







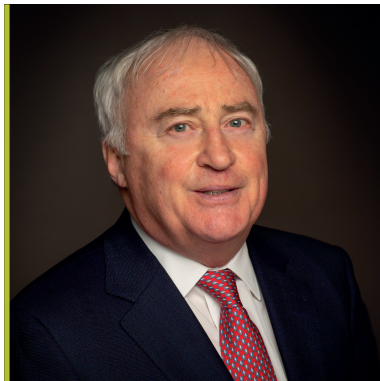
# Contents

<b>1.</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1	Foreword	1
1.2	2021 highlights	2
1.3	About Greencoat Renewables PLC	3
1.4	Board of directors and management team	4
1.5	What ESG means to us	4
<b>2.</b>	<b>Our approach to responsible investment</b>	<b>5</b>
2.1	Our approach to ESG management	5
2.2	Reporting and disclosures	6
2.3	External initiatives and standards	7
<b>3.</b>	<b>Environment</b>	<b>8</b>
3.1	Producing renewable energy: our contribution to the net zero transition	8
3.2	Protecting the local environment	9
3.3	Sustainability across our operations	11
<b>4.</b>	<b>Social</b>	<b>13</b>
4.1	Communities	13
4.2	Supporting worker safety, health, and well-being	16
<b>5.</b>	<b>Governance</b>	<b>18</b>
5.1	Business ethics	18
5.2	Expectations and requirements of companies and service providers	18
5.3	Enhancing our cyber resilience	19
<b>6.</b>	<b>Looking forward</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>7.</b>	<b>Appendix</b>	<b>21</b>



# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Foreword



*Rónán M Murphy*

Rónán Murphy  
Chairman

**Renewable energy infrastructure continues to support decarbonisation, reducing global greenhouse gases and improving our energy security and supply. The need to transition to a net zero economy has never been more urgent. The latest UN Climate Change Conference COP26, held in Glasgow at the end of 2021, ended with an agreement that will see more ambitious goals established to tackle climate change over the next ten years. This presents significant opportunities for Greencoat Renewables PLC to play an important role in achieving renewable targets and the wider net zero transition.**

At Greencoat Renewables PLC ("Greencoat Renewables"), we're proud to be playing a critical role in achieving these renewable energy targets and contributing to the broader net zero economy. We do this by deploying capital in renewable energy infrastructure while simultaneously creating jobs and building more resilient local communities.

We also recognise that our long term success is tied to the effective management of the environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors associated with our business. We want to support the transition to a net zero economy in a way that positively impacts the communities and local environments in which we operate. To do this, we are committed to investing responsibly, focusing only on renewable energy assets that create long term value for all our stakeholders. Implementing a robust ESG policy and framework, developed and overseen by our Investment Manager, Greencoat Capital, enables us to identify and manage ESG related risks and opportunities throughout the lifecycle of our renewable energy assets.

The Board are very pleased with the continued delivery and focus on ESG matters with many notable achievements throughout the year which include:

### Environmental:

- Our portfolio produced enough renewable energy to power more than 339,000 homes, saving 608,856 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>.
- Calculated and disclosed our full carbon footprint for the first time, including Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions, in line with the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Protocol.

### Social:

- Supported a range of local community projects, committing more than €1 million to community funds across 153 projects in 2021.
- Shortlisted for the 2021 Exemplary Health and Safety Performance Award by Wind Energy Ireland.
- Continued sponsorship of the BT Young Scientist special award for Sustainable Energy and the Wind Energy Ireland Young Person of the Year Award.

### Governance:

- Published our first disclosure under the EU Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR). We have met the Article 9 criteria of having sustainable investments as our objective.
- Published our second disclosure of climate related risks and opportunities with the recommendations of the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosure (TCFD).
- Submitted our first full environmental data disclosure to the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) for the reporting period of 2020.

Looking ahead to 2022 and beyond, we are dedicated to continuing this progress by identifying and implementing improvements in how we invest and operate as a company, to enhance returns to investors while creating long term value for people and the planet.



## 1.2 2021 highlights

# 25

renewable energy assets in operation.



# 608,856

million tonnes  
of CO<sub>2</sub> savings.



# 800 MW

of installed capacity.



# 1,522 GWh

of renewable energy generated.



# Over €1m

invested in community funds or social projects.



# 347,630 homes

(equivalent) powered by clean energy.



# 100%

of assets with habitat management plans where there is an environmental requirement.

