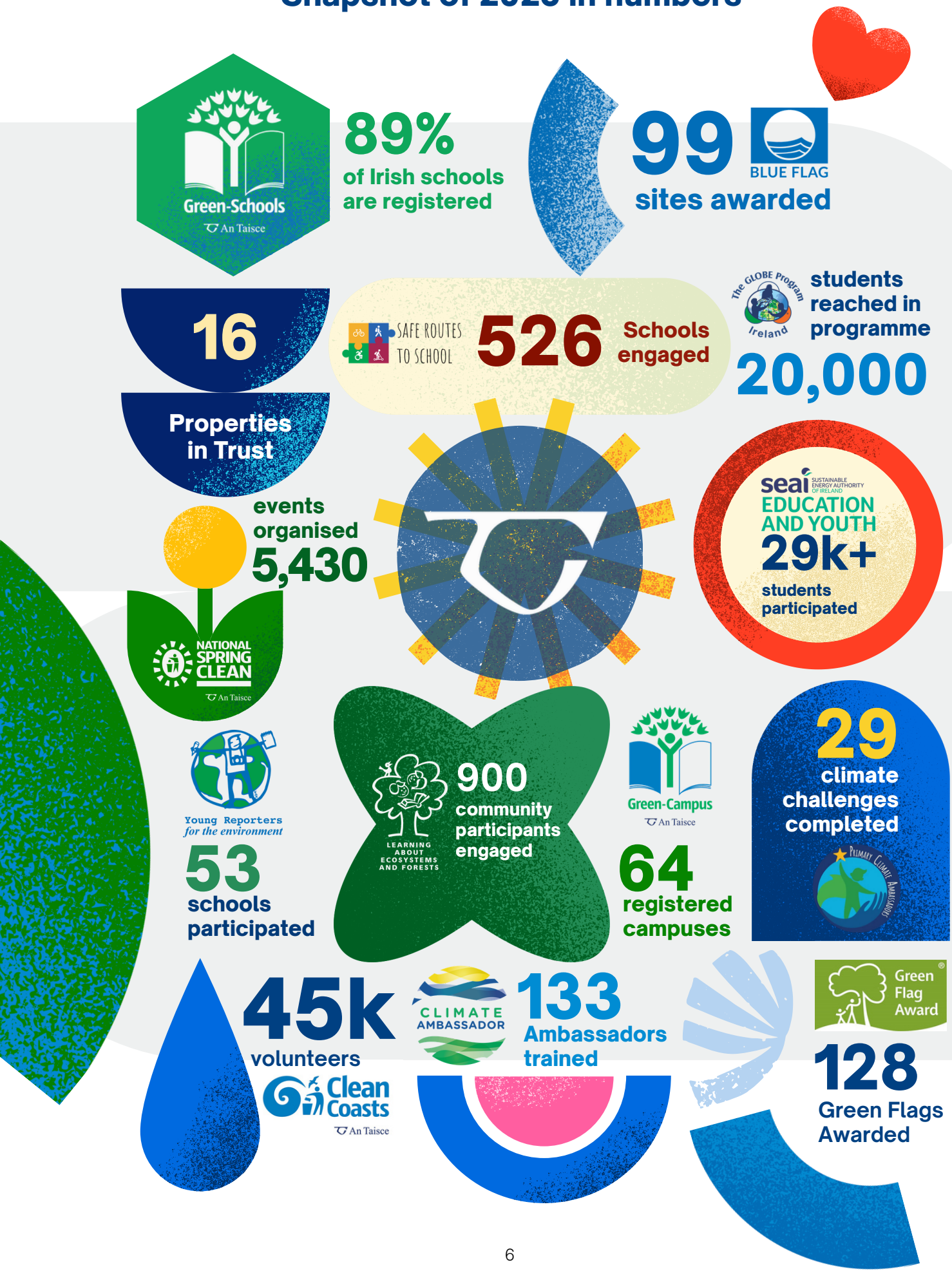


First President of An Taisce, Naturalist Robert Lloyd Praeger

On behalf of An Taisce, we thank our members, volunteers, staff, and supporters for their invaluable contributions and dedication. Your commitment enables us to continue advocating for Ireland's environment, its people, and its future.

We hope you find this report both inspiring and informative.

Snapshot of 2025 in numbers



Chair's statement

A Chairde

Guided by our Vision, Mission, and Values, in 2025 we have continued the essential work of stewarding Ireland's natural and built environment for future generations to enjoy. As we finish the second year of our three-year strategy and move into the final year, it will be time for us to take stock and reflect on our achievements and begin to look to the future five years.

The context that we found ourselves in 2023 has already shifted dramatically. We are faced with more uncertainty, complexity, change and ambiguity than ever before. The world is awash with mis- and dis-information, making it difficult for scientific evidence to break through the noise.

One of our values is evidence-based science, yet it can often be hard to distinguish opinion from fact, evidence from partisanship. And often the evidence is based on historical data, making it even more challenging to make any reliable predictions on future outcomes.

Yet, we know that the planet is primarily a closed system and unrelenting demands will have consequences. The ability for ecosystems to restore themselves is under constant strain and in many cases has already broken down. Social, psychological and political systems are also being tested with a consequent significant impact on wellbeing and health.

This is the wider environment in which we find ourselves. At the same time, the evidence is mounting of the positive benefits of the natural environment on human and animal wellbeing. There is now a wealth of evidence on the importance of nature based solutions on physical and mental health.

As I said when I was elected Chair in September 2025, I believe that An Taisce needs to build on the work of those who have gone before, while acknowledging that the context will be different, but the mission does not change.

An Taisce has been at the forefront in developing environmental citizenship with its wide range of educational and awareness programmes for schools and campuses. As this Annual Report shows, over 90% of schools and colleges have engaged in a variety of national and local activities in 2025.

I have had the privilege of attending a number of these during 2025, and of witnessing the enthusiasm, concern and engagement of children and adults in An Taisce's Green-Schools and Clean Coasts programmes, and from our amazing volunteer networks.

A number of images remain in my mind:

- The children of a primary school who face the sea for a few minutes every day at morning assembly.
- The number of green flags awarded to parks and campuses.
- The high quality photographs capturing nature and sea life around our coasts.
- The enthusiasm, commitment and endeavour of all our participating students, schools, teachers, colleges and volunteers.



Terri Morrissey
Chair of An Taisce

> An Taisce has been at the forefront in developing environmental citizenship with its wide range of educational and awareness programmes for schools and campuses.



Green-Schools 'Water Theme' Walk in Salthill Galway with Uisce Éireann

Chair's statement

The challenge is to continue to build on these programmes to help build lifelong environmental citizenship and stewards of our heritage right across the country.

The continued work of the 1772 Foundation and the establishment of The Friends of An Taisce in the US are all solid signs of a growing One National Trust Organisation. We have clearly demonstrated that we are at the forefront of building the capacity to acquire, restore and bring back into use buildings and places of Irish historic interest. We have a significant asset base, given to us in trust, from boglands to forestry to the iconic Tailors' Hall in Dublin, which we must protect for future generations.

We also continue to develop our positions on subjects such as data centres and offshore wind with the production of policies based on sound scientific evidence.

Our policy and advocacy work continues to be a cornerstone of our commitment to preserving Ireland's natural heritage from continued pressure of relentless development at all costs. We are not against development, we are for thoughtful, measured and sustainable development which brings a positive contribution to both people and communities in the form of a healthy liveable future.

The Board of Trustees has a very important role to play in terms of financial and legal obligations and adhering to the Charities Regulator requirements. These requirements have changed, which has necessitated a review of our constitution to check compliance and to future proof An Taisce for future years. This process was initiated late in the year, and the result of the review will go out for comment and consultation to members in 2026.

Many thanks to all of our trustees, including those who stepped down mid-year and those who continued on, or who joined us in 2025. Your contribution continues to help build the organisation and allows us to have a license to continue.

As an indication of our role as Ireland's premier and longest-lasting heritage and environmental organisation, the newly elected President of Ireland, Catherine Connolly chose An Taisce for one of her first public engagements. She addressed a gathering of scientists, advocates and members of An Taisce in historic Tailors' Hall in November. Her inspirational address not only galvanised our resolve but helped to encourage all those present to take courage and persist in the face of the many challenges and obstacles to our work. Go raibh míle maith agat Uachtarán na hÉireann.

As we face into 2026, we are clear in our resolve that the work we do is of vital importance for the future of Ireland and indeed the planet. At all times we will remain true to our values, our mission and our vision. **Many thanks to all who have remained steadfast to this vision**.

Terri Morrissey,
Chair



The newly elected President of Ireland, Catherine Connolly (above with Terri Morrissey) chose An Taisce for one of her first public engagements. She addressed a gathering of scientists, advocates and members of An Taisce in Tailors' Hall in November 2025.

“

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Message from the CEO

As we reflect on 2025, it is clear that An Taisce's role in safeguarding Ireland's natural and built heritage has never been more important.

At a time of increasing environmental pressures, climate challenges and growing demands on our natural resources, we have continued to champion sustainable development, biodiversity protection, environmental education and heritage conservation across the country.

Throughout the year, An Taisce remained a strong and independent voice for the environment. As a prescribed body within Ireland's planning system, we made over 400 submissions on nationally and locally significant planning, forestry and aquaculture applications.

Our advocacy helped strengthen environmental safeguards, improve biodiversity protections, enhance water quality measures and ensure that decision-making was informed by the best available scientific evidence and environmental law. Significant successes during the year, including important outcomes for protected bird habitats and the preservation of heritage assets, demonstrated the value of this work and reinforced our role as a trusted environmental advocate.

Water quality protection remained a major priority throughout 2025. Through our engagement with policymakers, European institutions, communities and the media, we helped bring national attention to the challenges facing Ireland's rivers, lakes and coastal waters. Our work on agricultural pollution, nitrates regulation and freshwater ecosystem protection has contributed to greater public understanding of these issues and strengthened environmental scrutiny at both national and European levels.

Policy advocacy continued to be central to our mission. We engaged extensively on the review of the National Development Plan, climate policy, renewable energy planning, biodiversity protection, marine planning and sustainable land use. We also contributed to a range of national advisory forums and consultations, ensuring that environmental and heritage considerations remain at the heart of Ireland's future development.

Whether at local, national or European level, An Taisce continues to advocate for policies that respect ecological limits, support climate action and protect the landscapes and heritage that define our country.



Gary Freemantle
CEO of An Taisce

Whether at local, national or European level, An Taisce continues to advocate for policies that respect ecological limits, support climate action and protect the landscapes and heritage that define our country.

> The challenges facing our environment are significant, but so too are the opportunities for positive change.



The 2025 visit of President Connolly to An Taisce's Tailors' Hall was a significant highlight of the year. From left, CEO Gary Freemantle, President of Ireland Catherine Connolly, Chair of An Taisce Terri Morrissey and An Taisce President Phil Kearney.

Alongside this advocacy, our education and community programmes continued to empower people of all ages to take meaningful action for the environment. Green-Schools, Ireland's leading environmental education programme, now engages almost 90% of schools nationwide and continues to inspire young people to become environmental leaders in their communities.

Through national campaigns, competitions and action weeks focused on climate action, biodiversity, water conservation, sustainable travel, marine protection and clean air, thousands of students developed the knowledge and confidence to contribute to a more sustainable future.

Forestry and woodland restoration is an important area of focus throughout 2025. Through our advocacy work and our engagement with national forestry policy, we continued to promote the transition towards, native woodland expansion and the protection of Ireland's remaining ancient and semi-natural woodlands. Through the addition of Nature Trust, we demonstrate the vital role that well-managed forests and woodlands play in addressing the biodiversity and climate crises while providing lasting benefits for local communities and future generations.

Innovative initiatives such as #AndSheCycles encouraged greater participation in active travel among young women, while programmes such as Bus in the City introduced students to sustainable public transport through practical learning experiences. We were also proud to expand the availability of Irish-language environmental resources across Green-Schools themes, ensuring that students in Gaeltacht communities and Irish-language schools can fully engage with environmental education through Gaeilge.

We continue to develop our relationship with the 1772 Foundation, and this year we welcomed Mary Anthony on secondment to An Taisce to assist us in the creation and roll out of our Properties Development Programme. This exciting programme will ensure that An Taisce plays an important role in saving and repurposing important heritage and cultural properties to bring them back to use within their communities across Ireland.

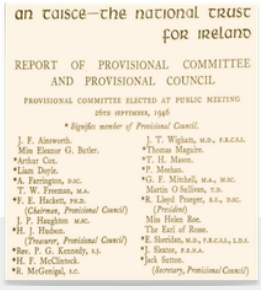
I am pleased to confirm that An Taisce remains financially stable and well-positioned to deliver on its mission. Our strategic priorities continue to reflect the significant organisational development undertaken in recent years, while maintaining a strong focus on protecting and promoting Ireland's natural and built heritage.

As we look towards 2026, we will continue to strengthen our National Trust activities, safeguard our heritage properties, expand our environmental programmes and advocate for the policy changes necessary to secure a more sustainable future.

None of this work would be possible without the dedication of our members, volunteers, supporters, partners and of of course our staff. The commitment, expertise and passion shown everyday continues to drive our success and strengthen our impact across Ireland. Together, we are helping to protect the places, landscapes, biodiversity and heritage that make this country unique.

As we look ahead, we remain ambitious in our vision and determined in our purpose. The challenges facing our environment are significant, but so too are the opportunities for positive change. By working together, we can continue to build a more sustainable, resilient and environmentally conscious Ireland for current and future generations.

An Taisce's deep roots


an taisce—the national trust for ireland

REPORT OF PROVISIONAL COMMITTEE AND PROVISIONAL COUNCIL

PROVISIONAL COMMITTEE ELECTED AT PUBLIC MEETING 26TH SEPTEMBER, 1946

* Signifies member of Provisional Council.

J. F. Ainsworth.
Miss Eleanor G. Butler.
*Arthur Cox.
*Liam Doyle.
*A. Farrington, D.SC.
T. W. Freeman, M.A.
*F. E. Hackett, PH.D. (Chairman, Provisional Council)
J. P. Haughton M.SC.
*H. J. Hudson. (Treasurer, Provisional Council)
*Rev. P. G. Kennedy, S.J.
*H. F. McClintock.
*R. McGonigal, S.C.
J. T. Wigham, M.D., F.R.C.S.I.
*Thomas Maguire.
*T. H. Mason.
*P. Meehan.
*G. F. Mitchell, M.A., M.SC.
Martin O Sullivan, T.D.
*R. Lloyd Praeger, B.E., D.SC. (President)
Miss Helen Roe.
The Earl of Rosse.
*E. Sheridan, M.D., F.R.C.S.I., L.D.S.
*J. Sinnott, P.R.H.A.
*Jack Sutton. (Secretary, Provisional Council)



1946
An Taisce established on a provisional basis

1948
Incorporated as an association 'not for profit' — First President naturalist Robert Lloyd Praeger (seen above)

1951
Kanturk Castle leased to An Taisce from the UK National Trust

1954
An Taisce joined International Union for the Conservation/Protection of Nature (IUCN) — first global environmental union

1961
An Taisce & the Irish Georgian Society lobbied against demolition of Tailors' Hall, infill of the Grand Canal and preventing waterbody pollution

1962
Received ministerial request to agree to be formally consulted on conservation

1964
Given advisory role supporting local authorities, gained a seat on An Foras Forbartha



1965
Involved in planning referrals for Bourne Vincent Memorial Park, Cliffs of Moher, Booterstown Marsh, Bull Island & Mountjoy Square

1969
Campaign to stop demolition of Georgian Dublin including houses on Hume Street, first campaign to circulate education materials in schools

1971
Joined Europa Nostra, prevented Bull Island usage as part rubbish dump, took over care of Booterstown Marsh

1972
Sought provision for environmental impact assessments for large developments

1974
Co-founded European Environment Bureau

1979
The Grove, Morehamption Road and Mongan Bog Offaly in An Taisce's care

1982
Recognised as a charity

1984
Moved to Tailors' Hall, Dublin (photo pre-restoration)



1987
EEC funding secured for projects and publications

1988
Tailors' Hall officially opened



1990
Policy document on forestry followed by conference, active engagement on the future of Irish bogs

1993
Asked by State to take over Blue Flag, second conference on aquaculture with subsequent papers published



Image: FEE's Blue Flag Programme

1996
Launched training on environmental matters for industry with IBEC and EPA.

1997
Green-Schools Ireland under FEE launched, litter surveying by An Taisce for Irish Business Against Litter began

1998
Launched National Spring Clean. First University branch in UCD



An Taisce's Advocacy, Planning and Education work grows and develops, left, cover from one of An Taisce's magazines.

2000s onwards
Development of partnerships creates a wide range of programmes and new opportunities for environmental education and community empowerment

2018 Launch of Climate Ambassador Programme

2019 Launch of Learning about Forests (LEAF) programme

2020
Infrastructure collaboration between NTA and Green-Schools Ireland for Safe Routes to School

2020-2025
EU Project work, including from EU LIFE funding and gaining EU partners

An Taisce: SDG Ambassador 2025

In 2025, An Taisce proudly embraced its role as an SDG Ambassador, building on its recognition as an SDG Champion Organisation for 2023–2024.

This designation reflects our continued commitment to embedding the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) across all aspects of our work and strengthening our role as a national leader in sustainability, environmental education, climate action, and community engagement.

As an SDG Ambassador, An Taisce is committed to:

- advocating and promoting the SDGs,
- demonstrating best practice in sustainability and organisational leadership, and
- ensuring that our work remains strongly linked to the Goals and their implementation.

Throughout 2025, these principles informed our programmes, partnerships, advocacy, education initiatives, and organisational practices, helping to strengthen awareness, engagement, and action for sustainable development across Ireland.

Advocating and Promoting the SDGs
An Taisce continued to promote the SDGs through national education and community initiatives that encouraged active participation in sustainability and environmental action. Programmes including Green-Schools, Clean Coasts, Climate Ambassador, Young Reporters for the Environment, Learning about Ecosystems and Forests, and Global Citizenship Education engaged learners, volunteers, educators, and communities in issues such as climate action, biodiversity, responsible consumption, water conservation, and active citizenship.

Global Citizenship Education initiatives including Global Classrooms, the Global Goals Book Club, Designathon workshops, and Transition Year modules provided opportunities for young people to explore global challenges through creativity, collaboration, intercultural dialogue, and project-based learning. These initiatives supported students in connecting local action with global responsibility and encouraged meaningful engagement with the SDGs.

Demonstrating Best Practice
An Taisce continued to embed sustainability principles across organisational activities, operations, and programmes. This included promoting active travel, reducing reliance on printed materials, encouraging circular economy approaches, supporting biodiversity enhancement, and integrating environmentally responsible practices into programme delivery and events.

Programmes such as Safe Routes to School and Green Flag for Parks demonstrated practical approaches to sustainability through active travel infrastructure, biodiversity enhancement measures, reduced chemical use, and sustainable management practices within public spaces and communities.

Through its role as the Irish National Operator for the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE), An Taisce also continued to contribute to international collaboration and shared learning in sustainability and environmental education.

Linking Work to the SDGs
The SDGs continued to provide a framework that connected the diverse areas of An Taisce's work, from education and community engagement to advocacy, biodiversity protection, heritage conservation, and sustainable transport.

Across programmes, the Goals supported a stronger understanding of the links between environmental sustainability, social wellbeing, climate resilience, and civic participation. Educational initiatives encouraged learners and communities to explore themes including climate justice, equality, sustainable communities, and responsible consumption, while advocacy and environmental programmes demonstrated how sustainability can be integrated into policy, planning, and everyday practice.

This whole-organisation approach ensures that the SDGs are not only reflected within programme themes, but are embedded across the wider work of An Taisce.

Looking Ahead

As SDG Ambassadors, An Taisce remains committed to supporting meaningful progress towards the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Through partnership, education, advocacy, and community engagement, we will continue to champion sustainability and inspire action towards a more resilient, inclusive, and environmentally responsible future for all.

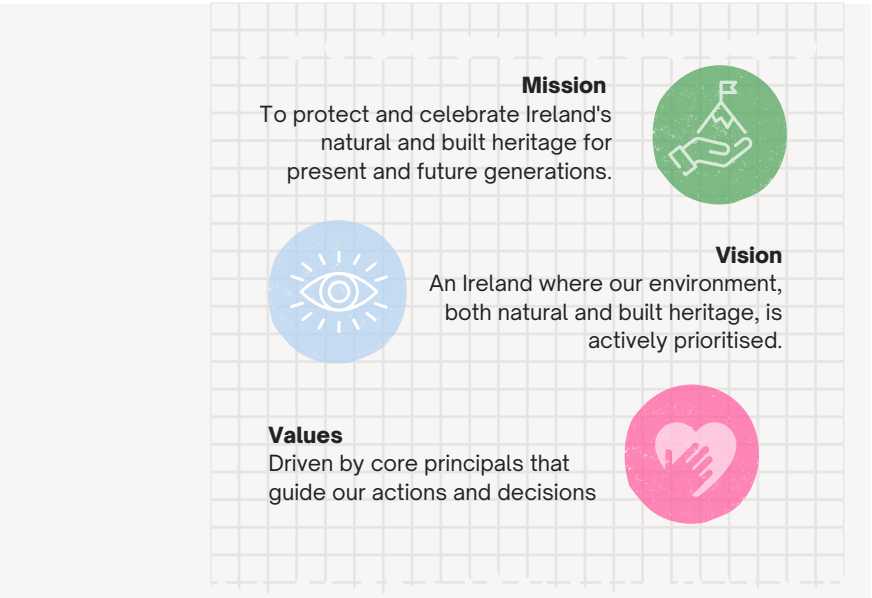
Directors Report
The Directors present their annual report together with the audited financial statement of An Taisce - the National Trust for Ireland for the year ended 31st December 2025.

Mission, Values & Strategic Direction

An Taisce's mission, vision, values, and strategic pillars continue to provide the foundation for our work as Ireland's National Trust and leading environmental NGO. They guide how we respond to the climate and biodiversity crises, protect Ireland's natural and built heritage, engage communities, and advocate for a more sustainable and resilient future.

Our mission:
To protect and celebrate Ireland's natural and built environment for present and future generations, and to ensure Ireland leads the way in defending a liveable planet.

Our vision:
An Ireland where our environment, natural and built, is actively prioritised and a lasting legacy of sustainability and resilience is ensured. These principles are underpinned by values that shape our work across the organisation; acting with integrity, leadership, and courage; relying on the best available science; and promoting inclusion and community participation at all levels.



Our values
An Taisce's work is driven by core principles that guide our actions and decisions:

- **Integrity, Leadership, and Courage:** We act with honesty and boldness to protect the environment.
- **Evidence-Based Advocacy:** We rely on the best available science to inform our initiatives.
- **Community and Inclusivity:** We engage with diverse communities, ensuring participation and representation in environmental efforts.
- **Sustainability and Resilience:** We promote long-term solutions that benefit both people and the planet.

These values underpin our activities and ensure our work remains relevant, impactful, and inclusive.

Our Strategic Pillars:
These continue to reflect the interconnected nature of our work across nature, the built environment, and people. Through Climate & Biodiversity, Land & Water, Heritage, Planning, Community & Society, and Organisation, we work to deliver meaningful environmental protection, sustainable development, education, advocacy, and community action.



Strategic Direction and Future Ambitions
As An Taisce looks to the future, work has now commenced on the development of the organisation's next Strategic Plan, which will help shape priorities, strengthen organisational resilience, and guide our response to emerging environmental and societal challenges.

The development of a new Strategic Plan provides an important opportunity to reflect on the rapidly changing context in which we operate, including the increasing urgency of the climate and biodiversity crises, the growing need for sustainable and people-centred communities, and the importance of inclusive civic engagement and environmental education.

In line with best practice strategic planning, the process will involve consultation and engagement across the organisation and with key stakeholders, ensuring that the future direction of An Taisce reflects shared priorities, emerging challenges, and opportunities for long-term impact.

The next Strategic Plan will seek to build on the organisation's strengths while providing a clear and integrated framework for future growth, collaboration, advocacy, and environmental leadership.

As An Taisce continues to evolve, our mission and values remain central to the organisation's work and purpose.

The next Strategic Plan will help shape how the organisation continues to respond to environmental and societal challenges while strengthening our role as Ireland's National Trust and a leading voice for sustainability, heritage, and community engagement.

Mission, Values & Pillars

Strategic Pillars
An Taisce's work is organised into six strategic pillars, grouped into three thematic pairs that reflect the interconnected nature of our activities:

Nature:
- **Climate & Biodiversity:** Tackling the climate and biodiversity emergencies with urgency and impact.
- **Land & Water:** Promoting healthy ecosystems, sustainable land use, and resilient water systems.

Built Environment:
- **Heritage:** Safeguarding Ireland's architectural and archaeological legacy.
- **Planning:** Advocating for sustainable, people-centered urban and rural communities.

People:
- **Community & Society:** Driving meaningful behavioural change through connection to nature and heritage.
- **Organisation:** Building a robust, integrated, and secure National Trust for Ireland.

Strategic goals

Climate & Biodiversity:
- **Goal:** An urgent and effective Irish response to the climate and biodiversity emergencies.
- **Objectives:** Raise awareness, promote climate justice, and provide actionable solutions at all levels.
- **Measures:** Improved public engagement, better environmental outcomes, and effective government policies.

Land & Water:
- **Goal:** Healthy ecology, prosperous rural society, and national food security.
- **Objectives:** Protect natural habitats, advocate for sustainable land use, and empower local communities.
- **Measures:** Increased participation in restoration projects and improved environmental standards.

Heritage:
- **Goal:** The safeguarding of Ireland's architectural and archaeological heritage.
- **Objectives:** Protect historic sites, enhance heritage policy, and foster public appreciation.
- **Measures:** Sustained advocacy leadership and expanded public knowledge.

Planning:
- **Goal:** Sustainable and people-centered urban and rural communities.
- **Objectives:** Improve planning processes, advocate for future-proof infrastructure, and shape local policies.
- **Measures:** Inclusive planning systems and enhanced public dialogue.

Community & Society:
- **Goal:** Meaningful behavioral change driven by connection with nature and the built environment.
- **Objectives:** Strengthen stakeholder engagement, inclusivity, and public participation.
- **Measures:** Increased membership and participation in An Taisce's initiatives.

Organisation:
- **Goal:** A robust and secure long-term future for Ireland's National Trust.
- **Objectives:** Enhance internal operations, establish unified practices, and celebrate diversity.
- **Measures:** A transparent and supportive culture within a cohesive operational framework.

Structure, Governance & Management

An Taisce operates as Ireland's National Trust, governed by a robust structure designed to ensure transparency, accountability, and the effective fulfilment of its mission to safeguard the nation's natural and built heritage.

The organisation's framework integrates governance, management, and volunteer engagement, enabling coordinated action across diverse programmes and initiatives.

Structure
An Taisce is a registered charity founded in 1948 as a company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital. The financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council including FRS 102, the financial reporting standard applicable in the UK and Ireland as modified by the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" effective 1st January 2019 and the Companies Act 2014

Board of Trustees
The Board of Trustees is responsible for managing An Taisce's activities and resources. Members of the Board are elected by the Council and serve on a voluntary basis. Key responsibilities include:

- Setting the organisation's strategic direction in consultation with the Council.
- Ensuring compliance with legal and regulatory requirements.
- Overseeing operational performance and financial management.
- The Board consists of up to 11 members, including the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, and other trustees, bringing expertise from various fields such as conservation, law, and public health.

Council
The Council acts as the central forum for policy development and organisational oversight. It represents members' interests and provides guidance on key issues. Composed of:

- Delegates from Local Associations.
- Members elected at the Annual General Meeting.
- Representatives of An Taisce's policy committees.
- Current and former Presidents, co-opted members, and officeholders like the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Speaker.

Meets five times annually and plays a critical role in:

- Developing and discussing environmental, heritage, and planning policies.
- Overseeing the Board's activities and ensuring alignment with An Taisce's objectives.
- Supporting the work of Local Associations.

Local Associations
An Taisce's Local Associations are regional groups that engage directly with communities on local environmental and heritage issues.

Operating autonomously under national guidelines, these associations:

- Participate in planning discussions affecting their regions.
- Organise community events and manage An Taisce properties.
- Serve as a vital link between national policies and local actions.

