

Case Study: Ringsend / Irishtown Sustainable Energy Community (RISE-Community)



Project Background

The Ringsend / Irishtown Sustainable Energy Community (RISE-C) formed in 2017 to work on building capacity for sustainable energy in the community through community participation. Located on the south of the Dublin Docklands, RISE-C emerged from existing community initiatives aimed at sustainability and local engagement.

“We took the recommendation from the energy audit to develop an action plan for phased investment over the next three to four years. We wanted a strong visual statement of sustainable energy and chose to install solar PV panels with an internal display showing generation levels,” says Joe Donnelly CEO of the Fair Play Café and Chairman of RISE-C.

Project Description

In 2018, RISE-C received funding from SEAI to develop an Energy Master Plan. RISE-C partnered with Arden Energy, and worked with the Fair Play Café and some businesses and resident-homeowners, to establish the baseline energy use in the community. The Energy Master Plan was of particular importance to RISE-C because it identified demonstration projects for retrofit and created a Register of Opportunities to chart the next actionable steps, helping to build momentum.

Also in 2019, RISE-C received funding from the SEAI Communities Grant to complete several demonstration projects. Working with Arden Energy, the Fair Play Café, Clanna Gael GAA Club and the Rediscovery Centre, RISE-C completed a number of projects including the installation of LED lights, heating controls, insulation and solar PV. These early demonstration projects were important in helping RISE-C maintain momentum.

Results:

Energy Master Plan Completed in 2019

- Established the community's Baseline Energy Consumption
- Carried out representative domestic and tertiary audits
- Created templates for action through the 'Register of Opportunities'
- Completed exemplar projects with funding from the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) Communities Grant 2019

Early emphasis on facilitating demonstration projects in key community buildings

- Fair Play Café (LED lights, solar PV, heating controls, insulation)
- Clanna Gael GAA club (LED lights, solar PV)
- Rediscovery Centre (Heat pump, LED lights, solar PV)

- **Annual Energy Savings: 200,000 kWh/year energy savings**
- **Annual Cost Savings: €18,000**
- **Project Cost: €200,000**
- **Payback: 11 Years**

In 2021, RISE-C hopes, subject to SEAI grant approval, to continue to build on the success of our previous work by facilitating key community organisations and sports clubs in implementing sustainable energy projects and building awareness, skills and enthusiasm in the community.



Follow our progress on:

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Website: www.risec.ie

For further information on this project please contact:
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