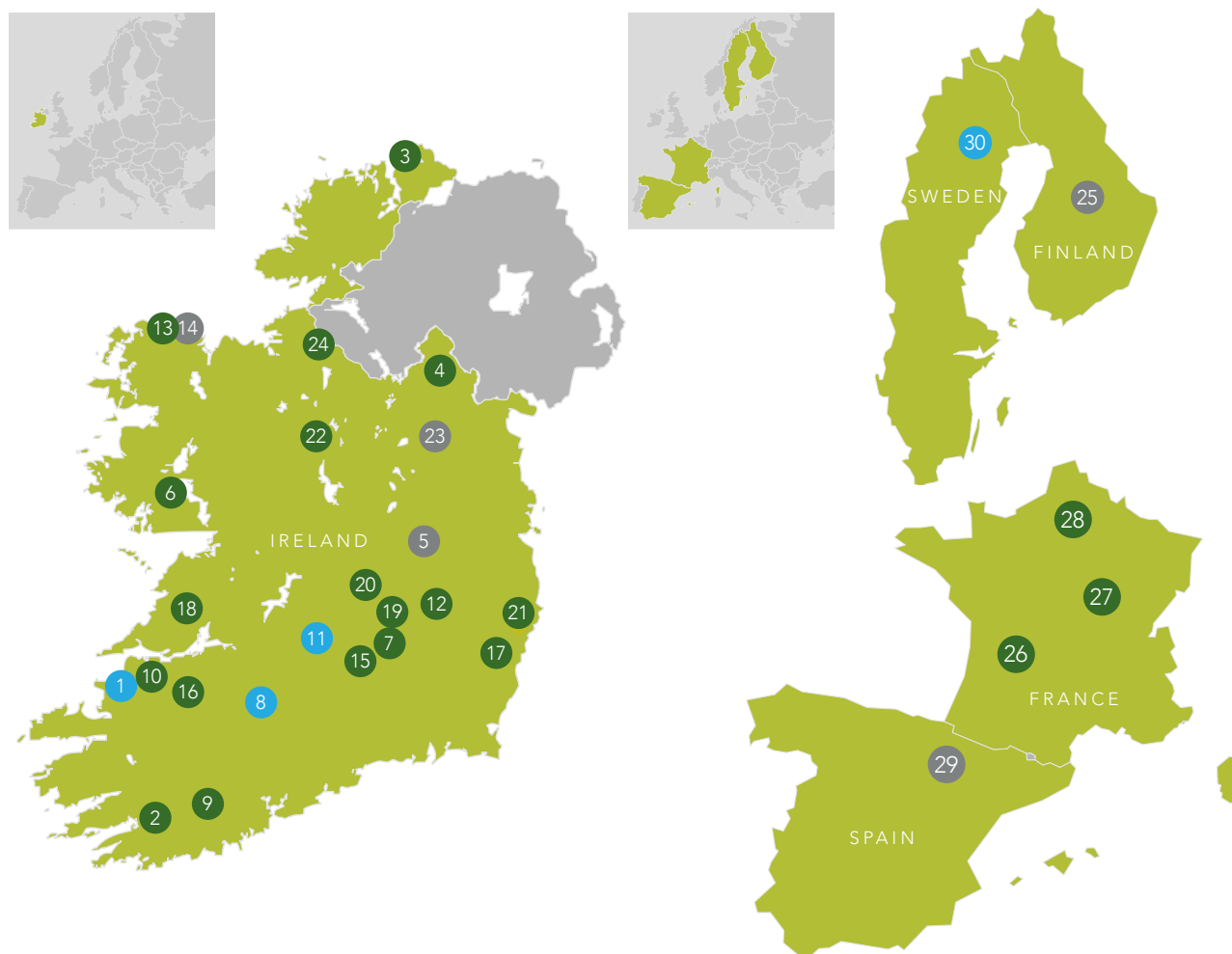


ST MARTIN



## 1.3 About Greencoat Renewables

We currently have 25 renewable energy assets in our portfolio across Ireland, France, and Sweden with a total capacity of 800MW. The Company is the largest owner of renewable energy infrastructure in Ireland and has a growing portfolio in other European countries. In 2021, we made forward commitments on renewable energy assets in Finland and Spain.



### Ireland

- |                          |                                   |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 Ballincollig Hill      | 13 Killala                        |
| 2 Ballybane              | 14 Killala Battery (construction) |
| 3 Beam                   | 15 Killhills                      |
| 4 Carrickallen           | 16 Knockacummer                   |
| 5 Cloghan (forward sale) | 17 Knocknalour                    |
| 6 Cloosh Valley          | 18 Letteragh                      |
| 7 Cnoc                   | 19 Lisdowney                      |
| 8 Cordal                 | 20 Monaincha                      |
| 9 Garranereagh           | 21 Raheenleagh                    |
| 10 Glanaruddery          | 22 Sliabh Bawn                    |
| 11 Glencarby             | 23 Taghart (forward sale)         |
| 12 Gortahile             | 24 Tullynamoyle II                |

### Finland

- 25 Kokkoneva (forward sale)

### France

- 26 Saint Martin  
27 Pasilly  
28 Sommette

### Spain

- 29 Torrubia (forward sale)

### Sweden

- 30 Erstrask South





## 1.4 Board of Directors and management team

Our approach to governance is to manage risk through robust processes and controls and ensure best practices are in place to support our growing business. The Board of Directors oversees the management of the Company and is comprised of non-executive directors, all independent of the Investment Manager. They all bring significant and complementary experience working in the renewable energy sector and a wide range of skills and expertise.

The Board continues to seek expertise and to ensure best in class diversification, with a process well under way to recruit an additional non-executive director in 2022. We anticipate that this appointment will enhance our gender diversity.

### Our Board of Directors:<sup>1</sup>



Rónán Murphy  
Director and Chairman



Kevin McNamara  
Director and Chairman of the  
Audit Committee



Emer Gilvary  
Senior Independent Director



Marco Graziano  
Director and Chairman of the  
Management Engagement  
Committee

## 1.5 What ESG means to us

### Responsible investment is central to our purpose as a company.

We understand the strong link between positive ESG performance of our investment portfolio and our overall business success. We believe that effective management of ESG factors produces the best results for our shareholders and other stakeholders across society, by informing our approach to risk management and capturing opportunities to deliver long term value.

We are committed to identifying and managing ESG related risks and opportunities throughout the lifecycle of our assets. We do this by embedding ESG considerations into our pre-investment process and ongoing asset management.

ESG and responsible investment also encompass collaboration. We recognise our leadership position and actively seek to promote sustainable practices across our industry. We also acknowledge the need to engage industry peers and stakeholders to continuously improve our own approach to ESG. We are committed to sharing our approach to ESG with our shareholders and being transparent on ESG matters across our portfolio.