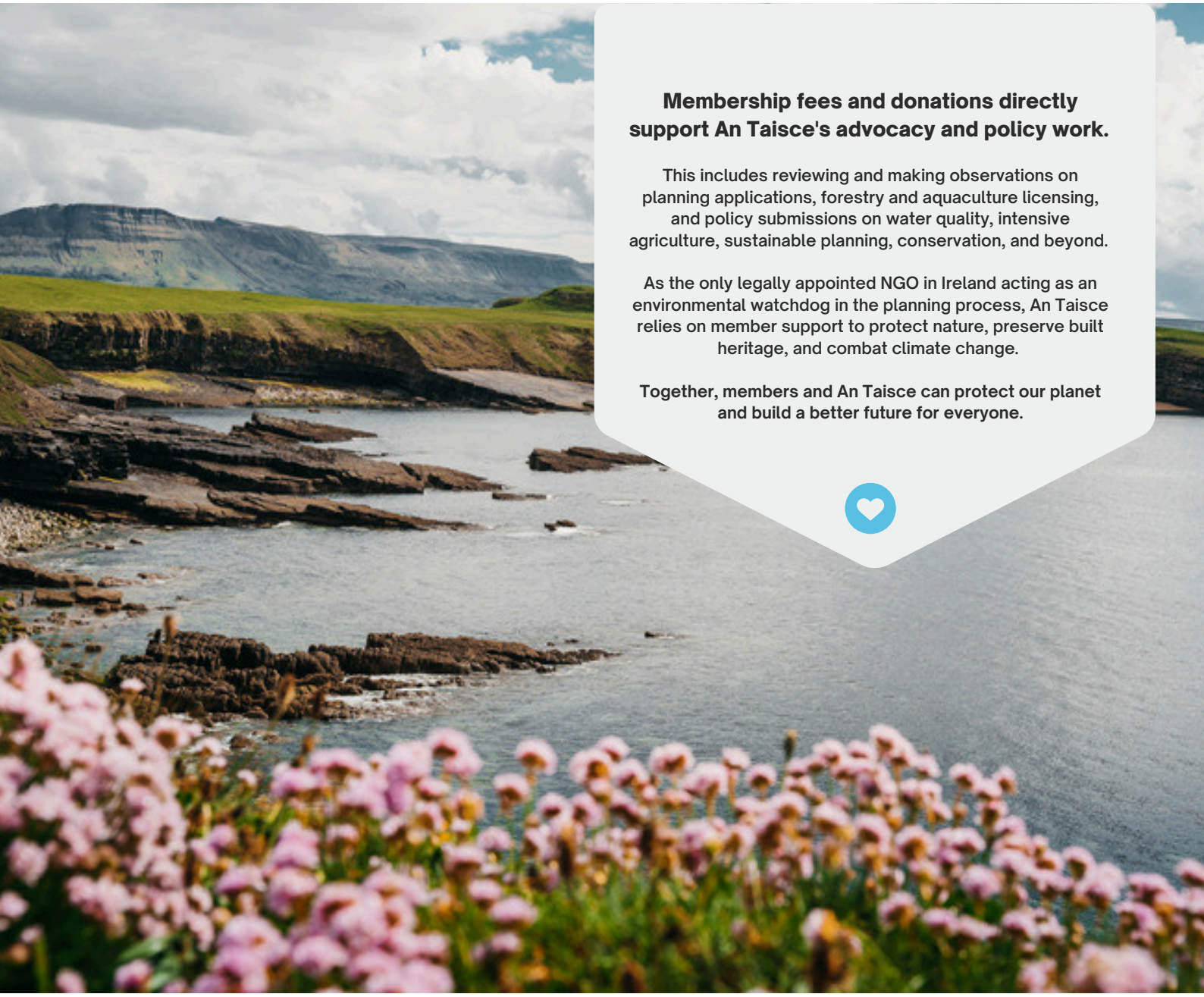
Currently, there are 10 active Local Associations, with representatives participating in Council meetings.

Committees
The Board is advised by the following committees: Governance, Risk and Compliance Committee, Audit and Finance Committee, the Property and Natural Environment Committee, the One Health Committee, and the Climate Committee. Members can include volunteers and staff.

Membership and Members
An Taisce's members are central to its mission, actively participating in advocacy, education, and local initiatives. Membership offers:

- **Access:** Members enjoy free entry to An Taisce properties and discounted admission to selected heritage sites across Ireland. Additionally, through the INTO Places programme, members gain free access to National Trust properties worldwide.
- **Regular Communications:** Members receive newsletters and updates on environmental, heritage, and climate topics, keeping them informed about activities and initiatives.
- **Event Invitations:** Members are invited to exclusive events, such as member evenings focused on environmental, heritage, and climate issues, as well as regular Council forums.
- **Volunteer Opportunities:** Members have the chance to further contribute by volunteering through An Taisce committees or Local Associations, actively engaging in conservation and advocacy efforts.
- **Discounts:** Members receive discounts at various home-grown, zero-waste, and eco-friendly stores, supporting sustainable local businesses.
- **Reciprocal membership:** Members have the opportunity to avail of a reciprocal discount membership with Tuatha.ie

Structure, Governance & Management



Membership fees and donations directly support An Taisce's advocacy and policy work.

This includes reviewing and making observations on planning applications, forestry and aquaculture licensing, and policy submissions on water quality, intensive agriculture, sustainable planning, conservation, and beyond.

As the only legally appointed NGO in Ireland acting as an environmental watchdog in the planning process, An Taisce relies on member support to protect nature, preserve built heritage, and combat climate change.

Together, members and An Taisce can protect our planet and build a better future for everyone.

Governance
Governance at An Taisce is built on the principles of inclusivity, accountability, and sustainability:

- **Annual General Meetings:** Members elect Council representatives, review organisational performance, and approve the strategic direction.
- **Committees:** The organisation establishes committees for specific focus areas, such as planning, heritage, and climate action.
- **Regulatory Compliance:** An Taisce complies with the Charity Regulator's Governance Code and all other applicable legislation.

Vision for Governance and Management
An Taisce is committed to continuously enhancing its governance and operational structures to address emerging challenges and opportunities.
Future priorities include:

- Strengthening membership community to deepen community engagement.
- Expanding volunteer networks and training programmes.
- Leveraging technology to enhance member participation and operational efficiency.

Through its integrated governance and management structure, An Taisce ensures a collaborative approach to preserving Ireland's natural and cultural heritage, aligning its operations with its strategic vision and charitable objectives.

Structure, Governance & Management



An Taisce staff are distributed around Ireland, so the annual staff meeting is an important opportunity to connect.

An Taisce 2025: structure and management



Management, Leadership and Staffing
An Taisce's operations are led by a dynamic Chief Executive Officer (CEO) supported by a senior management team overseeing programme delivery, advocacy, and property management. This team collaborates with over 100 staff members who deliver impactful initiatives across environmental education, advocacy, and conservation.

Volunteer Network
Volunteers form the backbone of An Taisce's ability to create impact. From contributing to clean-ups, through the National Spring Clean programme, to supporting planning and heritage projects, tens of thousands of volunteers provide invaluable support annually.

Collaborations
An Taisce works closely with government bodies, NGOs, local authorities, and international organisations to amplify its impact. Partnerships enable access to funding, resources, and shared expertise for programmes like Green-Schools and Clean Coasts.



Celebrating the fantastic volunteer network nationwide making so many positive differences in their communities. Above and below: Clean Coasts groups and volunteers.

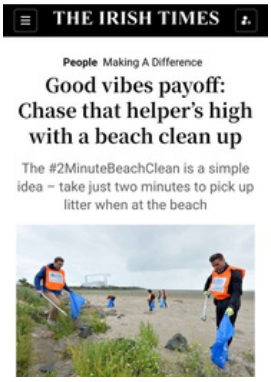


Our People Driving An Taisce's Mission Together

An Taisce is proud to be supported by a diverse and passionate community of staff, volunteers, and members. Together, they're the cornerstone of our mission to safeguard Ireland's natural and built heritage. Their dedication, expertise, and collaboration enable us to deliver meaningful results across all our initiatives.






THE IRISH TIMES

People Making A Difference

Good vibes payoff: Chase that helper's high with a beach clean up

The #2MinuteBeachClean is a simple idea – take just two minutes to pick up litter when at the beach

Our amazing Volunteers

The Heart and soul of An Taisce's Impact

An Taisce's success would not be possible without the tireless contributions of our volunteers.

Across Ireland, tens of thousands of volunteers dedicate their time and expertise to improving and protecting our natural environment.

They play an essential role in safeguarding Ireland's landscapes, biodiversity, and cultural treasures.

As you will see later in this Annual Report, the reach and impact of programmes and phenomenal work of volunteers nationwide creates huge positive impacts across Irish society.

Our dedicated workforce
An Taisce's activities are led by a core leadership team consisting of a CEO and three senior managers. They are supported by over 100 colleagues who work tirelessly to deliver impactful programs and initiatives. This unified team is driven by a profound shared commitment to protect and promote Ireland's unique environment and cultural heritage.

Our staff works closely with funders, donors, NGOs, and public bodies to implement projects that make a tangible difference. Whether it's influencing policy, coordinating events, or leading conservation efforts, the synergy between these groups is essential to achieving our goals.

Through the dedication of our workforce, An Taisce has become a vital force in preserving Ireland's environment and heritage for current and future generations.

Heritage and Property Maintenance:
Volunteers are instrumental in preserving An Taisce-owned properties. Whether it's maintaining historic sites, monitoring wildlife, or organizing restoration projects, their work ensures that Ireland's cultural and natural assets are cared for with the utmost dedication.

Advocacy and Education:
Volunteers engage in policy advocacy, awareness campaigns, and educational activities, amplifying An Taisce's mission to inspire a deeper connection between people and their environment.

Through their selfless contributions, volunteers embody the spirit of community action, creating a lasting legacy for Ireland's future.

Our People Driving An Taisce's Mission Together



Staff participating as speakers and panelists at the Mary Robinson Conference in 2025


Booterstown Marsh Nature Reserve guided walk event from Dun Laoghaire Local Association

An Taisce's Local Associations:
They play an integral role in advancing the organisation's mission at a grassroots level. These groups are embedded in communities across Ireland, addressing local environmental and heritage issues while contributing to national initiatives. Each association operates under An Taisce's governance structure, ensuring consistency in policy while tailoring efforts to the unique needs of their regions.

Volunteer Contributions at a Glance

Programme Engagement: An Taisce is privileged to have tens of thousands of dedicated volunteers who are the driving force behind our education and community engagement programs. These incredible individuals lead by example, inspiring communities throughout Ireland to take action for a more sustainable future. Their unwavering commitment to environmental stewardship and education transforms our initiatives into impactful movements that benefit all.

Through flagship programs like National Spring Clean, Green-Schools, Clean Coasts, and the Climate Ambassador Programme, volunteers promote sustainability at every level. From cleaning beaches and green spaces to educating communities about waste reduction and climate change, their work empowers people to create lasting change in their local environments. Volunteers also play a pivotal role in connecting communities with actionable solutions, helping foster a nationwide culture of environmental responsibility.

This vast network of volunteers is not just a backbone of An Taisce's work—they are an inspiration. By giving their time, energy, and passion, they are helping to shape a more sustainable Ireland and ensuring that future generations inherit a cleaner, greener, and more connected country. Their collective efforts amplify An Taisce's mission, making a real difference in the fight against environmental degradation and climate change.


Guided walk event from Kilkenny Local Association

Joining An Taisce is about being part of a transformative movement. Members become advocates for change, leaving an indelible impact on Ireland's environmental and cultural legacy.

Our People Membership

Membership

Becoming a member of An Taisce means joining a movement that is committed to safeguarding Ireland's environment and heritage. Our members are more than supporters; they are active participants in preserving the nation's landscapes, biodiversity, and cultural legacy.

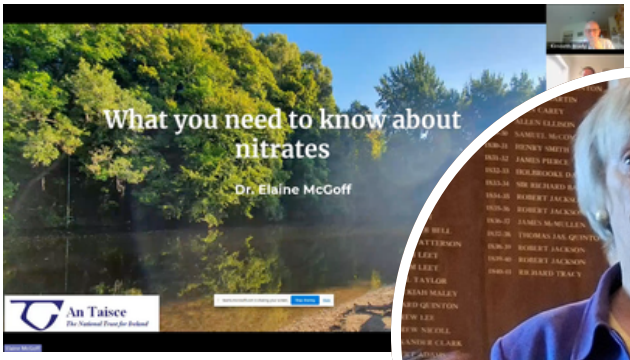


An Taisce 2025 AGM in Tailors' Hall, members have a vote and a voice in the organisation.

Why Join An Taisce?

- **Access to Ireland's Heritage:** Members enjoy exclusive access to natural and historic sites across Ireland, connecting them to the country's rich cultural and environmental tapestry.
- **Educational Opportunities:** From walks to talks, members gain unique insights into Ireland's history, ecology, and conservation efforts.
- **Community Involvement:** An Taisce offers members opportunities to participate in local clean-ups, advocacy campaigns, and other impactful activities, fostering a sense of belonging and shared purpose.
- **Exclusive Benefits:** Discounts on eco-friendly products and cultural attractions, alongside monthly updates through newsletters, allow members to engage with sustainable living while staying informed about An Taisce's initiatives.
- **Policy Influence:** Members have a collective voice in shaping Ireland's future, advocating for stronger environmental protections and sustainable development practices.
- **Reciprocal membership offering with Tuatha**: New for 2025 (see next page)







An Taisce Special Membership Trips, Talks and Webinars
Last year included an overnight stay and organised guided tour of Killarney National Park with a boat trip to Dinis Island followed by a walk around the beautiful Killarney Lake District Peninsula and Muckross House. Trips offer a unique immersive Irish heritage experience with other members. Ecologist and author, Éanna Ní Lamhna, also a former President of An Taisce (above right) gave a wonderful talk in Tailors' Hall Dublin, and there were a series of webinars on built and natural heritage over the year.

INTERNATIONAL NATIONAL TRUSTS ORGANISATION

An Taisce members are also able to avail of the ability to visit the worldwide network of International National Trust Organisation (INTO) members, including National Trust in UK and Northern Ireland.



Tailors' Hall tour group: Tours are typically run by members of staff alongside An Taisce members

Our People New membership benefit

Tuatha Abarta and An Taisce special reciprocal membership arrangement

New for members in 2025: An Taisce — the National Trust for Ireland is delighted to have a special reciprocal membership arrangement with Tuatha.ie. Members of An Taisce, can now enjoy 30 per cent off the price of Tuatha membership, and members of Tuatha, can enjoy the same discount to join An Taisce.

Tuatha provides a way to engage with Ireland's incredible archaeology and ancient landscapes. They have a strong emphasis on sustainability and responsible tourism, and the protection of the past.

Founded by award-winning archaeologists and travel writers, Tuatha is a rich source of reliable and in-depth knowledge from leading experts in the field, providing a detailed guide to an Ireland most people never see. Tuatha offers quality content and information for people who want to develop a more meaningful connection with Ireland's heritage. They offer unlimited access to exclusive articles, itineraries, courses and events.





Under the new arrangement, An Taisce members can now avail of the reciprocal discount with Tuatha.ie

Donations and legacy

Ireland contains many areas of outstanding natural and historical beauty. An Taisce has been gifted some of these precious sites over its past 77-year history to safeguard for present and future generations. We also strive to protect our natural and built heritage through our continous environmental policy and advocacy work.

The Charitable Donation Scheme is available to support donations for all those Irish tax payers who donate €250 or more to An Taisce in any year and can claim 45 per cent in tax relief under the scheme. An Taisce appreciates each and every donation made to help support and empower our work.

An Taisce is profoundly grateful for the kindness and generosity of all who have made donations and legacy gifts to the charity.

Present + future Heritage conservation







THE 1772 FOUNDATION

An Taisce was delighted to welcome visiting guests from the 1772 Foundation arriving in Ireland from the United States.

A highlight was a very special reception hosted at the home of the US embassy Chargé d'Affaires Mike Clausen. It was attended by the Dublin Lord Mayor Emma Blain, as well as a range of heritage experts from both the public and private sectors and other Irish NGOs.

At the special heritage event on Mespil Road in March 2025 included, pictured above, in photo standing from left to right — Ethiel Garlington 1772 Executive Director, US Embassy Chargé d'Affaires Mike Clausen, Mary Anthony 1772 Foundation, and Gary Freemantle An Taisce CEO.

This event provided a wonderful opportunity to connect with a wide range of stakeholders working across many different heritage contexts.

New collaborations and initiatives:
Friends of An Taisce and the 1772 Foundation

Other highlights from 2025 include our on-going relationship with the 1772 Foundation and the development of Friends of An Taisce USA,

The US-based 1772 Foundation views preservation as recognising the cultural, social, and environmental contexts of historic places.

An Taisce is profoundly grateful to the 1772 Foundation for their invaluable and unwavering support as we seek new ways to champion heritage preservation across Ireland. The foundation has been enormously generous assisting with the setup of a US fundraising arm — Friends of An Taisce — while also providing hugely valuable advice on historic preservation.

Heritage is much more than a link to our past — it is a living resource with the power to shape our future. Both An Taisce and the 1772 Foundation share a deep commitment to protecting our historic places, ensuring they remain vibrant and meaningful for generations to come.

Present + future Native woodland stewardship



New collaborations and initiatives: Nature Trust and An Taisce

An Taisce is delighted to be working with the Nature Trust (non-commercial native woodlands at scale in Ireland) to take on the long-term stewardship of an extraordinary project developing a collection of woodland sites nationwide.

Thanks to the wonderful support of external funders, the Nature Trust has created a network of these sites, adding up to approximately 650 hectares. In time, this will create new habitats, store more carbon and provide space for people to connect with nature.

An Taisce's Learning about Ecosystems and Forests) LEAF programme will be supporting these woodlands with educational outreach as these amenities continue to grow and develop for generations to come.

Partnerships & Funding

An Taisce remains an independent voice for the environment. Funding, support and pro bono services all contribute to the delivery of our activities. We work with a large variety of stakeholders from Government Departments, public bodies and Local Authorities to corporate and individual donors. These relationships, alongside the required governance and scrutiny are vital to our work. We are very appreciative of these on-going committments, support and funding streams.

The funding agreements with Government departments and public bodies are operated under DPER circular 13/2014. We apply these standards to all our activities.

An Taisce's major funding sources in 2025 are set out in these tables.

European, US and Irish Corporate, NGO and Individual Funders

Name of Grant Making Agency — using 2024 names	Name of Grant Programme	Amount Utilised	Term
Irish Environmental Network	**Funding**	€250,415	2025
Various Legal Services	**Natural Environment**	€250,000	2025
Cyclist.ie	**Cycling**	€64,341	2025
Kia	**Clean Coasts**	€50,000	2025
Wrigleys	**Green Schools Core National Spring Clean**	€50,000	2025



Partnerships & Funding

Irish Public Funds

Name of Grant Making Agency	Name of Grant Programme	Amount Utilised	Term
Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport (NTA)	**Green-Schools Travel**	€2,128,727	2025
Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport (NTA)	**Safe Routes to School**	€1,248,752	2025
Department of Environment, Climate and Communications	**Clean Coasts Core**	€488,600	2025
Department of Environment, Climate and Communications	**Climate Action**	€374,722	2025
Department of Environment, Climate and Communications	**Green Schools Core**	€230,000	2025
Department of Environment, Climate and Communications	**National Spring Clean**	€250,000	2025
Uisce Eirean	**Green Schools Water**	€210,000	2024/25
EPA	**Globe Ireland**	€256,610	2025
Local Authorities Nationwide	**Green Schools Core**	€200,901	2025
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage	**Green Schools Marine**	€194,000	2024
Uisce Eireann	**Clean Coasts** Think Before You Flush	€160,000	2025
Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI)	**Energy**	€196,201	2025
Irish Aid	**Green Schools** Global Citizenship	€120,000	2025/26
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage	**Blue Flag**	€128,127	2025
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage	**Clean Coasts** 2 Minute Beach Clean	€119,530	2025
Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine	**Learning about Ecosystems and Forests (LEAF)**	€36,873.99	2025
Eirgrid	**Green Schools Energy**	€132,000	2024/25

Financial Review

Income
Total income for the year reverted to €8.6m in 2025 from an exceptional high of €10.5m in 2023. This stability in funding has been very beneficial given the recent years of high cost inflation and world events.

Expenditure: An Taisce's expenditure has three categories:

Salaries
Employee Remuneration is the largest cost category in An Taisce and is detailed in [note 12] of the financial statements. Our programmes are dependent on our colleagues for delivery. Salary costs are allocated on a timesheet basis to each specific activity.

Direct costs of delivering our activities
Direct costs are budgeted each year for each activity. These budgets are agreed with our funders and expenditure is monitored against the budgets during the year.

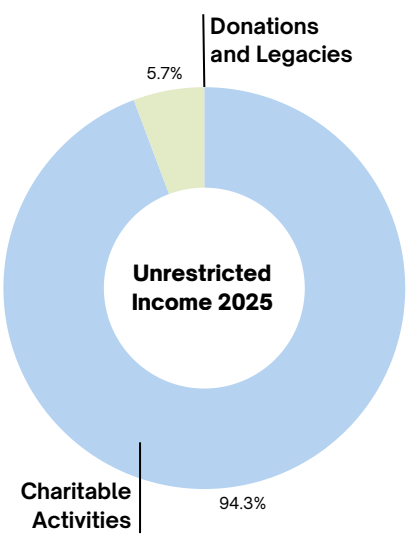
Central Costs
In 2025, An Taisce's central costs included utilities, office costs, insurance, IT, HR, audit, governance, management, administration, development and finance. These costs are delivered by a combination of service providers and staff within a hybrid shared service function. 2025 was the second full year of our office at 5 Foster Place, a listed Georgian Building, with various maintenance projects contributing to Central Costs. Included in Central costs is the remuneration of the senior management team.

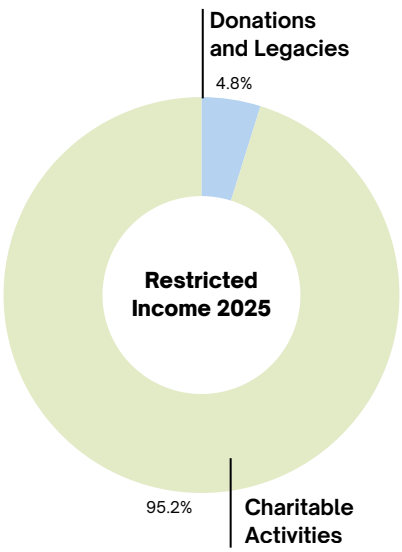
The allocation of central costs to all our activities is subject to specific funding agreements and An Taisce operates a transparent system which allows all funders access to all cost allocation information as they require.

The central costs which are not allocated to activities are categorised as general costs and funded with general income.

It is a priority for An Taisce that allocation of central costs reflects the balance of resources utilised by each activity.







Financial Review

Internal Controls
The high level of funding received from government and public bodies make strong Internal Controls essential for An Taisce. All financial procedures and resulting financial transactions are available to all funders. Income, expenditure, overhead and management cost allocation are key areas of focus by management. An internal review in 2021 of An Taisce's finance function and internal controls highlighted areas for change, resulting in a more efficient finance function with simpler financial procedures. Implementation of these recommendations continued in 2024 and aided the monitoring of internal controls.

Risk Management
The Directors have assessed the major known risks to which the charity is exposed. A detailed risk register is regularly updated with sufficient risk mitigation plans and regular monitoring of progress by the Board.

Net Surplus for the Year
The results of the year are given on page 107.

Reserves and Reserves policy
At 31st December 2025, €3,331,062 (2024: €2,692,067). This is divided between restricted and unrestricted reserves.

Unrestricted reserves
At 31st December 2025, An Taisce had unrestricted reserves of €1,911,265 (2024: €1,302,581). These are split between designated reserves €1,646,560 (2024: €927,346) and general funds €264,703 (2024: €375,234).

An Taisce seeks to maintain liquid unrestricted reserves to cover at least six months of related expenditure.

Restricted Reserves
An Taisce maintains a separate restricted reserve for each activity within our programmes.

Net Assets
An Taisce's net assets are €3,331,026. Fixed Assets are €1,853,648. Heritage Assets are held by An Taisce are carried at nil value, the lack of market for such assets. Bank balances of €1,774,016 and accounts receivable and accrued income of €602,445 are the main component of current assets of €2,376,461.
This is offset by accounts payable €113,620, deferred income of €504,717, accruals and provisions of €70,994, Payroll taxes of €92,472, other creditors of €51,380 and bank overdrafts of €32.

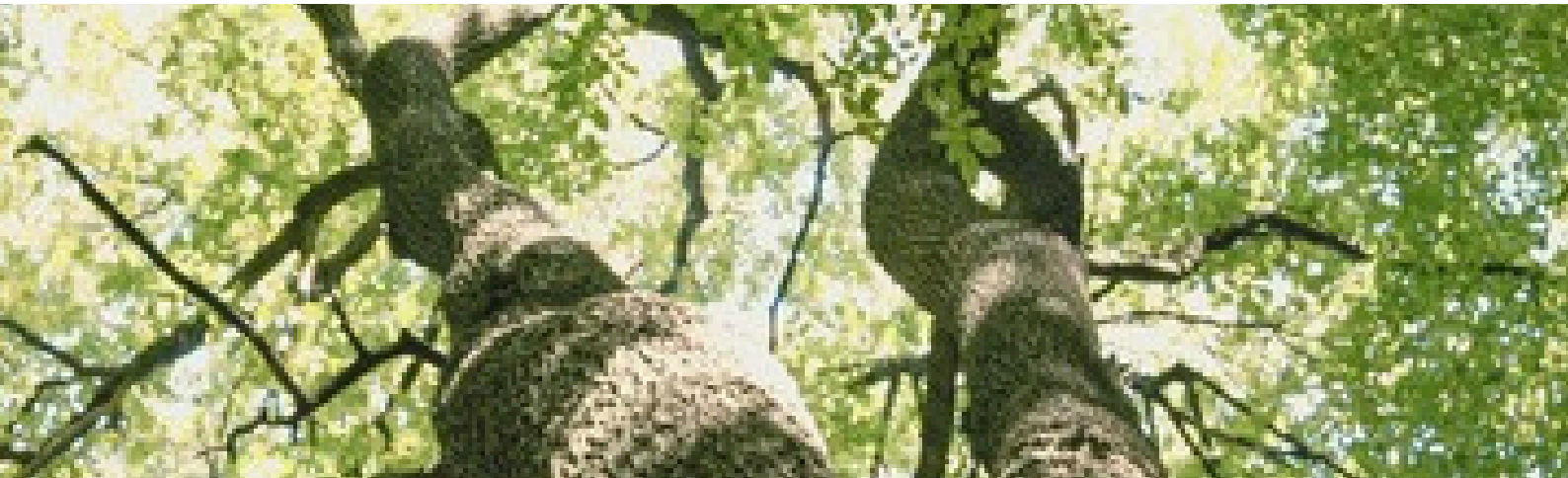
Going Concern
Having made reasonable enquiries, the Directors have a legitimate expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

The Directors have considered the financial position and trading performance of An Taisce for 2025 and beyond into 2026.

A budget for 2026 has been approved, which indicates that An Taisce will be in a positive unrestricted fund position on 31st December 2026 and will have maintained a desired level of restricted reserves.

For these reasons, the Directors have no hesitation in adopting the going concern basis in preparing these financial statements.

Post reporting date events
There are no reportable post balance sheet events.




Safeguarding Heritage & Nature

Advocacy

An Taisce's role as an independent statutory consultee is central to its mission to protect Ireland's natural and built environments. The Planning Team engages with planning applications, forestry and aquaculture licensing, and infrastructure proposals, ensuring that environmental considerations are prioritised in national and local decision-making. In 2025, this role proved particularly critical amidst significant legislative developments and policy challenges.



From left; Planning and Environmental Policy Officer Sean O'Callaghan, Senior Planning and Environmental Policy Officer Phoebe Duvall and Head of Advocacy Dr Elaine McGoff

Prescribed Body Role & Environmental Oversight
We continued to exercise our independent statutory role as a prescribed body in the planning system as well as in forestry and aquaculture licensing. As such, we made over 400 submissions in 2025 on nationally and locally significant applications across Ireland including energy developments (renewables on and offshore, fossil fuel plants, biogas production, etc.), quarries, major industrial projects, agricultural developments, large residential schemes, transport projects (major infrastructure and local works), one-off housing, afforestation schemes, aquaculture proposals, etc.

Our aim is to ensure that planning and licensing decisions are made in line with the best available scientific evidence and our local, national, EU and international legal obligations. We focus on biodiversity protection, alignment with climate goals, planning best practice, and principles of sustainable development. We identify gaps in the information provided by applicants, comment on the quality of assessments, highlight where additional assessments are needed, etc. This helps identify and resolve issues as early as possible in the process which in turn helps ensure decisions are robust, lawful, and made in the best interest of communities and the environment.

These changes materially strengthened environmental safeguards attached to development and reinforced compliance with EU environmental law.

A couple of important wins:

- An Taisce appealed, and subsequently judicially reviewed the granting of an aquaculture licence in Wexford which posed a significant risk to protected bird habitat. The Aquaculture Appeals Board conceded the case in 2025, meaning that aquaculture cultivation can no longer take place, a result which will ensure that protected bird species continue to be protected in this habitat.
- An Taisce won our appeal to An Coimisiún Pleanála against the redevelopment of the iconic Stephen's Green shopping centre as office space.

As a result of our submissions, we consistently saw changes to applications, further information requested by planning authorities, planning conditions added or strengthened, etc. In many cases:

- Additional ecological, environmental or heritage information was required;
- Assessments of the development's emissions impact against our climate obligations were required;
- Biodiversity protection conditions were strengthened;
- Water quality protection measures were enhanced;
- Environmental monitoring and mitigation requirements were clarified;
- Some particularly environmentally problematic developments were refused.

Advocacy Planning





Above left, the existing St Stephen's Green Shopping Centre and right, the proposed plan to replace it.

Dublin City Planning Highlight

In December, a submission was lodged against plans to redevelop the late-1980s Stephen's Green Shopping Centre. This was the second of two applications to redevelop the shopping centre, the first having been refused by An Coimisiún Pleanála in July 2025.

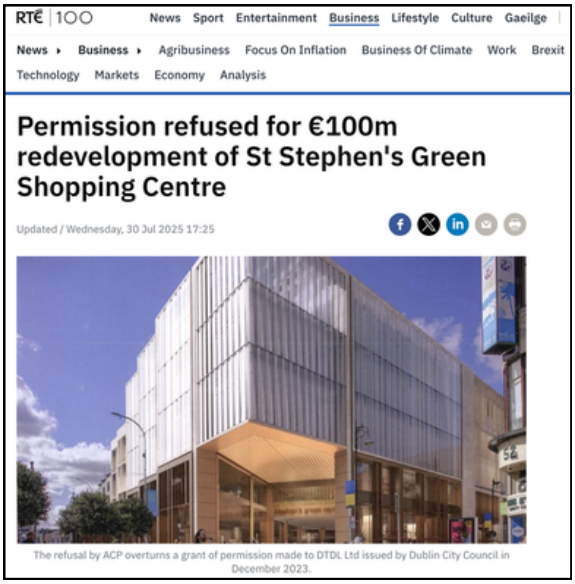
Concerns raised include that the architectural design of the proposed replacement does not justify loss of the existing building, and would result in the loss of the impressive naturally-lit main internal space.

Also of concern is the extent (six floors) of office space sought in view of the location in the city's south retail core, and existing and oncoming fundamental changes in office-worker patterns.

