

# CROKE PARK **SUSTAINABILITY** **REPORT** 2025

***‘WINNING THE  
BREAKING BALL’***









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# INTRODUCTION

## WINNING THE BREAKING BALL

In the heat of a game at Croke Park, there is no moment more critical than the breaking ball. It is that unpredictable second when possession is up for grabs, a chaotic scramble where skill meets grit. Winning that ball requires more than just speed; it requires the agility to read the field, the foresight to be in the right position, and the determination to secure the future of the play.

As we look back on 2025, we see the global climate crisis as our “breaking ball.” It is a moment of profound uncertainty, but also one of immense opportunity. For Croke Park Stadium, tackling this challenge isn’t just about playing defence; it’s about taking possession and leading the field.

### **AGILITY IN ACTION:**

This year, we demonstrated our ability to pivot and innovate. We completed a landmark €2 million LED floodlighting upgrade, which debuted in September 2025. This state-of-the-art system doesn’t just improve the experience for players and fans; it drastically reduces our energy consumption, ensuring our pitch is as efficient as it is iconic.

### **A TEAM EFFORT:**

No one wins a breaking ball alone. Even the cleanest breaking ball is shaped by the team around it. Our success in 2025 was driven by our community and partners. From our 50-Mile Menu, which sources 70% of ingredients from within a 50-mile radius (including our own farm), to reducing and eliminating waste at source, every win is a shared one.

This report, “Winning the Breaking Ball,” is our 2025 sustainability playbook. It outlines how we secured possession of our environmental goals this year and how we intend to stay ahead of the game for the seasons to come.





WELCOME TO  
CROKE PARK

*Let's Make This Brilliant!*

#crokeparkLMTB

CROKE PARK  
MEETINGS  
& EVENTS

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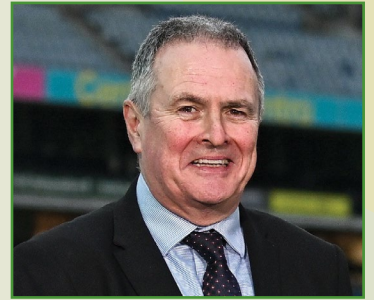
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# STADIUM DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT



Sustainability has long been central to Croke Park Stadium's identity and to our future success. As the fourth-largest stadium in Europe, and as a venue that welcomes more than 1.5 million people each year for local, regional, national, and international events, we hold a unique position of influence. With this scale comes a responsibility to lead by example, to show what is possible when a major venue embraces sustainability not as an obligation, but as a catalyst for innovation, resilience, and long-term growth.

Our sustainability journey began in 2008, well ahead of many in our sector. Since then, we have made significant strides, embedding sustainability into how we operate, plan, and collaborate. Yet we know the journey is far from complete. The challenges we face, from climate change to resource scarcity, require continued ambition, transparency, and action. Our commitment must not only deliver meaningful reductions in our own environmental footprint but also inspire the millions who pass through our doors each year to play their part.

Our long-term vision is clear: to ensure Croke Park Stadium remains a world-class venue that thrives in a low-carbon, climate-resilient future. Sustainability is fully aligned with our overall strategy and guides decisions across energy, water, waste, biodiversity, food systems, transport, employee wellbeing, supplier management, and community engagement. In 2025, we formally secured SBTi approval for our carbon reduction targets, a framework we see as the gold standard. Aligning with the Science Based Targets initiative ensures our climate ambitions meet global expectations and contribute meaningfully to the collective effort to limit warming.

During this reporting period, we continued to advance our carbon reduction programme, strengthened circularity across operations, and deepened partnerships that expand our impact beyond the stadium walls. Alongside our environmental priorities, we have broadened our focus on the social dimension of sustainability, recognising the role the stadium plays within the wider community. We have elevated our approach to sustainable food and beverage, acknowledging its importance not only for environmental performance but also for community wellbeing and local economic resilience. Through responsible and transparent sourcing, prioritising local and Irish suppliers, and actively engaging with producers and partners, we are shortening supply chains, supporting local livelihoods, and embedding sustainability into everyday visitor experiences. In doing so, we aim to demonstrate how large-scale venues can deliver high-quality food while reducing environmental impact and strengthening connections with the communities we serve.

Looking ahead, our priorities include accelerating progress toward our SBTi-aligned targets, expanding renewable energy solutions, advancing circular waste systems, and continuing to enhance biodiversity across our campus. We will also deepen our engagement with suppliers, partners, and the wider community, because achieving lasting change requires collaboration at every level.

Most importantly, we want every visitor to experience Croke Park as a stadium that cares deeply about its environment and its people. With the ability to connect with so many hearts and minds, we have an enormous opportunity to influence behaviour, spark conversations, and inspire climate action far beyond our gates.

Our sustainability journey is one of continuous improvement. We are proud of how far we have come since 2008, and we remain steadfast in our commitment to building a stadium, and a future, that is more sustainable, more resilient, and more inspiring for generations to come.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading 'Peadar Mac Cionnaith'.

**Peadar Mac Cionnaith**  
**Stadium Director - Páirc an Chrócaigh**





# SUSTAINABILITY MANAGER'S FOREWORD



Croke Park is more than a stadium; it is the centre of Irish sport, culture, and community. Serving as the stadium's Sustainability Manager is a privilege, allowing me to turn the stadium's heritage and values into practical actions that continue to benefit both people and the environment.

Over the past year, we have made measurable progress across energy, water, waste and circular economy, travel and transport, biodiversity, and community. While total energy use has risen slightly due to additional equipment, services, increased hospitality business, and higher matchday activity, energy efficiency per visitor and per event has improved, thanks to LED lighting upgrades, enhanced heating and cooling systems, and smarter building controls. In water management, a 10% reduction in usage was achieved following the launch of our water harvesting system in late 2024, showing that operational growth can go hand in hand with sustainable resource management.

Waste and circular economy initiatives continue to strengthen, from avoiding unnecessary materials to improving recycling and reusing resources. Travel, biodiversity, and community engagement remain central to our approach, ensuring sustainability is holistic, measurable, and aligned with the values that make Croke Park Stadium a source of pride for Irish sport.

In 2025, we developed a decarbonisation roadmap aligned with our approved SBTi targets, guiding emissions reductions across all scopes. We are actively exploring renewable energy solutions, including Solar PV, heat pump technology, and battery storage. While implementing these projects can be complex, we are committed to testing feasibility, accelerating progress, and pushing boundaries in working towards our decarbonisation goals.

Looking ahead, our SBTi-approved targets commit us to reducing absolute Scope 1 and 2 emissions by 50.4% by 2032 and 90% by 2050, and Scope 3 emissions by 30% by 2032 and 90% by 2050, all relative to a 2022 base year. Achieving Scope 3 targets, which largely sit outside our direct control, will rely on close collaboration with visitors, partners, suppliers, and government bodies to influence travel choices, supply chain practices, and wider operational impacts.

As the GAA's largest asset, Croke Park Stadium has a vital role to play in advancing sustainability across Irish sport. Our initiatives support and work in parallel with the GAA's wider sustainability strategy, ensuring that the lessons we learn and the progress we make contribute to broader efforts across the Association. Through our operational leadership, we aim to inspire other venues within the GAA and across Ireland to embrace sustainability and drive positive environmental and social impact.

Sustainability at Croke Park Stadium is operational, measurable, and embedded in everything we do. By building on successes, improving efficiency, embedding circular practices, advancing renewable energy, enhancing biodiversity, and strengthening community engagement, we are confident in our roadmap. While the challenges are significant, we are hugely positive about how we will achieve our goals and the lasting impact they will deliver.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Colin O'Brien'. The signature is stylized and fluid.

**Colin O'Brien**  
**Sustainability Manager – Páirc an Chrócaigh**



# CROKE PARK STADIUM'S 2025 KEY HIGHLIGHTS

## CLIMATE & ENERGY HIGHLIGHTS

- **€2m Floodlight Upgrade – Improving Energy Efficiency by over 50%**  
A €2 million investment in floodlight upgrades delivered significant energy efficiency improvements, reducing electricity demand while enhancing lighting performance and reliability for events.
- **Switched from Diesel to HVO – 90% Emission Reduction**  
The transition from diesel to Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) for generators resulted in up to a 90% reduction in carbon emissions, significantly lowering the stadium's operational carbon footprint.
- **EV Charging Stations**  
Eight electric vehicle charging stations went live, supporting low-carbon transport options for staff and visitors and encouraging a shift to sustainable travel.
- **SBTi Approved Targets**  
Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) approval was achieved for both near-term and long-term emissions reduction targets, aligning the stadium's climate commitments with global best practice.
- **100% Green Electricity Procured**  
All electricity consumed on site is now sourced from certified renewable energy, ensuring operations are powered by 100% green electricity.
- **Decarbonisation Roadmap 2022–2050**  
A comprehensive decarbonisation roadmap was launched, outlining a clear pathway to net-zero emissions between 2022 and 2050 through phased actions and investment.



SCIENCE  
BASED  
TARGETS

DRIVING AMBITIOUS CORPORATE CLIMATE ACTION



## RESOURCE USE SAVINGS HIGHLIGHTS

- **Waste Reduction Performance**  
Overall waste decreased by 8%, food waste was reduced by 24%, and single-use plastic waste fell by 50%, driven by improved segregation, procurement changes, and waste prevention initiatives.
- **10% Water Reduction**  
A 10% reduction in water consumption was achieved compared to the previous year, through water harvesting, improved monitoring, efficiency upgrades, and increased awareness across operations, supporting responsible water stewardship.
- **2GoCup Launched in GAA Museum**  
The 2GoCup reusable coffee cup system was launched in the GAA Museum, reducing single-use cup waste and promoting reuse among visitors.
- **Re-turn Scheme**  
A total of 258,000 containers were recycled through the Re-turn deposit scheme.

## COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Community Fund Spend of €100k**  
€100,000 was invested through the stadium's community fund, supporting local initiatives, social projects, and positive community impact.
- **Re-turn Scheme**  
€38,000 was donated to the Re-turn for Children charities.
- **Community Clean Up Team**  
In 2025, a new community clean-up initiative was launched, bringing local residents together with Dublin City Council to tidy streets around the stadium after events. This partnership helps reduce disruption, protect the local environment and keep the area clean and welcoming for neighbours.

## SUSTAINABILITY GOVERNANCE HIGHLIGHTS

- **2 'Green Awards' Won**  
The stadium received two Green Awards, including recognition in Green Tourism & Entertainment and Green Medium-Sized Organisation of the Year, acknowledging leadership in sustainable operations.
- **3 'Business Energy Achievement Awards' Won**  
Three Business Energy Achievement Awards were secured for Best Energy Management Team, Best Energy Achievement in Tourism & Entertainment, and the Overall Energy Achievement Award, highlighting excellence in energy performance.
- **ISO Certifications Renewed**  
Four ISO certifications were successfully renewed, demonstrating continued compliance with international standards across environmental, energy, sustainable events, and health and safety management.



## BUSINESS OVERVIEW

Croke Park is Ireland's largest stadium and one of the largest in Europe, with a capacity of 82,300, and serves as the headquarters of the Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA). As the home of Gaelic Games, the stadium occupies a unique position in Ireland's sporting, cultural and community landscape. More than a sporting venue, Croke Park Stadium is a national landmark that hosts major concerts, conferences and cultural events, and is home to the GAA Museum, Stadium Tours and Kellogg's Skyline Tour, offering visitors insights into Irish sport, history and heritage.

The stadium holds UEFA and FIFA certification and has hosted numerous high-profile international sporting, cultural and music events in addition to its core Gaelic Games calendar. The wider Croke Park Stadium campus includes the Croke Park Meetings & Events Centre, supporting a year-round programme of business tourism, conferences and corporate events. Located in Dublin, a city renowned for its hospitality and "Céad Míle Fáilte", Croke Park Stadium aims to deliver a welcoming, safe and high-quality experience for all visitors.

### OUR BUSINESS

Croke Park Stadium operates under a diversified and resilient business model in its role as Ireland's premier sporting venue with a broad portfolio of commercial, cultural and community activities. While the staging of GAA fixtures remains central to its purpose, operations extend to hosting major live events, conferences and meetings, tours and museum experiences, premium hospitality offerings, and community and civic activities. This model supports the long-term financial sustainability of the stadium while reinforcing its social and cultural role.

The main services provided by Croke Park Stadium include the delivery of sporting and music events, supported by venue hire, catering and hospitality, retail and merchandise, media and broadcast services, advertising and sponsorship, tours and experiential offerings, and a range of operational support services. In addition, Croke Park delivers community, cultural and social value initiatives that reflect its role as a national institution and central hub for sport, entertainment and civic life.