<sup>1</sup> Full biographies are available on our website: <https://www.greencoat-renewables.com/team/board>.



## 2 Our approach to responsible investment

### 2.1 Our approach to ESG management

**The ESG management process is a collaboration between Greencoat Renewables PLC, Greencoat Capital and individual operating managers who manage each specific renewable energy asset. This is implemented as follows:**

1. The Company's ESG Policy has been developed by Greencoat Capital and is approved and overseen by the Greencoat Renewables PLC Board.
2. Day to day management of our ESG policy is delegated by our Board to Greencoat Capital.
3. Greencoat Capital asset management team is dedicated to managing the Greencoat Renewables PLC portfolio, with support from the wider Greencoat Capital team.
4. The Greencoat Capital asset management team sits on the Board of each wind farm company to ensure strong oversight. The team engages monthly on ESG performance along with operating managers who have day to day onsite responsibility for the operation of each renewable energy asset.
5. The investment and asset management teams report to the Board of Greencoat Renewables PLC monthly.
6. Greencoat Renewables PLC tracks its performance carefully and seeks to provide transparent information to shareholders through this annual ESG Report. This supports our ongoing efforts to monitor, adjust and improve our approach and the value we generate for shareholders.

ESG factors are considered in the pre-investment stage and addressed throughout the investment approval process through the following process controls implemented by Greencoat Capital:



## 2.2 Reporting and disclosures

**Greencoat Renewables is committed to disclosing our sustainability performance. We provide information proactively to our shareholders and other stakeholders on an ongoing basis in our annual ESG Report, our Annual Report, on our website, and through our participation in voluntary efforts.**

### **The European Union's Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR)**

Our investments are exclusively focused on renewable energy assets. We therefore meet the Article 9 criteria of having sustainable investments as our objective. Our SFDR statement is supported by our ESG policy. We will continue to update our reporting to ensure we meet disclosure requirements.

### **Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD)**

We have published our second disclosure under TCFD in our 2021 Annual Report. The success of implementing TCFD recommendations into our responsible investment policies is owed, in part, to the creation of an internal TCFD Working Group at Greencoat Capital, which was led by Greencoat Capital's ESG Committee.



### **Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP)**

We completed our first full disclosure with CDP in 2021 for the 2020 reporting period. We are committed to enhancing our disclosure on climate related matters through our CDP submissions.





## 2.3 External initiatives and standards

### United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment

In the 2020 PRI assessment, Greencoat Capital achieved an 'A+' score in Infrastructure and a 'A' in the Strategy and Governance modules.<sup>2</sup>

Signatory of:



### Net Zero Asset Managers initiative

The NetZero Asset Managers initiative is an international group of asset managers committed to supporting the goal of net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 or sooner. As of 2021, Greencoat Capital is one of 220 signatories with a combined total of over \$57 trillion in assets under management.

NET ZERO  
ASSET  
MANAGERS  
INITIATIVE



### United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

We acknowledge the importance of the UN SDGs in addressing the global challenges facing the international community. As a leading owner of renewable energy assets, we contribute to the SDGs in two core ways: creating renewable energy (SDG 7) and driving climate action (SDG 13). Beyond these, our ESG activities contribute to a broader range of SDGs, as illustrated throughout our case studies.



7 AFFORDABLE AND  
CLEAN ENERGY



#### SDG 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all.

Our portfolio powered the equivalent of 347,630 homes with clean energy and generated 1,522GWh of renewable electricity in 2021.

13 CLIMATE  
ACTION



#### SDG 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

Our portfolio contributes towards a zero carbon future and can offset more than 608,856 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions a year.

<sup>2</sup> 2021 PRI assessment scores are delayed due to the adoption of a new scoring methodology.

## 3 Environment

### 3.1 Producing renewable energy: our contribution to the net zero transition

#### Our renewable energy assets are helping power a cleaner, more sustainable world.

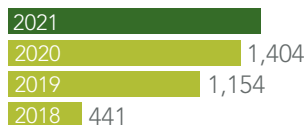
Greencoat Renewables' core contribution to mitigating climate change and achieving a future powered by sustainable energy is through our portfolio of renewable energy assets. Our wind farms generate green electricity that saves the carbon emissions and air pollution that would have otherwise been generated using fossil fuels. As of this year, we are also supporting the innovation needed to enable renewable energy to be stored and incorporated back into the grid, with the development of a battery storage facility (see 'Innovation for a renewable powered future' case study, page 19).

#### Our contribution

#### Over the last four years, we have increased the renewable energy we generate across our assets and their related CO<sub>2</sub> savings.

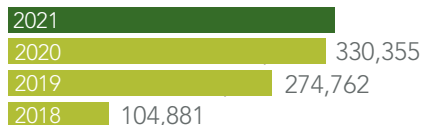
##### Electricity produced (GWh)

1,522



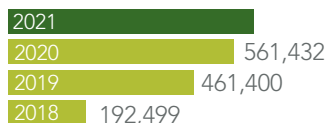
##### Equivalent number of homes powered<sup>3</sup>

347,630



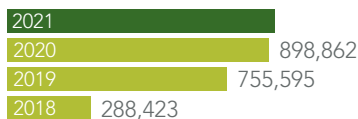
##### CO<sub>2</sub> savings (tonnes)<sup>4</sup>

608,856



##### Equivalent number of people whose electricity needs were met<sup>5</sup>

937,424



3 Throughout this document, the equivalent number of homes powered is calculated based on Typical Domestic Consumption values. For our Irish wind farms this is based on an estimated Typical Domestic Consumption value of electricity per home of 4.2 MWh/annum by Commission for Energy Regulation (CER) updated in 2017. For our French wind farms this is based on an estimated Typical Domestic Consumption value of electricity per home of 5.8 MWh/annum according to estimates of total consumption from RTE updated in 2019 and number of households from Institute national de la statistique et des études économiques (Insee), updated in 2017. For our Swedish assets this is based on an estimated Typical Domestic Consumption Value of electricity per home of 9 MWh/annum according to estimates from Energimyndigheten.

