



Success Stories

Taking actions to prevent waste and reuse materials in the public sector positively impacts the environment - reducing resource consumption, the need for waste management, and expenditure. Some examples of actions taken by public sector offices around the country include:

Department of Health



78,000

plastic bag liners eliminated annually by removing individual desk bins and



€10,000

annual savings in printing costs by reducing the number of printers in use from 300 to 18.

Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation



17,000

plastic bag liners eliminated annually by removing individual desk bins in the Carlow office.

Department of Rural and Community Development



90%

of waste diverted from the general waste bin by establishing recycling stations and introducing food waste bins for organic waste in the Trinity Point and Ballina office.

Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine



80,000

single-use plastic water bottles prevented annually by providing staff with and promoting reusable water bottles.

Department of Housing, Planning, and Local Government



13%

decrease in waste generated per employee by implementing efficient waste management systems, including measuring and monitoring waste data, better segregation and increased staff awareness-raising.

Environmental Protection Agency



50%

reduction in the quantity of paper purchased by implementing eDocs and online systems to reduce the need for paper and printing, ongoing staff awareness-raising and managed print services across all offices, e.g. ID card needed to print.

RTÉ



312,000

plastic bin liners &

14,000

plastic cups eliminated annually by introducing reusable bin liners and reusable cups.

Wexford County Council



59,000

sheets of paper saved in 2020 by switching to online options for recruitment and saved €3,500 in associated costs. Ongoing initiatives to reduce paper consumption include switching to paperless Council meetings and online grant applications.

Cork City Hall



€8,400

saved by replacing single-use plastic cups with 500 reusable cups after identifying that disposable cups were a significant contributor to the waste stream.