The delivery of these activities depends on a wide and interconnected ecosystem of stakeholders. This includes food and beverage suppliers, event production and hosting partners, media and broadcast organisations, advertising and sponsorship partners, and a large cohort of temporary and contract staff who support event-day operations. Strong collaboration across this network is essential to maintaining operational excellence, delivering safe and high-quality events, enhancing the visitor experience, and supporting responsible and sustainable procurement practices.

Croke Park Stadium's primary markets comprise sports and entertainment organisers, corporate and commercial clients, spectators and fans, hospitality and premium customers, retail and merchandising customers, community and public sector partners, and event and service contractors. Through tailored offerings, including premium experiences, digital and broadcast services, and bespoke corporate events, the stadium seeks to meet the diverse needs of these markets.

While Croke Park Stadium primarily serves domestic visitors and Irish corporates, it also hosts events in partnership with international organisations, such as the NFL, and attracts visitors from across the globe. These international partnerships enhance the stadium's global profile, diversify the events calendar and contribute to the long-term resilience of the business. As the home of the GAA, Croke Park Stadium's longstanding partnership with Gaelic Games is a cornerstone of its business model. This relationship underpins the sporting calendar, reinforces the stadium's cultural and community significance, and aligns commercial activities with the wider objectives of the Association, including participation, inclusion and the long-term development of Gaelic Games nationwide.



## Croke Park - An Overview of Our Business

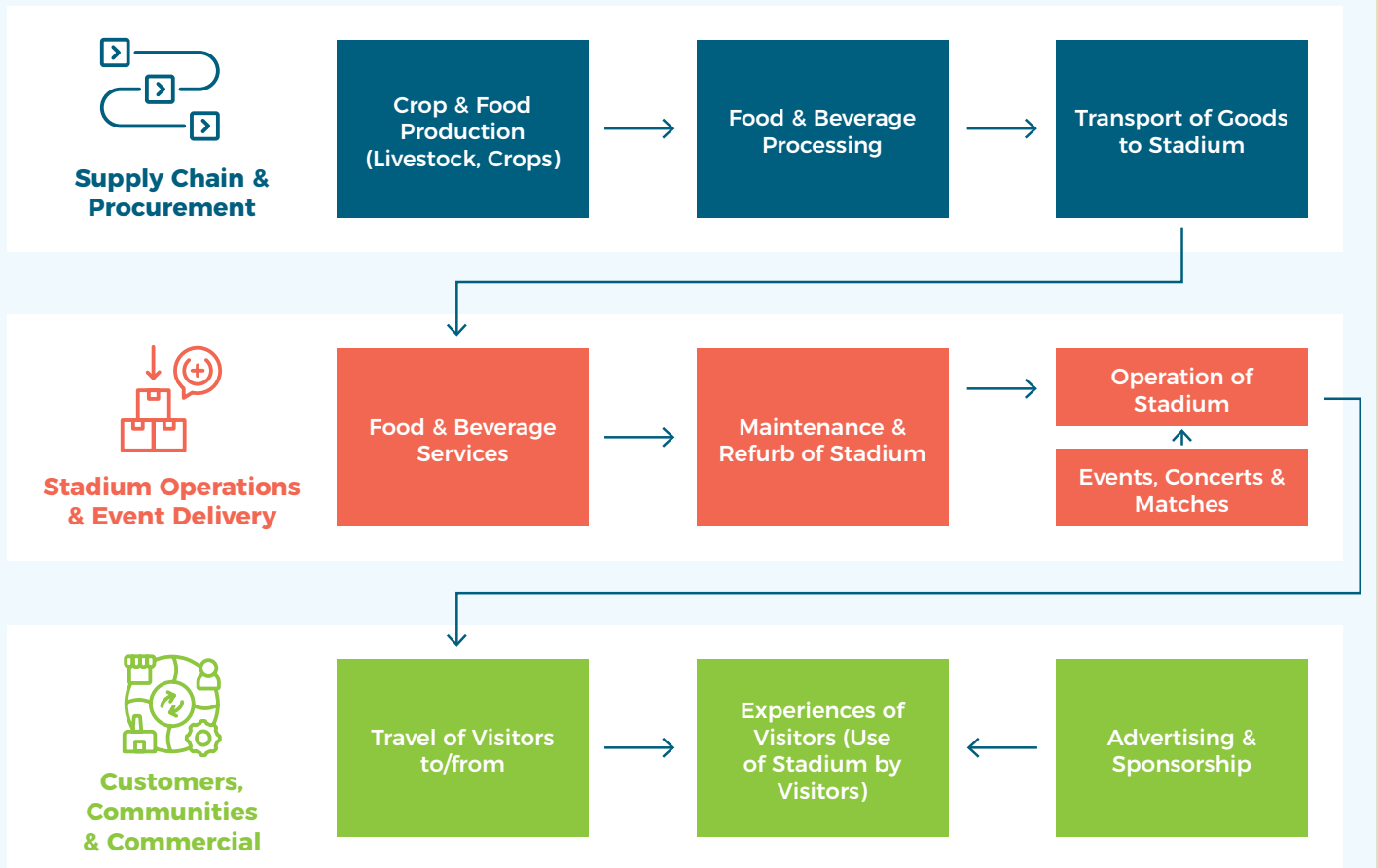


Figure 1: Croke Park Stadium Business Model Map











# CROKE PARK STADIUM'S APPROACH TO SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability at Croke Park Stadium is guided by our commitment to environmental stewardship, social responsibility, and operational excellence, reflecting the values that underpin both the stadium and the broader GAA community. These values are embedded in everyday business activities through practical actions such as reducing energy and water use, managing waste and circular resources, supporting biodiversity, promoting sustainable travel, and engaging with the local community.

Our approach to sustainability is integrated into Croke Park Stadium's wider business strategy and overall value proposition, ensuring that operational efficiency, visitor experience, and long-term asset management go hand in hand with environmental and social responsibility. Sustainability considerations are embedded in decision-making across the stadium, from procurement and operations to event planning and community initiatives. This ensures that every operational choice contributes to both environmental impact reduction and the broader experience we provide to visitors.

Croke Park Stadium's sustainability framework is structured around six core focus areas:

1. Energy and carbon management – improving energy efficiency, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and exploring renewable energy opportunities such as Solar PV, heat pumps, and battery storage.
2. Water management – reducing consumption and implementing water-saving technologies, including a water harvesting system.
3. Waste reduction and circular economy – avoiding unnecessary materials, improving recycling, and promoting reuse wherever possible.
4. Travel and transport – encouraging sustainable travel choices for visitors, staff, and partners.
5. Biodiversity and natural environment – protecting and enhancing the habitats and green spaces around the stadium.
6. Community and social impact – engaging with staff, visitors, and local communities to promote inclusivity, education, and shared responsibility for sustainability.

Our approach is aligned with global sustainability frameworks, including the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Croke Park Stadium has the greatest impact on the following SDGs, which directly connect to our key focus areas:

**SDG 7 – Affordable and Clean Energy: Through energy efficiency initiatives and exploration of renewable energy projects.**

**SDG 12 – Responsible Consumption and Production: By managing waste, promoting the circular economy, and reducing resource use.**

**7 AFFORDABLE AND  
CLEAN ENERGY**



**12 RESPONSIBLE  
CONSUMPTION  
AND PRODUCTION**





**SDG 13 – Climate Action:** Through carbon reduction targets, the decarbonisation roadmap, and Scope 1, 2, and 3 emission reductions.



**SDG 15 – Life on Land:** By protecting and enhancing biodiversity and green spaces around the stadium.



**SDG 11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities:** Through community engagement, sustainable travel initiatives, and making the stadium an inclusive, resilient, and environmentally responsible space.



**SDG 3 – Good Health and Wellbeing:** By providing a safe and inclusive environment, promoting physical activity through sport, supporting employee wellbeing, and managing environmental factors such as air quality, noise and crowd safety.



By embedding these principles into daily operations, Croke Park Stadium ensures that sustainability is practical, measurable, and aligned with both the stadium's operational priorities and the wider GAA sustainability strategy. This framework enables the stadium to lead by example, demonstrate best practice for other venues, and contribute positively to Ireland's sporting, environmental, and social landscape.

## SUSTAINABILITY GOVERNANCE AT CROKE PARK STADIUM

Croke Park Stadium's commitment to sustainability stems from strong governance and recognition that sustainability is fundamental to our operations, visitor experience, and long-term value as the GAA's largest asset. Embedding sustainability across decision-making ensures that environmental, social, and governance considerations are integrated into every aspect of stadium management.

### Oversight and Accountability

Sustainability at Croke Park Stadium is overseen at the highest level by the stadium Board of Directors, which regularly reviews progress against the stadium's sustainability strategy, decarbonisation roadmap, and key operational targets. The Board ensures that sustainability objectives are fully aligned with Croke Park Stadium's broader business strategy, risk management framework, and the GAA's wider sustainability commitments.

The Stadium Director holds overall accountability for embedding sustainability across the organisation, ensuring that environmental, social, and governance considerations are factored into strategic decisions, investments, and day-to-day operations. Supporting the Stadium Director, the Head of Operations & Projects plays a pivotal role in translating sustainability strategy into operational practice, overseeing key functions, and providing leadership to ensure that sustainability is integrated across all departments.

The Sustainability Manager reports to the Head of Operations & Projects and is responsible for implementing sustainability initiatives across stadium functions, including energy, water, and waste management, biodiversity, and community engagement. This role monitors progress, reports on performance metrics, and coordinates sustainability projects with internal teams and external partners.

Cross-functional oversight is further supported by the Environmental, Sustainability, and Safety Management Group (ESSMG) and the stadium Green Team, which meet regularly to review operational progress, identify risks and opportunities, and ensure sustainability initiatives are embedded across stadium operations. Membership spans facilities management, operations, hospitality, events, catering, and community teams, providing a holistic perspective on sustainability performance.

The outcomes of this governance structure include:

- Clear alignment between strategic objectives and operational sustainability initiatives.
- Regular reporting of key performance indicators, such as energy efficiency, water reduction, waste reduction, and carbon emissions.
- Oversight of compliance with SBTi-approved targets and progress against the decarbonisation roadmap.
- Integration of sustainability considerations into procurement, supplier engagement, and event management processes.
- Facilitation of collaboration with external stakeholders, including the GAA, government bodies, and the local community.

### Sustainability Governance Structure





## Our Approach to Effective Governance

Our approach to effective governance is centred around our Leadership and Commitment Policy, which outlines our approach to ethical business conduct and includes topics such as integrity, transparency, and accountability in all operations. Our Grievance Procedure ensures that employees and suppliers have the opportunity to confidentially report any concerns or complaints, and that these are handled in an orderly and fair manner.

Croke Park Stadium is ISO 20121, ISO 14001, ISO 45001, and ISO 50001 certified, meaning it operates internationally recognised management systems for sustainable event management, environmental management, occupational health and safety, and energy management, respectively. These systems include processes such as documentation control, risk management, and sustainability issue identification, supporting the governance of all our operations and ensuring sustainability considerations are embedded throughout the stadium.

## DOUBLE MATERIALITY ASSESSMENT

In 2025, Croke Park Stadium carried out its first Double Materiality Assessment (DMA). This assessment identified the sustainability topics – and their related impacts, risks and opportunities – that matter most to our business, value chain and stakeholders. It has helped us to understand the impacts Croke Park Stadium has on the environment and society, as well as better understanding the risks and opportunities the environment and society present to Croke Park Stadium’s business activities.