4 Throughout this document, CO<sub>2</sub> savings are calculated based on a factor of 0.4 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> per MWh to reflect displaced thermal generation.

5 Throughout this document, the equivalent number of people whose electricity needs were met is calculated based:

- for Irish wind farms, on the Central Statistics Office's latest Census of Population data, gathered in 2016, of 2.75 persons per household.
- for French wind farms, on reports from Insee, updated in 2017, of 2 persons per household.
- for Swedish wind farms, on statistics from Swedish Energy Agency, of 2.12 persons per household.



## 3.2 Protecting the local environment

**Our renewable energy assets interact with the natural world around them and impact on plant and animal life. We acknowledge that the land use changes associated with our operational assets may affect local habitat and vegetation.**

The Company focuses on protecting the local environment around our renewable energy assets by implementing and enforcing a robust environmental management system. We have policies in place to ensure responsible land management and conduct periodic risk assessments, with regular reporting to our Board. Any concerns are reported to the boards of the wind farm companies and escalated to the Greencoat Renewables Board as required.

Where necessary, we create Species and Habitat Management Plans covering ongoing monitoring, habitat management and reporting on bird, bat and mammal activity. This is industry best practice developed in consultation with key stakeholders, including expert ecological consultants and the National Parks and Wildlife Service. We take obligations to manage noise and shadow flicker levels at our wind farms seriously and work with expert noise consultants to liaise with local authorities and the Environment Protection Agency.

0

reportable environmental incidents

9

assets  
have habitat management plans in response to  
environmental requirements

### CASE STUDY

## Protecting our pollinators

13 CLIMATE ACTION



Greencoat Renewables and all our operational managers have signed the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan (AIPP) to emphasise our commitment to conserving the bee population in Ireland. The AIPP is a new five year road map to help bees, other pollinating insects and our wider biodiversity by encouraging a better way of managing the whole landscape. The AIPP 2021-2025 has 186 actions spread across six objectives.

The main organisations, including Greencoat Renewables, share responsibility for delivering actions to create an Ireland where pollinators can survive and thrive. As part of our commitment to the AIPP, we:

- Erected Official Supporter signage on wind farms in the portfolio;
- Initiated a pilot project to plant wildflowers on appropriate land at our Gortahile wind farm;
- Investigated the need for weed spraying on all sites and identified opportunities to decrease spraying or use alternative sprays. An alternative weed killer was also evaluated by one operations manager. In the future, we will continue to reduce pesticide use and mowing of grassland where possible.



## CASE STUDY

### Nature+



Greencoat Renewables is a founding sponsor of Nature+, a project with the aim of improving the biodiversity benefits of onshore windfarms. The four year initiative will develop the templates and tools required to optimise land management, including introducing an advanced smart monitoring system that will improve data collection in a cost efficient manner. The initiative will improve environmental performance, de-risk investments in wind energy and increase the understanding of the positive impact of wind farms within communities.

In 2021, Greencoat Capital participated in workshops throughout the year and provided comprehensive environmental information to Nature+ academics. Representatives from Nature+ visited a renewable energy asset owned by Greencoat Renewables to meet and interview the operations managers whilst forming an understanding of the physical asset.

**nature+**





### 3.3 Sustainability across our operations

Greencoat Renewables calculated its first full carbon footprint this year for the 2020 reporting period. Our Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions calculations are based on the GHG protocol and are externally accredited in accordance with ISO 14064-3 standards.

**19** tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>  
Scope 1 emissions

**41** tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>  
Scope 2 emissions

**125,697** tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>  
Scope 3 emissions

Our carbon footprint project identified that the majority of our emissions fall under Scope 3. We determined that emissions from the extraction, production, and transportation of capital goods purchased or acquired by the Company have the highest impact on our carbon footprint.

In 2021, as an emissions reduction target, we upgraded our energy supply contracts to ensure that the majority of our assets in the Republic of Ireland are using 100% renewable energy in order to reduce our Scope 2 emissions.

In 2021, Greencoat Capital implemented a Net Zero Policy to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050. The commitments by our Investment Manager include reduction of aviation travel, phasing out of single-use plastics, training of staff to implement behavioural change and identification of initiatives to reduce Scope 1 and 2 emissions.

#### CASE STUDY

### Hydrogen and the HyLIGHT Project



In 2021, Greencoat Renewables became a founding member of HyLIGHT, a hydrogen research initiative. HyLIGHT is a three year project led by Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) and supported by 25 industry partners, government bodies and universities. The project will fund a new team including five PHD students, two post-doctoral posts, two research fellows and a number of masters level students.

The overall aim of HyLIGHT is to provide the knowledge, data and tools necessary to achieve cost effective decarbonisation and to create roadmaps for sustainable large scale implementation of hydrogen technologies in Ireland. All are working together to facilitate the delivery of hydrogen to all energy sectors, HyLIGHT will strive to enable sector integration of hydrogen for a zero carbon, secure and resilient energy system.