Environmentally, the proposed substantial demolition of the existing structure, producing a large quantity of demolition waste, is in serious conflict with sustainable development principles and the need to reuse and repurpose existing structures.

As has been evident over the course of the two recent planning applications relating to it, the Stephen's Green Shopping Centre is well regarded by the general public, with a feeling that it should not be changed out of recognition in any necessary updating and regeneration.

Underperforming retail in the upper levels can be converted to workspaces or other uses without the need for new development.


RTÉ 1OO News Sport Entertainment Business Lifestyle Culture Gaeilge

News › Business › Agribusiness Focus On Inflation Business Of Climate Work Brexit Technology Markets Economy Analysis

Permission refused for €100m redevelopment of St Stephen's Green Shopping Centre

Updated / Wednesday, 30 Jul 2025 17:25

The refusal by ACP overturns a grant of permission made to DTDL Ltd issued by Dublin City Council in December 2023.

There was extensive coverage of the development in the press over the year and wide-spread criticism from the general public on the proposed new building's appearance.

Advocacy Water Quality

Irish Water Quality Protection

In 2025, An Taisce continued to play a leading role in elevating national understanding and scrutiny of freshwater protection, with a particular focus on deterioration from agriculture, and the inadequacy of plans and programmes.

We engaged with the European Commission officials who were charged with making the decision on Ireland's 6th derogation, and met with Commissioner Roswall when she visited Ireland to press home our views. We also commissioned and published nationally representative polling ahead of EU-level decisions on the Nitrates Derogation, demonstrating clear public concern regarding water quality decline.

We also engaged with journalists covering this issue, including an influential RTE Countrywide interview by Elaine McGoff on this. Although the nitrates derogation was ultimately granted, the legal decision by the Commission highlighted the An Taisce legal case currently before the ECJ and the ramifications it may have for the granted derogation.

In addition, An Taisce featured heavily in the media reporting of this decision, with strong coverage of the environmental angle from multiple news organisations.

We did a detailed and thorough submission on the 6th Nitrates Action Programme as part of the public consultation, highlighting key legal and ecological failings in their assessments and approach. We made a formal submission to the Joint Oireachtas Committee on the EPA CLEAR report concerning Our Lady's Island Lake, highlighting its protected status, declining ecological condition and vulnerability to eutrophication. This was supported by media work and communications on this issue throughout the year, include RTE Primetime and radio interviews.

This work helped elevate the issue of water quality in the public mind, and very much gave a face to the impact of agricultural nitrate pollution.

While we don't yet know the outcome of the judgment in the European Court (due in 2026), changes have already been implemented at an Irish level on foot of the legal issues we raised, including that derogation farms will now require an appropriate assessment, whereas previously they underwent no environment assessment.

Additionally, our legal case was cited throughout the legal derogation decision, highlighting its strategic significance for water quality protection, both within Ireland and beyond.



Head of Advocacy, Dr Elaine McGoff speaking with Minister for Agriculture, Food, and the Marine, Martin Heydon, EU Environment Commissioner Jessika Roswall and Minister Michael Healy-Rae (Forestry, Farm Safety and Horticulture) about Nitrates Derogation.









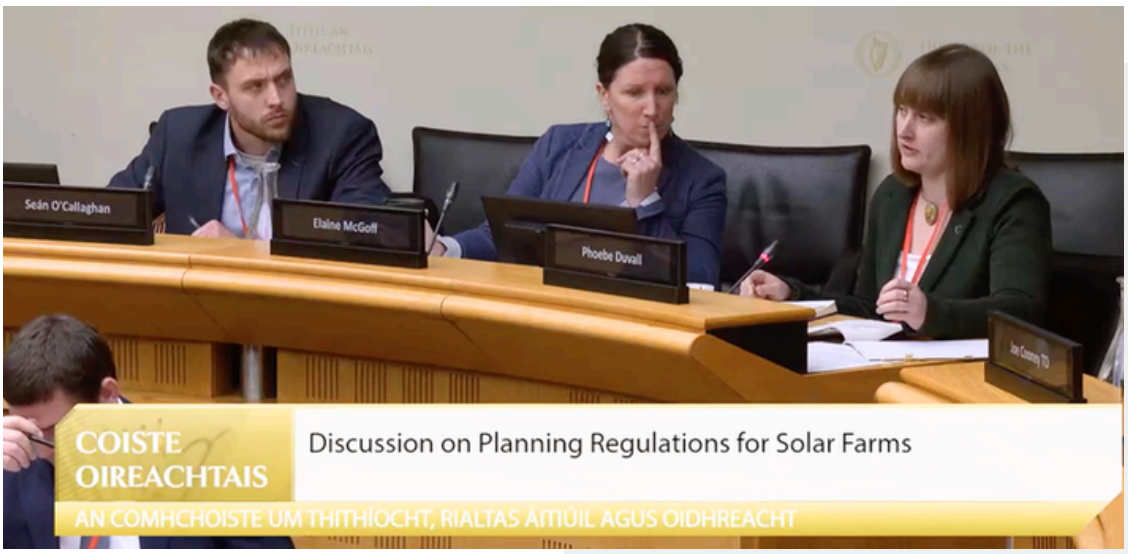
Dr Elaine McGoff interviewed on water quality in many media outlets including online, radio and TV including national broadcaster RTÉ's Morning Ireland, Countrywide and on Six One News and Prime Time.



An Taisce's legal team and Head of Advocacy in the European Court of Justice



Advocacy Policy



In 2025 An Taisce engaged in extensive advocacy work on a broad range of national-level policy issues that spanned the various parts of An Taisce's strategic pillars and objectives.

The review of the National Development Plan 2026-2035 was a national advocacy priority for us. Our response focused on the need for the Plan to deliver development within our climate and ecological limits, and we made detailed sectoral recommendations across housing, transport, energy, agriculture, etc. We were informed that our work was particularly useful for Opposition TDs in debating the Plan.

National climate policy advocacy was also a major focus, particularly ensuring compliance with Ireland's Climate Act across policy and planning decisions. For example, we analysed and made a submission on the Climate Change Advisory Council's (CCAC) proposals for Carbon Budget 3.

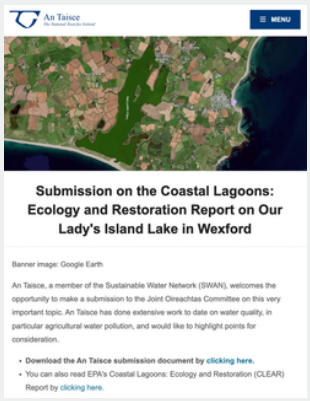
This was sent to the Joint Oireachtas Committee on climate, and it helped inform questions from multiple members in the JOC's session with the CCAC. We also analysed and submitted on the Commission for the Regulation of Utilities' Large Energy Users Connection Policy and Gas Networks Ireland's Ten-Year Network Development Plan. Both submissions raised serious concerns about compliance with the legally binding carbon budgets and the obligations on the CRU and GNI under the Climate Act.

We also analysed and made submissions on various planning, water, and biodiversity issues including on the Accelerating Infrastructure Plan, the draft Marine Planning Policy Statement, changes to the planning regulations on exempted development, the national renewable energy territory mapping, the designation of Ireland's Heavily Modified Waterbodies, the Interim Review of the 5th Nitrates Action Programme, the draft Sixth Nitrates Action Programme, the creation of Ireland's first marine national park, and others.

Our legislative work also continued in 2025 – we appeared before the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Housing to discuss planning regulations for solar farms.

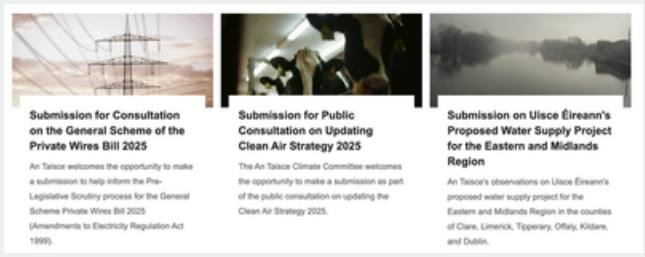
Our key message was that joined up national policy and strong forward planning is needed for solar energy to identify suitable areas of land while considering the numerous factors and constraints impacting land use decisions.

There are multiple processes occurring now for solar planning, and these need to be much better coordinated.





Submissions are available to read and download from AnTaisce.org



Advocacy Policy



Pictured at the first Nature Restoration Leaders' Forum are — from left to right — An Taisce's Head of Advocacy Dr Elaine McGoff, forum chairperson, Dr Aoibhinn Ní Shúilleabháin and Sinead O'Brien, co-ordinator of the Sustainable Water Network.



Reject 'unjust' limits on judicial reviews, An Taisce urges public

CIAN O'CONNELL

"This unlawful proposal is a significant attack on civil socie- public authority will generally pay the winner's legal costs.

An Taisce engages with policy at a national and EU level on the need to not erode vital standards of environmental protection and access to justice. Below, covers of policy position documents.





An Taisce actively participated in multiple significant national policy fora in 2025 including the Water Forum, Biodiversity Forum, Marine Spatial Planning Advisory Group, Forest Strategy Consultative Committee, the Nature Restoration Leader's Forum and An Coimisiún Pleanála's Stakeholder Forum. Participating in these groups allows us to advocate for policy changes directly to government officials while at the same time engaging with other stakeholders.

We also engaged in policy advocacy at regional and local levels across the country. Meath and Louth began the process of making new Development Plans in 2025 and An Taisce made submissions on issues we believe should inform them, including development in compliance with climate obligations, addressing the biodiversity crisis, sustainable settlement patterns, EU law compliance, etc. We regularly see our concerns reflected in Draft Plans and amendments to plans – both high level issues and specific policy wordings.

We made detailed submissions on the County Biodiversity Action Plans for Longford, Leitrim, Mayo, Meath, Sligo, Westmeath and Wicklow. While the majority of these plans are in the process of being finalised, some of the reports considering consultation inputs have engaged with points raised in our submissions, including improved alignment with the biodiversity strategy hierarchy, the need for ecological network mapping, promotion of peatland restoration and close-to-nature forestry, stronger wildlife crime enforcement, more sustainable artificial lighting schemes, improved invasive species management, etc.

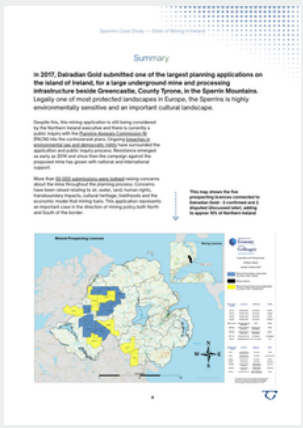
At European level, we engaged with the EU Democracy Shield, the EU Civil Society Strategy, and simplification of environmental legislation. Our advocacy in these areas used our experience of national policy in Ireland and focused on ensuring the continued strong role of civil society in Ireland and the EU as well as on the need for any regulatory simplification at EU level to not erode strong standards of environmental protection.

We also continued our work with the EU Commission on unauthorised quarrying, and we engaged with Commission representatives on ongoing environmental infringement cases against Ireland, which helped inform their work with Irish authorities.

At an organisation level, we drafted and published our first two official policy positions on data centres and offshore wind development (shown on left).

Advocacy Policy











'Sperrins Case Study — Dalradian Gold' Produced as part of the Minerals Extraction Project work. An all-island collaboration with groups including Save Our Sperrins and Friends of the Earth NI.

Minerals Extraction Project

Our mining and quarrying project (IEN-funded) partners with Feasta and Ecoadvocacy, with the aim of providing a solid evidence base and proposed policy for the partner organisations as well as IEN and civil society in general on mining and quarrying in Ireland. The policy positions produced will be enriched by case studies – that not only exemplify the issue but also provide an invaluable resource for the community impacted by each case.

These will be complemented by guides for communities and civil society on how to democratically participate in decisions on extractive projects that affect them or where they wish to advocate. The project is strengthened by its all-island focus and our collaboration with groups in the North, including Save Our Sperrins and Friends of the Earth NI, as well as all island networks such as Communities Against the Injustice of Mining (CAIM network) and Rights of Nature Ireland.

Collaborations in the South include Friends of the Earth Ireland, Community Law and Mediation (who have facilitated access to legal opinion – both pro bono and otherwise), Financial Justice Ireland and Trocaire. Through this project we are also nurturing conversations and connections that will continue and grow – as seen from the various public events we have put on regarding water guardianship, human rights protections and promoting a wellbeing economy.

Heritage Advocacy

In 2025, we ramped up our advocacy efforts around dereliction and endangerment of Protected Structures. Key outputs included an abundance of legal action requests to local authorities across the country concerning derelict and vacant sites registration and levy imposition. This advocacy work seeks to trigger accountability among local authorities and derelict sites property owners to ensure adaptive reuse of long standing derelict buildings for the benefit of communities, built heritage conservation and climate action.

A notable project highlighted extensive dereliction in Arklow, Co. Wicklow, which gained national and local media attention and ensured that the issue entered the local political agenda.

Active Travel Advocacy

Irish Cycling Campaign

2025 marked the 12th year of our partnership with the Irish Cycling Campaign. This collaboration was critical in our work on the National Development Plan Review and in making detailed recommendations on how best to fund and develop active travel and public transport infrastructure. We also worked closely with local authorities to support high-quality active travel infrastructure projects.

Advocacy Outreach and Partnerships





An Taisce's Head of Advocacy, Dr Elaine McGoff, gave a keynote speech at the Mary Robinson Climate and Nature Conference.

The influential Mary Robinson Climate and Nature conference is an annual, multi-disciplinary forum held in Ballina, Co Mayo, aimed at fostering "courageous conversations" on the climate and biodiversity crises. In 2025, our head of Advocacy, Dr Elaine McGoff, gave a keynote speech at this conference and was joined by multiple colleagues from across An Taisce who hosted another event during the conference.

The An Taisce Advocacy and Climate Ambassador teams, in collaboration with ABColombia, the Irish Coalition for Business and Human Rights and Financial Justice Ireland, organised and hosted a public event on the rights of nature with a delegation from communities from Colombia's Atrato region who won a court case giving rights to the river in the region. Local River Guardians (official positions for community reps created after the case) and their legal team spoke alongside the Save Our Sperrins group who have been campaigning against a potential goldmine in Northern Ireland.

A crucial part of An Taisce's work is working with a range of civil society groups and the general public to help ensure that people are aware of their environmental rights, particularly around public participation, and to help people engage in planning and environmental advocacy.

In that regard, we continued to work with communities across the island, answering planning queries and making planning enforcement complaints about issues which An Taisce members, and members of the public sought our help with. With our national remit, significant environmental and ecological knowledge, and planning expertise, we have a unique ability to assist the public in this regard.

An Taisce also continued to collaborate closely with a wide range of NGOs and other civil society organisations across Ireland. These partnerships are fundamental to achieving our mission and objectives, allowing us to leverage collective expertise, diverse skills, and extensive networks to enhance the impact of our work, both as an organisation and as a sector.

An Taisce works extensively with the Sustainable Water Network made up of national and local bodies working on water quality on various campaigns and advocacy. The most successful of those for 2025 was the SWAN campaign on the Heavily Modified Water Bodies, which garnered almost a thousand public submissions as part of the public consultation.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
The Advocacy Team's work supports a wide array of Sustainable Development Goals by integrating environmental protection, heritage conservation, and sustainable transport solutions into Ireland's policies and practices:

- **Goal 3:** Good Health and Well-being:
- **Goal 6:** Clean Water and Sanitation:
- **Goal 7:** Affordable and Clean Energy:
- **Goal 11:** Sustainable Cities and Communities:
- **Goal 13:** Climate Action
- **Goal 14:** Life Below Water
- **Goal 15:** Life on Land
- **Goal 16:** Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
- **Goal 17:** Partnerships for the Goals



The rights of nature panel for the event in Tailors' Hall Dublin with a delegation from communities from Colombia's Atrato region who won a court case giving rights to the river.

Collaborations, partnerships and connections

An Taisce — the National Trust for Ireland works in close partnership with a wide range of organisations, NGOs and groups across Ireland, Europe and globally. These collaborations are fundamental to our mission, allowing us to leverage collective expertise, diverse skills, and extensive knowledge to enhance the impact of our work.

Our representation and partnerships extend across numerous esteemed organisations and initiatives, and these would include:

- **ESD Advisory Council**
- **European Environmental Bureau**
- **Europa Nostra**
- **Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE)**
- **The Alfred Beit Foundation**
- **Irish Environmental Network and Environmental Pillar**
- **Environmental Law Implementation Group**
- **Clean Air NGO Forum**
- **Forestry Strategy**
- **Citizens' Assembly on Biodiversity Loss**
- **Sustainable Water Network (SWAN)**
- **The 1772 Foundation**
- **Stop Climate Chaos**
- **RSPB NI**
- **Breeding Waders EIP**

In addition, we actively engage with various appointment committees and Joint Oireachtas Committees, such as those focused on Heritage, Housing, and Environment.

We are also proud contributors to Stop Climate Chaos, working tirelessly to advocate for sustainable policies and systemic change.

These partnerships and collaborations underscore our commitment to collaboration and the shared goal of protecting and preserving our environment for future generations.

EU Projects: partnerships & collaborations

An Taisce has long had partnerships and collaborations across the EU. It continues to play important roles in multiple projects aligning with its core mission and values. These current projects build on and overlap with the work of the programmes in An Taisce.

Free LitterAT
INTTERREG Atlantic Area

Free LitterAT is an INTTERREG Atlantic Area project aimed at advancing towards litter-free Atlantic coastlines, by utilising knowledge, tools, technology, and engaging stakeholders in litter prevention, recording, and removal. An Taisce's Clean Coasts are involved in marine litter prevention by improving waste management and recycling in Atlantic ports and coastal cities with a specific focus on fishing-related waste.

BCORE21
Erasmus+ education partnership

The BCORE21 project is pioneering a unique three-step methodology to foster grassroots innovation in education through leveraging collective expertise. Including Green-Schools, there are five partner organisations from across Europe. The project features a commitment to future-proof education, making learning relevant, accessible, impactful, and engaging for young learners aged 5 to 18 from diverse backgrounds.

BioBeo
EU circular bioeconomy education

An Taisce's Green Schools Biodiversity team are part of the BioBeo project, a two and a half-year EU Horizon project with 15 partners in countries all around Europe. BioBeo will provide better coordination between bio-science and education in schools by developing the Circular Economy Science-Society message with a particular focus on circular lifestyle and behaviours, and a governance framework on society-wide engagement in bioeconomy policy.

NEB-LAB Eco²Schools
Erasmus+ partnership

Eco² Schools as New European Bauhaus Labs (NEB-LAB) is a partnership between five eco-renovation educational building projects across the EU in Sweden, Portugal, Germany, France, Greece and UCC in Ireland. An Taisce is one of the partners and coordinates communications. The sites develop replicable climate action plans to be transformed into innovation hubs in their communities.

SUST-Hein
Sustainable Higher Education

The Green-Campus programme is a partner in the Sust-HEIn project. It aims to elevate the transition of Higher Education Institutions to green, sustainable organisations, by fostering the whole-institution approach to sustainability through systems thinking. It will identify, develop, test and assess the whole institution approach to sustainability through systems thinking in the Higher Education sector, which responds to the key European priorities of the European Green Deal

Little Green Fingers
Erasmus and Green-Schools partnership

An Taisce's Green-Schools programme has partnered up with five organisations across Europe to pilot the Little Green Fingers project, an innovative educational program that integrates STEAM, environmental education, and design thinking. This project launched across Ireland, Belgium, Serbia, Cyprus and the Netherlands through Green-Schools in collaboration with Change of Course, KidHub, CYCERE and Stichting Designathon Works.

Heritage stewardship Properties-in-trust

The properties section continued to oversee the maintenance and protection of natural and built heritage entrusted to it. We rely on third-party funding, volunteers, or the involvement of local associations to be able to achieve its objectives. These properties provide the ideal bases for the type of community-led heritage engagement that is so important in Ireland today.





Some of the important events over the year included the launch of the partnership with the 1772 Foundation and hosting visitors from the foundation to Ireland for tours and networking.

An Taisce's safeguarding and advocating for Ireland's built heritage is part of the charity's core activities. There were many exciting developments in this area over 2025. March saw a visit by the board of the US-based 1772 Foundation. We also had the launch of the partnership of An Taisce with the Foundation. The launch event took place at the US Mission at Mespil Road, Dublin as part of Irish-American Heritage Month. This partnership will examine reuse of existing but derelict heritage buildings for reuse for the community or as housing.

This is a chance for An Taisce to become more directly involved in conservation work. We welcomed Mary Anthony on secondment from the Foundation for the year to assist the project. Tailors' Hall in Dublin played host as a venue for a number of Dublin 8 and Liberties festivals.

It was used to host some very successful exhibitions and talks, and we were also able to run tours both during these festivals and as part of Heritage Week and Open House weekend in October. We are always looking for volunteers to help us with tours so if you are interested in heritage at all and would like to help please contact info@antaisce.org.

The Hall continues to be in regular use for all types of events and we are delighted to be able to offer this either for free or at a special rate to the community.



National Heritage Week is a particular event-filled time in the calendar with local associations putting on a wide variety of activities. Tailors' Hall in Dublin is also used for community and festivals as a venue.



Heritage stewardship Properties-in-trust



RSPB NI collaboration in Sliabh Beagh



Workshops and events in Booterstown Nature Reserve



Field trip in Gortlecka on the Burren

An Taisce's bog properties
We were delighted to be able to offer Mongan Bog in Offaly, a Ramsar designated wetland area and one of the most important raised bogs in Ireland for the Breeding Waders EIP programme. This area will be used to for nesting of important species of Irish wading birds and associated predator control.

It was announced also that RSPB Northern Ireland had been successful in gaining SEUPB funding worth €20 million for a range of diversity projects across the northern counties. One of these includes peatland restoration for blanket bog and management of turbary rights on the An Taisce property Sliabh Beagh in Counties Monaghan and Tyrone. This will be a multi-year project involving the local community and we really look forward to working with all stakeholders in ensuring it is a success.

Many of our properties are used by our community programmes and are perfect venues for educational workshops. In particular, Morehampton Wildlife Sanctuary (also known as The Grove) in Dublin played host to a number of events during the year including pond-creation workshops, heritage week and festival open days, and tours for local history groups.

We have received some, and are currently awaiting news of more possible funding to be able to carry out work in Morehampton as part of the biodiversity action plan already created. This plan will involve thinning out the tree canopy allowing more varied biodiversity to grow on the floor of the area.

Booterstown Marsh was also the venue for different types of events throughout the year. The only saltmarsh in South Dublin, and an important feeding ground for migratory birds, it saw various cleanups, field trips and birdwatching events, again providing an opportunity for partnerships with corporate institutions, embassies and other environmental NGOS.

In May, a Biodiversity Week event was held at the An Taisce property Gortlecka on the Burren. This field trip was able to show off the spectacular features of the area of this karst landscape which borders the Burren National Park. Led by our extremely well-informed guide, the trip was enjoyed by all.

As always, we welcome any enquiries relating to possible donation of request of heritage areas where natural or built or our properties. All our properties are held interest allowing us to protect them and to ensure their survival.

Properties Alignment with mission and SDGs



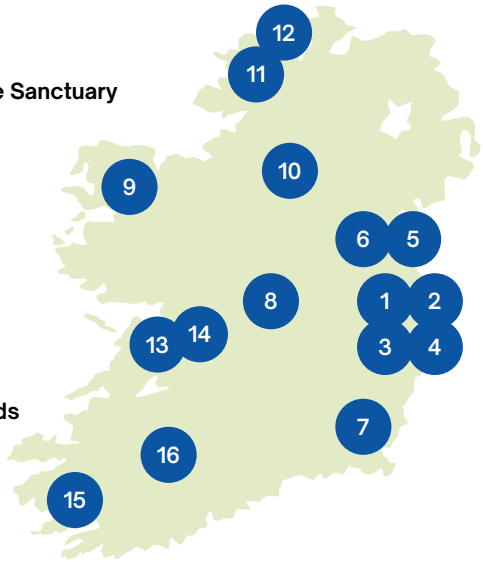
Vision for the Future

Looking ahead to 2027, An Taisce aims to:

- **Expand the Portfolio:** Identify and acquire new properties to safeguard Ireland's heritage.
- **Enhance Nature Conservation:** Implement biodiversity action plans and develop innovative strategies for ecological restoration.
- **Strengthen Community Engagement:** Collaborate with local stakeholders to ensure long-term care and appreciation of heritage sites.

An Taisce Properties

1 **Tailors' Hall**
2 **Foster Place**
3 **Morehampton Wildlife Sanctuary**
4 **Booterstown Marsh**
5 **Boyne Navigation**
6 **Babe's Bridge**
7 **Corlican**
8 **Mongan Bog**
9 **Oweninny Bog**
10 **Sliabh Beagh**
11 **Crocnafarragh**
12 **Rough and Gull Islands**
13 **Burren**
14 **Gort Weigh House**
15 **Kenmare**
16 **Kanturk Castle**



***Nature Trust sites being added to An Taisce's holdings expanding the portfolio by over 650 hectares.**

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

- **Goal 11:** Sustainable Cities and Communities
- **Goal 15:** Life on Land
- **Goal 13:** Climate Action



Tailors' Hall hosted a play for Culture Night



Sliabh Beagh in Monaghan

Education and Engagement



Image is taken from a Learning about Ecosystems and Forests school Choill Bheag Project.

Achievements in 2025

Green-Schools Programme

Leading Environmental Education and Action in Ireland

The Green-Schools Programme, Ireland's most prominent environmental education initiative, has continued to inspire and empower students, teachers, and communities to take meaningful action on sustainability. Established in 1997 by An Taisce, the programme is part of the international Eco-Schools initiative and has grown to engage nearly 90% of Irish schools. Through its ten themes, Green-Schools provides a comprehensive framework for fostering environmental stewardship and behavioural change.



Seakeepers beach day June 2025

89%
of Ireland's schools are registered

Programme Overview
Green-Schools follows a seven-step methodology, which enables schools to address environmental issues systematically while empowering students to lead change:

1. **Green-Schools Committee**
2. **Environmental Review**
3. **Action Plan**
4. **Monitoring and Evaluation**
5. **Curriculum Integration**
6. **Informing and Involving**
7. **Green Code**

Schools adopt these steps across ten themes, including Litter and Waste, Energy, Water, Travel, Biodiversity, and five Global Citizenship themes (Marine Environment, Litter and Waste, Energy, Travel, Food and Biodiversity). Each theme incorporates project-based learning, community involvement, and measurable outcomes.

The programme's success is supported by a range of sponsors and partners, including the Department of the Climate, Energy and the Environment, the Department of Transport and the National Transport Authority, Úisce Éireann, and numerous private sector organisations.

Achievements

- 3,548 schools are registered in the programme, representing over 89% of Ireland's schools.
- 734 Green Flags were awarded this year, with 50 awarded to first-time participants.
- 86 long-term deferred schools re-engaged with the programme, and 22 new schools joined.
- This was the first year that schools who have completed all ten themes moved on to "Green-Schools projects". This phase allows these experienced schools to revisit previous themes and complete exciting year-long projects, such as; Primary Climate Ambassador, Seakeepers and Learning about Ecosystems and Forests (LEAF)
- Teacher Training: Over 570 teachers participated in online training seminars.

Achievements in 2025

Green-Schools Programme

Call-to-Action Events:
Green-Schools hosts a number of popular national call to action weeks in line with our 10 Green-Schools themes: Climate Action Week, Biodiversity Week, Marine Week, Water for Water, Festival of Energy , Bike Week, Scoot to School Week, Walk to School Week, Clean Air Week, and the Big Travel Challenge.

Green-Schools campaigns and projects include:

- **#AndSheCycles Ambassadors and Campaign:** The Ambassador Programme and Campaign empowered teenage girls to address barriers to cycling for female students. The Programme offered teenage girls support through hands on workshops, cycling events, training sessions, and networking events. 40 Ambassadors were celebrated in an award ceremony in May 2025, with an additional 135 Ambassadors accepted on to the 2025-2026 programme in October.
- **Bus in the City:** This innovative project introduced students to public transport through experiential learning. Schools in Cork, Limerick, and Waterford engaged with the project, learning about public transport systems, maps, routes, and had the opportunity to put their learning into practise by taking part in a bus field trip on an active bus service.
- **Portlaoise Cluster Project:** This pioneering project facilitated by Green-Schools Travel in partnership with Laois County Council supported all 10 schools of Portlaoise to work together to promote sustainable and active travel in the town of Portlaoise. Schools engaged in awareness and skills based workshops, took part in competitions, and attended travel forums in the Council chambers, among many other actions.

One of the most important initiatives has been the integration of Gaeilge into the Green-Schools themes and projects. This has involved auditing, improving, translating and creating key Irish language resources for each theme, including activity sheets, surveys, quizzes and educational videos. As a result, students from Gaeltacht regions and in Irish-language schools across the country can now engage with environmental materials as Gaeilge.

Green-Schools delivered a wide range of national competitions and awards including Water School of the Year, Uisce Éireann Poster & Video Competition, Biodiversity School of the Year, Global Citizenship Awards, Marine Creative Writing Competition, Marine School of the year Awards, Marine Spatial Planning Poster & Photography Competitions, and Young Reporters for the Environment, engaging thousands of students nationwide in creativity, sustainability, environmental action, and climate awareness.



Mungret Community College in Limerick was selected as the overall winner in recognition of the outstanding work of their #AndSheCycles Ambassadors



Let's Fix Fashion campaign: above students, Sarah Burns and Lily Peeke from Colaiste Muire, Cobh Co Cork at the 'Catwalk' event in Tipperary



Above: integrating Gaelige into themes and projects.