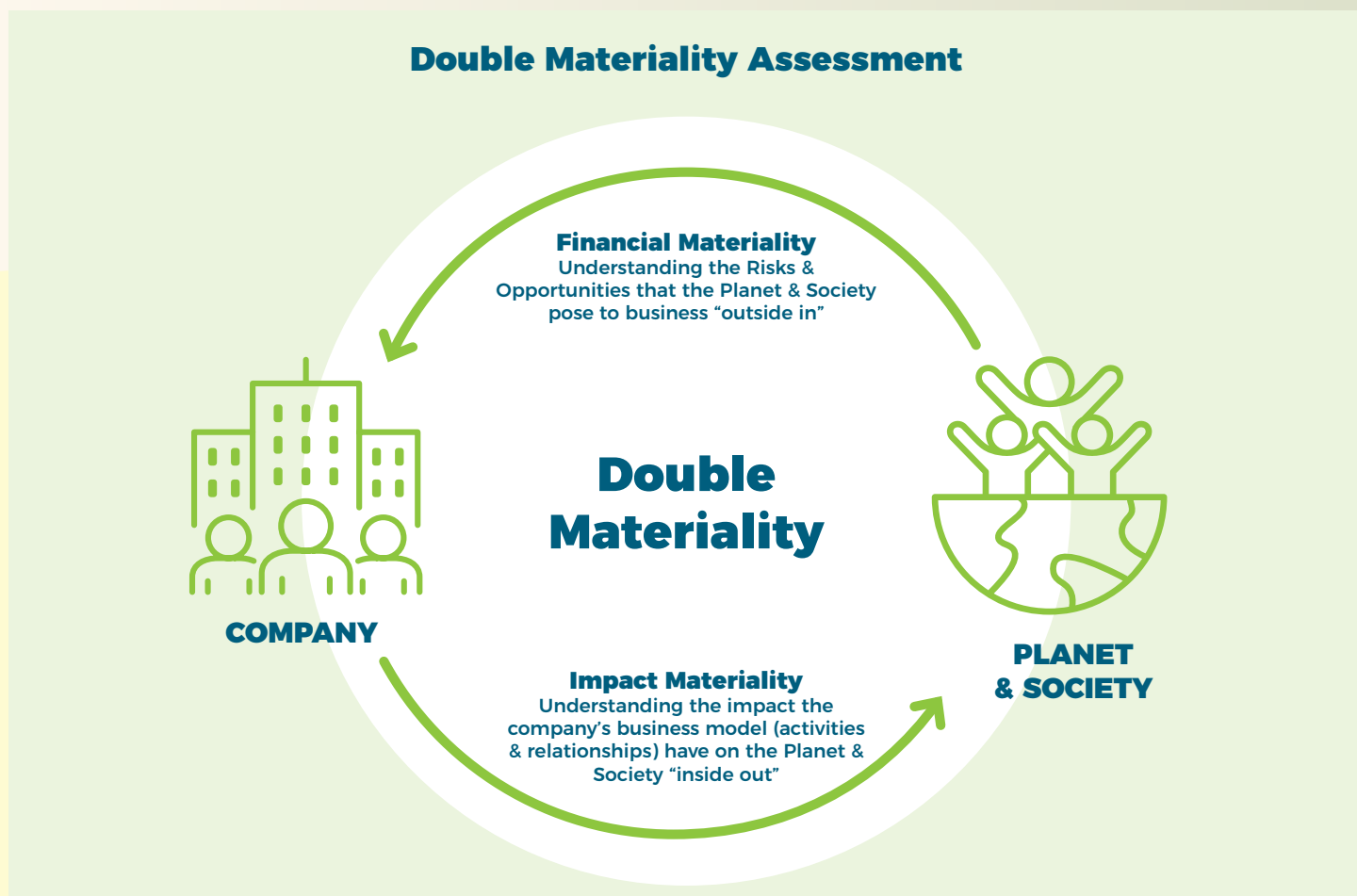


Figure 2: Double Materiality Assessment

### Methodology of the Materiality Assessment

To complete the DMA, we used a rigorous approach involving stakeholder surveys and global best-practice tools to identify our material topics. Our five-step process is fully aligned with the European Sustainability Reporting Standards (ESRS), as per the requirements of the original Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive.

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Business Scope and Context      | We mapped our business model and entire value chain, including the stakeholders linked to each of our business activities.  |
| Identification of Topics        | Using global best practice tools and peer research, we screened the list of sustainability topics provided by the ESRS to identify preliminary impacts, risks and opportunities associated with our business and our stakeholders. This allowed us to formulate a long list of topics that could potentially be deemed material.  |
| Stakeholder Engagement          | We identified the stakeholders that are key to our business and engaged with them through a survey process to understand their views on Croke Park Stadium's sustainability issues. Where we did not have a relationship with certain affected stakeholders, we considered their views using credible proxies (such as representative bodies) and relevant desk-based research. |
| Impact and Financial Assessment | Impacts were assessed with a severity scoring scale (accounting for the scale, scope and irremediable character of each impact) and likelihood, while risks and opportunities were scored using our existing risk management process.   |
| Finalise Reporting Threshold    | The results of the stakeholder engagement and the severity assessment results were combined to finalise the reporting threshold. This was validated by Croke Park Stadium's team, and the final list of material standards was determined.  |

In total, we identified all ten standards and 18 topics as material to our business, given the nature of our business activities in the hospitality and food services sector and the associated impacts that sourcing this produce has on our value chain. Our material standards and topics, and their degree of materiality, is detailed in the graphic below.



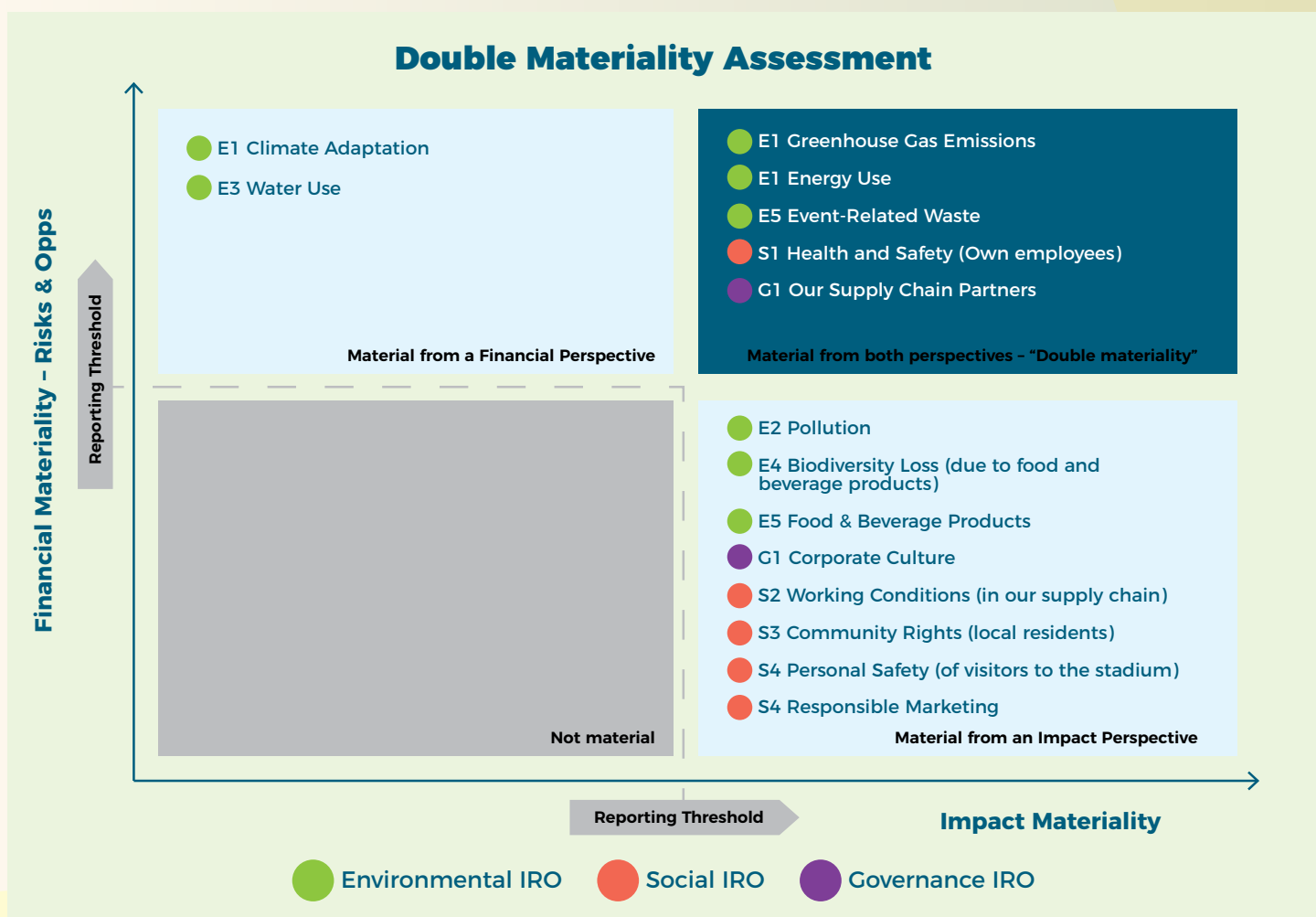


Figure 3: Croke Park Stadium DMA Results. <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Please note that this graphic only includes Croke Park Stadium's material standards and topics according to its DMA.

## STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

We actively collaborate with key stakeholder groups to ensure our sustainability priorities and actions are aligned with their diverse needs and expectations. By tailoring engagement to each group, we gain insights that directly shape our strategy, policies, and initiatives, driving meaningful progress across environmental, social, and governance (ESG) areas.

### Table 1: Stakeholder Groups and Methods of Engagement

Croke Park Stadium has longstanding relationships with a wide range of stakeholders, including the Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA), business partners, suppliers, corporate clients, local authorities, community groups, and service providers. While closely connected, Croke Park Stadium and the GAA are distinct entities: Croke Park Stadium manages the stadium and events, while the GAA is the governing body of Gaelic games. Our relationship with the GAA is therefore both strategic and operational, supporting shared objectives and key events.

We maintain these trusted relationships through ongoing engagement, partnership initiatives, and transparent communication, ensuring alignment with our business goals and sustainability priorities.

| Stakeholder Group                         | Description  | Engagement Methods  | Key Topics Raised   | Impact on Sustainability Priorities  |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <b>GAA</b>                                | Governing body of Gaelic games; closely linked with Croke Park Stadium but operates as a distinct entity.                | Strategic meetings, joint planning sessions, event coordination, reporting on sustainability initiatives. | Event sustainability, community engagement, environmental footprint, health & safety, fan experience. | Influences environmental and social priorities related to stadium operations, event management, and community initiatives.         |
| <b>Business Partners &amp; Sponsors</b>   | Companies collaborating with Croke Park Stadium on commercial, sponsorship, or co-branding initiatives.                  | Regular meetings, workshops, surveys, joint campaigns.  | Brand alignment, ESG commitments, event sustainability, responsible sourcing.                         | Drives adoption of sustainable practices across supply chains and partnership initiatives; informs ESG reporting.                  |
| <b>Suppliers &amp; Service Providers</b>  | Vendors providing goods or services (catering, maintenance, logistics, etc.) to stadium operations.                      | Supplier audits, onboarding workshops, performance reviews, sustainability assessments.                   | Environmental impact of products/services, ethical sourcing, compliance, waste reduction.             | Shapes procurement and operational sustainability priorities, including circular economy practices and energy/resource efficiency. |
| <b>Fans &amp; Visitors</b>                | Individuals attending events or visiting Croke Park Stadium for matches, tours, or other activities.                     | Surveys, social media engagement, ticketing feedback, fan forums, educational campaigns.                  | Waste management, accessibility, transport, energy use, fan experience.                               | Influences initiatives on transport, waste, energy efficiency, and community engagement.   |
| <b>Local Communities</b>                  | Residents, community groups, schools, and local organisations in the Dublin area.  | Community meetings, workshops, volunteering initiatives, outreach programmes.                             | Noise, traffic, community programmes, environmental impact, education & outreach.                     | Supports social sustainability programmes, local engagement, and community impact initiatives.                                     |
| <b>Employees &amp; Volunteers</b>         | Full-time staff, part-time staff, contract and seasonal staff, and volunteers involved in stadium operations and events. | Internal surveys, workshops, training programmes, town halls, suggestion schemes.                         | Workplace health & safety, diversity & inclusion, training, wellbeing, sustainability awareness.      | Shapes internal sustainability policies, energy/waste initiatives, and social responsibility programmes.                           |
| <b>Government &amp; Regulatory Bodies</b> | National and local authorities overseeing compliance, safety, and environmental regulations.                             | Reporting, compliance audits, meetings, consultations.  | Regulatory compliance, environmental impact, reporting standards, public safety.                      | Ensures alignment with legal requirements and influences ESG reporting and operational sustainability measures.                    |



# ENVIRONMENT

## INTRODUCTION

At Croke Park Stadium, we are committed to reducing our environmental impact and contributing to a more sustainable future. As a stadium hosting a wide variety of events, we prioritise energy efficiency, resource conservation, and sustainable operations that minimise our footprint and benefit the local community.

Our environmental approach is guided by two complementary policies. The Environmental Policy focuses on managing the stadium's direct environmental impacts, including energy, water, waste, and biodiversity. The Sustainability Policy places these actions within a broader context, ensuring that environmental initiatives align with social and economic responsibilities, responsible event management, and community engagement.

Through these policies, alongside internationally recognised certifications such as ISO 14001, ISO 20121, and ISO 50001, we integrate sustainability into decision-making and daily operations. By taking practical actions, from improving energy efficiency to conserving water and creating new habitats, Croke Park Stadium is working to reduce its environmental footprint while creating lasting value for our stakeholders and the wider community.

## CLIMATE

Croke Park Stadium recognises the urgent need to address climate change and the responsibility we have to adapt our business activities to reduce our emissions and contribution to global warming. As a stadium hosting a wide range of events, we are committed to identifying, managing, and mitigating climate-related impacts, risks, and opportunities across our operations and value chain.

