

## Energy Balance



### Summary

Galway is one of the five major cities in Ireland and has been proactive in the fields of energy efficiency and renewables for many years. Galway Energy Agency Ltd (GEAL) was established in 1997 and is responsible for driving and implementing energy policy within Galway City and the County. GEAL carried out an energy balance to provide energy use information suitable for devising the Galway Climate Change Strategy (or energy plan) issued in 2002.

### Description

The Galway energy balance considers all aspects of energy consumption including fossil fuels, renewables and carbon dioxide emissions. All sectors including domestic, industrial, commercial, retail, public, private and transport are considered within the balance. Further, estimations of energy consumption were forecast for 2010. Breakdowns within the balance closely mirror those of the National Climate Change Strategy that was being carried out at the same time.

### Objectives / Achievements

One of the main objectives of the balance was to provide good information that could be used to devise a realistic Climate Change Strategy. The balance allowed areas that required improvement to be identified while providing the necessary information required to assess the most cost effective areas for action.

In Ireland, the information required to carry out an energy balance is very difficult to obtain. Data on a national level is compiled but at regional and city levels the data is scarce and retained by many different organisations. As a result only a very small number of energy balances have been carried out at a regional or lower level. However, Galway were prepared to dedicate the time, finance and effort required to compile the energy balance as it was felt that the information it would provide was worthwhile in devising a comprehensive Climate Change Strategy.

The Galway Energy Balance can be considered an exemplary study within Ireland vastly exceeding the average situation in this respect.

### Galway City in facts and figures

Region: Connacht (West)  
Population: 71,983

### eea® in Galway City Council

Programme entry: April 2006  
Last Audit Date: NA  
Overall Score: NA  
Possible points: NA  
Achieved points: NA

### Classification of the measure

Information  
Energy Balance  
Planning

### Date of Implementation

Completed 2002

### Contact person

Name: Peter Keavney  
(Galway Energy Agency Ltd)  
Address: City Hall  
College Road  
Galway City  
Co. Galway  
Phone: +353 (0)91 566954  
Web: <http://www.galwaycity.ie>  
Email: [pkeavney\[at\]galwaycity.ie](mailto:pkeavney[at]galwaycity.ie)

### eea Audit

Galway are currently completing the stages required prior to audit. Galway city aim to achieve eea Award status during 2007.