## CASE STUDY

# Sustainable turbine recycling



Wind turbines require disposal or recycling when they are decommissioned at the end of life. While an estimated 85% to 90% of wind turbine components can now be recycled, there remains a challenge in recycling wind turbine blades; a challenge that needs to be addressed to improve the sustainability of wind energy.<sup>6</sup>

Of the many end of life strategies for turbine blades, landfill has been the most common form of blade disposal in recent years, which is not a long term sustainable solution.

In 2022, we will be working with the leading technical advisor DNV to prepare a turbine recyclability study to assess opportunities to enhance the sustainability of the supply chain towards a more circular economy. This analysis will help to classify the recyclability of turbine components, such as blades, and will recommend the best available recycling methods, as well as the associated costs. This will support sustainable decommissioning of wind farms in the future.



CORDAL

<sup>6</sup> ETIPWind (2019) How wind is going circular: blade recycling. Available online at <https://etipwind.eu/files/reports/ETIPWind-How-wind-is-going-circular-blade-recycling.pdf>.



## 4 Social

### 4.1 Communities

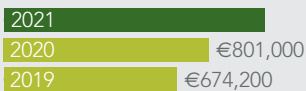
Beyond our renewable assets' economic contributions, we operate community benefit schemes to help provide financial support for local groups. When we acquire a new renewable energy asset, we assess any existing community funding arrangements and make additional funding commitments if we believe the current arrangement is inadequate.

These contributions over the years have focused on:

- Supporting education through funding new buildings, technological upgrades and prize sponsorships;
- Upgrades to athletic clubs and associations;
- Upgrades to health facilities, including the provision of defibrillators;
- Building and maintaining public amenities such as footpaths, playgrounds and parking facilities;
- Upgrades to community centres and facilities;
- Supporting local communities to become more energy efficient;
- Supporting locally active charities, such as Meals on Wheels.

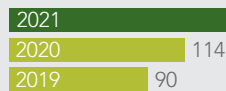
Funds invested or committed to invest:

€1,019,150



Community projects supported:

153



PASILLY



## CASE STUDY

# Helping young people build careers with university scholarship funding



Through our Cloosh Valley wind farm, part of the Galway Wind Park, we supported 14 students in 2021 through the Galway Wind Park Scholarship Fund with more than €50,000 contributed towards their education fees. The initiative is designed to help third level students who live within 15 kilometres of the wind farm with their study expenses by covering 50% of their tuition fees for a maximum of three years.

Scholarships are available annually to undergraduate and postgraduate students, both full time and part time from universities and other educational institutions across Ireland. The bursary programme supports students attending the Galway/Mayo Institute of Technology, the National University of Ireland Galway and other universities.



## CASE STUDY

# Community projects



### **Drumkeeran Youth Club**

In Leitrim, we have funded the Drumkeeran Youth Café which offers services for young people from 8-18 years of age, their families and the wider community. With 55 members, the café is a safe place for young people to hang out, meet new friends and have their voices heard. Some of the initiatives to date at the youth club have promoted healthy eating, mental health and education on climate change.

### **Ballysloe Voluntary Community Development Group**

In Tipperary, we have funded the Ballysloe Voluntary Community Development Group who have recently installed a sensory garden with an accessible community house for public gatherings. The house is built to allow access for children and adults with disabilities and for the elderly in the community. The funding received from Greencoat Renewables will allow for the installation of solar panels to provide clean electricity for the house.

### **Carnew Community Centre**

In Wicklow, we have funded the Carnew Community Care Centre for the purpose of restoring the outdoor spaces to their former glory. This will once again allow the older members of the community to enjoy the outdoors. This project is key to maintaining good mental and physical health for the elderly in the community. Government guidelines for national recovery from Covid-19 continually emphasize the importance of being outdoors when people meet up and the restoration of these areas is essential going forward.



### **Lyreacrompane National School**

In Kerry, we funded a project to establish the Lyreacrompane pre school. The intake of new starters at the local primary school had been decreasing for some time due to a lack of services at the pre school level. To access suitable pre school facilities, local families would have to travel long distances. As a consequence, many children would not return to the area to enter primary school. The Lyreacrompane pre school will act as a feeder school for Lyreacrompane National School and will ensure that the community school has a sustainable future.

### **Clonoulty Tidy Villages – Biodiversity Centre**

In Tipperary, we funded the Clonoulty Tidy Villages Biodiversity Initiative. The funds will be used for the improvement of two community biodiversity centres and towards improving groundwork material, seating and gardening equipment. The facilities are aimed at supporting the local environment, improving the overall appearance of the village, and providing local amenities for the community. This will increase awareness of biodiversity and environmental sustainability among the local community.

## CASE STUDY

# Supporting victims of sexual violence in Ireland



Greencoat Renewables once again has sponsored the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre (DRCC) as part of a three year commitment with a contribution of €12,000 per annum. The charity's dual mission is to prevent the harm of and heal the trauma of sexual violence in Ireland.

With the funding in 2021, DRCC trained enough additional people to use its webchat service to double its hours over the previous year. An online counselling programme, Moving Forward from Sexual Violence, allowed some 100 people to begin their journey towards recovery. In addition, a new interpretation service installed at the end of 2021 will allow those whose first language isn't English to access the 24-hour helpline in more than 200 languages.

Ground breaking research published by DRCC in 2021 was the first national survey on attitudes to consent. As sexual violence is characterised by non-consent, the research is a solid base to build an understanding of a topic that is not discussed, but where 70% of participants identified society's problem with the understanding of consent.