We recognise that our business activities contribute to climate change. Our main impacts include the energy consumed to operate the stadium, the food and beverage products purchased to deliver our hospitality services, and the travel of visitors to and from the venue. These activities result in greenhouse gas emissions that we are actively seeking to reduce through energy efficiency, sustainable procurement, and initiatives to encourage lower-carbon travel options for visitors.

At the same time, we are aware that climate change may pose risks to our operations. More frequent extreme weather events could disrupt our ability to deliver successful events, while changing weather patterns may affect the availability and cost of certain food and beverage products. Additionally, the introduction of more stringent environmental regulations could increase operational costs. By identifying these climate-related risks, we can take proactive steps to mitigate their impacts.

Croke Park Stadium also recognises the opportunities presented by climate action. By improving energy efficiency, sourcing sustainable products, and promoting low-carbon transport options, we can reduce our environmental footprint, enhance operational resilience, and create long-term value for our stakeholders and the wider community.

### Addressing Climate Change

Addressing climate-related impacts is a key focus of Croke Park Stadium's long-term strategy. Climate considerations are integrated into strategic planning, embedded in decision-making across all areas of our operations, and incorporated into stakeholder engagement to ensure that sustainability is central to how we manage the stadium and deliver events.

Our approach is guided by our Energy Policy, which outlines how we manage energy consumption, improve efficiency, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions across stadium operations. In addition, our Environmental Policy and Sustainability Policy provides a broader framework for managing environmental impacts, promoting resource efficiency, and embedding climate considerations throughout our value chain.

Croke Park Stadium has set ambitious, Science-Based Targets Initiative (SBTi) approved carbon reduction targets. These commit us to:

Overall net-zero target: Croke Park commits to reach net-zero greenhouse gas emissions across the value chain by 2050.

#### Near-term targets:

- Croke Park commits to reduce absolute scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions by 50.4% by 2032 from a 2022 base year.
- Croke Park also commits to reduce absolute scope 3 GHG emissions by 30% within the same timeframe.

#### Long-term targets:

- Croke Park commits to reduce absolute scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions by 90% by 2050 from a 2022 base year.
- Croke Park also commits to reduce absolute scope 3 GHG emissions by 90% within the same timeframe.

Achieving Scope 3 targets, which largely sit outside our direct operational control, will rely on close collaboration with visitors, partners, suppliers, and government and regulatory bodies to influence travel choices, supply chain practices, and other operational impacts.

Progress toward these targets is monitored through regular emissions tracking, allowing us to evaluate the effectiveness of initiatives, identify further reduction opportunities, and report transparently on our performance. Key actions include improving energy efficiency across stadium operations, sourcing low-carbon products, and encouraging sustainable travel for visitors and staff.

#### Croke Park Stadium's Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Croke Park Stadium has been measuring its carbon footprint since 2019. The majority of our emissions result from visitor and fan travel to and from the stadium, purchased goods and services including food and beverage, and our energy usage.

For 2024, our Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions were as below:

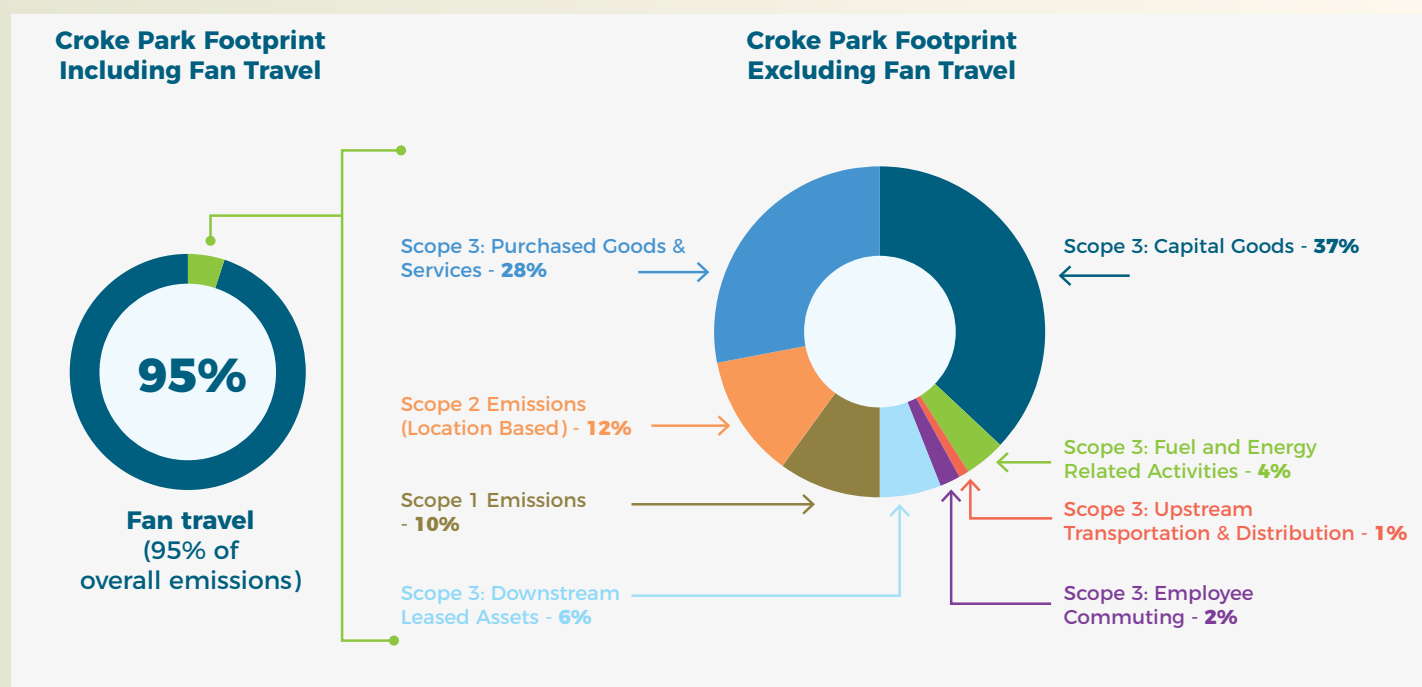


Figure 4: Overview of Croke Park's Carbon Footprint 2024

- Scope 1: 1,201 tCO<sub>2</sub>e
- Scope 2 (Location Based): 1,418.11 tCO<sub>2</sub>e
- Scope 2 (Market Based): 1.39 tCO<sub>2</sub>e
- Scope 3: 189,361.70 tCO<sub>2</sub>e

(\*2025 calculations in progress)



Our Scope 3 emissions account for the majority of Croke Park's total carbon footprint and primarily arise from fan travel, capital goods, and purchased goods and services. The largest contributing category is Downstream Transport and Distribution, which relates to visitor travel to and from the Stadium. This category represents approximately 96% of our Scope 3 emissions and 95% of our overall carbon footprint.

Due to the nature of our operations as a large-scale event venue, which relies on significant visitor attendance, fan travel is expected to remain our most significant source of emissions. We therefore recognise the critical importance of influencing travel behaviours as part of our long-term decarbonisation strategy.

Capital goods represent the second-largest contributor to our emissions and include machinery, furniture, and equipment required for the operation and maintenance of the Stadium. Purchased goods and services primarily relate to the procurement of food and beverages for events, including carbon-intensive products such as meat and alcoholic beverages.

Emissions associated with purchased goods and services increased significantly in 2024 compared to 2023. This increase directly reflects the event profile across both years: no concerts were hosted at the Stadium in 2023, while six concerts took place in 2024. This highlights the clear correlation between event activity at Croke Park and our overall carbon footprint.

In response, we are actively implementing measures to mitigate these impacts. We encourage visitors to travel sustainably to and from the Stadium and promote the consumption of locally sourced, lower-carbon food options through our 50 Mile Menu initiative. In addition, vegetarian alternatives are made available for all meals served at the Stadium, supporting a shift towards more sustainable dietary choices.

### **Electricity and Gas Consumption**

Croke Park Stadium consumes electricity across all aspects of its daily operations, notably for powering the stadium. In 2025, there was an increase of 2% in our recorded electricity consumption on the previous year. Given our dependence on electricity, we have switched to 100% Green renewable electricity, procured from our utility provider, to power the majority of our operations. Essential event day services are powered by HVO generators, serving vital services such as life safety and critical systems, lifts and escalators, floodlights, and media and broadcasting facilities.

Gas is used predominantly at Croke Park for space heating across the stadium and to support the undersoil pitch heating system. In 2025, gas consumption increased by 15% compared to the previous year. While gas currently plays an important role in maintaining operational and pitch performance standards, we recognise the need to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels. As part of our long-term decarbonisation strategy, we are actively investigating alternative low-carbon heating solutions, including the potential deployment of heat pump technology, to support a transition away from natural gas.

## **TAKING ACTION: OUR CLIMATE INITIATIVES**

Croke Park Stadium implements a comprehensive programme of mitigation and adaptation actions to meet climate policy objectives and deliver against its emissions-reduction targets. These actions address Scope 1, Scope 2 and material Scope 3 emissions, with defined time horizons and measurable outcomes that support the transition to a low-carbon economy. Our approach combines operational excellence, investment in renewable energy, low-carbon technologies and active engagement across our supply chain.

### **Energy Management and Operational Efficiency**

Croke Park Stadium has implemented ISO 50001 Energy Management Certification to embed best-practice energy management across all operations. This structured framework enables robust monitoring, analysis and optimisation of energy use, strengthening governance, accountability and continuous improvement. ISO 50001 underpins ongoing energy-efficiency initiatives, including upgrades to lighting, plant and controls, optimisation of building management systems, and enhanced performance monitoring during both event and non-event days. Together, these measures reduce energy demand at source, lowering Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions while improving operational resilience and cost efficiency.

### **Renewable Energy and Low-Carbon Technologies**

The stadium has transitioned to 100% renewable electricity through certified procurement, delivering immediate reductions in market-based Scope 2 emissions while supporting national decarbonisation objectives and enhancing energy security. In parallel, Croke Park Stadium continues to invest in low-carbon technologies and electrification, replacing fossil fuel-based systems with cleaner alternatives such as heat pumps where feasible. These investments support long-term decarbonisation and future-proof operations against regulatory and energy-market change.

Croke Park Stadium is also investigating opportunities for on-site renewable energy generation as part of its longer-term strategy. Feasibility assessments are underway to evaluate technical, financial and operational considerations, including roof and ground-mounted solar panels and other suitable technologies. On-site generation has the potential to further reduce emissions, enhance energy resilience and complement existing renewable electricity sourcing.

### **Sustainable Supply Chain and Scope 3 Emissions**

Recognising the importance of Scope 3 emissions, Croke Park Stadium integrates sustainability considerations across procurement and supply-chain engagement. The stadium works with suppliers and partners to encourage lower-carbon products, services and logistics, extending emissions reductions beyond direct operations.

Food and catering represent a material Scope 3 emissions source for a large event venue. Croke Park Stadium prioritises locally sourced and seasonal food across catering operations, reducing transport-related emissions while supporting local producers and increasing supply-chain transparency. This approach contributes to more sustainable event-day experiences for spectators, partners and stakeholders.