Right: Bus in the City is an innovative project introducing students to public transport through experiential learning

Achievements in 2025

Green-Schools Programme



GS Eirgrid partnership launches





Green-Schools Bike Week May 2025

Theme-Specific Achievements

Litter and Waste

- 58 Green Flags were awarded under this theme.
- Schools working on the Litter and Waste theme carried out a wide range of activities including waste audits, recycling and composting initiatives, reuse and upcycling projects, litter clean-ups, awareness campaigns, plastic reduction actions, and student-led environmental committees, resulting in significant reductions in landfill waste, improved recycling rates, reduced single-use plastic consumption, cleaner school environments, and long-term cost savings through lower waste collection and resource use.

Energy

- One school achieved a Green Flag for their work on energy conservation. The theme was relaunched with the support of EirGrid in the academic year 2024/2025 so we anticipate further growth across this theme over the coming years
- Four regional energy workshops took place engaging 11 schools, 70 students and 18 teachers
- In March 2025, Green-Schools hosted its first online Festival of Energy, delivering webinars, activities, and bilingual resources on renewable energy and climate action to primary and secondary students nationwide.

Water

- 77 Green Flags were awarded for water conservation efforts.
- The Water Ambassador Programme trained 181 secondary students across 43 schools, while regional workshops and campaigns like Walk for Water engaged hundreds more in water stewardship.
- Six regional in-person workshops engaging 240 students and teachers on the importance of conserving and protecting water.
- Three regional walk for water events, in Cork, Galway and Dublin with 176 secondary school students and their teachers.
- 4,300 entries were received for the “Water is Life” Competition.

Travel & Global Citizenship Travel

The Travel and Global Citizenship Travel themes aim to encourage students, parents, and school staff to walk, cycle, school, use public transport or carpool instead of using the private car on the school run.

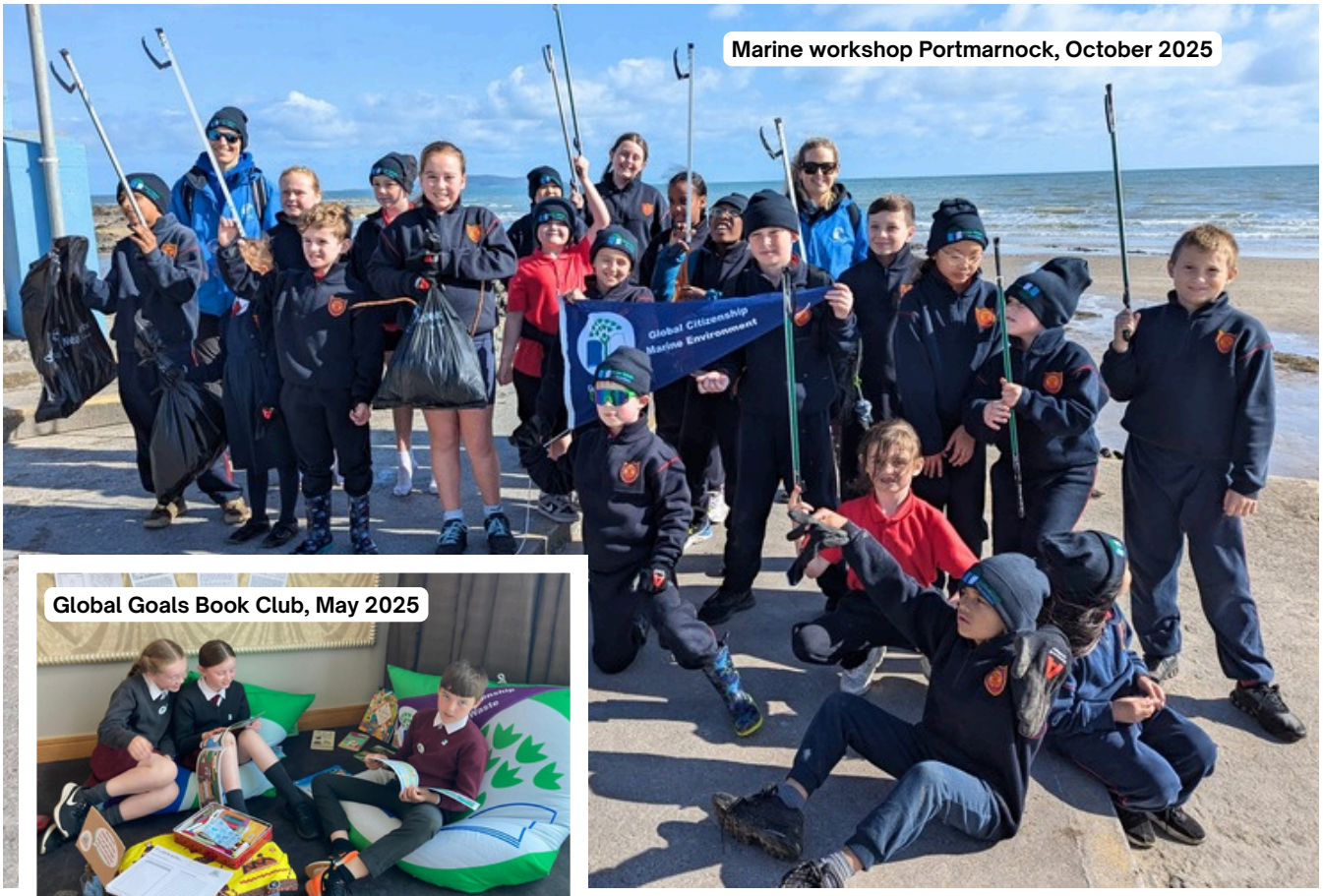
Schools are supported by a dedicated Travel Officer that tailors the programme to suit the needs of each school. Travel Officers facilitate surveys, skills and experience based workshops, events, meetings, and stakeholder engagements to support schools to adopt active and sustainable travel to school.

- 164 schools were awarded for their work on a Green-Schools Travel theme.
- 89% of schools awarded for a travel theme in 2025 noted a decrease in car use in their applications.
- 1,584 visits to schools were made by Travel Officers in 2025.
- 53,541 participant engagements; including 47,751 student engagements, 4,697 teachers and school staff, and 1,093 parents and caregivers.
- 158 Walkability Audits were conducted by Travel Officers with students.
- 600 cycle parking spaces and 33 shelters provided to 33 schools 324 scooter parking spaces delivered to 14 schools.
- 5,017 students received Green-Schools Travel grants toward cycle training in 2025.



Achievements in 2025

Green-Schools Programme



Global Citizenship, Litter and Waste and Energy

- The Global Citizenship themes expand the scope of the Green-Schools Programme, linking local actions to global environmental challenges.

In 2025:

- 188 Green Flags were awarded across these themes.
- The Let's Fix Fashion Campaign engaged 35 schools, including 5 schools from Kenya and 1 from Dubai, raising awareness about the environmental impact of fast fashion. Activities included film screenings, workshops, upcycling projects, and a cultural exchange with Kenyan students. The campaign's highlight was a catwalk event showcasing sustainable designs created by students.
- A one-day workshop titled "Problem Solving for Global Justice" at Maynooth University (April 2025) trained 31 pre-service teachers using design thinking.
- 982 students across Ireland, Kenya, South Africa, and the UAE engaged in five key events including a global launch and SDG-themed actions. Activities focused on child-led, design-thinking approaches to the Sustainable Development Goals, intercultural learning, and student empowerment.
- The Global Goals Book Club expanded to 93 teachers and reached 7,573 students in 2024–2025 academic year.

Global Citizenship Marine Environment

- 84 teachers took part in one of four online training seminars to deliver the Marine Environment theme.
- 38% average increase in awareness observed across all questions in the Marine Litter Awareness Survey between schools in their first and second years working on the theme.
- 424,809 students and 35,818 teachers from 1,368 schools have taken part in the Global Citizenship: Marine Environment theme since it was first rolled out in 2016.
- 70 Green Flags awarded to Global Citizenship: Marine Environment schools in 2025.
- 192 participants in eight indoor primary school Marine Workshops carried out nationwide.
- 111 students took part in four beach workshops.
- 90 classes from 56 schools took part in the SeaKeepers Project.
- 70 students from the Green-Schools Committee in Errigal College, Co. Letterkenny took part in Marine Ambassador programme.
- 241 entries were received for the National Marine Creative Writing Competition, 2025.
- 28 new teaching resources were developed in Irish.
- 343 teachers registered for Marine Week, with a total estimated reach of 10,796students based on class numbers reported by teachers on registration.

Achievements in 2025

Green-Schools Programme



Biodiversity and Global Citizenship Food and Biodiversity themes
The Biodiversity and Global Citizenship Food and Biodiversity themes engaged schools in protecting local ecosystems, promoting sustainable food practices, growing awareness of pollinators and native species, reducing food waste, and exploring the links between food systems, climate action, and global sustainability through hands-on projects and student-led initiatives.

- Schools working on the Biodiversity theme learned how and why we need to protect wildlife, taking a range of actions to attract biodiversity to their grounds. This year, they planted an amazing 3,794 trees, which will provide habitats, food sources, carbon storage, and valuable learning opportunities as they mature.
- Schools also created additional wildlife habitats, including 40 ponds, 129 wildflower areas, and 398 bird and bat boxes.
- Schools on average grew 10 food crops, with 43 different crops grown in total. Spring onions, lettuce, and potatoes were the most popular, grown by 85% of schools, while crops like sprouts and fennel were tried by fewer than 5%.



Presentation Primary School - Planting



Alignment with An Taisce's Mission and Pillars
Green-Schools aligns with An Taisce's mission through:

Community and Society:
Building sustainable habits within schools and local communities.

Climate and Biodiversity:
Empowering students to address biodiversity loss and climate challenges.

Education and Advocacy:
Inspiring the next generation of environmental leaders.

Alignment with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Green-Schools supports all 17 SDGs, with particular emphasis on:

- **Goal 4:** Quality Education: Providing lifelong learning opportunities and environmental education.
- **Goal 13:** Climate Action: Mobilising schools to take meaningful climate action.
- **Goal 15:** Life on Land: Supporting biodiversity through habitat creation and restoration.
- **Goal 11:** Sustainable Cities and Communities: Promoting sustainable transport and infrastructure.

Vision for the Future
Looking ahead, Green-Schools plans to:

- Continue to re-engage schools that have paused Green Flag participation through targeted support and communications.
- Expand and strengthen secondary school offerings, increasing student engagement at post-primary level, collaborating further with programmes like the Young Reporters for the environment.
- Provide new training and resources to support the Leaving Certificate Climate Action and Sustainable Development subject
- Review teacher training courses to better align with current curriculum demands and teacher needs
- Streamline communications to schools to make information clearer and reduce workload
- Green-Schools handbooks translation into Irish to improve accessibility for Gaelscoileanna and Gaeltacht schools

Through its transformative approach, Green-Schools continues to shape the future of environmental education in Ireland, empowering students to lead sustainability efforts in their communities and beyond.

Achievements in 2025

Safe Routes to School Transforming School Travel in Ireland

The Safe Routes to School (SRTS) programme, established in 2021, is a collaborative initiative developed by the National Transport Authority (NTA) and An Taisce, following a request from the Department of Transport. Its primary objective is to enhance safety in the 'front of school' environment, improve access to school grounds, and expedite the development of walking, cycling, and wheeling infrastructure on key routes to schools.



Programme Overview
Since its inception, SRTS has made significant strides in promoting active travel within school communities across Ireland.
The key aims of the programme are to:

- Accelerate the delivery of 'front of school' treatments enhancing school visibility and student access into school grounds.
- Accelerate the delivery of walking, cycling and wheeling infrastructure to promote active travel along key routes to school.
- Expand the amount of cycle and scooter parking at schools.

The programme's structured approach includes a detailed engagement process, delivery plans tailored to individual schools, and the installation of essential infrastructure.


New infrastructure with Safe Routes to School at St Dominic's National School



Achievements in 2025

By the end of 2025:

- 526 schools were actively engaged in the programme .
- Throughout the year, 97 Delivery Plans were developed, bringing the total number to 309.
- Additionally, infrastructure works were completed at 60 schools in 2025, increasing the overall number to 156.
- The programme also facilitated the installation of cycle and scooter parking facilities in 55 schools during the year, totalling 881 schools equipped with such amenities.

Achievements in 2025

Safe Routes to School Transforming School Travel in Ireland



Mayor of SDCC Cllr Baby Pereppadan with Eoin Burke Director of Land Use Planning and Transportation, Cllr Jess Spear, Cllr Adam Smyth, Paul Kearney - Total Highway Maintenance, Seamus Vaughan (Principal) with students from St Dominic's NS, representative cutting the ribbon at the launch of their improved infrastructure.

Expansion nationwide

The programme's timeline reflects its progressive expansion and impact:

December 2025
Launch of round four, adding 105 schools to the active programme.

November 2024
Launch of round three, adding 141 schools to the active programme, including, for the first time, 67 schools situated on Higher Speed Rural Roads (HSRR).

December 2022
Launch of round two, adding 108 schools to the active programme.

June 2021
Launch of round one, adding 170 schools to the active programme

March 2021
All schools in the state were invited to apply, with information disseminated by the Departments of Education and Transport.



Achievements in 2025

Safe Routes to School Transforming School Travel in Ireland

The Safe Routes to School programme is a key initiative that contributes to Ireland's commitment to the UN 2030 Agenda. By facilitating the transition from private car use to active modes, the programme supports progress across the following global goals:

- Health Promotion (Target 3.4): By embedding active travel into the daily school routine through Green-Schools alignment, the programme promotes physical activity and long-term wellbeing.
- Road Safety (Target 3.6): The programme's "Front of School" infrastructure proposals and traffic-calming recommendations contribute to reducing the risk of road traffic injuries among children.
- Social Inclusion (Target 10.2): Through selection criteria that account for socio-economic mix and school type, the programme facilitates an equitable distribution of active travel benefits for all families.
- Sustainable Transport (Target 11.2): The programme identifies the requirements for safe, affordable, and accessible transport systems. It advances the needs of children by advocating for the school gate to be a safe environment.
- Urban Inclusion (Target 11.7): Through the design of high-quality public space, the programme contributes to the enhancement of the local urban fabric.
- Decarbonisation (Target 13.2): The programme supports climate mitigation by encouraging a reduction in transport-related carbon emissions. Phased behaviour-change initiatives provide practical pathways to lower the carbon footprint of the school run.
- Multi-Stakeholder Collaboration (Target 17.17): The programme operates through a successful partnership model between national agencies, local authorities and school communities to achieve sustainable development objectives.

Contribution to An Taisce's Mission and Pillars

- Community and Society: Encouraging active travel within school communities enhances public recognition of infrastructure improvements. This leads to safer driving behaviours and stronger community support for sustainable initiatives.
- Planning: Infrastructure delivered under SRTS is frequently cited as a model for best practices in local area plans, influencing future developments and planning applications.





The Safe Routes to School Programme also strives to deliver materials and reports both in the Irish and English language, such as the above, 'How to support your school zone' brochure.

Vision for the Future

Looking ahead, the Safe Routes to School programme aims to:

- Broaden Impact: Expand its reach to more schools, ensuring the health and safety benefits of active travel are available to more communities
- Strategic Integration: Facilitate earlier formal engagement with Local Authorities to de-risk schemes and manage project expectations.
- Progressive Growth: Continue selecting a diverse mix of schools to ensure equitable access to safer, low-carbon school environments.
- Collaborative Leadership: Act as a central hub for knowledge-sharing between national partners and all 31 local authorities to enhance programme delivery.

Achievements in 2025

GLOBE Ireland

Advancing Environmental Stewardship Through Citizen Science

GLOBE Ireland, coordinated by An Taisce with support from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), has established itself as a leading programme in environmental education and citizen science. With its roots dating back to the 1990s and a full relaunch in 2017, the programme empowers students and teachers to engage in scientific research, fostering a deep connection between education and environmental action.



Pictured above, Globe's annual Project Sharing and Prizegiving Event event which took place in May 2025. This event celebrated the achievements of 15 schools, with keynote addresses from An Taisce and EPA leadership. Over 130 guests attended, including 84 students.

Citizen Science Campaigns
GLOBE Ireland delivered four core campaigns in 2025, reaching approximately 20,000 students nationwide across primary and post-primary schools.

Each campaign addresses a critical environmental issue:

1. **Air Quality:** Monitoring nitrogen dioxide, a traffic-related pollutant, outside at three locations on school grounds to explore 'how clean is the air at your school'.
2. **Climate Resilience:** Rainfall and Flooding — Providing schools with rain gauges and training to measure rainfall and explore how "spongy" their grounds are to prevent flooding.
3. **Climate Resilience:** Temperatures and Trees — Engaging schools in tree observations, land cover analysis and climate resilience studies.
4. **River Ecosystems:** Training students to evaluate the health of local rivers through biodiversity and water quality assessments.

These campaigns not only educated teachers and students but also contributed valuable data to the international GLOBE database, linking local efforts to global scientific research.

Achievements

Teacher Training and Resources
A cornerstone of the programme is empowering educators to lead citizen science projects:

- Teacher Training: Approximately 195 teachers received training in GLOBE protocols in 2025, enabling them to integrate scientific methods into their classrooms.
- Local Support: GLOBE connected schools with grant opportunities through the Local Authorities Water Programme, funding green infrastructure projects and sustainable water management initiatives.

Achievements in 2025

GLOBE Ireland

Advancing Environmental Stewardship Through Citizen Science



Event Highlights

GLOBE Ireland hosted approximately 33 events in 2025, including webinars, training sessions, and international conferences:

- **Annual Project Sharing and Prizegiving Event:** Held at Clayton Hotel, Dublin, this event celebrated the achievements of 15 schools, with keynote addresses from An Taisce and EPA leadership. Over 130 guests attended, including 84 students.
- **Tree Day 'Talking Trees' Webinar:** Co-hosted with Green-Schools Biodiversity, this interactive event featured native tree fun facts, a student quiz, and explored how trees communicate. The event reached approximately 1000 students, which included international students joining from GLOBE Europe and Eurasia.
- **Air Detectives Webinar:** Co-hosted with Green-Schools Travel, this interactive event featured EPA's Dr Dáithí Kelleghan and Dr Liz Coleman (NUIG) and reached approximately 700 students.
- **International Engagements:** GLOBE Ireland partnered with countries such as France, Malta, the Netherlands, Croatia, Slovenia, and Ukraine to facilitate cross-cultural scientific exchanges and engagement.



Pictured at the top of the page, Globe's annual Project Sharing and Prizegiving Event event which took place in May 2025, image above is from Globe's teacher training day in Dublin. Approximately 195 teachers received training in GLOBE protocols in 2025.

Achievements in 2025

GLOBE Ireland

Advancing Environmental Stewardship Through Citizen Science











Above, Globe's annual event which took place in May 2025, images right are examples from Globe Ireland's social media content sharing information on upcoming webinars and showcasing the different themed projects of the programme.

Alignment with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

GLOBE Ireland's campaigns directly support several SDGs, demonstrating the programme's relevance to global environmental and social challenges:

- **Goal 4:** Quality Education: Providing structured citizen science education.
- **Goal 6:** Clean Water and Sanitation: Monitoring water quality through campaigns like "How healthy is your local river?"
- **Goal 11:** Sustainable Cities and Communities: Helping students redesign schools to be more climate-resilient.
- **Goal 14:** Life Below Water: Addressing water pollution and protecting aquatic ecosystems.
- **Goal 15:** Life on Land: Promoting biodiversity through phenology campaigns and land cover analysis.

Alignment with An Taisce Mission and Purpose

GLOBE Ireland aligns closely with An Taisce's strategic pillars:

- **Nature (Climate & Biodiversity, Land & Water):** Addressing critical environmental issues through citizen science.
- **People (Community & Society):** Empowering schools and local communities to become agents of change.

The programme exemplifies An Taisce's vision by fostering a culture of environmental stewardship and data-driven solutions.

Vision for 2026

As GLOBE Ireland continues to expand, its goals for 2025 include:

- Enhancing teacher training to reach more educators and students.
- Strengthening international collaborations to promote cross-border scientific exchanges.
- Developing new resources and campaigns to address emerging environmental challenges.

GLOBE Ireland's innovative approach to citizen science ensures that students and teachers remain at the forefront of Ireland's environmental response, creating a generation of informed, empowered, and inspired environmental leaders.

Achievements in 2025

LEAF Ireland — Learning about Ecosystems and Forests

Ecosystem Education and Restoration

The Learning about Ecosystems & Forests (LEAF) programme stands as a dynamic and impactful initiative focused on education about the essential role of restoring habitats and ecosystems in all spaces, urban and rural. LEAF has an emphasis on skills-based outdoor learning, which develops capacity to understand the interconnections between biodiversity, climate change, sustainable development and health & wellbeing. Since its inception, LEAF has become a beacon for environmental education and small-scale restoration. The programme engages educators, students, and communities in meaningful activities that connect them with the natural world while promoting sustainable practices.



LEAF's mission

In 2025, the LEAF programme continued its mission by reaching a diverse audience through a range of innovative and interactive projects. Central to LEAF's approach is the belief that empowering educators with knowledge and practical tools will have a ripple effect, extending its impact to generations of learners.

By focusing on teacher training, research, and public engagement, the programme combines academic rigor with hands-on activities to promote an appreciation of forests as vital ecosystems and resources.

A key component of the LEAF programme is its teacher training element, which collaborates with third-level institutions, secondary schools, and primary schools to equip educators with the skills and knowledge to integrate outdoor education into their teaching.

Milestones 2025

In 2025, LEAF received funding from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) to host a series of forest related workshops. The target audiences were the trainee teachers of three third-level institutions (Mary Immaculate College, Limerick, Marino Institute of Education, Dublin, and St. Patrick's College, Dublin).

The workshops emphasised how forests and ecosystems contribute to the bioeconomy, climate mitigation and adaptation, enhance biodiversity and wellbeing, thereby fostering a deeper understanding of the interconnectedness of ecosystems.

Each of these trainee teachers will go on to teach hundreds of students over the course of their careers, giving this project a powerful ripple effect. The knowledge and skills they've gained will be carried into every classroom they enter and every school they become part of, extending the project's impact far beyond its original scope.

Achievements in 2025

LEAF Ireland — Learning about Ecosystems and Forests

Ecosystem Education and Restoration



Through its hands-on workshops, LEAF promotes Citizen Science. Participants were trained to use techniques such as transects and quadrats to collect data on species diversity within newly created woodland habitats. This data was then shared with the National Biodiversity Data Centre, contributing to national efforts to map biodiversity. By engaging participants in active learning, LEAF encouraged critical thinking and inspired educators to explore innovative ways of teaching environmental topics.

- **Tree Planting**: Over 1,770 native provenance trees were planted as part of 9 planting projects.
- **Nature Restoration:** 8 schools received visits, supporting teachers with recommendations and advice for site specific nature restoration actions for their school grounds.
- **Educator Engagement:** The programme reached 325 trainee teachers across three higher education institutions, 35 adults as part of a sustainability group and 550 students and 56 teachers in 10 primary schools.
- **Research Contributions:** Ongoing awareness raising on the important role of citizen science and the work of the National Biodiversity Data Centre (NBDC) and the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan. Participated in LOESS (EU Project) soil education research, contributing with LEAF soil test resources and practical outdoor skills-based teaching experience.
- **Community Impact:** 900 participants were directly engaged in LEAF projects, fostering a deeper appreciation for nature, particularly forests and sustainability, and creating a positive ripple effect across their wider communities.
- Took part in World Wetlands Day webinar for community groups, Tree Week, Biodiversity Week and other Global Action Day events.
- Teamed up with Clean Coasts and help restore the dunes on Banna Beach, County Kerry, worked with Presentation Secondary School TY students and a second day joined by group of students that came from all over the world, Japan, China, Russia, Poland, India, USA, Estonia and Mexico.

Education Leaders' Forum on Nature Restoration 2025
The Education Leaders' Forum on Nature Restoration brought together policymakers and educators. It provided an important opportunity to highlight the critical role education plays but more importantly how it can support Government in meeting the ambitious targets as set out in the Nature Restoration Law.
LEAF Programme Manager Rachel Geary was invited to take part in a panel discussion at the event, it provided a wonderful opportunity to showcase the vital work of LEAF. Rachel spoke about LEAFs focus on educating the educators, and the valuable support LEAF provides teachers to help overcome the concerns and barriers around outdoor education.

'By embedding restoration concepts in schools, the very spaces where the future policy makers of tomorrow are shaped, we can ensure that future generations grow up with the knowledge, skills, and agency to participate in ecosystem restoration efforts as a core part of their lives.' Rachel Geary, LEAF Programme Manager



LEAF's Rachel Geary speaking at the Mary Robinson Climate and Nature Conference (above)

The Conference was 'a unique trans-disciplinary meeting point open to all voices to connect around climate and nature concerns and actions. The event addressed our courage to think and act differently to unlearn/relearn previous habits, pathways, and behaviours in terms of both everyday life and wider policy and governance change'.

LEAF's Programme Manager Rachel Geary was one of the panellists for Grassroots Action for Climate and Nature. This special panel brought together An Taisce's leading environmental programmes to explore shared actions and strategies to address the twin climate and biodiversity crises.

NAAEE Conference
Rachel Geary, LEAF Programme Manager, was one of the speakers at the 2025 North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE) Conference, in partnership with the Foundation for Environmental Education and UNESCO, on 4 November, contributing to a session themed, UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration: A Global Education Initiative to Protect Biodiversity.

LEAF on the map

Overall impacts:
62 planted & 2 restorations





Projects

An Choill Bheag
A key feature of the LEAF programme is its emphasis on the creation of small native woodlands, referred to as An Choill Bheag. This initiative also incorporates the establishment of native hedgerows, which function as important ecological corridors supporting wildlife movement and habitat connectivity.

These woodlands and hedgerows provide valuable 'living classrooms', enabling participants to observe and study trees and forest ecosystems in a practical, immersive setting.

In 2025, LEAF further expanded this initiative, with multiple sites now established across the country. The development of An Choill Bheag has contributed to enhanced local biodiversity while also offering schools and colleges multifunctional outdoor spaces that support a wide range of disciplines beyond geography and science.

In addition, these areas have been integrated into school Slí na Sláinte health and wellbeing walks, promoting physical activity and mental wellbeing among participants. The programme continues to evolve through the development of resources aimed at engaging a broader audience. These resources highlight the ecological and societal importance of trees, hedgerows, and forest ecosystems, while also emphasising the need to support small-scale tree nurseries that cultivate and supply native provenance saplings.

Global Recognition
In 2025, LEAF Ireland's educational restoration work was recognised by FEE Global as best practice. This led to a partnership with FEE Global and the Marino Institute of Education, Dublin, to restore sections of the Marino campus.

The project integrated Ecosystem Restoration Education into teacher training, linking hands-on restoration with subjects such as science, geography, and social studies. It strengthened both environmental learning and practical teaching approaches, marking an important step in advancing sustainable education.

LEAF Ireland provided site-specific guidance to support effective and appropriate restoration actions on campus, demonstrating how habitats can be managed in line with both educational and ecological goals. The organisation worked closely with lecturers to embed ecological restoration education into subjects such as science, geography, and social studies. Training in experiential, inquiry-based, and project-based learning was also delivered to promote active and transformative approaches to restoration education. These actions strengthen support the development of environmentally-informed educators.

Transformative Feedback
Educators praise the workshops for their engaging and practical approach. Many expressed a desire for more frequent sessions, emphasising the transformative impact of learning in outdoor settings. Some participant insights include:

- *Really informative and provided a wealth of resources that I will use on placement and in the classroom when I am qualified.*
- *Very interesting. I really enjoyed the activities and working outdoors. These are definitely something I would use on placement, and it is great that there are so many resources.*
- *It was interactive and it taught me that I don't need to know everything about the outdoors to teach a lesson that it's all a learning curve.*
- *Really informative session. Lots of opportunities created to get engaged and be in nature. Lots of good children's literature also.*
- *Gave me a good grasp on how to go about teaching this topic in primary school classrooms.*

Alignment with Sustainable Development Goals

- Goal 15: Life on Land-Sustainable Forest management and biodiversity conservation.
- Goal 11: Sustainable Cities & Communities
- Goal 13: Climate Action
- Goal 4: Quality Education: Inclusive, equitable education promoting sustainable development.
- Goal 6: Clean Water & Sanitation: Protecting water-related ecosystems.

By promoting these goals, LEAF contributes meaningfully to Ireland's environmental and educational objectives.

Achievements in 2025

SEAI Energy Workshops

Empowering Schools to Lead on Energy Education

The SEAI Energy Workshops, managed by An Taisce, form a cornerstone of Ireland's efforts to engage schools in energy education. These interactive workshops, aimed at primary and post-primary students, equip young learners with the knowledge and tools to understand energy efficiency, renewable energy, and climate change. By fostering a culture of sustainability, the programme empowers students and teachers to take actionable steps toward a more energy-conscious future.





+29k

students participated — up 21% from previous year

Programme Overview

The SEAI Energy Workshops offer dynamic, curriculum-aligned sessions that make complex topics like energy conservation and renewable energy engaging and accessible.

Workshops cater to a range of audiences:

- **Junior and Senior Primary Students:** Hands-on activities and engaging storytelling spark curiosity and build foundational knowledge of energy concepts.
- **Post-Primary Students:** Tailored workshops explore energy transitions, climate science, and the role of sustainability in daily life.
- **Teacher Training (CPD):** Facilitator-led workshops provide educators with the resources and confidence to integrate energy education into their classrooms.

Workshops are delivered nationwide, including to underserved areas and DEIS schools, ensuring equitable access to energy education.

Achievements in 2025

Workshop Reach

- 29,070 students participated in 1,221 workshops across Ireland, marking a 21% increase from the previous year. The programme shows a continued increase after a 34% increase in 2025 and a testament to the rising enthusiasm and demand for energy education.
- We excelled our target to reach at least 10% of schools who had not engaged in a workshop in the previous 24 months. Approximately 80% of schools who booked a workshop this year have no record of a previous booking in the past 24 months.
- Workshops were delivered in all 26 counties, with additional hubs established in Irish-speaking regions. A total of 52 workshops were delivered in Irish in addition to increased resources available as Gaeilge.
- The number of post primary workshops rose 41% in 2025. Junior cycle workshops increased by 20.9% whilst TY workshops represented a growth of approximately 65.7% on previous years.