**"DRCC was honoured by the support of Greencoat Renewables in 2021. Thanks to this partnership, DRCC expanded its reach to those most isolated and traumatised through sexual abuse. Particularly in pandemic times, the support was a lifeline for those needing support or information. DRCC can do its work because Greencoat Renewables and others believe that we can have a safer, better, more equal society. That investment is truly appreciated"**

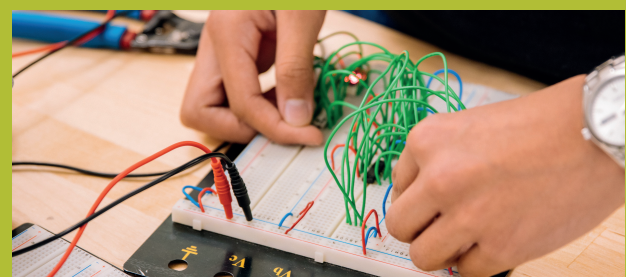
Noeline Blackwell, CEO, Dublin Rape Crisis Centre

## CASE STUDY

# Encouraging children into STEM



2021 marked the second year of our sponsorship of the Special Award for Sustainable Energy as part of the BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition. The initiative has been running in Ireland since 1963 and is designed to raise school engagement in the critical subjects of science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM). More than 1,000 students aged 12-19 years from all over Ireland took part in 2021, allowing them to showcase their innovative science and technology projects.



## 4.2 Supporting worker safety, health, and well-being

We are committed to ensuring we have safe places for people to work. Having a robust and positive approach to health and safety is crucial if we are to have an engaged and productive workforce and a resilient and responsible business.

Greencoat Capital has a specific Health, Safety and Environmental Plan in place, which is reviewed monthly by the asset management team. It allows for efficient planning, monitoring and tracking of key management pillars. The plan includes policies, safety statements, audits, monthly meetings, a Greencoat Capital Health and Safety Forum, incidents/developing trends reports, site visits, onboarding and training.

We ensure that workers at our renewable energy assets are paid fairly and have a positive working environment. Greencoat Capital's Employee Assistance Programme provides a confidential helpline and external counselling service that has been successfully adopted by one of our contractors for its employees.

Accidents can occur at wind farms if they are not managed carefully, so we take our role to manage and minimise any potential health and safety risks seriously. Having senior management fully engaged in health and safety issues is essential in nurturing a proactive safety culture. There is a nominated Health and Safety Director for each fully owned wind farm company. Our Board also reviews health and safety matters at each of its scheduled meetings.

We have strong health and safety policies/safety statements in place at each wind farm company. These are reviewed annually, and their implementation is audited externally by a specialist health and safety consultant. At the end of 2021, all our wind farm companies had health and safety policies/safety statements in place.

In 2021, our operating managers conducted health and safety audits of 23 of our wind farms. In total, there were 182 audits carried out across our portfolio during the year. Also, independent accredited professionals audited eight of our wind farms. These audits are used to support continuous improvement in health and safety outcomes on our renewable energy projects.

We monitor a set of KPIs to improve our health and safety management and performance continuously. They are reported monthly, at a minimum, directly to the asset management team, the Directors of the wind farm companies, and the Greencoat Renewables Board. We are pleased that in 2021 there were no lost time incidents at our wind farms.

0

recordable Lost Time Injuries

100%

of new assets had an independent health and safety audit undertaken

182

audits undertaken across our assets

100%

of staff have completed health and safety training

Number of assets that received independent health safety audit

8



Number of assets that had a health and safety audit by operating managers

23





## CASE STUDY

# Initiatives to improve health and safety



Greencoat Renewables and its operations managers implemented a number of initiatives in 2021 to improve worker health and safety, including:

### **Electrical safety programme**

The Greencoat Renewables electrical safety programme has been in operation since 2019. Since that time, the Company, electrical consultants, operations managers and contractors have undertaken significant work to improve electrical safety at our sites. The findings from relevant audits have been shared openly with Wind Energy Ireland and disseminated to other owners and operators of wind farms. This leadership in electrical safety has been recognised by Wind Energy Ireland, which shortlisted our Company for its 2021 Exemplary Health and Safety Performance Award.

### **Emergency evacuation exercise**

Two emergency evacuation exercises were conducted on Cordal wind farm in November 2021 to address two possible scenarios. The first scenario involved a 'casualty' who had fallen from the ladder between the yaw deck and the nacelle (the cover that houses all of the generating components in a wind turbine) and subsequently sustained a leg injury. The second involved a different 'casualty' who was suffering chest pains while working in the nacelle. The purpose of the exercises, conducted with GE and Arch safety, was to test the robustness and effectiveness of the Emergency Response Plan and evaluate the efficacy of the emergency techniques and the communications deployed by the technicians during the drills.

### **'OK Alone' lone working app**

One of our operations managers launched the 'OK Alone' app to improve the safety of operations engineers working in remote locations. It allows the operations engineer to activate their current location, status and to input time based check ins. If a check in is missed, the wider operations manager team is alerted and then tasked with reaching the person to confirm their well-being. The app also allows the user to alert the wider team (by voice command or touch of a button) of the need for immediate assistance. This triggers the escalation process, which provides the team with a step by step action plan.

### **Lifting operations working group**

To maintain best practice in health, safety, and risk management, we completed a risk assessment in January 2021 which highlighted lifting operations as a key area of risk. This risk was shared at a Health and Safety Committee meeting of Wind Energy Ireland. The members, which include owners, operators, wind turbine and lifting contractors, all agreed that this was a key risk for the industry.

The discussion resulted in the foundation of the first Lifting Operations Working Group. The group met regularly over the course of 2021 to discuss the issue, resulting in the development of a draft best practice document for lifting operations. This draft document was trialled at a number of wind farms in 2021, with a target of six wind farms in 2022. The findings from this trial will inform a final best practice document to be completed in 2022.