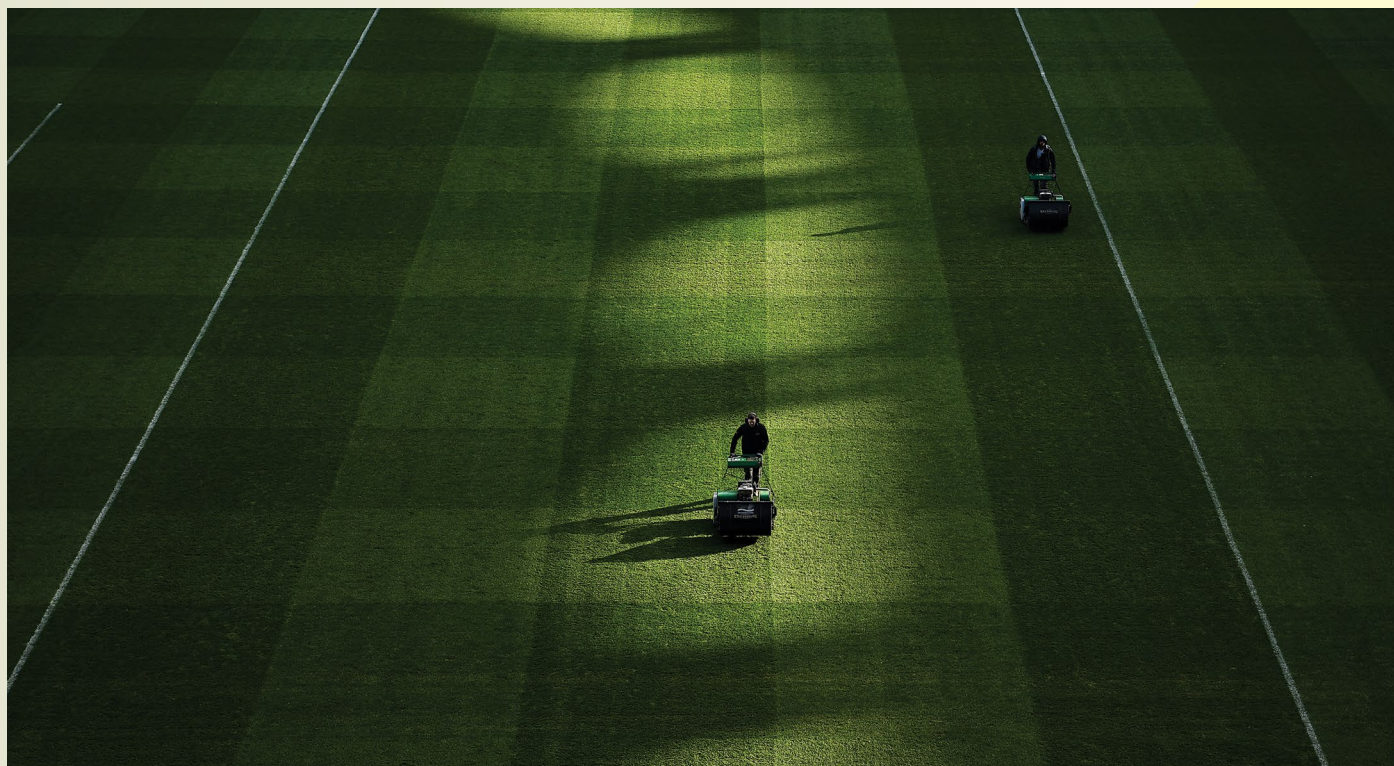
### **Climate Adaptation and Operational Resilience**

In parallel with mitigation, Croke Park Stadium is enhancing climate resilience by adapting infrastructure and operations to manage climate-related risks, including extreme weather events. These measures help safeguard business continuity, protect assets and ensure the stadium remains a safe and reliable venue in a changing climate.

### **Decarbonisation Roadmap (2022–2050)**

Croke Park Stadium has developed a comprehensive decarbonisation roadmap covering the period 2022–2050, aligned with its Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) carbon reduction targets. The roadmap is informed by detailed analysis of baseline emissions across Scope 1, Scope 2 and material Scope 3 sources, scenario modelling of future energy demand, and assessment of available abatement measures. It sets out a clear emissions trajectory consistent with science-based pathways, identifying priority actions, sequencing of interventions and defined time horizons for delivery.

Key measures within the roadmap include ongoing energy-efficiency improvements, transition to on-site renewable electricity, electrification of heat and equipment, low-carbon technology integration, and increased engagement with suppliers to address Scope 3 emissions. The roadmap provides a structured framework for investment, decision-making and progress tracking, ensuring emissions reductions are delivered in line with climate policy objectives and the stadium's long-term net-zero ambition.





### Case Study: Decarbonising Pitch Heating at Croke Park Stadium

Croke Park Stadium's under-pitch heating system is critical for maintaining a high-quality, safe playing surface. It not only ensures match playability during cold weather but also supports grass growth and surface repair between fixtures. The system is the stadium's largest energy user, powered by a 3 MW natural gas boiler, a significant source of emissions and energy consumption.

To reduce carbon impact, Croke Park Stadium is exploring a 1 MW air source heat pump to replace the gas boiler, making it one of very few stadia in Europe with this scale of low-carbon pitch heating.

#### Key Outcomes

- **Largest energy user addressed:** Targeting the main source of energy consumption maximises sustainability impact.
- **Carbon reduction:** Expected to cut approximately 250 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> annually.
- **Energy efficiency:** High-efficiency heat pump (COP 3.5) delivers equivalent heat with far lower energy consumption.
- **Pitch quality maintained:** Heating continues to support grass growth and surface repair, safeguarding player safety and surface integrity.
- **Future-ready infrastructure:** Electrification reduces fossil fuel dependence and allows integration with renewable energy.
- **Leadership in innovation:** Croke Park Stadium joins a small number of European stadia adopting heat pump technology at this scale, reinforcing sustainability leadership.

#### Summary

Replacing the gas-fired boiler with a 1 MW heat pump is a transformative step in Croke Park Stadium's decarbonisation journey. It tackles the largest energy user, delivers substantial carbon savings, and maintains world-class pitch quality.

This project highlights Croke Park Stadium's commitment to climate action, operational efficiency, and player safety, marking a major milestone in the stadium's ESG and sustainability strategy.

### Spotlight: Smarter Travel at Croke Park Stadium

Croke Park Stadium has been awarded the Smarter Travel Mark at Bronze level by the National Transport Authority (NTA), recognising its commitment to promoting sustainable and active travel for both its workforce and visitors.

This certification reflects Croke Park Stadium's alignment with the TFI Smarter Travel Programme, a national initiative that encourages organisations to implement voluntary travel plans focused on walking, cycling, public transport, carpooling, and behaviour change interventions.

At Croke Park Stadium, sustainable travel is embedded into event day planning and general operations: the stadium is well-served by public transport, cycling infrastructure, and walking routes.

#### Outcomes of our Smarter Travel Campaign:

- **Behavioural Change & Awareness:** The certification publicly signals Croke Park Stadium's commitment to greener transport, helping to shift attitudes among staff and visitors toward more sustainable modes of travel. It provides a framework for ongoing engagement through initiatives like walking clubs, cycle challenges, and "car-free days."
- **Improved Infrastructure & Facilities:** The stadium offers free bike racks in its car parks (both Davin and Cusack), making cycling a viable option for visitors and staff. The plan includes upgrades to staff facilities such as showers and bike maintenance areas to support active commuting.
- **Stronger Partnerships & Transport Integration:** Croke Park Stadium works closely with local transport providers (bus, Luas, DART, coach) to promote their services and ensure visitors have sustainable transit options. Collaboration with the National Transport Authority and involvement in national programmes like Smarter Travel strengthens Croke Park Stadium's role in systemic change.

Going forward, we seek to upgrade cycle facilities, host step challenges to encourage active commuting, expand our walking and cycling social groups, hold bike maintenance sessions, and improve staff amenities to facilitate engagement in the various initiatives. Our aim is to achieve the Gold level mark in the coming years.

## RESOURCE EFFICIENCY

### Introduction

As one of the most prominent event venues in Ireland, Croke Park Stadium is reliant on a variety of materials and resources to operate effectively, including agricultural products, water, energy, and packaging materials. We are acutely aware of the importance of optimising our consumption of these resources to reduce waste, minimise environmental impacts, and ensure that our operations do not exceed what is necessary for safe and efficient stadium management. Responsible resource use is central to our commitment to sustainability and long-term operational resilience.

### Material Resource-Related Impacts (IROs)

Croke Park Stadium has identified several resource-related impacts as material to our operations, including water use, biodiversity, overall resource consumption, and waste generation.

- **Food and Beverage Procurement:** The food and beverage products purchased to operate our hospitality services may contribute to negative environmental impacts associated with the agri-food sector, such as water and soil pollution, biodiversity loss, excessive water consumption, and the generation of food and packaging waste.
- **Fertiliser Use:** Fertiliser applied at Croke Park Stadium and turf farm has the potential to affect local biodiversity if not carefully managed.
- **Event-Related Waste:** Events hosted at the stadium generate significant food and packaging waste and can contribute to littering in surrounding communities.

We recognise that managing these impacts effectively is critical to operating as a sustainable and resilient business. In addition, we are attentive to the evolving regulatory landscape, including increasingly stringent environmental regulations regarding water efficiency, packaging reduction, and single-use plastics. Addressing these risks proactively helps to safeguard both the environment and our operational resilience.

### Approach to Managing Resource Efficiency

Croke Park Stadium takes a proactive approach to managing resources and ensuring the efficient and sustainable use of materials across all operations. Our approach is embedded in our overarching Environmental Policy and specific guidance documents, such as the Sustainable Packaging Policy and Sustainable Supply Chain Policy.

- **Environmental Policy:** Establishes broad principles for reducing resource consumption, minimising waste, and mitigating environmental impacts from stadium operations.
- **Sustainable Packaging Policy:** Guides procurement and hospitality operations to reduce unnecessary packaging, favour recyclable or reusable alternatives, and align supplier practices with circular economy principles.
- **Sustainable Supply Chain Policy:** Sets expectations for suppliers regarding resource use, encouraging sustainable sourcing, minimising environmental impacts across the value chain, and supporting local suppliers to reduce transportation-related emissions and resource intensity.

These policies collectively address our material IROs by reducing water consumption, limiting negative impacts on biodiversity, minimising resource use, and maximising waste diversion through reuse and recycling initiatives.

### Targets and Monitoring

In line with our Environmental Policy and ongoing actions, Croke Park Stadium has set specific targets to enhance resource efficiency and reduce negative environmental impacts. These targets guide monitoring, reporting, and management across our operations and value chain.

Regular monitoring and reporting allow Croke Park Stadium to track progress, identify further efficiency opportunities, and continuously improve our performance in line with our sustainability objectives.

The table below summarises Croke Park Stadium's key actions, targets, and monitoring approaches across all material areas of resource efficiency, providing a clear overview of how we manage resources sustainably and track progress against our commitments.



| Resource Efficiency Area               | Key Actions  | Targets / Commitments   | Monitoring / Results  |
|--|--|---|---|
| <b>Waste Management</b>                | Implement waste segregation, recycling, composting, and energy recovery initiatives; reduce single-use materials   | Divert >90% of waste from residual streams; reduce single-use plastics across operations                                  | All waste streams tracked monthly; recycling, composting, and energy recovery rates reviewed regularly                    |
| <b>Food &amp; Beverage Procurement</b> | Prioritise locally sourced, seasonal, and sustainable products; reduce packaging   | Source 85% of all produce from Ireland, with 70% grown or produced within a 50-mile radius; reduce food-related packaging | Supplier sourcing tracked; proportion of local and regional food monitored per event; packaging use measured annually     |
| <b>Packaging</b>                       | Adopt sustainable packaging alternatives; eliminate non-essential packaging  | 100% of new packaging to be recyclable or reusable  | Supplier compliance tracked; packaging waste monitored per event  |
| <b>Water Use</b>                       | Implement water-saving measures across stadium operations, catering, and pitch maintenance; install low-flow fixtures and improve leak detection               | Reduce overall water consumption by 25% by 2030 (from 2022 baseline)  | Water meters monitored monthly; trends reviewed annually; efficiency measures tracked per area                            |
| <b>Supply Chain Engagement</b>         | Integrate resource efficiency criteria into supplier agreements  | 80% of suppliers to meet sustainability standards by 2030   | Supplier audits and sustainability questionnaires conducted annually  |
| <b>Biodiversity Protection</b>         | Reduce fertiliser use and transition from chemical to natural fertilisers; promote native planting; increase the number of natural habitats around the stadium | Minimise impacts on local biodiversity; expand natural habitat areas  | Fertiliser type and use tracked; biodiversity assessments conducted periodically; natural habitats monitored and recorded |

### Resource Efficiency Initiatives

Croke Park Stadium has made significant strides in enhancing its environmental performance, focusing on sustainable water management, biodiversity protection, and circular resource use. These initiatives reflect the stadium's ongoing commitment to minimising environmental impacts while promoting efficient, responsible operations.

### Biodiversity Initiatives

Croke Park Stadium is dedicated to fostering biodiversity both on-site and at its off-site turf farm in North County Dublin. The programme integrates urban wildlife habitats, pollinator support, and sustainable resource management into the stadium's operations. On-site initiatives include the installation of nesting boxes for birds such as swifts, blue tits, and sparrows, as well as bat boxes in stadium trees to support local bat populations. Insect habitats like a Bug Hotel provide safe nesting and hibernation spaces for pollinators and other beneficial insects. Native trees, shrubs, and wildflowers have been planted throughout the campus to enhance ecological diversity.

Croke Park Stadium is also a proud member of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan, demonstrating its commitment to supporting pollinator health across Ireland. Off-site, the turf farm primarily supplies turf for pitch renovations, reducing emissions associated with importing turf from abroad. The farm also features active beehives, a polytunnel for growing vegetables, herbs, and produce for use in the stadium kitchens, and an orchard of apple and pear trees. Extensive plantings of wildflowers and pollinator-friendly plants further support biodiversity while complementing the farm's sustainable operations.