Innovation in Workshop Content

- Revised workshop content reflected the latest energy statistics and aligned with curriculum updates.
- New activities were introduced, such as practical demonstrations with solar props for hands-on learning.

Achievements in 2025

SEAI Energy Workshops

Empowering Schools to Lead on Energy Education







Achievements in 2025 continued …

Teacher Training and Engagement

- 198 teachers participated in CPD workshops, enhancing their ability to teach energy-related topics, up 33% on previous years.
- Training included a mix of in-person and online sessions, increasing accessibility for educators in remote areas along with student teacher training in Mary Immaculate College.

Non-Standard Events

- The SEAI team engaged over 5,000 participants through community events like the Munster Maths and Science Festival, Wicklow Energy day (above right), Skerries Eco festival, and Let's talk Science Festival.

Sustainable Practices

The programme integrates sustainability into every aspect of its operations:

- Sustainable Materials: Workshop props, such as Guzzler puppets, are designed with recycled or biodegradable materials.
- Inclusive Access: DEIS schools constituted approximately 30% of workshops, ensuring inclusivity in energy education.
- Teacher Resources: Digital resources and online CPD workshops reduce the programme's carbon footprint while reaching more participants.

Alignment with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The SEAI Energy Workshops support several SDGs:

- Goal 4: Quality Education: Offering engaging, accessible energy education to students and teachers nationwide.
- Goal 7: Affordable and Clean Energy: Promoting understanding and adoption of renewable energy technologies.
- Goal 13: Climate Action: Equipping young people with the knowledge and skills to address energy-related climate challenges.
- Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production: Encouraging energy-efficient practices among schools and communities.

Alignment with An Taisce Mission and Purpose

- Community and Society - The workshops foster a sense of responsibility and active participation in energy conservation, building a foundation for sustainable community practices.
- Climate and Biodiversity - By addressing energy efficiency and renewable energy, the programme contributes to broader climate action goals and the reduction of Ireland's carbon footprint.
- Education and Advocacy - The integration of energy education into school curriculums reflects An Taisce's commitment to lifelong learning and environmental advocacy.

Vision for the Future

Looking ahead, SEAI Energy Workshops aim to:

- Expand workshop availability, addressing the growing demand and reducing waiting lists.
- Enhance the scope of non-standard events, reaching broader audiences through science fairs and festivals.
- Continue innovating workshop content to reflect advancements in energy technology and sustainability practices.
- Through its comprehensive approach to energy education, the SEAI Energy Workshops programme empowers Ireland's youth to lead in creating a more sustainable future.

Achievements in 2025

Young Reporters for the Environment (YRE)

Empowering Youth Through Environmental Storytelling

The Young Reporters for the Environment (YRE) programme, coordinated by An Taisce, provides a platform for students to explore environmental issues through journalism, photography, and videography. By encouraging participants to research, analyse, and communicate environmental challenges, YRE fosters environmental literacy and equips young people with the skills to advocate for meaningful change.



Winning Single Photo entry from Yuming Lian (Senior 15-18 years) with 'Golden Fawns', right, 2025 Young Reporters for the Environment Award Winners.

The competition reached over 1,500 students aged from 11-18 and over 1,200 students aged from 19-25 from Higher Level Institutions.



Programme Overview

YRE empowers students to address environmental issues creatively and effectively through four key mediums: article writing, photography, videography and podcasting.

The programme offers a range of skill-based training seminars that enhance students' abilities to communicate complex topics and drive awareness in their communities.

Participants are encouraged to connect local challenges to global contexts, fostering a sense of global citizenship and collaboration.
In 2025, the programme expanded its reach and impact, engaging students and educators across Ireland and internationally. The competition categories were updated to reflect the evolving digital landscape, introducing formats such as podcasts, TikToks, and photo stories to connect with modern audiences.

Achievements in 2025

Skill-Based Webinars and Training

Three skill-based webinars were hosted in 2025, focusing on article writing, photography, and videography. These webinars:

- Reached 420 participants, including students and teachers.
- Equipped participants with practical skills to produce compelling, solutions-oriented content.
- The theme 'Food Security and Climate Action' was launched in September 2025 with updated resources to inspire young reporters to explore the behind-the-scenes of food systems around the world. Food systems are deeply affected by climate change and are also major contributions to it. Addressing food security is essential for achieving SDG 2, 3, 12, and 13
- The YRE international conference took place in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 15th to 18th September bringing together National Operators from YRE, Eco-Schools, and LEAF, covering cross-cutting education for sustainable development themes, programme innovation, and strategy. It offers a platform for collaborative development, feedback, and knowledge exchange for YRE. Both the international team and NOs contribute ideas and share experiences during the NOM to shape YRE's direction. Plans were made to involve local participants in twinning, collaborations, open YRE-related events, and YRE missions. Presentations by An Taisce staff highlighted efforts to integrate ESD into our programmes and how Irish ESD leaders have connected vision with opportunity.
- Development of media literacy resource and training for CASD teachers.

Achievements in 2025

Young Reporters for the Environment (YRE)

Empowering Youth Through Environmental Storytelling

Programme Reach

- 52 schools participated, engaging over 1,500 students and teachers.
- Four colleges were involved, reaching 1,200 students.
- The number of entries trebled in comparison to 2024, with approximately 140 students working on submissions.

Competition Excellence

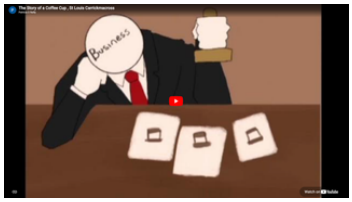
The 2025 YRE competition featured diverse and high-quality entries. The winning entries ranged from the sensitive animated short film, 'The Story of a Coffee Cup' by St Louis School in Carrickmacross to the beautifully edited-video, 'Illegal Dumping' from Athlone Community College and Irish-language entry on fast-fashion 'Éadaí sa Bhruscar' from Coláiste Ráithín. Written pieces included 'Ireland's shores: a reflection of a global crisis – plastic invades Ireland's beaches' from St Augustine's College and a heartfelt piece on Drummin Bog from students in Knockbeg College.

Students were awarded a framed certificate along with their prizes and €2000 in vouchers at a national awards ceremony in Hotel Kilkenny on May 15th. The overall winners in each category were recognised on a global scale with publication on the International YRE blog.

Two Irish entries were nominated for the YRE international award in which 43 countries compete.

The most common themes across all entries in 2025 were: Ecosystem Restoration, Pollution, Biodiversity loss and the destruction of Ireland's flora and fauna. The competition also welcomed its first podcast category.

The introduction of new competition categories—podcasts, TikToks, and expanded photo formats—allowed participants to connect with audiences in innovative ways, further broadening the programme's impact.





Above, winning video entry, 'The Story of a Coffee Cup by St Louis School in Carrickmacross. and the students who made the video are below with their YRE tote bags. Above right, 'The Choice' on illegal dumping from Athlone Community College.



Alignment with An Taisce Mission and Purpose

The YRE programme aligns seamlessly with An Taisce's strategic pillars and vision by:

- Promoting climate action and environmental literacy through student-led storytelling.
- Raising awareness about the urgency of the climate and biodiversity crises.
- Providing practical solutions at local and global levels.
- Building collaborative coalitions, such as international partnerships and national training initiatives.

Alignment with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The YRE programme directly supports several SDGs:

- **Goal 4:** Quality Education: Providing participants with lifelong learning opportunities that empower and inspire.
- **Goal 13:** Climate Action: Raising awareness and promoting actionable solutions for climate challenges.
- **Goal 15:** Life on Land: Addressing biodiversity loss and promoting ecosystem restoration.
- **Goal 17:** Partnerships for the Goals: Building international collaborations, such as the partnership between Irish and Kenyan schools.

Vision for the Future

In 2026, YRE aims to:

- Expand the reach of its training and competitions, engaging more schools and colleges across Ireland.
- Strengthen international collaborations, fostering global citizenship and cross-cultural understanding.
- Integrate more digital formats and platforms to connect with broader audiences and enhance storytelling capabilities.
- Through its focus on education, creativity, and collaboration, YRE continues to empower Ireland's youth to become informed advocates for a sustainable future.

Achievements in 2025

Green-Campus Programme

Transforming Higher Education Through Environmental Stewardship

The Green-Campus Programme, coordinated by An Taisce, is an innovative environmental education and management initiative designed for higher and further education institutions. By fostering collaboration across campus communities, the programme empowers students, staff, and stakeholders to implement sustainability practices and address environmental challenges. Introduced in Ireland in 2007, Green-Campus has grown to include 64 registered campuses as of 2025, with 24 achieving Green-Campus accreditation.



Programme Overview

The Green-Campus Programme is based on the successful Green-Schools model, encouraging third-level institutions to adopt a whole-campus approach to environmental management.

Participants follow a seven-step methodology that integrates environmental action into campus operations and community engagement:

1. **Establishing a Green-Campus Committee.**
2. **Conducting an Environmental Review.**
3. **Create an Action Plan with measurable goals.**
4. **Monitoring and Evaluating progress.**
5. **Linking Activities to Learning on campus.**
6. **Informing and Involving the wider campus and community.**
7. **Developing a Green Charter to formalise commitments.**

Themes addressed by campuses include litter and waste, energy, water, transport, biodiversity, and climate change. Emerging themes like greening laboratories, air quality, and climate justice reflect the programme's evolving priorities.

Cloverhill Prison College Dublin is officially the first prison educational facility in the world to be awarded a Green Flag recognising its outstanding efforts as a Green-Campus.

Achievements in 2025

Programme Growth

- Seven new campuses registered, bringing the total to 64 registered campuses, including universities, technological universities, teaching hospitals, Prison Colleges and Colleges of Further Education.
- Ten campuses achieved or renewed their Green-Campus flags, including ATU Mayo, Cork University Hospital, University of Galway, ATU Sligo, Dunboyne College of Further Education, TUS Thurles & Clonmel Campuses, Cloverhill Prison College, St James' Hospital, Bonnington Horizons Training Centre, Cork and TUS Athlone.

Recognition and Collaboration

- The TU Dublin Young SPV Society/ReFridge project received the Best Green Initiative Award at the Board of Irish College Societies Awards for its project to bring surplus food from FoodCloud to students on campus, reducing food waste and helping to address issues of student welfare.
- The Green-Campus programme partnered on two Erasmus+ projects (Sust-HEIn and NEB|LAB ECO^2-SCHOOLS), promoting sustainability in education through systems thinking and innovative green initiatives.

Achievements in 2025

Green-Campus Programme

Transforming Higher Education Through Environmental Stewardship

Notable Activities

- **Green-Campus Network Meeting:** The annual networking event took place on 6 February 2025, bringing together 85 delegates from participating Green-Campus sites at the Wood Quay Venue, Dublin 8. The gathering created a vibrant space for collaboration, reflection, and shared learning across the national network. The programme featured a diverse range of student and staff speakers representing participating campuses and relevant An Taisce programmes. Their contributions sparked meaningful discussion, showcased innovative sustainability initiatives, and helped forge valuable connections between sites.
- **National Green Week March 2025:** Nineteen campuses hosted events as part of Green Week 2025 including litter picks and clean ups, Green Week roadshows, Sustainability Festivals, retrofitting energy workshops and more.
- **Climate Action Week October 2025:** Ireland's eight Climate Action Week ran from October 13th to 18th and featured a variety of both An Taisce and campus led events around the country. Events themes and activities included a Green-Campus webinar on Preventing Light Pollution on campuses with Dark Sky Ireland, Swap Shops & Repair Cafes, Climate Fresk workshops and more.



Above: Green-Campus Ireland Network Meeting brought together 85 delegates. Below: St James's Hospital Dublin has become the first acute hospital in Dublin to receive the internationally recognised Green Flag, marking a major milestone in sustainable healthcare.



Alignment with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The Green-Campus Programme directly contributes to multiple SDGs:

- **Goal 4:** Quality Education: By integrating environmental education into campus curricula.
- **Goal 7:** Affordable and Clean Energy: Through energy conservation and renewable energy initiatives.
- **Goal 11:** Sustainable Cities and Communities: Promoting sustainable campus infrastructure and practices.
- **Goal 12:** Responsible Consumption and Production: Encouraging waste reduction and sustainable procurement.
- **Goal 13:** Climate Action: Supporting initiatives like tree planting and climate resilience projects.
- **Goal 15:** Life on Land: Enhancing biodiversity through habitat restoration and conservation efforts.

Vision for the Future

As the Green-Campus Programme continues to grow:

- As of 2026, the international Eco-Campus programme will become one of the main programmes of the Foundation for Environmental Education, bringing further opportunities for international cooperation and knowledge sharing.
- Expansion of participation to new campuses, including teaching hospitals, prison colleges and colleges of further education.
- Strengthening of partnerships with national and international organisations to advance sustainability in higher education.

Through its collaborative and adaptive approach, the Green-Campus Programme remains a leader in transforming educational institutions into sustainable communities, driving meaningful environmental change at local and global levels.

Achievements in 2025

Primary Climate Ambassadors Cultivating Young Climate Leaders

The Primary Climate Ambassadors Programme, launched as a pilot in 2022, is designed to introduce younger students to climate science, solutions, and advocacy. By engaging primary schools that have completed all Green-Schools themes, the programme inspires students to take the lead in their school communities.





Above: Students from Scoil Mhuire Na Trócaire, Ardee, Co. Louth, were presented with An Choill Bheag after achieving first place in the PCA programme in 2023, in recognition of their outstanding commitment and work. An Choill Bheag was installed on the school grounds in July 2025.

Pictured left: Loughfouder NS Kerry students made a biodiversity food map to support pollinators.

Programme Overview
Primary Climate Ambassadors participate in challenges, training days, and collaborative projects that foster a deep understanding of climate issues.

The programme includes:

- **Climate Challenges:** Activities such as biodiversity restoration, renewable energy projects, and rainwater harvesting.
- **Teacher Training Seminars:** Equipping educators with resources and strategies to support student-led initiatives.
- **Avatar Competitions:** Creative exercises to encourage engagement and innovation among participants.

Achievements in 2025
Key Milestones

- 31 schools trained in climate science, solutions, and communications.
- 29 climate challenges completed by students nationwide, addressing issues like renewable energy, waste, composting, and biodiversity.
- The Primary Climate Ambassador Awards recognised outstanding achievements, with Maree National School, Galway, awarded first place.

Impactful Engagement
Students showcased their creativity and leadership through:

- Rainwater harvesting projects and energy conservation initiatives.
- Community outreach campaigns that engaged local stakeholders in climate action.
- Sustainable Practices

The Primary Climate Ambassadors Programme promotes sustainability through:

- Encouraging hands-on projects that restore biodiversity and reduce waste.
- Empowering schools to adopt eco-friendly practices such as renewable energy usage.

Achievements in 2025

Primary Climate Ambassadors Cultivating Young Climate Leaders



Students from Scoil Mhuire Na Trocaire, Ardee in Louth working with staff from An Taisce's LEAF Ireland team for their An Choill Bheag.

Alignment with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
This programme contributes to:

- **Goal 4:** Quality Education: Introducing climate science into primary education.
- **Goal 13:** Climate Action: Cultivating a generation of climate-conscious youth.
- **Goal 15:** Life on Land: Promoting biodiversity conservation through student-led projects.

Vision for the Future
Looking forward, the Primary Climate Ambassadors Programme aims to:

- Expand its reach to more schools across Ireland.
- Introduce new challenges that address emerging climate and sustainability issues.
- Foster deeper collaborations with local communities to maximise impact.

By empowering young students, this programme builds the foundation for long-term climate action and sustainability leadership.



Community Marram Grass conservation workshop with Clean Coasts in Banna Strand Kerry

Achievements in 2025

Clean Coasts Programme: Empowering and supporting communities in the protection and care of Ireland's waterways, coastline, seas, ocean and marine life



Volunteer power: Scoil Naomh Lorcan with Omeath Tidy Towns in April 2025

Programme Overview — The Clean Coasts programme is made up of two key elements:

Volunteer Engagement
Clean Coasts Volunteering is rooted in supporting active participation in coastal and environmental care and protection at a community wide level. Our network of volunteers encompasses over 2,500 registered groups and more than 45,000 individual volunteers.

These groups, ranging from community associations to schools and sports clubs, organise hundreds of clean-ups, events and biodiversity focused initiatives each year. From removing substantial amounts of marine litter from beaches and waterways, to working towards stabilising dune systems and other marine habitats, Clean Coasts volunteers are the boots on the ground in coastal care in Ireland.

In 2025, Clean Coasts engaged over 11,000 volunteers in their annual Clean Up call-to-action known as the Big Beach Clean, held in September, removing approximately 60 tonnes of litter from Ireland's coastline. This clean-up is a global citizen science initiative and data collected from Clean Coast's Big Beach Clean is included in global research that is used to influence environmental policies world wide.
Also in 2025, over 7,000 volunteers engaged in Clean Coasts facilitated biodiversity related actions across 75 nature-focused events. This is an indicator of the growing interest and concern of volunteers who are alarmed by the ever-increasing threats that nature and the environment is facing.

Green Coast Awards
The programme also includes the prestigious Green Coast Award, recognising beaches of exceptional environmental quality. The Green Coast Award is national symbol of excellence, separate to the Blue Flag Awards, which holds a focus on environment and community.

Awarded beaches reach award standard due to the hard work and co-operation of the County Councils and Clean Coasts volunteer groups that adopt guardianship of the beach.

In 2025, 70 sites were awarded a Green Coast Award for the duration of the bathing season, including 7 dual-award sites, meaning they were awarded both a Blue Flag and Green Coast Award for 2025.

Green Coast Award

Achievements in 2025

Clean Coasts Programme: Empowering and supporting communities in the protection and care of Ireland's waterways, coastline, seas, ocean and marine life



Achievements in 2025
The Clean Coasts Programme experienced a landmark year in 2025, with significant milestones in community engagement, environmental impact, and educational outreach. Each initiative underscored the programme's commitment to protecting Ireland's coastline while fostering a culture of environmental stewardship.

Community Engagement
Clean Coasts strengthened its volunteer network, solidifying its role as Ireland's largest coastal conservation programme. Over 2,500 groups registered with the initiative, representing a wide array of participants including community groups, schools, residents' associations, and sports clubs. Together, these groups engaged over 45,000 individuals in hands-on coastal protection.

Nearly 11,000 volunteers contributed their time and effort to remove 60 tonnes of litter from beaches and waterways during the Big Beach Clean alone, with a substantial amount of litter removed during other clean-up actions organised by Clean Coasts volunteers and groups throughout the year. This incredible collective effort not only improved the appearance and health of Ireland's coastal environment but also raised awareness about the need for sustained action against marine litter.

Above: Big Beach Clean Launch 2025

Key Campaigns
Clean Coasts integrates impactful campaigns to address specific environmental challenges:

#2MinuteBeachClean: Encourages individuals to dedicate two minutes to cleaning up litter during their beach visits. In 2025, the campaign reached over 14.1 million people across traditional and social media channels. This does not include in-person reach at events. This is a campaign aimed at enticing those who are time poor or new to volunteering to get involved and see how small actions by many individuals can have a huge impact.

Think Before You Flush/Pour: Challenges public perception on the improper disposal of non-biodegradable waste into our wastewater systems. 2025 focused more on online reach and engaging with new audiences, including a national action collaboration with online "de-influencer" Shannen Healy and a trip to Portmarnock Pumping Station, to give the general public a glimpse of what types of items are ending up in our drainage systems. Think Before You Flush/Pour also collaborated with University and Hospital campuses to spread the message to a previously underleveraged audience.

Achievements in 2025

Clean Coasts Programme: Empowering and supporting communities in the protection and care of Ireland's waterways, coastline, seas, ocean and marine life



Educational Outreach

The programme's emphasis on education extended its impact beyond clean-ups, fostering greater understanding of marine conservation:

- **Roadshows:** Clean Coasts hosted a record 35 roadshow events across Ireland, providing workshops and hands-on activities for coastal communities, and were attended by over 1,100 people. These events reached a combined audience of 20.6 million in 2025, across traditional and online media platforms, up significantly from 7.8 million, in 2024. Roadshow activities included biodiversity talks, marram grass planting, and citizen science initiatives.
- **Youth Engagement:** Initiatives like the "#2MinuteBeachClean Shark Egg Case Hunt" events in collaboration with the #2MinuteBeachClean campaign, local Clean Coasts Groups and Biodiversity Data Centre Ireland promote youth engagement with marine wildlife in a fun, interactive, engaging and educational manner. Clean Coast officers visited schools throughout the country engaging with children of all age groups and educating them on the important of protecting our waterways, ocean and marine life.
- **Corporate Volunteering:** Clean Coasts partnered with businesses to host multiple corporate clean-ups and biodiversity workshops, directly engaging 1,341 volunteers who removed almost 2,000kg of litter across a collective 243km of coastline and canal and riverbanks in 2025



Initiatives like #2MinuteBeachClean Egg Case Hunt promoted Citizen Science and data collection (right), while Corporate Volunteering (below) engaged over 1,341 volunteers who in turn removed over 2,000kg of waste from the marine environment.





Achievements in 2025

Clean Coasts Programme: Championing Coastal Stewardship





- **Clean Coasts Observer:** For World Ocean Day, June 8th, Clean Coasts launched the 2025 Clean Coasts Observers Workshops in partnership with Explore Your Shore! These nationwide workshops promoted vital connection to local coastal ecosystems and biodiversity and encouraged members of the public to engage in citizen science actions to care for our coasts. Explore Your Shore! is a marine citizen science initiative run by the National Biodiversity Data Centre. Pictured below.
- **Educational Posters Bray Aquarium:** Clean Coasts collaborated with the newly reopened Aquarium in Bray, Co. Wicklow to provide a series of educational posters highlighting the work of Clean Coasts groups, Clean Coasts core campaign messaging such as #2MinuteBeachClean and Think Before You Flush/Pour, and the impacts of marine litter.
- **European Maritime Day:** Clean Coasts officers attended and exhibited at the European Maritime Day 2025 alongside Green Schools Marine in Cork City Hall, showcasing the work of community groups and schools throughout the country, on a European stage. Pictured top left.



Campaign Impact
The programme's core campaigns expanded their reach and influence in 2025

#2MinuteBeachClean: This flagship campaign encouraged individuals to dedicate just two minutes to cleaning litter during their beach visits. With an overall reach of over over 14.1 million (not including in-person reach), the campaign also provided bilingual cleaning stations at 94 beaches and 5 at lakeside and river locations in county Westmeath. Initiatives like the "Summer Surf Club" and "#2MinuteBeachClean Easter Shark Egg Hunts" further integrated the campaign into recreational activities, creating opportunities for environmental engagement alongside leisure.

- **Think Before You Flush/Pour:** Tackling improper disposal of non-biodegradable waste, this campaign ran six national and 39 regional actions, achieving a combined audience reach of 23.5 million. With a focus on engaging previously under-represented audiences, the campaign focused more on online reach to engage a younger audience, including a national action collaboration with online "de-influencer" Shannen Healy, a summer seasonal with James Doyle, in-person collaborations with University and Hospital campuses and a Christmas campaign with Gina & Karol Daly aka The Daly Dish.
- **Big Beach Clean:** The programme's largest citizen science project of the calendar year encouraged beach-cleaning volunteers to collect data, with data cards and entries via the Clean Swell App to provide insights into marine litter. The 2025 event, held as a part of Ocean Conservancy's International Coastal Cleanup, highlighted the global significance of local actions.

Achievements in 2025

Clean Coasts Programme: Championing Coastal Stewardship



Clean Coasts Love Your Coasts Photography Competition 2025 Coastal Landscape Category Winner Sean Bruen with Balbriggan Lighthouse Blowing a Gale taken in Balbriggan Dublin.

Award Ceremonies and Recognition
Clean Coasts celebrated the contributions of its volunteers and groups through high-profile award events:

- **Ocean Hero Awards:** Held in December 2025, on International Volunteer Day in Dublin, this event recognized 45 outstanding groups and individuals across nine categories, including “Group of the Year” and “Nature Guardian Award.” The event’s reach amounted to over 13.5 million in 2025.
- **Love Your Coast Photography Competition:** Relaunched at the earlier time of Valentine’s Day in 2025 to encourage photographers to fall in love with the coast, this annual competition attracted over a thousand entries from over 560 photographers across the five categories in 2025, showcasing Ireland’s coastal beauty. The event’s awards ceremony was held at Dublin’s EPIC museum and included a media partnership with the Irish Examiner to display winning photographs online and in print in their weekend magazine. This competition had an overall reach of 8.8 million in 2025.

Biodiversity and Habitat Restoration
Clean Coasts maintained its commitment to biodiversity through targeted restoration projects and awareness campaigns in 2025 Clean Coasts Development Officers and the Biodiversity Officer facilitated and/or supported 75 coastal and marine-focused environmental actions throughout 2025, reaching over 7,000 individuals.

- **World Sand Dune Day:** Clean Coasts marked this annual event with workshops, guided nature walks, and invasive species removal activities, reaching 3.86 million people through its online campaign.
- **Clean Coasts Observers:** For World Ocean Day, June 8th, Clean Coasts launched the 2025 Clean Coasts Observers Workshops in partnership with Explore Your Shore! These nationwide workshops promoted vital connection to local coastal ecosystems and biodiversity and encouraged members of the public to engage in citizen science actions to care for our coasts. Explore Your Shore! is a marine citizen science initiative run by the National Biodiversity Data Centre.
- **Collaboration with #2MinuteBeachClean campaign Shark Easter Egg Hunts:** For Easter 2025, Clean Coasts launched a campaign to promote the #2MinuteBeachClean combining bidiversity, ciziten science data recording and beach cleaning. The promotion invited people to take part in an egg hunt with a difference where people hunted for shark and skate egg cases and reported their findings to Biodiversity Ireland.

Achievements in 2025

Clean Coasts Programme: Championing Coastal Stewardship







Above left: Ocean Hero Awards 2025, pictured left, Katriina Bent, winner of the Leadership Award category for 2025. Above right, winners Clean Coasts Love Your Coasts award winners and right promotional material for volunteer registrations.



Alignment with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

- **Goal 3:** Good Health and Well-being - Removing litter reduces environmental toxins, improving ecosystems and human health. Initiatives like Coastal Ecotherapy promote mental and physical health through connection to nature.
- **Goal 11:** Sustainable Cities and Communities - By organising clean-ups and fostering community-led conservation, Clean Coasts builds stronger, more sustainable communities.
- **Goal 12:** Responsible Consumption and Production - Campaigns like Think Before You Flush/Pour emphasise sustainable practices, such as proper waste disposal and reduced plastic consumption.
- **Goal 13:** Climate Action - Advocacy for sustainable lifestyles and the removal of harmful waste contribute to mitigating environmental impacts.
- **Goal 14:** Life Below Water - Cleaning beaches and waterways directly protects marine ecosystems, reducing threats to biodiversity.
- **Goal 15:** Life on Land - Restoring dune habitats and preventing waste from entering ecosystems support broader biodiversity and land-based environmental health.
- **Goal 17:** Partnerships for the Goals - Collaborations with local authorities, community groups, and NGOs amplify the programme's reach and effectiveness.

Vision for the Future

Looking ahead to 2026, Clean Coasts will focus on the theme of "Impact," reflecting both the positive change our communities are creating and the responsibility we all share to ensure our actions support, rather than harm, the environment. By continuing to champion coastal clean-ups, expand nature-based projects, and deliver education and awareness campaigns, Clean Coasts aims to help the public understand how every choice, no matter how small, leaves a mark on our natural world.

- Encouraging reflection on personal impact, both negative and positive, and how to mitigate negative impacts.
- Fostering collaboration among communities to overcome environmental challenges.
- Empowering groups to protect biodiversity through education and direct action.

With ambitious goals for expanding volunteer engagement, improving biodiversity awareness, and integrating innovative campaigns, Clean Coasts remains a cornerstone of environmental stewardship in Ireland, ensuring a cleaner, greener future for its coastlines and marine life.

Achievements in 2025

Blue Flag: Recognising Excellence in Ireland's Beaches and Marinas

The Blue Flag Award, administered in Ireland by An Taisce since 1993, is an internationally recognised standard for sustainable tourism development in marine and freshwater areas. Originating in 1987 under the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE), the award celebrates beaches, marinas, and tourism boats that meet stringent criteria for water quality, environmental management, safety, and environmental education. With its roots in promoting sustainable practices, the Blue Flag programme has become a symbol of excellence in environmental stewardship and visitor engagement.



An Taisce announcing 2025 Blue Flag and Green Coast Awards in recognition of Ireland's Best Beaches and Marinas at Curracloe Co Wexford. There were 99 Blue Flag and 70 Green Coast Awards for 2025 season, in photo from left to right: Ellen Mitchell, Sea Fillies, Lifeguard, Jack Twomey, Ian Diamond Coastal Awards Manager at An Taisce, Aisling Lyons, Lifeguard, Orla Leahy, Sea Fillies.

Programme Overview

The Blue Flag Award reflects Ireland's commitment to preserving its natural heritage while fostering sustainable tourism. Sites that achieve Blue Flag status demonstrate compliance with high standards in:

- **Water Quality:** Regular testing and compliance with EU Bathing Water Directives.
- **Environmental Management:** Implementation of sustainable practices to protect marine ecosystems.
- **Visitor Safety and Accessibility:** Providing accessible facilities and ensuring safety measures.
- **Environmental Education:** Informative displays about local biodiversity, habitats, and sustainability practices.

The award is highly sought after by local authorities and communities, driving improvements in environmental standards and fostering local pride.