**WIND ENERGY IRELAND**

**IRISH WIND INDUSTRY AWARDS 2021**

[www.windenergyireland.com](http://www.windenergyireland.com)

Main Sponsor 

**IRISH WIND INDUSTRY AWARDS 2021**

Congratulations to

**Greencoat Renewables**

who have been shortlisted in the category

**Exemplary Health and Safety Performance Award**

**Sponsored by RWE Renewables Ireland**

## 5 Governance

**By having a strong and robust governance framework, we can ensure the long term success of the business and protect the interests of shareholders and all stakeholders.**

### 5.1 Business ethics

We understand that the trust and confidence we earn from our shareholders and other stakeholders plays a fundamental role in our success. We are a member of the UK Association of Investment Companies, and we apply its Code of Corporate Governance to ensure best practice.

Greencoat Capital adopts a zero tolerance approach to bribery and corruption and ensures that the businesses it manages adhere to rigorous policies and procedures. Greencoat Capital operates a Whistleblowing Policy and

implements necessary mechanisms to enable escalation of any concerns of malpractice.

All Greencoat Capital employees are required to complete anti bribery and corruption and anti money laundering training. Employees must attend annual compliance refresher training which incorporates all aspects of compliance law as well as Greencoat Capital's policies and procedures, including market abuse, financial promotions, client money and assets, conflicts of interest and General Data Protection Regulation.

### 5.2 Expectations and requirements of companies and service providers

We set clear expectations of all wind farm companies as part of our ESG Policy. These specify requirements to ensure effective governance across all ESG areas. This includes:

- At least one Greencoat Capital representative sits on the Board of every wind farm company in which we have an interest, to monitor and influence financial, technical and ESG performance;
- Wind farm companies must carry out appropriate due diligence to ensure any newly engaged major service providers are reputable and responsible; and
- All wind farm companies must comply with and implement equivalent policies on anti bribery and corruption, anti money laundering, or conflicts of interest to those held by Greencoat Capital.

We carry out due diligence of all our major service providers and counterparties, to check that they have the correct

policies in place. Where these do not exist, we ask that providers agree to our Code of Conduct Side Letter, which requires equivalent compliance to such laws and regulations. In 2021, 100% of operations managers had the appropriate policies in place to cover a range of ESG matters.

#### Human rights and modern slavery

We released our Modern Slavery Statement in September 2021. We use our understanding of modern slavery risks and our ESG Policy to make informed decisions about new acquisitions and new contracts with major service providers. We require all new major service providers to sign up to the Greencoat Capital Code of Conduct Side Letter, which specifically includes clauses related to modern slavery and health and safety.

**100%** of assets

have implemented internal controls/audit system/board level oversight, and relevant ESG policies

**100%** of assets

acquired in the past year have had relevant ESG assessment as part of their due diligence and investment decision

#### Enhancing supply chain due diligence

This past year, Greencoat Capital partnered with a sustainability consultant to develop a more comprehensive understanding of ESG risks in the supply chain, including quantifying, responding to and influencing supply chain transparency and performance. Through this work, Greencoat Capital developed a policy and supporting framework to help navigate emerging risks.

Using this supply chain due diligence framework, Greencoat Renewables implemented a new approach to assessing the supply chain credentials of a project in the acquisition process. This was incorporated into our first forward sale

transaction for a solar power project in Spain. During the acquisition process, we worked hard to enhance our due diligence process to go as far as reasonably possible to encourage our transaction counterparties to audit and improve the ESG credentials of their supply chains.

We also showcased enhanced due diligence in our Killala Battery project (see page 19) whereby two competent consultants carried out audits into the traceability and transparency of the procurement process. No critical risks were identified from the audit.

## 5.3 Enhancing our cyber resilience

We take our data and systems confidentiality, data integrity and information security very seriously and aim to embed security at all stages of the technology life cycle. We take a comprehensive and consistent approach to the management of information across the Company, to minimise both the likelihood and severity of any potential information security incidents.

Cyber attacks continue to pose a risk to the effective operation of our wind farms. The Greencoat Capital team has continued raising awareness, conducting vulnerability and penetration testing and ongoing monitoring, and enhancing incident response procedures, where necessary. Our IT governance is overseen by the Greencoat Capital IT Steering Committee which comprises two of the

firm's partners, the head of IT and three representatives of the business units. Greencoat Capital's IT Security Policy and a Data Privacy and Protection Policy undergo an annual review by Greencoat Capital's Managed Service Provider. They were revised and updated in 2021.

In 2021, an IT security audit included a network penetration test to assess the overall security posture of our wind farms and identify any vulnerabilities present. The test was designed to mimic that of a threat actor and the access they could potentially obtain. While no critical risks have been identified, feedback, including recommendations and next steps were outlined to support a stronger security posture.

**24** assets  
have undergone a cyber security vulnerability and penetration test

**5** assets  
carried out additional activities to improve cybersecurity.

### CASE STUDY

## Innovation for a renewable powered future



In 2021, we made our first investment in a battery storage facility which is located at our Killala wind farm in County Mayo, Ireland. The 11MW battery which will be operational in 2022 will help deliver greater resilience and stability to the Irish electric grid. It will also support a demand shift away from peak times, facilitate a leaner and more optimised grid and prevent unnecessary grid build out.

The project has provided employment at both local and national levels. The lead contractor, an Irish company, sourced a project team living near the project. The project was completed with an estimated 8,280 hours worked in total across 27 companies. Nine audits were completed on site with zero incidents and only one near miss recorded.