The outcomes of these initiatives include:

- **Ecosystem Growth:** The instalment of nesting boxes, bat boxes, and insect habitats has supported urban bird, bat, and insect populations.
- **Pollination Support:** Membership in the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan and the presence of active beehives contribute to pollinator health and provide honey for stadium use.
- **Sustainable Food Production:** Fresh produce grown at the turf farm reduces food miles and promotes local sourcing.
- **Community and Educational Impact:** Collaboration with experts, partners, and pollinator initiatives fosters awareness of biodiversity and sustainability practices.
- **Ecological Benefits:** Planting native species and creating varied habitats strengthens local ecosystems and encourages biodiversity resilience.

Looking forward, we will continue to expand on-site habitat diversity with additional nesting boxes, bat boxes, and insect habitats, develop educational programmes or tours highlighting biodiversity initiatives for visitors and local schools, and monitor and report on wildlife activity, including bat populations and pollinator health, to guide future projects. Further, we will explore additional partnerships to increase pollinator and wildlife conservation efforts and integrate biodiversity-focused signage around the stadium to raise awareness among staff and visitors.

### **Water Initiatives**

As part of our ongoing commitment to water conservation and responsible resource management, Croke Park Stadium has implemented a comprehensive range of water-saving initiatives across the stadium. These include a rainwater harvesting system that captures and reuses water for pitch irrigation and for cleaning operations throughout the stadium, reducing reliance on potable water supplies.

Further measures include the installation of low-flow taps and showers to minimise unnecessary consumption, alongside the deployment of smart water sensors that enable real-time monitoring, early leak detection, and improved control of water usage patterns. Efficient irrigation systems have also been introduced to ensure the pitch is maintained to the highest standards while optimising water use.

Together, these initiatives have delivered tangible results. In 2025, Croke Park Stadium achieved a 10% reduction in overall water usage compared to previous years, highlighting the impact of targeted investment, technology-led solutions, and strong operational management.

Building on this momentum, Croke Park Stadium plans to invest significantly again in 2026, with a continued focus on water-saving projects and infrastructure enhancements. These future investments will support further reductions in water consumption, strengthen long-term resilience, and underpin the ongoing expansion of sustainable stadium operations.



### **Spotlight: Rainwater Harvesting at Croke Park Stadium**

As part of our long-term sustainability strategy, the stadium has implemented a large-scale rainwater harvesting system designed to significantly reduce potable water consumption and enhance operational resilience. The project centres on a 1.5 million-litre storage tank that captures rainfall from the stadium roof and supplies water for pitch irrigation.

Pitch irrigation previously relied entirely on the mains supply and accounted for 10–15% of our annual water usage. By shifting this demand to harvested rainwater, the stadium has taken a major step toward more circular resource use and climate-aware operations.

This project also plays a crucial role in de-risking stadium operations by ensuring a reliable, on-site water source, particularly valuable during drought events or municipal water restrictions.

#### **Outcomes:**

##### **Environmental Benefits**

- Significant reduction in potable water use by replacing it with harvested rainwater for pitch irrigation.
- Lower environmental footprint, as less treated potable water is required, reducing indirect emissions associated with water treatment and distribution.
- Enhanced circular resource use, maximising the value of rainfall that previously ran off unused.

##### **Operational Benefits**

- Increased water security through an on-site supply capable of holding 1.5 million litres.
- Greater resilience to water shortages, restrictions, or drought conditions that could otherwise jeopardise pitch quality and event schedules.
- Cost efficiencies over time through reduced reliance on mains water for a major site demand.

Building on the success of the initial implementation, the next phase of the project will extend the rainwater harvesting system to service toilets and urinals, further reducing potable water consumption across the facility, maximise utilisation of captured rainwater, ensuring the full capacity of the system contributes to sustainability performance. We will continue monitoring and optimisation of the initiative, ensuring the system delivers long-term environmental and operational benefits.

### **Circular Economy Initiatives**

Croke Park Stadium has been implementing comprehensive waste reduction and circular economy measures for several years. These initiatives focus on minimising resource use, maximising reuse and recycling, and encouraging sustainable behaviours among staff, visitors, and partners. Key measures include waste segregation, awareness campaigns, and exploring scalable solutions such as reusable cups, alongside ongoing efforts to identify opportunities for material reuse and resource efficiency across stadium operations. Together, these actions demonstrate our commitment to reducing environmental impact and fostering a more sustainable, circular approach to stadium management.



**Spotlight: Deposit Return Scheme at Croke Park Stadium**

As part of its ongoing commitment to sustainability and circular economy practices, Croke Park Stadium implemented the Re-turn Deposit Return Scheme (DRS), Ireland's national initiative to collect and recycle plastic bottles and aluminium cans.

Over the course of an exceptionally busy year of matches, concerts, and events, Croke Park Stadium integrated Re-turn into its waste management system, making recycling easier and more rewarding for visitors and staff alike. The project involved:

- Upgrading waste bins and collection facilities to accommodate DRS materials.
- Installing clear, high-impact signage and wayfinding graphics across the stadium.
- Adding on-screen messaging and digital prompts to encourage recycling participation.

The initiative demonstrates how a major sporting and entertainment venue can successfully support Ireland's national recycling goals while engaging fans in meaningful environmental action.

**Outcomes:**

- **258,000 Plastic Bottles & Cans Recycled:**  
Through the Re-turn system, Croke Park Stadium successfully collected and recycled over 258,000 containers during the year, a major step in reducing waste and improving material recovery rates.
- **€38,000 Donated to Children's Charities:**  
All deposit refunds earned through the scheme were donated to the Re-turn for Children's Charities, benefiting Barnardos Ireland, Barretstown, Childline by ISPCC, Jack & Jill Children's Foundation, LauraLynn Children's Hospice, and Make-A-Wish Ireland.
- **Enhanced Fan Engagement:**  
Eye-catching bin graphics, in-stadium screens, and public messaging helped build awareness of the Re-turn scheme and encouraged fans to "do their bit" for recycling and children's causes.
- **Improved Waste Infrastructure:**  
Upgraded bin systems and signage improved sorting accuracy and recycling rates across the stadium, reducing contamination in waste streams.
- **Circular Economy Leadership:**  
As one of the first major stadiums to fully integrate the Re-turn scheme, Croke Park Stadium has set a benchmark for sustainable event operations in Ireland.

**Spotlight: Turning Waste into Community Good: Croke Park Stadium's Recycling & Compost Programme**

Overview: Croke Park Stadium is committed to reducing its environmental impact while supporting the local community. As part of this effort, the stadium runs an annual community waste initiative that promotes sustainable waste management and recycling. The initiative provides locally produced compost from the stadium's organic waste to the community, encouraging home gardening and soil enrichment. In addition, the stadium hosts recycling days where community members can bring Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE), cardboard, and Christmas trees for responsible recycling. This initiative not only diverts waste from landfill but also fosters environmental awareness and engagement within the local area.

**Outcomes:**

- **Waste Diversion:** Significant volumes of organic waste, WEEE, cardboard, and Christmas trees are kept out of landfill each year.
- **Community Engagement:** Hundreds of local residents participate annually, collecting compost or bringing recyclable items, strengthening the stadium's connection with the community.
- **Environmental Impact:** By providing compost and promoting recycling, the initiative supports circular economy principles and reduces the carbon footprint associated with waste disposal.
- **Education:** The initiative raises awareness of sustainable waste practices and encourages community members to adopt environmentally friendly habits at home.

Looking ahead, we seek to expand the initiative to include additional recyclable materials and larger community events, introduce workshops on composting, recycling, and sustainable living for local residents, partner with local schools and community groups to increase participation and environmental education, and monitor and report on annual impact metrics to identify opportunities for further waste reduction and engagement.

# PEOPLE

## INTRODUCTION

Croke Park Stadium recognises that its people and their wellbeing are central to its long-term success and operational resilience. Our people include our direct employees, the temporary workforce engaged to support the delivery of events, and our wider network of supply chain partners. We are committed to responsible people management practices that promote safe, fair and inclusive working environments across this extended workforce.

Our approach to people management is underpinned by the principles of fairness, respect, equality of opportunity, wellbeing and continuous development. These principles are embedded within our governance structures and employment practices and are supported by a comprehensive suite of policies covering areas such as working conditions, dignity and respect, diversity, equality and inclusion, flexible working, grievance management, training and development and employee leave. Together, these frameworks support compliance with employment legislation, promote best practice and enable consistent engagement with our people.

### Our Employees

Croke Park Stadium has robust policies, procedures and management processes in place to ensure an effective and responsible approach to people management. These frameworks support compliance with employment legislation, promote best practice and help us to identify, manage and mitigate people-related risks.

Our Double Materiality Assessment identified that potential negative impacts may arise in relation to the health and safety of our own employees, given the scale and complexity of stadium operations. In the event of a serious incident, there is also a related risk of litigation. These findings reinforce the importance of strong safety systems, proactive risk management and continuous training across all roles.

As of the end of 2025, Croke Park Stadium employs 76 direct employees including the GAA Museum, with an employee turnover rate of 21%, reflecting a generally stable workforce with strong levels of engagement, particularly within a dynamic events and hospitality environment. In addition, we are supported by a large temporary workforce on event days, comprising over 3,000 individuals. This includes approximately 1,000 food and beverage staff, 200 security personnel, 200 cleaning staff, 300 voluntary stewards, 100 community and customer care staff, 200 turnstile staff, and 50 medical staff. These teams are critical to the safe, welcoming and efficient operation of the stadium, and are integrated into our health, safety and wellbeing practices.

### Employee Wellbeing

Croke Park Stadium is committed to fostering a workplace where employees feel supported, respected and empowered to perform at their best. Our approach to wellbeing is holistic, encompassing physical, mental, emotional and social health, and is embedded within our people management frameworks and organisational culture.

### Wellbeing Initiatives and Supports

Croke Park Stadium provides access to a comprehensive suite of wellbeing resources designed to support mental, physical and financial wellbeing:

- **Employee Assistance Programme (EAP):** A confidential, 24/7 support service available to employees and their families, providing immediate assistance with personal or work-related challenges. The EAP offers unlimited access to professional support, helping employees manage stress, anxiety and life pressures.
- **Spectrum.Life Wellbeing Portal and Wellbeing Studio:** These platforms provide on-demand fitness classes, mindfulness tools and lifestyle resources, alongside confidential wellbeing supports accessible via desktop or mobile at any time.
- **Digital Gym:** Live and on-demand fitness classes delivered by qualified experts, supporting physical health and encouraging active lifestyles in a flexible and inclusive way.

- **On-site Staff Gym:** A fully equipped, dedicated gym at Croke Park Stadium, giving employees convenient access to physical fitness facilities. The gym supports staff in maintaining an active lifestyle, building strength and resilience, and promoting overall wellbeing.
- **Mental Health Coaching:** Access to qualified mental health coaches who support employees with emotional wellbeing, motivation, goal setting and resilience.
- **Wellbeing Initiatives, Events, and Social Activities:** A full calendar of staff wellbeing events and social activities, including webinars, awareness campaigns, and interactive sessions, helps promote healthy behaviours, build social connections, and strengthen team cohesion. These activities encourage employees to get to know colleagues across departments, fostering a supportive and inclusive workplace culture.

These initiatives contribute to improved employee engagement, enhanced awareness of mental health and wellbeing supports, and the promotion of a more open and supportive workplace culture. Uptake and employee feedback are monitored to ensure that supports remain effective, accessible and aligned with workforce needs.

### **Engagement, Training and Development**

We regularly engage with our teams through surveys, feedback sessions and wellbeing check-ins, ensuring our approach evolves in line with changing needs and expectations. Leadership at Croke Park Stadium actively promotes wellbeing, recognising that a healthy workforce is more resilient, engaged and high performing.

Investing in our people is central to operational excellence. We provide ongoing training and opportunities for employees to upskill and broaden their knowledge across a range of areas. In 2025, training programmes included Sustainability, Health and Safety, Domestic Abuse and Violence awareness, and Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. These programmes support both individual development and organisational resilience.

### **Next Steps**

Looking ahead, Croke Park Stadium will continue to strengthen its wellbeing offering by expanding training, enhancing engagement mechanisms and further embedding wellbeing considerations into leadership and operational decision-making. By investing in our people, we aim to sustain a positive working environment that supports both individual wellbeing and the long-term success of the organisation.

## **HEALTH AND SAFETY AT CROKE PARK STADIUM**

Croke Park Stadium is responsible for ensuring the health, safety, and welfare of all staff, contractors, volunteers, and visitors. The organisation is committed to preventing work-related injury and ill health and to fulfilling its responsibilities as a major public venue and an integral member of the local community. Croke Park Stadium's occupational health and safety framework is certified to ISO 45001, the international standard for occupational health and safety management systems, demonstrating a strong commitment to systematic risk management and continual improvement.