Achievements in 2025

Award Milestones

- An all time record of 99 sites were awarded the Blue Flag in 2025, including 89 beaches and 10 marinas, representing 16 local authority areas.
- Notable achievements included: Céibh an Spidéil in Spidéal Village County Galway was awarded a Blue Flag for the first time since 2012.
- 4 beaches received the Blue Flag for 2026 in part due to an improvement in water quality, these were: Cappagh Pier in County Clare; Tramore and Counsellors' Strand, Dunmore East in Waterford and Ballymoney North Beach in County Wexford.

Accessibility Initiatives

An Taisce collaborated with the Disability Federation of Ireland and international Blue Flag partners to improve accessibility at awarded sites. This included updates to criteria and practical measures to ensure beaches and marinas are welcoming to all visitors.

Achievements in 2025

Blue Flag: Recognising Excellence in Ireland's Beaches and Marinas



An Taisce announcing 2025 Blue Flag and Green Coast Awards with Wexford County Council

Training and Administration
An Taisce delivered training sessions to local authorities, guiding them through application and quality control processes.

- **107 in-season control visits** were conducted to ensure ongoing compliance with Blue Flag criteria. Reports were shared with local authorities to address any non-compliances.

Alignment with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
The Blue Flag programme supports key SDGs:

- Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation: Ensuring high water quality and safe bathing areas.
- Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities: Promoting sustainable tourism and community engagement.
- Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production: Encouraging waste reduction and sustainable management practices at sites.
- Goal 14: Life Below Water: Protecting marine ecosystems through rigorous environmental management.

Alignment with An Taisce's Mission and Pillars
The Blue Flag programme contributes to An Taisce's pillars of Community and Society, Climate and Biodiversity, and Land and Water by:

- Engaging communities in sustainable tourism development.
- Promoting the conservation of marine and coastal ecosystems.
- Enhancing public awareness of environmental issues through education and outreach.

Vision for the Future
As the Blue Flag programme continues to grow, An Taisce aims to:

- Expand the number of awarded sites, ensuring broader community involvement.
- Enhance accessibility and inclusivity at beaches and marinas.
- Advocate for international best practices in sustainable tourism through active participation in FEE's global network.

By recognising and supporting the highest environmental standards, the Blue Flag programme ensures that Ireland's beaches and marinas remain world-class destinations while fostering a deeper connection between people and their environment.

Achievements in 2025

Green Flag Award for Parks:
Celebrating Excellence in Green Space Management

The Green Flag Award for Parks, coordinated in Ireland by An Taisce, stands as a globally recognised standard for exceptional public green spaces. Established in the UK in 1996, the programme has become an emblem of quality, sustainability, and community collaboration. Since its launch in Ireland in 2016, the Green Flag Award has fostered innovation and excellence in park management, ensuring that green spaces contribute meaningfully to both environmental health and public well-being.



Programme Overview
The Green Flag Award programme provides a framework for managing green spaces to the highest standards. It assesses parks and green spaces based on their ecological, social, and cultural contributions, offering recognition to sites that excel in sustainability, accessibility, and community engagement. An Taisce has continued to build momentum for the programme in Ireland, with 2025 marking a record-breaking year for participation and awards.

Key Developments
- The Community Flag, introduced in 2017 and funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development, continued to empower local groups managing community spaces.
- The Heritage Flag, introduced in 2021 with support from the National Parks and Wildlife Service, recognized sites that conserve and showcase Ireland's unique historical and natural heritage.

Award Milestones
- Record Participation: 128 Green Flags were awarded this year, an increase of 8 since last year and the highest number to date.

Community and Heritage Growth:
- 25 Community Flags were awarded, representing an increase of 8 from 2023.
- 17 Heritage Flags were awarded, celebrating spaces of historical and cultural significance.
- Global Recognition: Ireland now boasts the highest number of Green Flags awarded outside the UK, underscoring the programme's success.

Achievements in 2025

Green Flag Award for Parks:
Celebrating Excellence in Green Space Management



The 2025 awards ceremony took place at Maynooth Campus — one of the winning sites — collecting a Green Flag, Heritage Award and was the overall Pollinator Plan Award winner.

Vision for the Future
Building on the success of 2025, the Green Flag Award programme aims to:

- Increase the number of awarded sites while maintaining high standards.
- Expand partnerships .
- Further integrate climate resilience and biodiversity enhancements into award criteria.
- Strengthen the recognition of Ireland's green spaces as exemplary models of sustainability and community engagement.

The Green Flag Award continues to inspire excellence in the management of parks and green spaces, creating healthier, greener, and more sustainable communities across Ireland.

Alignment with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
The Green Flag Award programme supports several SDGs, reflecting its commitment to sustainability and community well-being:

- **Goal 3:** Good Health and Well-being: Providing quality green spaces that enhance physical and mental health.
- **Goal 15:** Life on Land: Promoting biodiversity through habitat protection and annual awards like the Pollinator Plan Award.
- **Goal 13:** Climate Action: Encouraging low-carbon management practices and climate-resilient planting.
- **Goal 17:** Partnership for the Goals: Collaborating with local authorities, community groups, and other stakeholders to achieve shared environmental objectives.

Alignment with An Taisce's Mission and Pillars

- **Community and Society** - The Community Flag initiative empowers local groups to protect and enhance their environments, fostering a sense of ownership and community pride.
- **Climate and Biodiversity** -The award promotes biodiversity-friendly practices, including indigenous planting and the elimination of chemical pesticides. The annual Pollinator Plan Award highlights projects that excel in enhancing habitats for pollinators.
- **Heritage** - Heritage Flags recognise spaces that preserve Ireland's historic landscapes and built heritage, showcasing their significance to future generations.
- **Land and Water** - The programme ensures equitable access to quality green spaces, promoting best practices in their management to meet community needs and enhance ecological health.
- **Organisational Growth** - By 2025, the programme partnered with 52 organisations managing green spaces across Ireland. These collaborations support knowledge-sharing and encourage continuous improvement.

Achievements in 2025

National Spring Clean: Ireland's Largest Anti-Litter Initiative

2025 marked the 26th edition of the National Spring Clean (NSC), reaffirming its status as Ireland's largest and most enduring anti-litter initiative. Since its inception in 1999, the campaign has inspired individuals, community groups, businesses, and schools across the country to take collective responsibility for the environment by organising clean-ups in their local areas. Traditionally held in April, NSC has, in recent years, extended its scope into the summer and autumn months, reflecting the growing enthusiasm and commitment of its participants.







Programme Overview

This year's campaign continued its legacy of success with remarkable levels of engagement and impact. Registrations opened in late January, with campaign packs distributed from February. Clean-ups began in March, peaked in April, and continued well into May, with several extending through the summer.

The campaign concluded in September with a collaborative effort alongside An Taisce's Clean Coasts Big Beach Clean. This innovative partnership emphasized the interconnectedness of land and marine ecosystems, reinforcing the message that all litter collected on land helps protect our waterways and seas.

Milestones

The primary aims of the 2025 National Spring Clean were to foster a culture of environmental responsibility, promote the principles of reduce-reuse-recycle, and build community spirit through collective action. Specifically, the campaign sought to:

- Encourage clean-ups throughout the spring, summer, and autumn months.
- Promote personal responsibility for litter prevention.
- Heighten awareness of litter and waste management issues.
- Highlight the importance of recycling and reusing materials.
- Foster a sense of community through local environmental initiatives.
- Ensure clean-ups were conducted safely and sustainably.
- The campaign achieved these objectives, engaging 5,430 volunteer groups nationwide who collectively removed an estimated 2,725 tonnes of litter. Notably, approximately 35% of the collected waste was recycled, showcasing the campaign's alignment with broader environmental sustainability goals.

Achievements in 2025

National Spring Clean: Ireland's Largest Anti-Litter Initiative



Key Developments

- Volunteer Engagement: Over 5,250 groups participated, representing communities across Ireland.
- Litter Removal: Approximately 2,700 tonnes of litter were collected, significantly improving the cleanliness and appearance of urban and rural areas.
- Recycling and Sustainability: Of the waste collected, 35% was recycled. The campaign also maintained its commitment to paper-free operations, with all materials (e.g., bags and hi-vis vests) designed for reuse and produced sustainably using recycled materials.
- Extended Campaign Duration: While the core activity occurred in spring, the campaign extended into summer and concluded with a high-impact cross-programme collaboration in September during the Big Beach Clean.

Alignment with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The impact of the National Spring Clean extends beyond the immediate removal of litter. The programme is intrinsically linked to several United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including:

- **Goal 3** – Good Health and Well-being: Removing long-term litter prevents the release of toxins that harm ecosystems and human health.
- **Goal 11** – Sustainable Cities and Communities: By mobilizing local communities to take action, the campaign fosters a sense of ownership and pride in shared spaces.
- **Goal 12** – Responsible Consumption and Production: The programme emphasizes reducing waste, reusing materials, and recycling wherever possible.
- **Goal 13** – Climate Action: Facilitating recycling and reducing waste helps mitigate the environmental impacts of litter.
- **Goal 14** – Life Below Water: The campaign prevents litter from reaching waterways and seas, reducing pollution and protecting marine biodiversity.
- **Goal 15** – Life on Land: Removing litter protects terrestrial habitats and prevents harm to flora and fauna.

Alignment with An Taisce's Mission and Pillars

- **Community and Society:** By bringing people together for a common cause, NSC strengthens social cohesion and builds a network of environmentally conscious citizens.
- **Climate and Biodiversity:** Litter removal protects biodiversity by preventing toxins, habitat damage, and ingestion of waste by wildlife. Actions on land also safeguard marine ecosystems by stopping litter from entering waterways.
- **Heritage Preservation:** Clean towns and countryside enhance Ireland's built heritage and natural landscapes, promoting pride and respect for shared spaces.
- **Land and Water:** The campaign improves the appearance of both urban and rural environments, contributing to a cleaner and greener Ireland.

Vision for the Future

As NSC moves into its 27th year, the programme remains a vital force for environmental stewardship in Ireland. Its combination of grassroots engagement and sustainability practices are core to its ability to promote systemic change.

Achievements in 2025

Climate Ambassador Programme: Empowering Climate Leadership

The Climate Ambassador Programme, an integral initiative of An Taisce's Climate Action Team, inspires and equips individuals across Ireland to lead on climate action within their communities. Launched in 2018, the programme has trained hundreds of ambassadors to address the climate crisis through education, advocacy, and practical solutions. In 2025, the programme reached new milestones in training, engagement, and awareness.



Some of the Climate Ambassador Team during 2025's Climate Action Week.

Programme Overview

The Programme focuses on cultivating climate literacy and empowering participants to take meaningful action. It provides training, resources, and platforms for ambassadors to share knowledge, organise events, and engage with their communities.

- **Regional Training Days:** Interactive sessions to equip ambassadors with skills and knowledge.
- **Network Gatherings:** Opportunities for collaboration and idea exchange.
- **Climate Clinics:** Community-oriented workshops addressing local climate challenges.
- **Citizen Engagement Events:** Public discussions and forums to foster climate dialogue.

The programme emphasises inclusivity, accessibility, and a focus on solutions, ensuring ambassadors are well-prepared to lead climate action at every level.

Milestones

Training and Network Gatherings

Hosted seven regional training days in Cork, Dublin, Galway and the Midlands, and two online sessions. A total of 133 ambassadors received training, covering topics such as climate science, solutions, and effective communication. These training sessions emphasised practical actions, empowering participants to deliver impactful initiatives in their communities.

Network gatherings served as hubs of collaboration and learning. Across 19 in-person gatherings and 7 virtual events, participants shared experiences and strategies for climate action. Notable gatherings included:

- **Peatland Restoration in Wicklow:** Volunteers engaged in hands-on conservation activities.
- **Seaweed Foraging in Cork:** Participants explored sustainable marine practices.
- **Gardening for Biodiversity in Galway**: Hands-on workshop, looking at practical solutions for gardening for biodiversity and a demonstration of planting for pollinators.

Achievements in 2025

Climate Ambassador Programme: Empowering Climate Leadership



Gardening for Biodiversity in Galway



Peatland Restoration in Wicklow — volunteers engaged in hands-on conservation activities



Seaweed Foraging in Cork

Public Engagement and Climate Clinics
Ambassadors organised over 60 climate clinics and attended 20 citizen engagement events nationwide. These forums provided opportunities for community members to learn about climate issues and participate in solutions-focused discussions. Events like the National Ploughing Championships and the Rethink Your Stuff Carnival in Kilkenny drew significant public interest, further expanding the programme's reach.

Award-Winning Projects
The Climate Ambassador Awards celebrated a range of exemplary projects, including the work of Michael Carroll, Tullamore Lions Club, and the Clonbeale More Peatland Conservation Group for their efforts to conserve approximately 11 hectares of Clonbeale More Bog. Pierce Lowe was also recognised for redistributing surplus food through FoodCloud, learning community gardening to support food security and enhancing biodiversity at home with a barrel pond and flowering meadow. These were among many outstanding award-winning initiatives honoured on the day.

Climate Literacy Initiatives

- The programme complements its ambassadorial efforts with a robust focus on education:
- **Primary Climate Ambassadors:** This initiative engaged over 1,000 primary school students in 2025 through challenges like biodiversity projects, renewable energy exploration, and upcycling. The annual awards recognized outstanding contributions from schools nationwide.
- **Teacher Training:** The "Climate Change, Science and Action" course equipped 28 teachers with strategies to integrate climate science into their curricula, empowering educators to inspire climate-conscious students.

Media and Communications

- The Climate Ambassador Podcast entered its fifth season, covering a range of topics from natural regeneration to doughnut economics. With over 3,750 downloads in 2025, the podcast has become a key platform for climate discussions, reaching audiences through engaging stories and expert insights.
- Social media played a vital role in amplifying the programme's impact, with Facebook and Instagram campaigns reaching tens of thousands of users. These efforts fostered public engagement and expanded the programme's visibility.

Achievements in 2025

Climate Ambassador Programme: Empowering Climate Leadership



An Taisce's Cathy Baxter, Director of Education and Community Action (back far left), and Grainne Ryan, Climate Action Programme Manager (back far right), are pictured with Individual Outstanding Achievement winners at An Taisce's annual Climate Ambassador Awards. Back row from left to right: An Taisce's Cathy Baxter then awardees Áine Coll (UCD Student, Donegal), Pierce Lowe (UCC Student, Dublin), Lill Coyne (Meath), Sacred Heart School Tullamore teacher Clare Faherty and An Taisce's Grainne Ryan. Bottom row seated from left to right, awardees John Lyons (Macroom Tidy Towns, Cork), Franek Dobronski (DCU Student, Carlow), Kay Synott (GRETB Moycullen).









Alignment with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The programme aligns closely with several SDGs:

- **Goal 13:** Climate Action: Building leadership and advocacy skills to address climate challenges.
- **Goal 11:** Sustainable Cities and Communities: Empowering communities to implement sustainable solutions.
- **Goal 15:** Life on Land: Supporting conservation projects to protect biodiversity.

Vision for the Future

The Climate Ambassador Programme will continue to expand its impact by:

- Increasing engagement through enhanced training and community events.
- Strengthening partnerships with local authorities, NGOs, and community groups.
- Advocating for systemic climate action at local, national, and international levels.
- Through its comprehensive approach, the programme remains at the forefront of cultivating climate leadership across Ireland.

Achievements in 2025

Irish Business Against Litter (IBAL): Driving a Cleaner Ireland

The Irish Business Against Litter (IBAL) Programme, operated by An Taisce, remians a cornerstone in Ireland's fight against litter pollution. For over 20 years, An Taisce has conducted comprehensive surveys and delivered results that not only highlight litter trends but also foster greater accountability and community engagement.



2025 Cleanest Town Award for Sligo — Conor Horgan IBAL presenting Donal Gilroy, Cathaoirleach of Sligo County Council and Martin Lydon, Chief Executive of Sligo County Council, members of sligo county council and Tidy Town with the award at Queen Maeve square, Sligo. Photo: James Connolly



Revealed: Lowest number of litter blackspots in five years – but some areas remain stubbornly dirty, new survey finds

Study shows 50pc drop in plastic bottle and can waste since the introduction of the Deposit Return Scheme but this type of litter remains a significant issue



RTÉ 100 News Sport Entertainment Business Lifestyle Culture Gaeilge

News ▸ Ireland ▸ World Business Sport Nuacht Programmes RTÉ Investigates

Areas in Dublin and Cork 'seriously littered' despite nationwide improvement - IBAL

Updated / Monday, 16 Jun 2025 12:13

The survey results get wide press coverage nationwide.

Programme Overview

An Taisce have been conducting the litter surveys, and producing and circulating the results on behalf of Irish Business Against Litter for 20+ years. 40 towns and cities are visited twice each year, with a total of 1000+ sites surveyed.

There is a certain amount of 'town' rotation from year to year, with IBAL selecting the towns for inclusion. It is important to note that this is not a 'litter counting' exercise, but rather, a general impression of a presence (high / low levels) of various types of litter.

The Deposit Return Scheme was rolled out in February 2024 – it is most encouraging to see the presence of both plastic bottles and cans significantly down between February 2024 and December 2025, almost two years of the scheme.

Milestones — Community and Legislative Influence

- As the programme has evolved, IBAL has gained increased support from local authorities and community groups, such as Tidy Towns initiatives, signaling a shift in public perception. What was once met with resistance has now become a point of pride for participating towns and cities. The programme's competitive nature motivates communities to improve their rankings, fostering grassroots engagement and stronger community ties.
- IBAL has also been instrumental in advocating for policy changes to address litter issues at their source. In addition to pushing for the latte levy and the expansion of the Deposit Return Scheme to include alcohol bottles, the programme has been pivotal in influencing local and national legislation aimed at reducing single-use plastics and improving waste management practices.

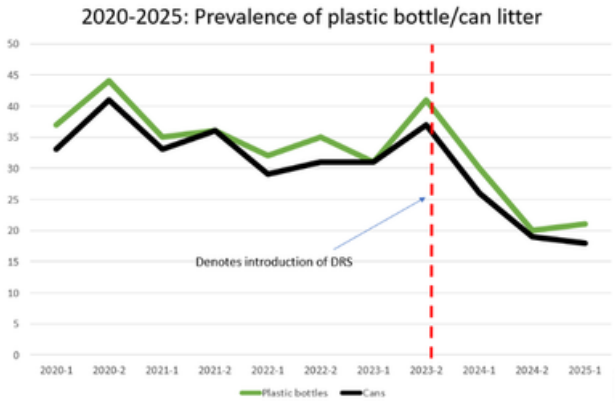
Achievements in 2025

Irish Business Against Litter (IBAL):
Alignment with goals



(Left) Table of results from August 2025 – The annual survey of coasts and inland waterways by IBAL shows the majority of beaches attaining 'clean' status, despite the benign summer weather bringing higher visitor numbers to our coasts.

(Below) IBAL graph showing significant reductions in plastic bottles and cans as litter items after the introduction of the Deposit Return Scheme.



Source: IBAL Anti-Litter League



(Right) The Irish Business Against Litter group has called for the 'latte levy' to be introduced after single-use coffee cups were found on 42% of the beaches it surveyed this summer — RTÉ October 2025

Alignment with An Taisce's Mission and Pillars
IBAL aligns with An Taisce's strategic objectives, particularly within the Land and Water theme. By targeting urban and suburban areas, the programme directly improves the quality of Ireland's built and natural environments.

Additionally, IBAL fosters community engagement, inspiring citizens to take ownership of their local spaces and work collaboratively towards cleaner, healthier towns and cities.

Vision for the Future
Looking ahead, IBAL aims to:

- Continue advocating for legislative measures to further reduce litter, including the introduction of the latte levy and expanding the Deposit Return Scheme.
- Strengthen community partnerships, ensuring greater buy-in from local groups and authorities.
- Through its surveys, policy advocacy, and community engagement, IBAL remains a powerful force in shaping a cleaner, greener Ireland, where towns and cities can thrive without the blight of litter.

Alignment with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
As an SDG Champion, An Taisce integrates IBAL with several SDGs:

- Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation: By reducing litter, IBAL prevents pollution in waterways, protecting aquatic ecosystems and water quality.
- Goal 14: Life Below Water: The programme mitigates marine litter, safeguarding marine biodiversity and ecosystems.
- Goal 15: Life on Land: Litter-free environments contribute to healthier terrestrial ecosystems and enhance biodiversity.



An Taisce Local Associations

Achievements in 2025

An Taisce's Local Association Network
Community-led Environmental and Heritage Advocacy

An Taisce's Local Associations play an integral role in advancing the organisation's mission at a grassroots level. These groups are embedded in communities across Ireland, addressing local environmental and heritage issues while contributing to national initiatives. The following pages include some of the activities sent in by the groups. The following pages contain a snapshot of the groups activities.
Some of the local associations concentrate on certain themes such as planning issues, while others might focus on biodiversity, heritage or directly stewarding one of An Taisce's properties in trust in their locality.

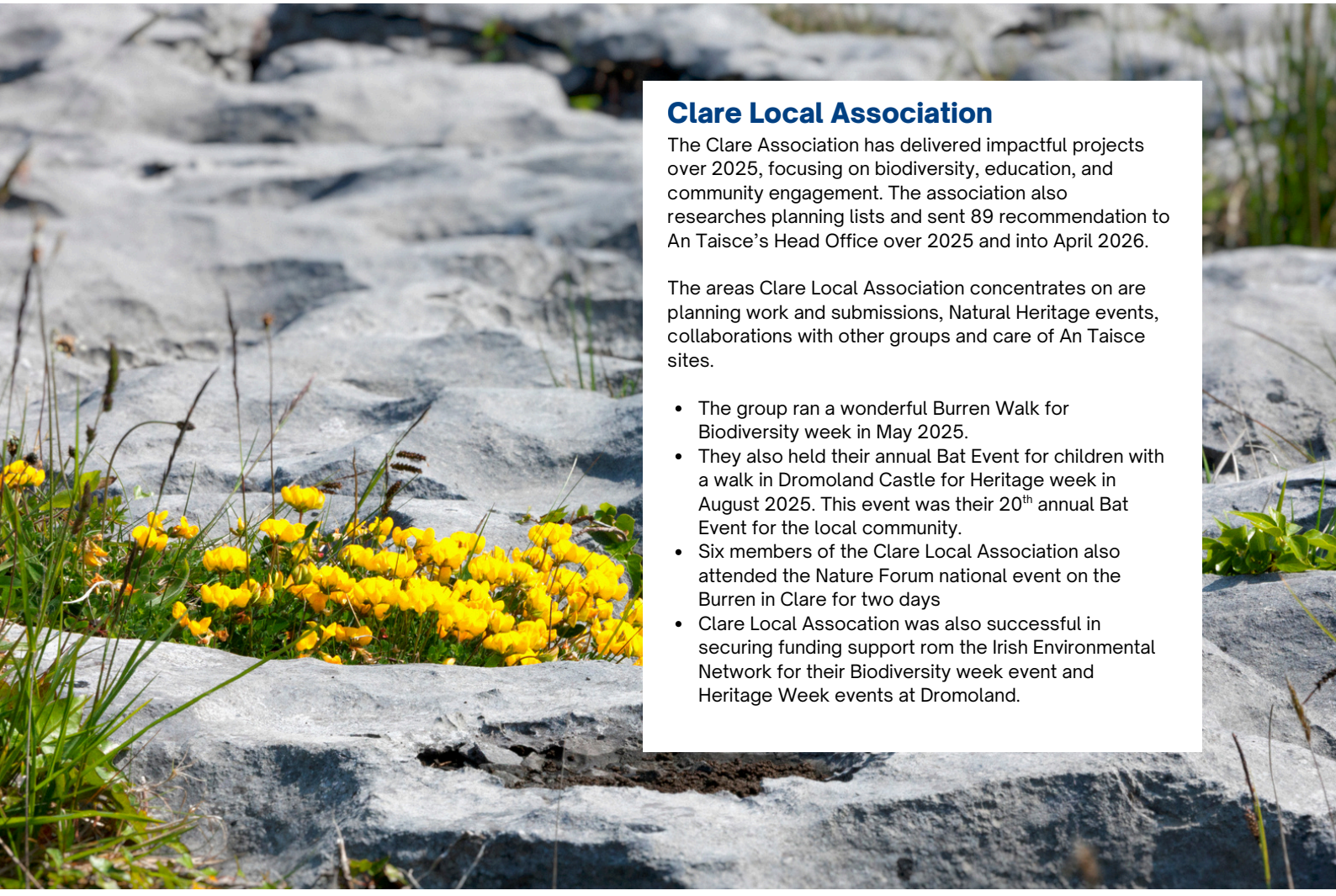
Overview
Local Associations can engage in a variety of activities, including:

- **Planning Advocacy:** Reviewing and submitting recommendations on local planning and development proposals to protect heritage and biodiversity.
- **Community Engagement:** Organising events for National Biodiversity Week, Heritage Week, and other key occasions.
- **Heritage Conservation:** Collaborating with local authorities and stakeholders to maintain (such as An Taisce's Gort Weigh House, right) and restore cultural and natural heritage sites .
- **Educational Programmes:** Hosting field trips, guided walks, and biodiversity workshops for schools and the wider community.

These efforts are amplified by collaboration with local councils, community organisations, and government bodies, ensuring that environmental and heritage priorities are represented across all levels of decision-making.



An Taisce's property-in-trust
Gort Weigh House



Clare Local Association

The Clare Association has delivered impactful projects over 2025, focusing on biodiversity, education, and community engagement. The association also researches planning lists and sent 89 recommendation to An Taisce's Head Office over 2025 and into April 2026.

The areas Clare Local Association concentrates on are planning work and submissions, Natural Heritage events, collaborations with other groups and care of An Taisce sites.

- The group ran a wonderful Burren Walk for Biodiversity week in May 2025.
- They also held their annual Bat Event for children with a walk in Dromoland Castle for Heritage week in August 2025. This event was their 20th annual Bat Event for the local community.
- Six members of the Clare Local Association also attended the Nature Forum national event on the Burren in Clare for two days
- Clare Local Assocation was also successful in securing funding support rom the Irish Environmental Network for their Biodiversity week event and Heritage Week events at Dromoland.

Achievements in 2025

An Taisce's Local Association Network

Community-led Environmental and Heritage Advocacy







Cork Local Association

An Taisce Corcaigh - Cork Local Association continues its vital work of monitoring planning and development matters in Cork City. Significant planning issues in 2025, included:

- A proposal for a 10-storey hotel development at Lower Oliver Plunkett Street where An Taisce expressed concerns regarding height and massing in a visually sensitive location. Adjustments requested by the City Council mitigated these impacts somewhat prior to grant of planning. An Taisce objected in late-2024 to the overall design of a proposed 7-storey hotel on the corner of McCurtain Street and Brian Boru Street. At the City Council's request in early-2025, satisfactory adjustments were made to the design prior to the grant of planning.

- In the county area, An Taisce submitted an observation to An Chomisiún Pleanála in support of a local third-party appeal against retrospective planning granted by Cork County Council for an unauthorised dwelling on lands adjoining the River Lee near Ovens, Co. Cork, including the demolition of an existing dwelling. In the event, the appeal confirmed the grant of planning.

- At the end of 2025/early 2026, An Taisce along with many local parties objected to an intensive proposal for 31 houses in a designated high landscape value at Hyde Park House on Middle Glanmire Road, Montenotte, with additional traffic and access issues arising. The City Council has requested amendments by way of a further information request.

- In late 2025, a submission was lodged with Cork City Council regarding a proposed Large-Scale Residential Development (LRD) on a vacant site at Sullivans Quay in the city centre. The proposal for 503 bed Student Accommodation complex in 2 blocks ranging in height from 5 to 11 stories would have significant impacts on vistas along the Grand Parade, the River Lee South Channel and within the South Channel (South Parish) Architectural Conservation Area. An Taisce requested a redesign of the LRD proposal and a reduction in height and scale. The City Council has requested some significant amendments to the proposal.

Achievements in 2025

An Taisce's Local Association Network

Community-led Environmental and Heritage Advocacy

Donegal Local Association

Donegal Local Association has delivered a wide range of impactful projects with a particular focus on Natural Heritage events and fostering strong collaborations with other groups. The group also sourced funding from LAWPRO to help with a major Blue Dot project.

Annual Donegal Local Association Calendar
They published and distributed their annual An Taisce Donegal Calendar 'Treasures of Donegal 2026' with a print run of 1,200 and sold with great success locally.



Guided Nature Walks
Butterfly & Orchid Walk Sheskinmore, near Ardara with attendance of 29 people on June 7th 2025.
"The Trees of Ashlawn" in Letterkenny – an event for An Taisce Climate Action Week Oct 18th 2025 with a group attendance of 32.



Project - LAWPRO Donegal Blue Dot Project 2025 – Rivers are Nature Corridors. Grant aided by LAWPRO Donegal.
The project consisted of two elements or target audiences:

- **Local National Schools**; consisted of the pupils of the senior classes of four National Schools, The Glebe National School, and Scoil an Linbh Iosa, Killymard (both of Donegal Town area, Scoil Mhuire and Ayr Hill School, both of Ramelton. Approximately 80 pupils and 6 teachers were involved. An indoor classroom session for each individual school followed by a field day in the nearby river catchments. A memorable experience (in wellingtons and wet gear!).
- **General Public;** Two Guided Field Days for the general public: Sat Oct 18th from 2 pm to 5 pm - River Lennon; Ramelton. Attendance 43 Weather was beautiful. Sun Oct 19th 2 pm to 5 pm Ardnamona Nature Reserve; River Eske and Lough Eske. Attendance 15. Weather was very wet.

These Walks dovetailed with our activities for An Taisce Climate Action Week.



Connecting with An Taisce Programmes
The Donegal Local Association is also keen to liaise with initiatives of An Taisce's programmes – they attended the Green School Awards Day in Letterkenny and also attended Donegal Climate Ambassador Meet-Up led by the then An Taisce Climate Ambassador for Donegal Joanne Butler.