As this was the first construction project for Greencoat Renewables, a significant focus has been placed on determining the ESG credentials of the major suppliers' equipment supply chains. Audits were carried out to examine the traceability and transparency of equipment procurement with positive feedback received.



KILLALA



## 6 Looking forward

The need to transition to a net zero economy has never been more urgent. Many countries in Europe will scale up their efforts to meet this challenge. This will be supported by new legislative and funding frameworks, including the European Sustainable Finance Framework, providing much needed clarity for investors.

This evolving market presents significant opportunities for Greencoat Renewables PLC to expand our portfolio further and play an even greater role in the realisation of Ireland's and the EU's renewable energy targets and the wider net zero transition. We will continue to monitor the regulatory landscape and broaden our understanding of the impacts of incoming regulation on our business as governments seek to scale decarbonisation.

With this more intense focus on decarbonisation plans and the development of credible net zero commitments, comes increased scrutiny from institutional investors and other stakeholders. They are seeking more information on how businesses are performing and holding themselves accountable to ESG factors. Enhanced reporting and disclosure of our activities and their impacts will remain a key priority to increase transparency for shareholders and other stakeholders. We will continue to implement measures to align with SFDR, TCFD, further develop our CDP submission for the 2021 reporting year and continue our reporting of emissions under the GHG Protocol.

Acknowledging the importance of stakeholder engagement in effective ESG management, we commit to further engage with our service providers from our supply chain, our local communities, environmental stakeholders and other professionals who have an important role to play in our ESG activities.

We look forward to the outcomes of our forthcoming turbine recyclability study, which will assess opportunities to enhance sustainability of the supply chain towards a more circular economy. The recyclability of turbine components is one of the most challenging impacts associated with the wind energy lifecycle, as we strive to lower the environmental impacts of wind energy significantly over time.

We will continue to embrace responsible investment practices, including ensuring that workers on our sites and in our supply chain remain safe. We will develop the next steps in our Modern Slavery and Human Rights statement, and we will also implement key components of the next iteration of our Health, Safety and Environment Plan.

With our growth in 2021, we have gained significant momentum which we plan to sustain in the years to come. We have the ambition to continue to increase our renewable energy generation portfolio, and the new developments contained within this report will create strong opportunities for our business to do so.

GLENCARBRY



## 7 Appendix

---

### KPIs

- 25 renewable energy assets in operation
- 800MW of installed capacity
- 1,522GWh of renewable energy generated
- 347,630 homes (equivalent) powered by clean energy
- 608,856 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> savings
- €1,019,150 invested in community funds or social projects
- 153 community projects supported
- 100% of assets where there is an environmental obligation have a habitat management plan in place
- 19 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> Scope 1 emissions
- 41 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> Scope 2 emissions
- 125,697 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> Scope 3 emissions
- 0 reportable environmental incidents
- 9 assets have habitat management plans in response to environmental obligations
- 100% of assets have implemented internal controls/audit system/board level oversight, and relevant ESG policies
- 100% of assets acquired in the past year have had relevant ESG assessment as part of their due diligence and investment decision
- 24 assets have undergone a cyber security vulnerability and penetration test
- 5 assets have carried out additional cyber security enhancing activities
- 0 recordable Lost Time Injuries
- 100% of new assets had an independent health and safety audit undertaken
- 23 assets had a health and safety audit by operating managers
- 100% of staff have completed health and safety training

## 8 Disclaimer

---

Disclaimer: This Report (the “Report”) has been prepared and issued by Greencoat Renewables PLC (the “Company” or “Greencoat Renewables”). Whilst this Report has been prepared in good faith, the information contained in it has not been independently verified and does not purport to be comprehensive. Subject to their legal and regulatory obligations, the Company and Greencoat Capital LLP (the “Investment Manager”) and each of their respective officers, employees, agents and representatives expressly disclaim any and all liability for the contents of, or omissions from, this Report, or any obligation to provide any additional information or to update this Report or to correct any inaccuracies that become apparent, and for any other written or oral communication transmitted or made available to the recipient or any of their officers, employees, agents or representatives.

This Report may include statements that are, or may be deemed to be, “forward-looking statements”. These forward-looking statements can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology, including the terms “believes”, “estimates”, “anticipates”, “expects”, “intends”, “may”, “plans”, “projects”, “will”, “explore” or “should” or, in each case, their negative or other variations or comparable terminology or by discussions of strategy, plans, objectives, goals, future events or intentions. These forward-looking statements include all matters that are not historical facts. They may appear in a number of places throughout this Report and may include, but are not limited to, statements regarding the intentions, beliefs or current expectations of the Company, the Directors and/or the Investment Manager concerning, amongst other things, the investment objectives and investment policy, environmental, social and governance issues, financing strategies, investment performance, results of operations, financial condition, liquidity, prospects, and distribution policy of the Company and the markets in which it invests.

This Report does not constitute or form part of, and should not be construed as, an offer, invitation or inducement to purchase or subscribe for any securities of the Company nor shall it or any part of it form the basis of, or be relied upon in connection with, any contract or investment decision relating to such securities, nor does it constitute a recommendation regarding the securities of the Company. It is not marketing material.

Visit [www.greencoat-renewables.com](http://www.greencoat-renewables.com) or call +44 (0)20 7832 9400 for more information. The Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) is the competent authority of Greencoat Capital LLP.





For further information or  
feedback, please get in touch:

**Greencoat Renewables PLC**

Second Floor  
51A Dawson Street  
Dublin 2  
D02 TV77  
Republic of Ireland

[www.greencoat-renewables.com](http://www.greencoat-renewables.com)