The effectiveness of this framework is evidenced by strong safety performance during large-scale events. In 2025, Croke Park Stadium welcomed over 1.4 million people to the stadium for pitch events. Of these, 253 individuals were treated onsite for minor accidents or injuries, with 34 cases requiring transfer to hospital. When considered in the context of overall attendance levels, these figures demonstrate that accidents and incidents remain relatively low, reflecting the robustness of planning, preventative controls, and on-the-ground medical and safety provision.

Croke Park Stadium's health and safety framework is underpinned by a formal Occupational Health and Safety Policy and a comprehensive suite of supporting procedures. Together, these address the key operational risks associated with stadium operations, including lone working, manual handling, workplace behaviour, smoking, workstation ergonomics, hazard identification and risk assessment, training and general safety awareness, the handling and storage of hazardous substances and fuels, noise exposure, emergency preparedness, and the reporting and management of accidents and incidents. This integrated framework applies across all operations and ensures that risks are systematically identified, assessed, controlled, and monitored in line with ISO 45001 requirements.

### **Governance, Responsibilities and Safety Culture**

The Occupational Health and Safety Policy sets out clear commitments and responsibilities for senior management, employees, volunteers, contractors, and third parties. Senior management retains overall accountability for health and safety performance and is responsible for providing adequate resources, competent advice, and effective oversight. Measurable



health and safety objectives and targets are established, monitored, and reviewed regularly to ensure they remain relevant to the scale and nature of Croke Park Stadium's activities.

A culture of consultation and engagement is actively promoted. Croke Park Stadium encourages full and effective joint consultation with personnel and relevant third parties on all matters relating to health, safety, and welfare at work. The Safety Statement is reviewed annually and made accessible to all personnel, supporting awareness, transparency, and accountability.

### **Training, Risk Management and Prevention**

All Croke Park Stadium personnel, including full-time, part-time, and voluntary workers, receive health and safety information through formal induction processes and ongoing safety training. Training is tailored to role-specific risks and operational requirements, particularly for event-day activities and crowd-facing roles.

Croke Park Stadium adopts a preventative approach to occupational health and safety, aligned with ISO 45001 principles, with a focus on hazard identification, risk assessment, and the elimination or reduction of risks where reasonably practicable. Periodic and event-specific risk assessments are conducted, and control measures are implemented and reviewed as required.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is provided where identified through risk assessment, and personnel are trained in its correct use. Health surveillance is provided where required by law or where a need is identified through risk assessment, supporting the early identification and management of occupational health risks.

### **Incident Management, Monitoring and Continuous Improvement**

Processes are in place for the reporting, investigation, and management of health and safety incidents and near misses. Findings from incident investigations are used to inform corrective and preventative actions, contributing to the continual improvement of the Safety Management System.

Health and safety performance is monitored through internal reporting and management review processes. Senior management is committed to the continual improvement of health and safety performance, with the Safety Management System reviewed at least annually to ensure it remains appropriate, effective, and aligned with operational activities. Certification to ISO 45001 further ensures that Croke Park Stadium's approach is aligned with international best practice and demonstrates our ongoing commitment to occupational health and safety excellence.

Croke Park Stadium's Health and Safety Policy is made available to personnel through induction and training processes, and to interested third parties through display at stadium entry points and publication on the Croke Park Stadium website. Further supporting procedures and policies provide additional operational detail and guidance.

## **OUR SUPPLY CHAIN PARTNERS**

Croke Park Stadium engages with a diverse network of supply chain partners across multiple sectors, prioritising long-standing and trusted relationships. The responsible management of our supply chain is central to our operations, with a focus on mitigating potential adverse impacts on workers and promoting ethical business conduct. This includes ensuring fair labour practices, robust health and safety compliance, and the prevention of forced labour, particularly in sectors such as agri-food, where informal labour practices may occur.

Our approach is underpinned by the Croke Park Stadium Sustainable Supply Chain Management Policy, which establishes clear expectations for environmental, social, and governance (ESG) standards. Suppliers are required to provide evidence of sustainability practices, including energy efficiency, waste reduction, responsible sourcing, and carbon footprint management, while demonstrating compliance with relevant local and international regulations governing ethical labour and environmental responsibility. Croke Park Stadium has set a target that by 2030, 80% of all suppliers will be adhering to this policy, demonstrating our commitment to embedding sustainable practices throughout our supply chain.

Recognising the challenges that smaller suppliers may encounter in meeting these sustainability requirements, Croke Park Stadium provides guidance, resources, and flexible criteria to support their implementation of sustainable practices. We actively promote partnerships with regional farmers and local enterprises, thereby contributing to the resilience of the Irish agricultural sector and the broader local economy.

Through comprehensive supplier assessment, verification processes, and periodic audits, Croke Park Stadium monitors adherence to its sustainability commitments. Ongoing engagement with suppliers fosters collaboration and continuous improvement, ensuring that our supply chain reflects the highest standards of ethical, sustainable, and responsible business practice.

### Case Study: 50 Mile Menu

Croke Park Stadium, long recognised as a global leader in sustainable stadium operations, has extended its environmental ethos into its food and beverage strategy through the creation of the 50 Mile Menu, a culinary initiative designed to dramatically reduce food miles and champion Irish produce.

Developed by Executive Chef Ruairi Boyce and the Aramark culinary team, the menu ensures that 70% of all ingredients are sourced from within 50 miles of the stadium, while 85% come from the island of Ireland. This local-first approach supports regional farmers, reduces carbon emissions from transportation, and guarantees unparalleled freshness and flavour.

The 50 Mile Menu is also fully integrated into Croke Park Stadium's sustainability framework, aligning with its ISO 14001 and ISO 20121 certifications and the stadium's journey toward Net Zero. It highlights our commitment to working with local Irish farmers to support the industry and reduce any negative impacts in our supply chain through local and responsible sourcing.

Outcomes:

#### Local Sourcing Impact:

- 70% of ingredients sourced within 50 miles of Croke Park Stadium.
- 85% of all produce sourced from Irish suppliers.

#### Carbon Reduction:

- Shorter supply chains significantly cut transport-related emissions.
- Menu items feature Aramark's "Foodprint" labelling system, allowing guests to see the carbon impact (A–E rating) of each dish.

#### Economic and Community Benefits:

- Strengthened partnerships with local producers and artisans such as Hugh Maguire Butchers (Ashbourne), Garden of Eden Herbs (Rush), and McCarthy's Strawberry Farm (Sallins).
- New opportunities for small Irish farms to supply one of Ireland's largest hospitality venues.

#### Culinary Leadership:

- Seasonal menus showcase regional ingredients at their best.
- The stadium's own Croke Park Stadium Farm in North County Dublin grows vegetables, herbs, and fruit, and even produces local honey in partnership with Fingal Beekeepers' Association.

The project's next steps include expansion of the volume and variety of produce grown at Croke Park Stadium's turf farm for use across hospitality and event menus, engaging new artisan and regenerative producers within the 50-mile radius, continuing to refine the 50 Mile Menu seasonally, maintaining year-round variety and freshness. We hope this initiative continues to reduce our Scope 3 carbon footprint, as well as encourage our visitors to consume seasonally and sustainably.



# OUR COMMUNITY

Community is at the heart of what we do at Croke Park Stadium, and our events contribute to a strong sense of community amongst ticketholders, local residents around Croke Park Stadium, and more broadly to the GAA community across Ireland.

## VISITORS

Croke Park Stadium is Ireland's premier sporting and entertainment venue, hosting a diverse range of events that attract visitors from across the country and around the world. At its core, Croke Park Stadium is home of Gaelic Games, and the GAA remains the foundation of the stadium's success. Croke Park Stadium showcases Ireland's sporting heritage and cultural identity, offering a platform for Gaelic games and other events that unite communities. From Gaelic games and rugby to concerts and international fixtures such as the NFL, Croke Park Stadium welcomes over 1.5 million visitors annually. These events provide more than entertainment, they act as a catalyst for social cohesion, cultural promotion, and economic growth. By drawing visitors from every community and region, Croke Park Stadium plays a key role in promoting Irish culture, sport, and tourism on both a local and international stage.

Given the scale and nature of the events hosted at Croke Park Stadium, we recognise our responsibility to provide a healthy, safe, and secure environment for all visitors. We have a strong track record of successfully running thousands of high-profile events, consistently achieving positive visitor satisfaction and minimal negative feedback. We are equally committed to responsible marketing and advertising, ensuring that all products and services promoted during events are appropriate for audiences of all ages. In addition, the sale and consumption of alcohol at events is carefully managed in line with strict standards, supported by regular audits to maintain compliance and safeguard visitor wellbeing. Events hosted by Croke Park Stadium yield positive contributions in a variety of ways:

- **Economic Impact:** The stadium contributes significantly to the local and national economy through visitor spending on accommodation, dining, transport, and retail. International events, such as the NFL game, attract overseas visitors, boosting tourism revenue.
- **Cultural and Community Impact:** Croke Park Stadium showcases Ireland's sporting heritage and cultural identity, offering a platform for Gaelic games and other events that unite communities.
- **Tourism Promotion:** Hosting international visitors enhances Ireland's global profile, encouraging repeat tourism and raising awareness of Irish culture and sport abroad.
- **Visitor Experience:** High-quality facilities and diverse event programming ensure memorable experiences for attendees from all demographics and locations.
- **Job Creation:** Events at the stadium generate employment opportunities, from event operations and catering to local hospitality and transport sectors.

We are fully aware that our primary role is as a GAA stadium, and the GAA calendar will always take precedence in our planning and operations. Going forward, we will continue to expand our international event hosting to strengthen Ireland's tourism profile, enhance the visitor experience through improved facilities, accessibility, and digital engagement, develop targeted marketing campaigns to attract diverse communities and international audiences, partner with local businesses and tourism agencies to maximise economic benefits for the region, and monitor and evaluate the social and economic impact of events to inform future planning.

## LOCAL RESIDENTS

Croke Park Stadium recognises the impact of its events on Dublin residents in the regions surrounding our stadium. Croke Park Stadium is surrounded by residential housing, and the sharing of resources, crowds and security services from stadium events could negatively impact local residents if improperly managed.









We take our relationships with our nearest neighbours very seriously and we continue to develop stronger connections and lessen the impact of our events through our stadium community team and help our community thrive through an annual community fund and a yearlong calendar of special initiatives & events. For this reason, we have a full-time community-liaison officer in place, and on event days a community team consisting entirely of local residents assist their neighbours and watch over the local area during every event.

In 2025, a new local initiative has been introduced to further support the neighbourhood around the stadium. A team of residents living in the area has come together to carry out a community clean-up immediately after matches and concerts. Working in partnership with Dublin City Council, this group helps ensure that streets near the stadium are cleared of litter quickly, the local environment is respected and looked after, and residents experience less disruption from stadium events. This initiative is another example of how Croke Park Stadium and its neighbours are working side by side to keep the area clean, welcoming, and enjoyable for everyone who lives there.

Actions taken to foster a positive sense of community among local residents include initiatives such as our Annual Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunch, regular community meetings, community newsletters, and a full calendar of community events and initiatives throughout the year. These activities help enhance quality of life in the area, strengthen community spirit, and ensure that residents experience tangible benefits from having a major stadium in their neighbourhood.

### **Spotlight: Croke Park Community Fund**

Croke Park Stadium is proud to support its neighbours through the Croke Park Community Fund and a year-round programme of local initiatives. Since the fund began in 2009, over €1.25 million has been allocated to more than 250 local voluntary groups, resident associations, sports clubs and community organisations living within 1.5km of the stadium. A total of €100k was available in funding in 2025.

The fund is open to voluntary and community-based groups that benefit people living within Croke Park Stadium's 1.5km community radius, including:

- Local voluntary or community organisations
- Residents' associations
- Small, local not-for-profit organisations
- Informal groups of residents (for example, for street greening or street parties)

The fund supports local projects that improve quality of life and build community spirit for people living near the stadium. Applications are considered across areas such as:

- Local environmental projects, street greening and community gardens
- Extra-curricular school initiatives that broaden pupils' experiences
- Facilities, activities and services for local people
- Local arts and heritage projects
- Residents' groups and neighbourhood initiatives
- Local community events and festivals

Going forward, we are committed to continuing the rollout of this fund to ensure a lively and prosperous local community around our stadium.

## **GAA COMMUNITY**

For over a century, Croke Park Stadium has been the ancestral home of the GAA and Gaelic games, serving as a cornerstone of Ireland's cultural, social, and sporting life. Beyond hosting major sporting events, Croke Park Stadium plays an active role in promoting community wellbeing, social inclusion, and engagement across the country. The stadium provides a safe, welcoming environment that fosters participation, strengthens social cohesion, and encourages a sense of belonging among communities.