Expertise and knowledge sharing

- They sponsored and formed part of the judging panel for the May McClintock Wildlife Friendly Garden Competition in association with Letterkenny Tidy Towns
- Represented on Donegal Co Council Heritage Forum and the Donegal Co Council Biodiversity Working Group.
- Management and maintenance of the May McClintock Butterfly Garden. May McClintock, from Letterkenny, was an active environmentalist and a part of An Taisce for over 42 years. She recieved a Lifetime Achievement Award from An Taisce for her years of dedication. The garden is a much loved memorial to her (see left).

Achievements in 2025

An Taisce's Local Association Network

Community-led Environmental and Heritage Advocacy

Dún Laoghaire Local Association

The Dún Laoghaire Local Association works on a variety of projects and runs events under themes of Natural Heritage, Planning work and submissions, and they continue to create strong collaborations with other groups. They are also involved in the stewardship of two of An Taisce's sites, The Grove Nature Reserve on Morehampton Road in Donnybrook and Booterstown Marsh Nature Reserve in Blackrock, Dublin.

Events in Booterstown Nature Reserve:

- The year began with a freezing cold bird walk of Booterstown Marsh with Sean Hogan.
- A few warmer months later in April, they welcomed the German Ambassador David Gill and colleagues from 10 more European embassies for an information day with plant and bird talks, tree planting and an enthusiastic clean up of the marsh.
- Celebrating National Biodiversity week in May, they welcomed the Clean Coasts team and Trinity College for workshops on the flora and fauna of the marsh and a walk of the embryonic dune system forming at Booterstown.
- Our Botanist Catriona Brady finalised the three Borrer's Saltmarsh grass survey. On foot and by boat she surveyed the ten acre site for the invasive Spartina Anglica or cord grass and identified the locations. These plants were treated and will be resurveyed next year.
- They celebrated Water Heritage day with a bird and history walk and talk in August.
- Altemar Ltd completed the baseline bat survey finding three species of bat present in the area.
- Two clean ups took place during the year and the group found that litter volumes are up by 35% on previous years.

In planning news:

- Submission made on the East Coast Railway Infrastructure Protection Project and attended one meeting with Dublin City Council and Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council.
- Planning submission in Monkstown ACA was refused planning but appealed.

Webinar:

Made one presentation webinar to Naturescapes.

Funding was awarded to the association from LAWPRO, IEN, Clean Coasts and DLR County Council and the association connected with IVOL volunteers for Booterstown clean up events.





(Above, connecting IVOL volunteers with clean ups and below, Altemar Ltd completed a baseline bat survey of Booterstown Marsh in 2025.



Figure 2. Manual transect species distribution across 6 survey nights

Achievements in 2025

An Taisce's Local Association Network

Community-led Environmental and Heritage Advocacy

Dún Laoghaire Local Association continued





Events in The Grove Nature Reserve:

- In May a local History group enjoyed a visit. The Grove was open for Heritage Week in August.
- They also welcomed Climate Ambassadors for a pond restoration workshop on a beautiful day to restore our pond, (below left).
- In September they participated in the weekend Baggotonia Festival with well supported Yoga and Woodland Art workshops (photo below).
- In October, collaborated with Dublin City Council for a popular Walk on the Wild Side which led by Eanna Ni Lamhna (pictured left).
- The site also has a Botanical Survey that continued into Spring 2026.
- Visits by Ecologist Padraic Fogarty and Arborist Joe McConville took place.





- **Biodiversity:** On May 25th in celebration of National Biodiversity Week Clean Coasts headed by the able Liane Costello and Aisha Devoy (above) developed the Booterstown Marsh and Sand Spit Workshops afternoon event. The objective was to empower participants with a greater understanding of the biodiversity and natural processes of the marsh and Dublin Bay, the threats facing this important ecosystem, and the work being done to protect it. Bird and Plant tours of the marsh were provided by Sean Hogan and Dr. Sylvia Reynolds. Dr. Erica Krueger and Conor Fox from Trinity College, School of Natural Sciences took over the group for the Sand Spit workshop.
- **Events:** Sunday morning August 24th Water Heritage Day at Booterstown Marsh Nature Reserve proved to be a beautiful sunny start to our event. We welcomed Shane Kerr Chair of south Dublin BirdWatch Ireland and his committee colleague Chris O' Connor to lead us on a walk, talk and viewing of the birdlife.
- **Heritage Week:** Open during heritage week for visits. Climate Ambassadors put together a Pond Workshop programme. Dr. Aoife O' Rourke and Gobnait Ni Neill presented on the restoration of the existing pond putting the group to work with spades and trowels.

Achievements in 2025

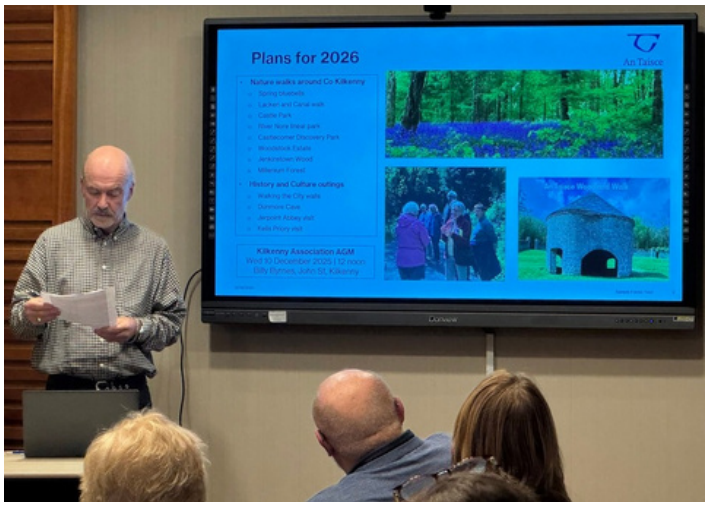
An Taisce's Local Association Network
Community-led Environmental and Heritage Advocacy

Kilkenny Local Association

The Association has been a leading voice in planning, biodiversity and heritage advocacy in 2025:

Responses to Consultations and Planning Applications
The Kilkenny Association has responded to a number of local consultations and planning applications.These included

- Proposed Variation 3 to Kilkenny County Development Plan – This was a proposal to change the zoning of 0.18 hectares of green space (classified as 'Open Space') to 'Existing Residential' to accommodate housing for older persons / persons with disabilities. While acknowledging the need for these types of housing, the Association expressed dissatisfaction at the conversion of green space to residential, instead pointing out that such developments would be better accommodated in existing estates, and brownfield and infill sites.
- Planning Application for renovation of Carnegie Library – The Association welcomed the repurposing of the Carnegie Library as a Local Studies Hub, as well as the proposed replacement of the stainless steel railings at the front with original style wrought iron uprights. A question was raised about whether the "greenbrick" to be used in the car parking area might result in plastic leaching into the environment.
- Planning Application for a new "aparta-hotel" at 44-48 Kieran St. - The Association raised the paucity of information on materials, colours, window styles and finishes.The issue of missing drawings which were referred to in the covering letter was raised, as was general lack of attention to detail in specifying orientation directions.
- Variation 4b to Small Town and Village Investment Scheme – The Association objected to a proposal to allow exemptions to the requirement that new developments connect to public wastewater treatment facilities, and instead allow private sewage treatment. Uisce Eireann, HSE and other organisations took the same view and the amendment was rejected.
- Abbey Quarter former Squash Court Renovation for Arts and Cultural Sector use – The Association welcomed the proposed development but rather than considering the building on its own, made the recommendation for a vision to be developed which would incorporate all historic elements in the area where the building is located.This would include the Bull Inn Wall and the preserved gable of No. 22 Vicar Street, which An Taisce has long advocated to be incorporated into a new structure.
- Kilkenny County Heritage Strategy – The Association made a substantial submission to this consultation, making representations in the areas of Natural Heritage, Rural Housing, Built Heritage and Cultural Heritage.





At the Kilkenny Gathering event in November 2025 with a range of speakers. Pictured is Martin Rochford, chair of An Taisce Kilkenny Local Association.

Meeting with Senator Noonan
At our March meeting, we were joined by Senator Malcolm Noonan as an invited guest. Malcolm joined the discussions on a number of issues, sharing the benefit of his government experience. In discussion on Variation No 3 of the County Development Plan to change the zoning of green space to residential, Malcolm commented that the consultation for this with residents was inadequate, and that this was a common issue with such developments.

Seanad Elections
The Kilkenny Association wrote to all Kilkenny Councillors asking them to give a high-preference vote to the An Taisce candidate, Eanna NíLamhna. Unfortunately Eanna was not successful but she stayed in the race longer than expected and we hope for a better outcome the next time.

Achievements in 2025

An Taisce's Local Association Network:
Community-led Environmental and Heritage Advocacy

Limerick Local Association

The Limerick Association has been at the forefront of planning and biodiversity advocacy in 2025, contributing to both local and regional initiatives:

Planning and Advocacy

- Submitted comprehensive submissions on the Milk Market Quarter redevelopment.
- Submitted similar on the Nicholas Street/King John's Castle public realm upgrades
- Submission on protected structures the 'Toll Cottages' by King Johns Castle supporting refurbishment into cafe/bar.
- Enforcement order granted on foot of complaint by us of the unauthorised development works of two historic properties in an Architectural Conservation Area.
- Submission on a retention application re: the enforcement order which was refused with conservation officer recommending works be carried out to "undo the damage caused " on Davis Street, following up on the demolition of 11 and 12 clontarf place.
- Press release on repurposing existing built heritage in the city centre to address the housing crisis. This story ran in three media outlets, both print and online, this has been a front page news story with lots of comment, a positive piece raising the profile of An Taisce Limerick.
- Hosted a lecture on our Urban Tree Canopy hosted by Cormac Downey, President of the Tree Council of Ireland and Dr Dealga O'Callaghan, Chartered Arboricultural Consultant as part of a campaign to get a tree protection order for 111 trees in Arthur's Quay Park which was denied by limerick city and county council


limericklive

'Out of patience': Fury over lack of apartments in Limerick city centre

By Nick Rabbitts

Cork surging ahead with over 1,300 apartments under construction, leaving questions from local An Taisce branch and Limerick Chamber

THE local branch of An Taisce and Limerick Chamber have called out the

Coverage in the Limerick Leader stemming from An Taisce Limerick's press release on repurposing existing built heritage.





An Taisce's Limerick Local Association held a fascinating event on the vital role of urban trees. A rapt audience was in attendance at the beautiful venue of the LPYMA building on 97 O'Connell Street.



Chair of An Taisce Limerick Local Association, Sean McIlfatrick in a video about the native tree planting project with Ballyneety Golf Club and Limerick-Quimper Twinning Committee's Tree Festival, The 100 Million Trees Project, University of Limerick, Limerick Clean up

Achievements in 2025

An Taisce's Local Association Network:
Community-led Environmental and Heritage Advocacy



Kerry Local Association

The Kerry Local Association 2025 relaunch

The relaunch of the Kerry association took place in 2025 which has set the scene for regular monthly meetings, the first on the 1st July 2026 in the Imperial Hotel in Tralee. Members of the Kerry Association are open to alternating the venue between Tralee and Killarney to facilitate an opportunity for all members to attend meetings.

Covid and its aftermath unfortunately took away stalwarts of our membership but work on submissions on the Kerry County Development and local area plans have continues by various members. Kerry is a large and diverse geographical county, with tourism playing a major role in the economy. It is particularly concerning that parts of Kerry have become sacrifice zones for the construction of renewable energy projects. There are views that the agricultural peatlands of North Kerry are being changed by a sea of black solar panels. This once bountiful, traditional agricultural landscape that gave us so many renowned writers such as John B. Keane, Sean McCarthy, Brain McMahon and many others, is no longer recognisable. The oral tradition of this region is an important part of our heritage, as the saying goes here "there is something in the milk".

Galway Local Association

The Galway Association has been at the forefront of planning advocacy in 2025, contributing to local initiatives.

The granting of permission by An Comisiun Pleanala for the Galway Ring Road has dominated news in Galway City. The Galway Planning Committee made a submission that the ring road would facilitate increased emissions. This was acknowledged by An Comisiun Pleanala but their decision was to grant approval.

In the same week, permission was granted by An Comisiun Pleanala for the Galway Port extension. The Galway Planning Committee has made a submission that the extension would negatively impact the Inner Galway Bay SAC.

We continue to raise awareness through the planning process of the limitations of the wastewater collection system feeding into the Mutton Island Wastewater Treatment Plant in Galway City, and of the need for a new East Galway Wastewater Treatment Plant.



Tipperary Local Association

The Kerry Local Association 2025 relaunch

There are a small cohort of active An Taisce members in Tipperary watching out for the environment. We liaise with HQ staff about local and national issues, such as water quality, agriculture and planning. We are active members of Tipperary Public Participation Network and represent the PPN on a range of Strategic Policy Committees and other bodies. We mostly meet online. If you are a member in Tipperary, please contact Annette at membership@antaisce.org to come and join us, or connect to our Whatsapp group.

Achievements in 2025

An Taisce's Local Association Network:
Community-led Environmental and Heritage Advocacy





Winners of An Taisce Meath Local Association's fantastic photo competition 'Capturing the natural and built heritage along the River Boyne and the Boyne Navigation'. First place went to Aubrey Martin for a stunning photo of a large male salmon crossing the highest weir on the Boyne outside Navan. Second Prize went to Gerry Shanahan for a vibrant monochrome image of a heron and its reflection on the weir at the Ramparts in Navan.

Meath Local Association Report

The AGM of the Meath Local Association was held at Dalgan Park on 1st May 2025. Chairperson Jean Carr chaired the meeting and welcomed everyone including Fr Sean McDonagh, former President of An Taisce.

The guest speaker journalist and author Anthony Murphy spoke about 'Fourknocks: Archaeology, Astronomy & Mythology. Margaret Monaghan kindly agreed, to remain as Hon. Secretary Geoffrey Clarke stepped down as Treasurer and was later elected as Chairperson. Aisling Killilea was nominated Honourary Treasurer.

The Christmas Party was again held in Telltown House, Donaghpatrick and was a resounding success, thanks to the generosity of our hosts Renee and Bartle Clarke. They served up a beautiful Christmas Lunch in the charming surrounds of their dining room.

Photography Competition
During the summer Aisling and Margaret organised a photography competition titled 'Capturing the natural and built heritage along the River Boyne and the Boyne Navigation' with the aim of encouraging the public to stroll along the Boyne and its tributary the Blackwater to observe the wildlife and heritage buildings nestled along their banks.

There was a great response resulting in high quality images from all over Meath and the Boyne section in Louth, showing a variety of seasons ranging from sunrise to sunset. Several old mills were included while Slane Castle was the most photographed heritage building. Most entries came from non-members thanks to Meath Association Instagram page set up by Aisling and the Meath Chronicle. The independent judges, professional photographer Joseph Carr and Timothy Smyth had the tough task of selecting the winners.

They awarded First Prize to Aubrey Martin for a stunning picture, of a large male salmon jumping the spectacular Athlumney weir just outside Navan, showing the skill and patience required to capture that fleeting moment. Second Prize went to Gerry Shanahan for a vibrant monochrome image of a heron and its reflection on the weir at the Ramparts in Navan. Third prize was awarded to Gerald Phelan for a photo of Slane Mill, built in 1766, with Slane Bridge, one of oldest crossings the foreground.

Achievements in 2025

An Taisce's Local Association Network:
Community-led Environmental and Heritage Advocacy

Meath Local Association continued: Ongoing Projects and Representation

Boyne Navigation and Greenway
Meath Association maintains its close association with the Boyne Navigation Branch of IWAI who still provide the volunteer force to keep the Canal section of the Navigation at Oldbridge in good order and open to boat traffic. Their activities are limited due to absence of funding and the impossibility of getting planning consent for any restoration works.

The proposed Boyne Greenway is also at the focus of our attention. Meath County Council are actively working on the project, particularly in regard to affected land owners, including An Taisce, to consolidate the Preferred Route and to prepare a scheme for a planning submission to An Coimisiun Pleánala.

The main disappointment in recent years has been the continued reduction in the number of active members in the Meath Association. This is reflected in the poor attendance at summer outings and indeed at AGM meetings, even with interesting speakers.

Third-prize winners of An Taisce Meath Local Association's photo competition Gerald Phelan for a photo of Slane Mill, built in 1766.

Below left, Coolamber House and below right, Babe's Bridge.







Coolamber House
The summer event was a visit to Coolamber House, Lismacaffrey, Co. Westmeath and what a wonderful event it was. The house dates back to the early 1880s, designed by architect John Hargrave and was the home of Percy Philip O'Reilly, who won a silver medal for Ireland in polo at the 1908 Olympics. The present owner Ann Marie Durkin gave the group a tour of the house, the one-acre walled gardens and orangery followed by three course lunch in the dining room.

Alignment with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The work of Local Associations contributes significantly to achieving key SDGs:

- **Goal 11:** Sustainable Cities and Communities: Promoting sustainable urban and rural planning and preserving local heritage.
- **Goal 13:** Climate Action: Supporting initiatives that mitigate climate impacts at the community level.
- **Goal 15:** Life on Land: Protecting biodiversity through habitat creation, species monitoring, and advocacy.

Vision for the Future
An Taisce's Local Associations aim to:

- Strengthen volunteer engagement to expand their reach and capacity.
- Collaborate more deeply with local councils, government agencies, and other stakeholders to amplify their impact.
- Develop new projects and educational programmes that address emerging environmental and heritage challenges.

Local Associations represent the grassroots strength of An Taisce, empowering communities to take action for the environment and heritage. Their collective achievements and continued dedication ensure that local perspectives drive national progress on sustainability and conservation.



Tailors' Hall is An Taisce's traditional HQ. It is the oldest surviving Guild Hall in Dublin, which has been at the heart of the city for over 300 years. It is protected under Section 12 of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act, 1994 and is a designated Heritage site under the Heritage Act 1995. It won the Europa Nostra Award 1988, the Pan European Federation for Heritage. Building began in the first decade of the eighteenth century (or possibly earlier).

Board and Committee Profiles 2025

The Board

The Board of Trustees is responsible for managing An Taisce's activities and resources. Members of the Board are elected by the Council and serve on a voluntary basis.

Key responsibilities include:

- Setting the organisation's strategic direction in consultation with the Council.
- Ensuring compliance with legal and regulatory requirements.
- Overseeing operational performance and financial management.

Stuart McCaul, Chair
(stepped down as Chair in July 2025 and resigned on 13 September 2025)
Stuart is a senior executive in the business technology sector who is deeply committed to sustainability. He was appointed as a trustee and secretary of An Taisce in 2019 and elected Chair in 2023. Stuart stepped down as Chair in July 2025. He convened our Planning Committee. Stuart holds a Diploma in Planning and Environmental Law from King's Inns and an MBA from Hult Ashridge.

Terri Morrissey, Chair
Terri, an author, lecturer, and award-winning organisation development and coaching professional with a background in business psychology, was appointed a trustee of An Taisce in February 2024 and was appointed Chair in July 2025. She was interim Vice Chair until 14 June 2025. Terri led our Climate Committee in 2025. Terri holds a degree in Psychology from UCD, an MBA from Fordham University, New York, and a Diploma in Business and Executive Coaching from the Michael Smurfit School of Business.

Patricia O'Connell, Vice Chair
(resigned 12 April 2025)
Patricia is a commercial leader in telecommunications, possesses extensive national and international business experience and a passion for architecture and built heritage. She was appointed as a trustee and Vice Chair of An Taisce in 2019 and played a leadership role on our Properties Committee. She earned a Master in Historical House Studies from Maynooth University and a Diploma in Equality Studies from UCD.

Neil Whoriskey, Vice-Chair and Governance Committee Chair (appointed 14 June 2025)
Neil is Head of Internal Audit at the Central Bank of Ireland. He was previously Secretary of the Central Bank and has held a variety of leadership roles in the organisation in the areas of governance, communications, strategy and planning and European co-ordination. He is a member of the Internal Auditors Committee of the European Central Bank and has represented the Central Bank with various international bodies. He was elected as a Trustee of An Taisce in June 2025 and as Vice-Chair in September 2025. He is Chair of An Taisce's Governance, Risk and Compliance Committee. He is a graduate of the University of Galway (Politics and English) and holds post graduate qualifications in Governance from UCD and in Company Direction from the Institute of Directors.

Laura Segura Gutierrez, Secretary
Laura is an experienced Project Management (PMP) certified Programme Manager with a diverse background managing large-scale, global strategic initiatives across industries. She holds a BA in Fine Arts, a MA in Education and an MBA from TCD.

John Conroy, Treasurer
John is a Chartered Accountant with a decade's experience as a Financial Controller in industry and a keen interest in the history of our built heritage. He was appointed Treasurer in 2023, having previously served on our Audit & Finance Committee, which he now leads. He holds a Master of Accounting from UCD and is an Associate Chartered Accountant with Chartered Accountants Ireland.

Sandra Bowen (appointed to Board on 16 May 2026 and appointed Secretary on 20 April 2026)
Sandra is a chartered accountant with over 25 years experience in senior financial roles, largely within the technology sector. Her most recent roles were International CFO for Pico, a technology service provider for financial trading markets, and VP/Head of Finance and Legal for Corvil, an Irish software company providing trading monitoring and analytics to banks, exchanges and venues.
Her experience covers all aspects of financial management, reporting, systems and process optimisation, governance, as well as contract negotiation, entity setup and management and HR.
She holds a Business Studies degree from TCD and an LLB (Hons) from Griffith College Dublin and is currently studying History and Religious Studies with the Open University.
Sandra has served on the Finance and Audit committee of An Taisce since 2023.

Board and Committee Profiles 2025

The Board

The Board consists of up to 11 members, including the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, and other trustees, bringing expertise from various fields such as conservation, law, and public health

Olivia Rogers (resigned 13 September 2025)
Olivia serves as the Head of Governance & Compliance and Client Services Manager at a financial advisory firm. Appointed a trustee of An Taisce in 2019, she leads our compliance efforts with the Charities Regulator. She is a Chartered Banker and holds a Management Diploma in Governance and Compliance and an MBA from Manchester Business School.

Rónán O'Brien (resigned 13 September 2025)
Rónán is an accomplished communications and public affairs professional with extensive experience in government relations, and corporate and crisis communications. Appointed a trustee of An Taisce in 2021, he holds an MSc in Climate Change from DCU, a Diploma in Legal Studies from TUD, and a BA in History and Politics from UCD.

Finbarr Murray
Finbarr, a corporate services specialist and current Director of Corporate Affairs at Rehab, has diverse experience in the health, government, banking, retail, and voluntary sectors globally. He was appointed a trustee of An Taisce in 2022 and leads our Properties Committee. He earned a Master of Facilities Management from the University of Salford.

Dr Tony Holohan
Chairs the One Health Committee in An Taisce. Dr Tony Holohan serves both as an Adjunct Full Professor of Public Health and Director of the WHO Collaborating Centre on One Health in University College Dublin (UCD). He was awarded an Adjunct Full Professorship in the School of Public Health and Primary Care in Trinity College Dublin in March 2024. He's chair of the governance committee of FutureNeuro, and is a board member of the Irish Hospice Foundation. He works with the WHO on a number of projects at the European level.

He is also a member of the EU Advisory Committee on Public Health Emergencies. He is a consultant in public health with the National Cancer Control Programme. Dr Holohan served as Ireland's Chief Medical Officer from 2008-2022 and led the public health response to the Covid 19 pandemic.

Helen Shaw
Helen is a communications expert and leads her company Athena Media, an award-winning storytelling agency. She is a former Managing Director of RTÉ Radio and previously worked with the BBC as an editor and started her career as a news reporter with the Irish Times.

Helen holds an MSc Climate Change, Policy, Media and Society, DCU, a BA and MA, UCD, a postgraduate degree in journalism, DCU and was a Fellow at Harvard University. Helen was appointed a trustee of An Taisce in February, and she is focussed on our communications strategy and the delivery of the National Trust initiative. She is also a member of the Climate Committee and the Property and Heritage Committee.

Phil Doyle (resigned 20 August 2025)
Phil, an equity investor, senior executive, and advisor in the sustainable infrastructure and energy sectors, currently leads an impact fund investing in clean energy, energy efficiency, and decarbonisation. He was appointed a trustee of An Taisce in February with a special focus on our National Trust strategy.

He holds a Master of Public Policy from the University of Chicago and a Bachelor's in Biology and Geography from Syracuse University.

Board and Committee Profiles 2025

Committee Profiles and Reports

Governance, Risk and Compliance Committee
The role of the Governance, Risk and Compliance Committee is to advise the board on all matters related to governance and risk, and to lead the Board in its compliance with the Charities Regulator's Governance Code. It conducts an annual review of governance structures and processes and the organisation's risk register.

Members
- Olivia Rogers, (Chairperson until July 2025)
- Neil Whoriskey (Chairperson appointed July 2025)
- Stuart McCaul (until July 2025)
- Gary Freemantle (CEO)
- Laura Segura Gutierrez
- Pat Hayes
- Leo Regan

Audit and Finance Committee
The Audit and Finance Committee's role is to assist the Board in meeting its responsibilities by providing independent oversight of An Taisce's systems of internal control, audit appointment processes and financial reporting, both internal and statutory as well as reviewing all major financial decisions and transactions.

Members
- John Conroy (Chairperson)
- Jaimie-Leigh Bail
- Sandra Bowen
- Ruaidhrí O'Boyle
- Eric Conroy
- Brian O'Driscoll (Appointed 27 July 2025)
- Wagner Rovero (Appointed 3 November 2025)

One Health Committee
The role of the One Health Committee is to help An Taisce bring a more integrated understanding of environment, heritage, health and wellbeing into its work, and to support the organisation in applying that way of thinking in a practical and influential manner. Its scope includes communication, collaboration, capacity-building, policy and public discussion in ways that connect issues which are often treated separately, particularly where land use, biodiversity, water, food, housing, place and inequality affect one another.

Members
- Tony Holohan (Chairperson)
- Laurence Colleran
- Runa Hanaghan
- Katie Corridan
- Aoife Kirk
- Catherine Darker
- Robert Leigh
- Liz Farsaci
- Rebecca Maudling
- Peter Flanagan
- Ola Løkken Nordrum
- Orlagh Gaynor
- James O'Connell
- Pippa Hackett
- Philip Kearney

Staff Member:
- Elaine McGoff

The One Health Committee's terms of reference include:
- to support the Board, staff and other committees in understanding and applying One Health in ways that add value to An Taisce's existing mission and work
- to help connect issues that are often treated separately, especially where land use, biodiversity, water, food, housing, place and inequality affect one another
- to identify a small number of areas where An Taisce can make a distinctive contribution by bringing together environmental, human, animal and ecosystem perspectives
- to strengthen/contribute effectively to communication, co-ordination, collaboration and capacity-building within An Taisce and between An Taisce and relevant external partners
- to contribute to policy, advocacy, education and public discussion in ways that are grounded in evidence, attentive to justice and equity, and practical in their application.

The One Health Committee held its first meeting on 17 November 2025. No further meeting took place in 2025. That inaugural meeting brought together a broad range of expertise spanning medicine, public health, veterinary medicine, ecology, journalism, agriculture, planning, politics and environmental policy, which was recognised as a major strength of the Committee. The Committee's more substantive programme of work has developed during 2026 and will be reflected in the next annual report.

Board and Committee Profiles 2025

Committee Profiles and Reports

Climate Committee
The role of the Climate Committee is to address policy issues arising in Ireland and in its global interactions regarding the challenges of human-caused climate change. Its scope includes education, media engagement, collaboration with institutions, and advocacy with the Irish government to ensure accountability in preserving a liveable environment for future generations.

The Climate Committee's terms of reference include:

- **Education and outreach:** Engaging citizens nationally and internationally to enhance understanding of the climate challenge and empower positive responses.
- **Media engagement:** Facilitating informed public debate on Ireland's policy initiatives and responses.
- **Institutional collaboration:** Informing and responding to interventions by public and private institutions.
- **Government advocacy:** Engaging with state agencies, local government, and national representatives to hold them accountable for their environmental obligations.

Members

- Terri Morrissey (Chair)
- Ruaidhri O'Boyle (Secretary)
- Nick Armstrong
- Phil Kearney
- Clare Kelly
- Saoirse McHugh (resigned June 2025)
- Barry McMullin
- Karen Mahon
- Liam Murtagh
- Aideen O'Dochartaigh
- Paul Price
- Charles Stanley-Smith
- Prof John Sweeney

Staff Members:

- Phoebe Duvall
- Elaine McGoff
- Sean O'Callaghan
- Damien O'Tuama
- Ian Lumley

Key Achievements in 2025

- Continued to work to the Roadmap 2025-2026
- Developed Position papers on Offshore Wind and Data Centres
- Engaged with Teagasc and visited Johnstown Castle for discussions on policy
- Held away day to develop key priority action areas including sub groups on Agriculture and Land Use; Housing and Built Environment; Adaptation & Resilience;
- Energy
- Engaged with various Government Departments and the CCAC on carbon emissions and climate policy; made submission on National Development Plan
- Challenged the EU nitrates derogation.

Hosted a series of guest speakers, including:

- Ciaran Cuffe
- Kevin O Sullivan
- Sadhbh O Neill
- Members of Climate Committee
- Daithi Brooks
- Justine Schonfled-Quinn

The Climate Committee met 12 times in 2025.



Board and Committee Profiles 2025

Committee Profiles and Reports

Property and Natural Environment Committee
The Property and Natural Environment Committee of An Taisce is entrusted with the stewardship of sites of exceptional heritage and environmental value across Ireland. Its role is to support the long-term conservation, management, and appropriate use of these properties in line with the mission of An Taisce as the National Trust for Ireland.

The Committee works to uphold and promote the principles of sustainability, cultural preservation, and public engagement. This includes advising on site maintenance and restoration, advocating for best practice in conservation, and collaborating with other committees, members, and external partners. In doing so, it aims to ensure that the built and natural assets under An Taisce's care are protected for future generations.

The former Natural Environment Committee was incorporated into Properties in 2025, with some of those members joining a new expanded committee (see list). Given that many of the An Taisce sites are of natural heritage, the expertise of the NEC was welcomed into the new committee.

