National Radon Control Strategy

- **4 year strategy** launched by the Minister for Environment (2014)
- Delivered through an **interagency group**
- **31 Actions in 6 thematic areas**
- **3.5 Years** in:
  - 17 actions complete
  - 10 actions ongoing
  - 4 actions to be addressed in 2018
  - Many will be carried out on an ongoing basis
Completed Actions
Radon Website

www.radon.ie
Completed Actions
Training course for Site Staff

5 Protecting the area.mp4
Completed Actions
Training course for Remediators

- 2 day training course on radon remediation was developed and delivered in 2016 at 4 centers
- 89 remediation contractors and staff of State bodies trained
- Course included exam and assessment
Completed Actions

Remediation Services Registration

- Launched January 2017
- 13 services listed
- Listed services have:
  - completed Remediation Training
  - proven tax compliance
  - proven appropriate insurance
- On-going registration:
  - Above requirements by 31st Jan annually
  - provision of data to EPA
**Completed Actions**

**Measurement Services Registration**

**Registered Radon Testing Services**

This list of registered radon measurement services is published by the Environmental Protection Agency to provide information to members of the public.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Registered Radon Measurement Service</th>
<th>Website</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Mobile/FreePhone</th>
<th>Landline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Clear Radon</td>
<td><a href="http://www.theradonshop.com">www.theradonshop.com</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:eugene@allclearradon.ie">eugene@allclearradon.ie</a></td>
<td>087-2808492</td>
<td>053-9004227</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Radon</td>
<td><a href="http://www.alpharadon.ie">www.alpharadon.ie</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@alpharadon.ie">info@alpharadon.ie</a></td>
<td>086-8470449</td>
<td>066-9150900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Protection Agency</td>
<td>See below for online form</td>
<td><a href="mailto:radon@epa.ie">radon@epa.ie</a></td>
<td>1800-300600</td>
<td>01-2580100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radon Aware Group</td>
<td><a href="http://www.radongas.ie">www.radongas.ie</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@radonawaregroup.ie">info@radonawaregroup.ie</a></td>
<td>086-2331116</td>
<td>065-6848991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radon Ireland</td>
<td><a href="http://www.radonireland.com">www.radonireland.com</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@radonireland.com">info@radonireland.com</a></td>
<td>086-2720107</td>
<td>021-7334880</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Listed services have:

1. Provided evidence of successful proficiency testing
2. Provided evidence of current tax compliance and
3. Provided evidence of appropriate public and employers liability insurance
From January 2017 Law Society of Ireland revised contract of sale includes 3 radon questions:

1. Has a radon test been carried out?

2. If a radon test has been carried out, please supply the report

3. Has any action to reduce radon levels been undertaken?
1 in 6 Mayo people lives with a killer.

One in six Mayo homes have dangerous levels of Radon. It's a naturally occurring gas, but it can cause lung cancer. Radon led to 195 deaths in Ireland last year. It's invisible and it has no smell or taste, so you won't know it's there. But a simple inexpensive test can tell you if your home is safe. Nobody should live with the risk of Radon.

Order your test now. Freephone 1800 300 600. Or go to www.epa.ie.

Completed Actions
Local Campaigns

- Wicklow: November 2016
- Clare: November 2015
- Mayo: November 2014
- Kilkenny: March 2014
- Louth: April 2013
- Wexford: November 2012
- Kerry: March 2012
- Galway: October 2011
- South Tipperary: May 2011
- Waterford: October 2010
- Carlow: April 2010
- Sligo: March 2010
Completed Actions
Establish Annual Radon Day 7th November
Ongoing Actions - Research

Updated mean (1) indoor & (2) population weighted radon concentration

1. Collaboration between EPA & UCD
   - Current national average indoor radon concentration is 77 Bq/m$^3$
   - 13% reduction from 89 Bq/m$^3$ in the 2002 survey

2. Collaboration: between EPA, UCD, HSE, NCRI

Ongoing Actions - Research Rate of remediation in Ireland


- **Remediation rate is 22%**

- Fan assisted sump most popular remedial method

- Average reduction with fan assisted sump (90%)

- Installation cost has decreased from €1150 to €925

- 89% happy with customer service

Rate of radon remediation in Ireland 2011-2015:
Before today’s survey, have you ever heard of radon gas?

- Three in four (75%) adults claim to be aware of radon gas.

- Awareness levels increase with age with those aged 65+ (91%) exhibiting significantly higher awareness levels.

- Males are also significantly more likely to be aware of radon gas than females.
Ongoing Actions – Research refinement of radon map

Indoor radon Measurements
Bedrock type
Soil type
Soil permeability
Aquifer type

Predicted radon risk

Ongoing Actions - Research

• NUIG: An investigation of the optimum specification for soil depressurization systems that take account of Irish building practices (Le Chi Hung, Jamie Goggins, Marta Fuente and Mark Foley)

• NUIG: Understanding ventilation and radon in energy efficient buildings in Ireland (Miriam Byrne and James McGrath)

• TCD: Radon remediation and follow up in schools (Gillian Gunning and Eric Finch)

• TCD: Review of Public Information Programmes to Enhance Home Radon Screening Uptake and Home Remediation. David Hevey)
NRCS – Next Steps

• Good progress to date

• Report progress to Government in April 2018

• Review strategy including knowledge gaps to feed into next phase…….