Through the GAA's extensive network of local clubs and community programmes, Croke Park Stadium supports grassroots sport, volunteerism, and youth development. Initiatives promote health, fitness, and active lifestyles, while also contributing to broader social objectives, including education, social integration, and community resilience. These efforts extend beyond the stadium, reaching thousands of participants across Ireland and internationally, demonstrating the GAA's commitment to creating positive, long-term social impact.



Croke Park Stadium's community engagement aligns with its wider ESG commitments, ensuring that its operations contribute to societal wellbeing and the development of inclusive, healthy, and connected communities. By fostering participation, supporting local initiatives, and promoting Irish cultural heritage, Croke Park Stadium and the GAA reinforce their enduring role as drivers of positive social value in Ireland and beyond.

### **Case Study: Go Games: Encouraging Fun, Fair Play and Full Participation for Every Child**

Go Games represent one of the most important developments in Camogie, Hurling and Gaelic Football for young players. Designed specifically for children from Under-7 to Under-12, the programme ensures that every boy and girl gets the chance to fully participate, learn, and most importantly, have fun. At the heart of Go Games is a simple but powerful idea: everyone plays, and every game is for everyone.

Children take part in Gaelic games for many reasons. They love to play with their friends, they enjoy being active, and they are encouraged by their parents, coaches and schools. But research and experience also show the main reasons children drop out: a lack of fun, feeling they are “not good enough,” or being placed in an environment too focused on winning. Go Games were created to combat these issues and to put the needs and enjoyment of the child first.

To support meaningful participation and learning for all Under-12 players, Go Games are built on several key principles:

- Everyone plays in the full game. Every child gets a “Go,” ensuring equal opportunity and involvement.
- Age-appropriate structures. Games and activities are tailored to each age group from U7 to U12.
- Fun and friendships come first. Go Games aim to maximise enjoyment, teamwork, and a sense of belonging.
- A supportive, safe environment. Children are encouraged to try, to fail, to learn, and to enjoy the journey.
- Skill development for both sides of the body. Players learn to strike, pass and kick off both left and right sides, giving them a strong technical foundation.
- Respect at the core. Coaches, parents, teachers, players and supporters are asked to uphold the GAA's “Give Respect, Get Respect” and the LGFA's “Take A Second” initiatives, helping to create a positive and encouraging atmosphere for all.

To celebrate the achievements of clubs and children across the country, Croke Park Stadium hosts twelve special Go Games days each year. These events give young players the unforgettable experience of lining out in the largest stadium in the country, playing non-competitive games, and creating memories that last a lifetime. There are no trophies, no scoreboards, and no pressure, just joy, participation and pride.



# CERTIFICATIONS AND AFFILIATIONS

| Certification  | How the Certification contributes to making Croke Park Stadium more Sustainable  |
|--|--|
| ISO 20121<br>Sustainable Event Management              | ISO 20121 helps Croke Park Stadium plan and run events sustainably by reducing environmental impact, promoting social responsibility, and integrating sustainability into all aspects of event operations.   |
| ISO 50001<br>Energy Management System                  | ISO 50001 enables Croke Park Stadium to manage energy efficiently, reduce carbon emissions, and continuously improve sustainability across stadium operations.   |
| ISO 14001<br>Environmental Management System           | ISO 14001 helps Croke Park Stadium systematically manage its environmental impact, improve sustainability, and ensure compliance with environmental regulations.   |
| ISO 45001<br>Occupational Health and Safety Management | ISO 45001 ensures Croke Park Stadium maintains high health and safety standards, protecting staff, contractors, and visitors while supporting a sustainable and responsible operation.   |
| Smarter Travel Mark                                    | The Smarter Travel Mark helps Croke Park Stadium encourage staff, visitors, and event-goers to choose sustainable transport, reducing carbon emissions and supporting greener mobility.  |
| Uisce Eireann Water Stewardship                        | The Irish Water Stewardship Programme certification helps Croke Park Stadium manage water use responsibly, reduce consumption, and embed best-practice water management into its overall sustainability strategy, driving both environmental and operational improvements. |
| Age Friendly Stadium                                   | Croke Park Stadium's Age Friendly Stadium status ensures all visitors, including older adults, can enjoy events safely and comfortably, promoting inclusivity and accessibility.   |

## Event Certifications

- UEFA
- FIFA

## Memberships

- ESSMA - European Stadium & Safety Management Association
- EPSI – European Platform for Sport Innovation
- SBTi – Science Based Targets initiative
- Dublin Chamber

## Affiliations

- GAA
- LGFA
- The Camogie Association
- Sport Ireland
- All Ireland Pollinator Plan

- Biodiversity Ireland
- My Waste
- Re-turn
- SEAI (Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland)
- An Garda Síochána
- Dublin Fire Brigade
- Dublin City Council
- National Transport Authority
- Dublin Bus
- Transport for Ireland
- NEIC (North East Inner City of Dublin)
- Vision Sports Ireland
- Emergency Management Institute of Ireland
- South East Technological University
- Office of Emergency Planning (OEP), Department of Defence
- Age Friendly Ireland
- Changing Places Ireland
- IWA Sport
- SGS

## ABOUT THIS REPORT

This is Croke Park Stadium's first comprehensive sustainability report and has been in general alignment to the EU's Voluntary Sustainability Reporting Standard for Non-Listed SMEs (VSME) from the EU Commission and its technical advisor EFRAG. This report includes emissions data from 2024, unless otherwise stated.

It is most likely that Croke Park Stadium will no longer be in scope of the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD), however it is committed to monitoring its obligations and to reporting on its sustainability performance to inform key stakeholders.

If you require further information on this report, you can contact [sustainability@crokepark.ie](mailto:sustainability@crokepark.ie)



# APPENDICES:

## ENVIRONMENTAL METRICS

|   | Base Year |          | Change 2022 to 2024 |
|---|-----------|----------|---------------------|
| SBTi GHG Inventory                          | 2022      | 2024     | %                   |
| Scope 1                                     | 1,038.58  | 1,081.58 | 4%                  |
| Scope 1 (FLAG)                              | 124.86    | 119.42   | -4%                 |
| Scope 2 Location-based                      | 1,419.22  | 1,418.11 | 0%                  |
| Scope 2 market-based                        | 7.25      | 1.39     | -81%                |
| 1. Purchased Goods and services             | 2,783.19  | 2,067.76 | -26%                |
| 1. Purchased Goods and services (FLAG)      | 9,533.28  | 1,233.46 | -87%                |
| 2. Capital Goods                            | 1,318.92  | 4,430.43 | 236%                |
| 3. Fuel- and energy-related activities      | 530.58    | 498.32   | -6%                 |
| 4. Upstream transportation and distribution | 58.47     | 68.92    | 18%                 |
| 5. Waste generated in operations            | 19.19     | 11.98    | -38%                |
| 6. Business travel                          | 17.81     | 44.92    | 152%                |
| 7. Employee commuting                       | 140.76    | 174.69   | 24%                 |
| 8. Upstream leased assets                   | N/A       | N/A      | N/A                 |
| 10. Processing of sold products             | N/A       | N/A      | N/A                 |
| 11. Use of sold products                    | N/A       | N/A      | N/A                 |
| 12. End-of-life treatment of sold products  | 0.29      | 0.09     | -69%                |
| 13. Downstream leased assets                | 14,982.90 | 735.55   | -95%                |
| 14. Franchises                              | N/A       | N/A      | N/A                 |
| 15. Investments                             | 19.91     | 31.44    | 58%                 |

Table 1: Scope 1, 2 and 3 Greenhouse Gas Emissions (SBTi Minimum Boundary Emissions)

Additionally, we have measured the optional emissions category of Downstream transportation and Distribution (Scope 3 Category 9), in relation to our visitor travel. This figure was recorded at 143,987.30 in 2022 and 180,064.14 in 2024, demonstrating a 25% increase.

### SBTi Target details

Overall net-zero target: Croke Park commits to reach net-zero greenhouse gas emissions across the value chain by 2050.

Near-term targets:

- Energy & Industry: Croke Park commits to reduce absolute scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions 50.4% by 2032 from a 2022 base year.
- Croke Park also commits to reduce absolute scope 3 GHG emissions 30% within the same timeframe.
- FLAG: Croke Park commits to reduce absolute scope 1 and 3 FLAG GHG emissions 36.4% by 2032 from a 2022 base year. The target includes FLAG emissions and removals.
- Croke Park commits to no deforestation across its primary deforestation-linked commodities, with a target date of December 31, 2025.

### Long-term targets:

- Energy & Industry: Croke Park commits to reduce absolute scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions 90% by 2050 from a 2022 base year.
- Croke Park also commits to reduce absolute scope 3 GHG emissions 90% within the same timeframe.
- FLAG: Croke Park commits to reduce absolute scope 1 and 3 FLAG GHG emissions 72% by 2050 from a 2022 base year. The target includes FLAG emissions and removals.

| Waste Type        | Quantity Generated (tonnes) | Waste Classification                               |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| General waste     | 305                         | Non-hazardous / SRF                                |
| Paper/Cardboard   | 12                          | Recyclable / dry recyclable waste                  |
| Plastic           | 20                          | Recyclable / dry recyclable waste                  |
| Mixed Recyclables | 25                          | Recyclable / dry recyclable waste                  |
| Organic           | 189                         | Compostable / Biodegradable Waste                  |
| Glass             | 63                          | Recyclable / dry recyclable waste                  |
| Re-Turn products  | 5                           | Recyclable / dry recyclable waste                  |
| WEEE              | 9                           | Special / Hazardous Recycling / E-waste            |
| Metal             | 3                           | Scrap Metal / Special Recycling / Industrial Waste |
| Total             | 631                         |  |

Table 2: Waste generated (tonnes) 2025

Certificate IE10/66526

The management system of

## Pairc An Chrocaigh Teoranta

SGS

Jones Road, Croke Park, Dublin 3, D03 P6K7, Ireland.

has been assessed and certified as meeting the requirements of  
**ISO 20121:2012**

For the following activities

Sustainability Management System in support of all activities within the stadium complex and environs including Event & Sporting activities at Croke Park Stadium.

This certificate is valid from 01 June 2025 until 02 April 2026 and remains valid subject to satisfactory surveillance audits.  
Issue 8. Certified since 17 May 2010

Authorised by

SGS Ireland Ltd.



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Certificate IE09/66479

The management system of

## Pairc An Chrocaigh Teoranta

SGS

Jones Road, Croke Park, Dublin 3, D03 P6K7, Ireland.

has been assessed and certified as meeting the requirements of

**ISO 14001:2015**

For the following activities

Environmental Management System in support of all activities within the stadium complex and environs including Event & Sporting activities at Croke Park Stadium.

This certificate is valid from 01 June 2025 until 01 June 2028 and remains valid subject to satisfactory surveillance audits.  
Issue 10. Certified since 18 May 2009

*L. Moran*

Authorised by

Liz Moran

Business Manager

SGS United Kingdom Ltd

Rossmore Business Park, Ellesmere Port, Cheshire, CH65 3EN, UK

t +44 (0)151 350-6666 - [www.sgs.com](http://www.sgs.com)



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Certificate IE13/81311

The management system of

## Pairc An Chrocaigh Teoranta

SGS

Jones Road, Croke Park, Dublin 3, D03 P6K7, Ireland.

has been assessed and certified as meeting the requirements of

**ISO 45001:2018**

For the following activities

Health and Safety Management System in support of all activities within the stadium complex and environs including Event & Sporting activities at Croke Park Stadium.

This certificate is valid from 01 June 2025 until 01 June 2028 and remains valid subject to satisfactory surveillance audits.  
Issue 7. Certified since 20 November 2013

*L. Moran*

Authorised by

Liz Moran

Business Manager

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Certificate IE24/0000003

The Energy management system of

## Pairc An Chrocaigh Teoranta

Jones Road, Croke Park, Dublin 3, Ireland.

has been assessed and certified as meeting the requirements of  
**ISO 50001:2018**

For the following activities

The Energy Management System of activities within the stadium complex and environs including Event & Sporting activities at Croke Park Stadium

This certificate is valid from 05 January 2024 until 05 January 2027 and remains valid subject to satisfactory surveillance audits.

Issue 1. Certified since 05 January 2024



Authorised by  
Eugene Kirwan  
SGS Ireland Ltd.



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# electric ireland



## CROKE PARK

1st June 2024 to 30th June 2026

Croke Park Stadium, Jones's Road, Dublin 3

**We are powered by resource  
renewable electricity supplied  
by Electric Ireland**

Electric Ireland guarantees that 100% of the electricity supplied under this price plan is sourced from renewable generation, in accordance with the Commission for Regulation of Utilities Green Source Product Verification process.

Clare McAllister, Manager, Business Sales and Service



**CROKE PARK  
SUSTAINABILITY  
REPORT 2025**

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Baile Átha Cliath 3

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Guthán +353 1 836 3222