Members
- Finbarr Murray (Chairperson)
- Patricia O'Connell (until July 2025)
- Geoffrey Clarke
- Peter Wise
- Noel Foley
- John Conroy
- Kevin Duff
- Mark Clinton
- Anny Wise (from April 2025)
- Declan Murphy (from April 2025)
- Seamus Leahy (from April 2025)
- Eric Conroy (from April 2025)
- Martin Rochford (from April 2025)
- Helen Shaw (from April 2025)
- Rebecca Jeffares (from April 2025)

Staff Members:
- Sinead Owens
- Ian Lumley

Key Achievements in 2025
One of the tasks in 2025 was to review strategic objectives for the committee itself and the acquisition and management of properties. The aim is to conserve the heritage, whether natural or built, to the best standard possible. Funding is an issue, however collaboration is also a means to improvement and we welcomed a partnership with Breeding Waders EIP on Mongan Bog, as well as the announcement of the SEUPB-funded Peace Plus Nature, in partnership with RSPB Northern Ireland, which will take place on Sliabh Beagh, Cos Monaghan and Tyrone over the next few years. These projects will involve wading bird protection and peatland restoration. Our thanks go as always to our local volunteers who oversee some of the properties around the country. We are grateful for their efforts in grant applications, running events, and engaging with local authorities and community groups.



Board and Committee Profiles 2025

Council Members

An Taisce Council is a national forum for joined-up environmental and heritage policy development by volunteers. Council has a role in governing the charity because it represents members' interests between AGMs. Council is made up of the President and the former Presidents, the Chair of An Taisce, the Vice-Chairperson, the Secretary, delegates of our Local Associations, members elected at the AGM, representatives of policy committees, and co-opted members. All members of Council are members of An Taisce.

The current members of Council are listed below. By profession, they are artists, farmers, scientists, business people, activists, writers, historians, lawyers, conservationists, archaeologists, architects, and public health experts. An Taisce holds Council meetings five times a year.

COUNCIL — MEMBER ROLE — LOCAL ASSOCIATION (if affiliated)

Stuart McCaul Chair
***Terri Morrissey** Chair
(Terri Morrissey replaced Patricia O'Connell as Vice Chair in March 2025, then replaces Stuart McCaul as Chair in September 2025)
Patricia O'Connell Vice Chair
Laura Segura Gutierrez Secretary
Philip Kearney President
Fr Sean McDonagh Former President — Meath
Prof John Sweeney Former President — Kildare
Éanna Ní Lamhna Former President
Robin Mandal Speaker
Dr Patrick Bresnihan Elected
Martin Rochford Elected
***Dr Nick Armstrong** Elected
Kate Carmody Elected Kerry
***Eric Conroy** Elected
Gerry Crilly Elected
David Geary Local Association Delegate — Limerick
Saoirse McHugh Elected (stepped down June 2025)
Rebecca Jeffares Local Association Interim Delegate — Dun Laoghaire
Miriam Mooney Elected
Karen Wise Local Association Delegate — Clare
(Karen Wise replaced by Anny Wise as delegate during 2025)
Geoffrey Clarke Local Association Delegate — Meath
Liam Murtagh Elected — Monaghan
Jack O'Sullivan Local Association Interim Delegate — Westmeath
Geoff Power Elected
Damon Matthew Wise Elected — Clare
Brian Hamilton Local Association Delegate — Kilkenny
Dr Thomas Muinzer Co-Opted
Colm Desmond Local Association Interim Delegate — Cork

*(*Eric Conroy and Dr Nick Armstrong resigned in June 2025)*

Terri Morrissey — On behalf of the board: — Sandra Bowen

Terri Morrissey
Chair

18 June 2026

Sandra Bowen
Treasurer

Further information

Directors Remuneration
As a registered Charity and in accordance with the Constitution, Directors are not entitled to any remuneration for acting as a member of the Board. None of the Directors received any remuneration for their office during the year. If claimed, board meeting costs are reimbursed to directors and were nil in 2025.

Political Contributions
There were no political contributions that require disclosure under the Electoral Act 1997. In accordance with the guidance note (Feb 2018) issued by the Charities Regulator under section 14 of the Charities Act 2009, An Taisce has a charitable purpose only. An Taisce engages in political activities or promotes a political cause only where that relates directly to the advancement of our charitable purpose. It does not endorse any political party or candidate.

An Taisce is a nominating body on the Cultural and Heritage Vocational Panel for Seanad Éireann. It put out a call for suitably qualified candidates for Seanad General selection 2025 and there was a lot of interest. An Taisce Council voted to select Éanna Ní Lamhna as nominee. During the campaign, An Taisce promoted Éanna's life-long alignment with our values and mission, and we proudly donated €1,000 in kind to support her.

In accordance with the guidance note (Feb 2018) issued by the Charities Regulator under section 14 of the Charities Act 2009, An Taisce has a charitable purpose only. An Taisce engages in political activities or promotes a political cause only where that relates directly to the advancement of our charitable purpose.

Taxation Status
An Taisce is a charity and accordingly any positive net income is exempt from corporation tax.

Members Liabilities
An Taisce is a company limited by guarantee and it does not have share capital. The liability of members is limited as defined in An Taisce's Constitution and shall not exceed €6.35 in the event of the winding up or dissolution of the company.

DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO AUDITORS
Each of the persons who are Directors at the time that this Directors' Report is approved has confirmed that so far as that Director is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the auditor is unaware, and that Director has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a Director in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charitable company's auditor is aware of that.

Accounting records
The company's directors are aware of their responsibilities, under sections 281 to 285 of the Companies Act 2014 as to whether in their opinion, the accounting records of the company are sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited and are discharging their responsibility by:

- employing qualified and experienced staff,
- ensuring that sufficient company resources are available for the task
- liaising with the company's auditors

The accounting records are held at the organisation's business addresses at 5 Foster Place, Dublin 2, D02 V0P9, Republic of Ireland.

Auditor
In accordance with the Companies Act 2014, section 383(2), Browne Murphy & Hughes continue in office as auditor of the company.


Financial Statements

Financial Statements

Company Registration No. 12469 (Republic of Ireland)

AN TAISCE - THE NATIONAL TRUST FOR IRELAND ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

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DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

The directors are responsible for preparing the Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable Irish law and regulations.

Irish company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law, the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the Companies Act 2014 and FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (Generally accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland) issued by the Financial Reporting Council. Under company law, the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the company as at the financial year end date and of the profit or loss of the company for that financial year and otherwise comply with the Companies Act 2014.

In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies for the company financial statements and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards, identify those standards, and note the effect and the reasons for any material departure from those standards; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for ensuring that the company keeps or causes to be kept adequate accounting records which correctly explain and record the transactions of the company, enable at any time the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss of the company to be determined with reasonable accuracy, enable them to ensure that the financial statements and Directors' Report comply with the Companies Act 2014 and enable the financial statements to be audited. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Each of the directors in office at the date of approval of this annual report confirms that:

- so far as the director is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditor is unaware, and
- the director has taken all the steps that he / she ought to have taken as a director in order to make himself / herself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditor is aware of that information.

This confirmation is given and should be interpreted in accordance with the provisions of section 330 of the Companies Act 2014.

On behalf of the board

Terri Morrissey
Director

Sandra Bowen
Director

Date: 18 June 2026

Financial Statements

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF AN TAISCE - THE NATIONAL TRUST FOR IRELAND

Opinion
We have audited the financial statements of An Taisce - The National Trust for Ireland (the 'company') for the year ended 31 December 2025 which comprise the income and expenditure account, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows, and the related notes. The relevant financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is the Companies Act 2014 and FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

In our opinion the financial statements:
- give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the company as at 31 December 2025 and of its surplus for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2014.

Basis for opinion
We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (Ireland) (ISAs (Ireland)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are described below in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of financial statements in Ireland, including the Ethical Standard for Auditors (Ireland) issued by the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority (IAASA), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern
In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information
The directors are responsible for the other information in the annual report. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Financial Statements

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
TO THE MEMBERS OF AN TAISCE - THE NATIONAL TRUST FOR IRELAND

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2014
In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit, we report that:

- the information given in the directors' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

We have obtained all the information and explanations which, to the best of our knowledge and belief, are necessary for the purposes of our audit.

In our opinion the accounting records of the company were sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited, and the financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception
Based on the knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified any material misstatements in the directors' report.

The Companies Act 2014 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion, the requirements of any of sections 305 to 312 of the Act, which relate to disclosures of directors' remuneration and transactions, are not complied with by the company. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of directors for the financial statements
As explained more fully in the directors' responsibilities statement, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework that give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, if applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intend to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements
Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the company's financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (Ireland) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the company's financial statements is located on the IAASA's website at: https://iaasa.ie/publications/description-of-the-auditors-responsibilities-for-the-audit-of-the- financial-statements/. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Financial Statements

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
TO THE MEMBERS OF AN TAISCE - THE NATIONAL TRUST FOR IRELAND

Use of our report
This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with section 391 of the Companies Act 2014. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Carol Davey
for and on behalf of Browne Murphy & Hughes

Chartered & Certified Accountants
& Statutory Auditor Firm
28 Upper Fitzwilliam Street
Dublin 2

Date: 19/06/26

Financial Statements

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2025 €	Restricted funds 2025 €	Total funds 2025 €	Total funds 2024 €
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	980,444	368,656	1,349,100	439,917
Charitable activities	4	59,411	7,277,359	7,336,770	7,907,610
Investments	5	-	-	-	318
Total Income		1,039,855	7,646,015	8,685,870	8,347,845
Expenditure on:					
Expenditure	6	431,308	7,615,740	8,047,048	8,336,903
Total expenditure		431,308	7,615,740	8,047,048	8,336,903
Net surplus before investment gains		608,547	30,275	638,822	10,942
Net gains on investments	12	137	-	137	5,059
Net surplus		608,684	30,275	638,959	16,001
Net movement in funds		608,684	30,275	638,959	16,001
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward	19	1,302,581	1,389,486	2,692,067	2,676,066
Total funds carried forward		1,911,265	1,419,761	3,331,026	2,692,067

Financial Statements

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Notes	2025 €	2025 €	2024 €	2024 €
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		1,853,648		1,166,000
Investments	12		19,132		18,994
			1,872,780		1,184,994
Current assets					
Debtors	14	602,445		999,533	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,774,016		2,535,167	
		2,376,461		3,534,700	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(833,215)		(1,897,627)	
Net current assets			1,543,246		1,637,073
Total assets less current liabilities			3,416,026		2,822,067
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	16		(85,000)		(130,000)
Net assets			3,331,026		2,692,067
Total reserves					
Unrestricted funds	19		1,911,265		1,302,581
Restricted funds	19		1,419,761		1,389,486
Total funds			3,331,026		2,692,067

The financial statements were approved by the board of directors and authorised for issue on 17/6/26 and are signed on its behalf by:

Terri Morrissey

Sandra Bowen

Terri Morrissey
Director

Sandra Bowen
Director

Financial Statements

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Notes	2025 €	2025 €	2024 €	2024 €
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations	22		508,011		(60,756)
Investing activities					
Gain on investment		(138)		(5,059)	
Net cash used in investing activities			(138)		(5,059)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents			507,873		(65,815)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			1,266,111		1,331,926
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			1,773,984		1,266,111
Relating to:					
Cash at bank and in hand			1,774,016		2,535,167
Bank overdrafts included in creditors payable within one year			(32)		(1,269,056)

Financial Statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

1 — **Accounting policies**

Company information
An Taisce - The National Trust for Ireland is a limited company domiciled and incorporated in Republic of Ireland. The registered office is Tailors' Hall, Back Lane, Dublin 8 and it's company registration number is 12469.

1.1 — **Accounting convention**
The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis in accordance with the Companies Act 2014 and FRS 102, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, issued by the Financial Reporting Council. The company has applied the recommendations contained in Charities SORP (FRS 102) effective 1 January 2019.

The financial statements are prepared in euros, which is the functional currency of the company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest €.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of certain financial instruments to fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 — **Going concern**
At the time of approving the financial statements, the directors have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the directors continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 — **Income**
Income is recognised when An Taisce is entitled to the income, the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy and it is probable the income will be received. Income includes membership, donations, gifts, legacies and government and other grants.

Membership income is accounted for and deferred on a time basis. Donations are recognised when receivable.

Legacies are recognised when receipt is probable including that probate has been granted, it has been established that the estate has sufficient assets and the terms of the legacy have been met.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

Income from government and other grants is recognised when An Taisce has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Investment income is included when receivable.

Financial Statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

1 — **Accounting policies** (Continued)

1.4 — **Expenditure**
Expenditure is recognised when a liability is incurred.

Costs of generating funds are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

1.5 — **Tangible fixed assets**
Tangible fixed assets are recorded at historical cost or deemed cost, less accumulated depreciation. Costs includes prime cost, overheads and interest accrued in financing the construction of tangible fixed assets.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the costs over their expected useful lives on a straight line, over the following years:

Freehold land and buildings	2% Straight Line
Leasehold improvements	12.5% Straight Line

The company's policy is to review remaining useful economic lives and residual values on an on-going basis and to adjust the depreciation charge to reflect the remaining estimated useful economic life and residual value. The forestry land has being valued at fair value. The initial valuation is based on a cost per acre valuation, this has then being discounted by 40% to take into account the restrictions in place surrounding these lands. The forestry lands are not depreciated but are subject to annual review for impairment on the value attributed to them.

1.6 — **Heritage Assets**
An Taisce holds certain heritage sites for the intangible benefits accruing to the Irish state and its citizens. No value is attributed to these assets.

1.7 — **Investments**
Investments are held at fair value, unless fair value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment.

All other borrowing costs are recognised in profit or loss in the period in which they are incurred.

1.8 — **Impairment of fixed assets**
At each reporting period end date, the company reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any). Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, the company estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

1.9 — **Cash and cash equivalents**
Cash and cash equivalents are basic financial assets and include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.10 — **Trade and other debtors**
Trade and other debtors are recognised at cost and subsequently measured at amortised cost less any provision for impairment for bad or doubtful debts.

Financial Statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

1 — **Accounting policies** (Continued)

1.11 — **Trade and other creditors**
Trade and other creditors are recognised at cost and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, unless the effect of discounting would be immaterial, in which case they are stated at cost.
Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation.

1.12 — **Taxation**
The company has obtained exemption from the Revenue Commissioners in respect of corporation tax, it being a company not carrying on a business for the purposes of making a profit. DIRT tax is payable on any interest income received in excess of €32.

1.13 — **Pensions**
The charity operates a defined contribution pension plan for its employees. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which the company pays fixed contributions into a separate fund. The company has no further payment obligations once the contributions have been paid. The contributions are recognised as expense when they are due.

1.14 — **Employee benefits**
The costs of short-term employee benefits are recognised as a liability and an expense, unless those costs are required to be recognised as part of the cost of stock or fixed assets.

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the company is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.15 — **Leases**
Rental income from operating leases is recognised on a straight line basis over the term of the relevant lease. Initial direct costs incurred in negotiating and arranging an operating lease are added to the carrying amount of the leased asset and recognised on a straight line basis over the lease term.

1.16 — **Fund accounting**
Restricted Funds represent grants, donations and sponsorships received which can only be used for particular purposes specified by the grantor, donor or sponsor.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds assigned by the Directors for particular purposes. The designated funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements. The designations have an administrative purpose only and do not legally restrict the Board's discretion in applying the funds.

Remaining unrestricted funds are general funds which are expendable in furtherance of the objectives of An Taisce.

Financial Statements

2 — **Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**
In the application of the company's accounting policies, the directors are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

a) Establishing useful economic lives for depreciation of fixed assets.
The company's accounting policy for depreciation are set out in policy 1.5. The annual depreciation charge depends primarily on the estimated useful economic lives of each type of asset and estimates of residual values. The directors regularly review these asset's useful lives and change them as necessary to reflect current thinking on remaining lives in light of prospective economic utilisation and physical condition of the assets concerned.

b) Provision for doubtful debts.
The company makes an estimate of the recoverable value of trade and other debtors. The company uses estimates based on historical experiences in determining the level of debts, which the company believes, will not be collected. These estimates include such factors as the current credit rating of the debtor, the ageing profile of debtors and historical experience. Any significant fluctuations in the level of customers that default on payments would result in an increase/decrease in the level of bad debt provision and this, in turn, would have an impact on the operating results. The level of provision required is reviewed on an on-going basis.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2025 €	Restricted funds 2025 €	Total funds 2025 €	Total funds 2024 €
Donations, Fundraising and Membership	268,796	118,656	387,452	189,917
Donated services	-	250,000	250,000	250,000
Donated Forestry Lands	711,648	-	711,648	-
Total donations and legacies	980,444	368,656	1,349,100	439,917
Total 2024	113,047	326,870	439,917	

Donated Services in 2025 represent legal services of €250,000 provided to An Taisce for specific legal cases (2024 total donated services amounted to €250,000 all of which related to legal donated services). The services are provided on individual cases which are undertaken following cost protection guarantees. These legal services are separate from the legal and other services provided to An Taisce in the normal course of its activities.

During 2025, 10 sites were transferred to An Taisce from the Nature Trust. This is part of an ongoing transfer of forestry lands, the intention on which is to be planted as Nature Forest. These lands transferred by 31 December 2025 have been valued using an independent forestry valuation together with a forestry consultant at a value of €711,648. An Taisce have a commitment to hold these lands for a period of 100 years and a revenue stream will generate from these lands bewtween 2026 and 2039.

Financial Statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 €	Restricted funds 2025 €	Total funds 2025 €	Total funds 2024 €
Government Departments	2,436	1,951,378	1,953,815	1,920,240
State Bodies	-	4,470,198	4,470,198	4,847,245
Local authorities	-	342,374	342,374	389,358
Funding from EU Organisations	-	151,931	151,931	103,180
Philanthropic Organisations	-	252,374	252,374	385,297
Corporate Sponsorships	-	102,000	102,000	220,258
Individual Donations	213	-	213	-
Merchandise Sales and Teacher Training	-	7,103	7,103	11,407
Properties	56,762	-	56,762	30,625
Total	59,411	7,277,359	7,336,770	7,907,610

No capital grants were received in the year.

5 Investment Income

	Unrestricted funds 2025 €	Restricted funds 2025 €	Total funds 2025 €	Total funds 2024 €
Dividend Income	-	-	-	318
Total	**-**	**-**	**-**	**318**
Total 2024	318	-	318	

Investment income arises from Equities which have been donated to An Taisce.

Financial Statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

6 Expenditure

	Unrestricted funds 2025 €	Restricted funds 2025 €	Total funds 2025 €	Total funds 2024 €
Donations and Legacies	328,274	317,156	645,430	367,277
Charitable Activities	37,104	7,260,515	7,297,619	7,896,334
Governance Costs	65,930	38,069	103,999	73,292
	431,308	7,615,740	8,047,048	8,336,903
Total 2024	399,327	7,937,576	8,336,903	

7 Governance costs

	Unrestricted Funds 2025 €	Restricted Funds 2025 €	Total 2025 €	Total 2024 €
Auditors remuneration	2,054	13,321	15,375	15,375
Legal and professional fees	39,876	24,748	64,624	33,917
Depreciation - tangible fixed assets	24,000	-	24,000	24,000
Total	65,930	38,069	103,999	73,292

8 Analysis of Expenditure by expenditure type

	Employment costs 2025 €	Services and Resources 2025 €	Total 2025 €	Total 2024 €
Donations and Legacies	208,576	436,854	645,430	367,277
Charitable activities	4,598,971	2,698,648	7,297,619	7,896,334
Governance Costs	-	103,999	103,999	73,292
Total 2025	4,807,547	3,239,501	8,047,048	8,336,903
Total 2024	4,582,926	3,753,977	8,336,903	

Included in Donations and Legacies is €250,000 Donated Legal Services
(2024: Donated Legal Services €250,000)

Financial Statements

9 Operating surplus

Operating surplus for the year is stated after charging:	2025 €	2024 €
Fees payable to the company's auditor for the audit of the company's financial statements	15,375	15,375
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	24,000	24,000

10 Employees

The average monthly number of persons employed by the company during the year was:

	2025 Number	2024 Number
Employees	111	112

Their aggregate remuneration comprised:

	2025 €	2024 €
Wages and salaries	4,200,729	4,039,646
Social security costs	460,882	438,067
Pension costs	145,936	105,213
	4,807,547	4,582,926

The number of employees whose remuneration was greater than €60,000 was:

	2025	2024
€60,000 -€70,000	3	2
>€70,000	1	1

	2025 €	2024 €
Remuneration - Senior Management	296,557	272,638
Remuneration - Support	246,305	274,403
Remuneration - Activities	4,264,685	4,035,884
	4,807,547	4,582,926

The Senior Management Team remains at four people. The team comprises CEO, Finance Director, Director of Education and Communities and Development Director. This team supports the managers and employees delivering An Taisce's activities.

Financial Statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings	Leasehold improvements	Forestry Land	Total
	€	€	€	€
Cost				
At 1 January 2025	1,200,000	120,678	-	1,320,678
Additions	-	-	711,648	711,648
At 31 December 2025	1,200,000	120,678	711,648	2,032,326
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 January 2025	34,000	120,678	-	154,678
Depreciation charged in the year	24,000	-	-	24,000
At 31 December 2025	58,000	120,678	-	178,678
Carrying amount				
At 31 December 2025	1,142,000	-	711,648	1,853,648
At 31 December 2024	1,166,000	-	-	1,166,000

Freehold Buildings comprised the cost and depreciation of 5 Foster Place, a Georgian Building of Historic Interest in Dublin 2. The building is used as office and meeting space for An Taisce.

Leasehold Costs relate to remedial work performed on Tailors Hall, Dublin 8 in 2016. This building is held by An Taisce on a long lease at peppercorn rent from Dublin City Council. The Building itself is classified as a Heritage Asset.

Native Forests comprise 10 sites which have been donated to An Taisce from the Nature Trust in December 2025. This is the first of a number of tranches of native forestry which will be transferred from the Nature Trust to An Taisce in 2026 and 2027.

Forestry Land, Site and County

- Lisalea 1 Monaghan
- Kilmahon, Longford
- Aughrim, Coolmeen Roscommon
- Moylough, Sligo
- Coogue, Mayo
- Clonandra, Cavan
- Derrynacanna, Mayo
- Ballygub Old Kilkenny
- Glentavraun, Mayo
- Kiltullagh, Roscommon
- Callow Lake, Mayo

Heritage Assets

An Taisce maintains a portfolio of natural and build heritage assets which are held for their intrinsic value. These assets are held at nil value reflecting the lack of market for such assets in their current condition.

Natural Heritage

- Crocnafarragh, Co. Donegal
- Mongan Bog, Co. Offaly
- Morehampton Road Wildlife Sanctuary, Donnybrook, Dublin 4
- Gortlecka, Inchiquin, Co. Clare
- Oweninny Bog, Balcorrick, Co. Mayo
- The Gull Islands and Rough Island, Mulray Bay, Co. Donegal
- Booterstown Marsh, Booterstown, Co. Dublin (Leasehold)
- Sliabh Beigh, Co. Monaghan and Co. Tyrone
- Callow Lake, Co. Mayo

Built Heritage

- Boyne Navigation
- Corlican Graveyard, Corlican, Co. Wexford
- Kanturk Castle, Kanturk, Co. Cork
- Killaha West, Kenmare, Co. Kerry
- The Crane – Gort Weigh House, Market Square, Gort, Co. Galway
- Tailors Hall (leasehold)

An Taisce's collection of pictures, documents, maps and manuscripts are held at nil value. This collection has been donated by members, volunteer groups and from An Taisce's work since 1948. An Taisce management of this collection includes storing, displaying, restoring and occasionally disposing of elements of the collection.

Financial Statements

12 Fixed asset investments

	2025 €
Market Value	
At 1 January 2025	18,995
Fair value movement	137
At 31 December 2025	19,132

Investment income arises from Equities which have been donated to An Taisce.

13 Taxation

The company is a registered charity (CHY4741) and is exempt from corporation tax. The company is fully tax compliant as at 31 December 2025.

14 Debtors

Amounts falling due within one year:	2025 €	2024 €
Trade debtors	378,610	565,701
Other debtors	179,374	397,524
Prepayments	44,461	36,308
	602,445	999,533

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2025 €	2024 €
Amounts owed to credit institutions	17	32	1,269,056
Trade creditors		113,620	98,632
PAYE and social security		92,472	-
Deferred income	18	504,717	370,989
Other creditors		51,380	107,289
Accruals		70,994	51,661
		833,215	1,897,627

16 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2025 €	2024 €
Other creditors	85,000	130,000

17 Loans and overdrafts

	2025 €	2024 €
Bank overdrafts	32	1,269,056

Financial Statements

18 Deferred Income

	At 1 January 2025	Recognised in year	Received in year	At 31 December 2025
	€	€	€	€
Green Schools				
Core				
- Local Authorities	119,050	(184,892)	187,519	121,677
Biodiversity				
- Bio Beo - Horizon Europe	8,507	(8,507)		-
- Little Green Fingers - Erasmus +	12,288	(26,330)	21,064	7,022
- Hedgehog - Kildare County Council	5,440	(5,440)		-
Global Citizen				
- Irish Aid	50,000	(120,000)	120,000	50,000
- Department of Education	13,889	(28,472)	25,000	10,417
- Designathon	3,464	(3,464)		-
- LLC Erasmus	-	(36,333)	48,000	11,667
Energy				
- Eirgrid	-	(99,000)	187,000	88,000
Water				
- Uisce Eireann	-	(52,500)	52,500	-
Neat Streets				
- King Baudiun Fund	124,984	-	-	124,984
Travel				
- PCP Local Authorities	-	(23,000)	32,700	9,700
Clean Coasts				
- Kia	-	(50,000)	50,000	-
- Uisce Eireann	-	(80,000)	80,000	-
Leaf				
- FEE	-		7,000	7,000
- Meath Local Sports Partnership	-	(3,000)	12,000	9,000
Green Campus				
- Neb-Lab	6,367	(6,367)	-	-
- Sust-hein	-	(5,871)	5,871	-
Green Flags for Parks				
- Dept of Community and Rural Affairs	27,000	(27,000)	27,000	27,000
Advocacy				
- Mining	-	(21,250)	42,500	21,250
- Clean Water Campaign	-	-	10,000	10,000
- Planning for Justice	-	-	7,000	7,000
Total	370,989	(781,427)	915,154	504,717

Financial Statements

19 Statement of funds

	Opening Reserves €	Income €	Expenditure €	Closing Reserves €
Designated funds				
Foster Place	1,142,000	-	(24,000)	1,118,000
Tailors Hall & Other Properties	(214,654)	56,975	(47,948)	(205,627)
Heritage	-	49,355	-	49,355
Native Forests	-	714,264	(31,087)	683,177
Funds below €20,000	-	89,840	(88,185)	1,655
Total Designated funds	927,346	910,434	(191,220)	1,646,560
General funds	375,234	129,558	(240,089)	264,703
Total Unrestricted funds	**1,302,581**	**1,039,992**	**(431,308)**	**1,911,265**
Restricted funds				
Educate, Promote, Advocate	695,757	-	(125,886)	569,871
Clean Coast Working Capital	162,614	129,850	(91,443)	201,021
National Spring Clean Working Capital	104,581	25,000	(32,801)	96,780
ELIG	109,253	95,000	(91,162)	113,091
Climate Ambassador Working Capital	60,290	18,806	(18,030)	61,066
Funds Below €50,000	256,992	7,377,359	(7,256,418)	377,933
Total Restricted Reserves	**1,389,486**	**7,646,015**	**(7,615,740)**	**1,419,761**
Total Reserves	**2,692,067**	**8,686,007**	**(8,047,048)**	**3,331,026**

20 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions during the year.

21 Contingent liabilities

There were no contingent liabilities as at 31 December 2025.

Financial Statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

22 Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations

	2025 €	2024 €
Surplus after taxation	638,959	16,001
Adjustments for:		
Non-cash donation included in surplus	(711,648)	-
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	24,000	24,000
Movements in working capital:		
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	397,088	(157,565)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	25,884	(3,457)
Increase in deferred income	133,728	60,266
Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations	508,011	(60,755)

23 Analysis of changes in net funds

	1 January 2025 €	Cash flows €	31 December 2025 €
Cash at bank and in hand	2,535,167	(761,151)	1,774,016
Bank overdrafts	(1,269,056)	1,269,024	(32)
	1,266,111	507,873	1,773,984

24 Non Audit Services

Browne Murphy & Hughes assist the company in the preparation of the financial statements and also with completion of company secretarial returns.

25 Approval of financial statements

The directors approved the financial statements on 17 June 2026



An Taisce's historic traditional HQ Tailors' Hall. It is the oldest surviving Guild Hall in Dublin, which has been at the heart of the city for over 300 years. It is protected under Section 12 of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act, 1994 and is a designated Heritage site under the Heritage Act 1995. It won the Europa Nostra Award 1988, the Pan European Federation for Heritage.

Any legacy – no matter how large or small – helps make a lasting difference

A gift in your will helps An Taisce plan ahead for the future
and secure Ireland's natural and built heritage for everyone, forever.

For an information pack, please email info@antaisce.org or call (01) 4541786


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Clean Coasts Love Your Coasts Competition 2025 — Source to Sea Category Winner
Helen Black ‘Let there be Light’ Glendasan, Co Wicklow

An Taisce
The National Trust for Ireland

The National Trust for Ireland | Protecting Ireland’s heritage, safeguarding its future
Heritage | Nature | Climate | Community

Business address: 5 Foster Place, Dublin 2, D02 V0P9, Ireland
Registered address: Tailors' Hall, Back Lane, Dublin 8, D08 X2A3, Ireland
www.antaisce.org | +353 1 4541786 | info@antaisce.org

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EU Transparency Register no. 275657497595-21