



SOE 1: Environmental Policy Position

A national policy position for Ireland's environment.

ACTIONS – WHAT IS NEEDED?

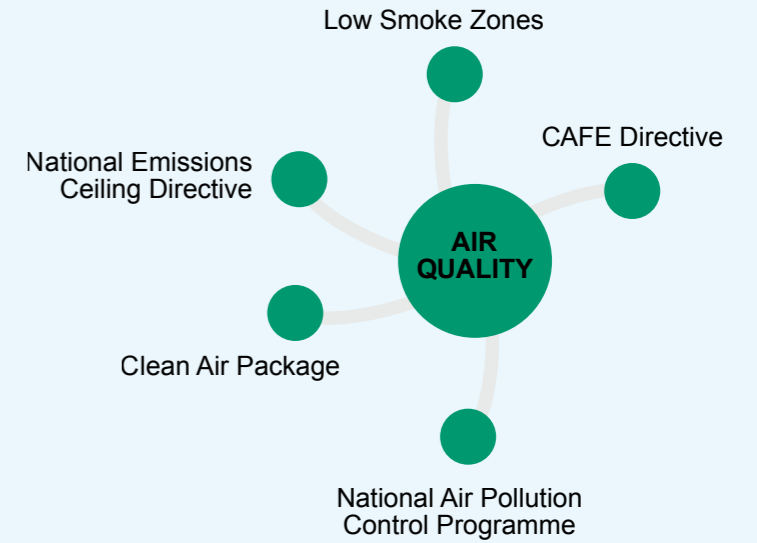
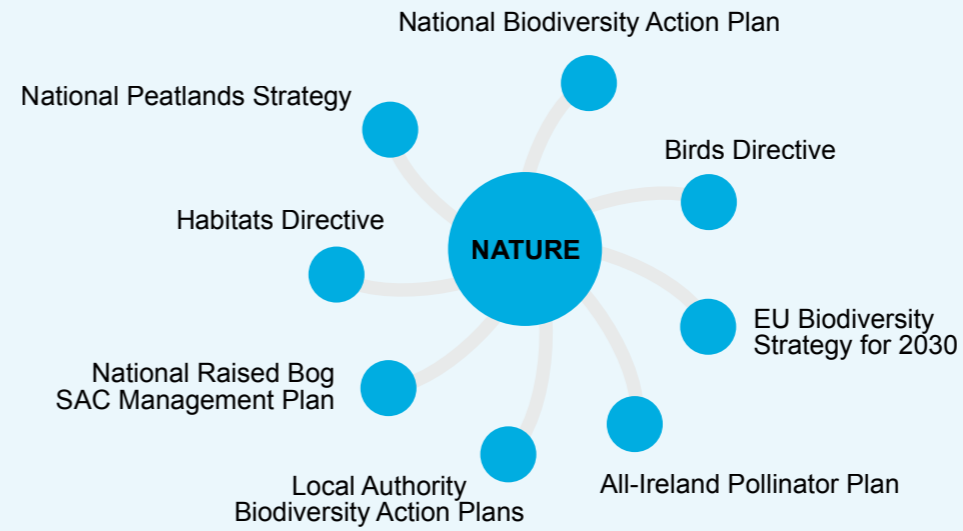
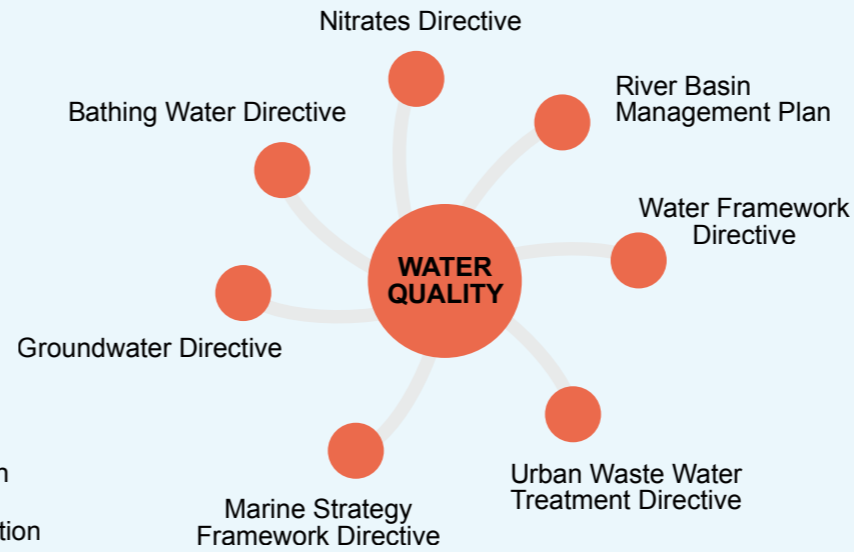
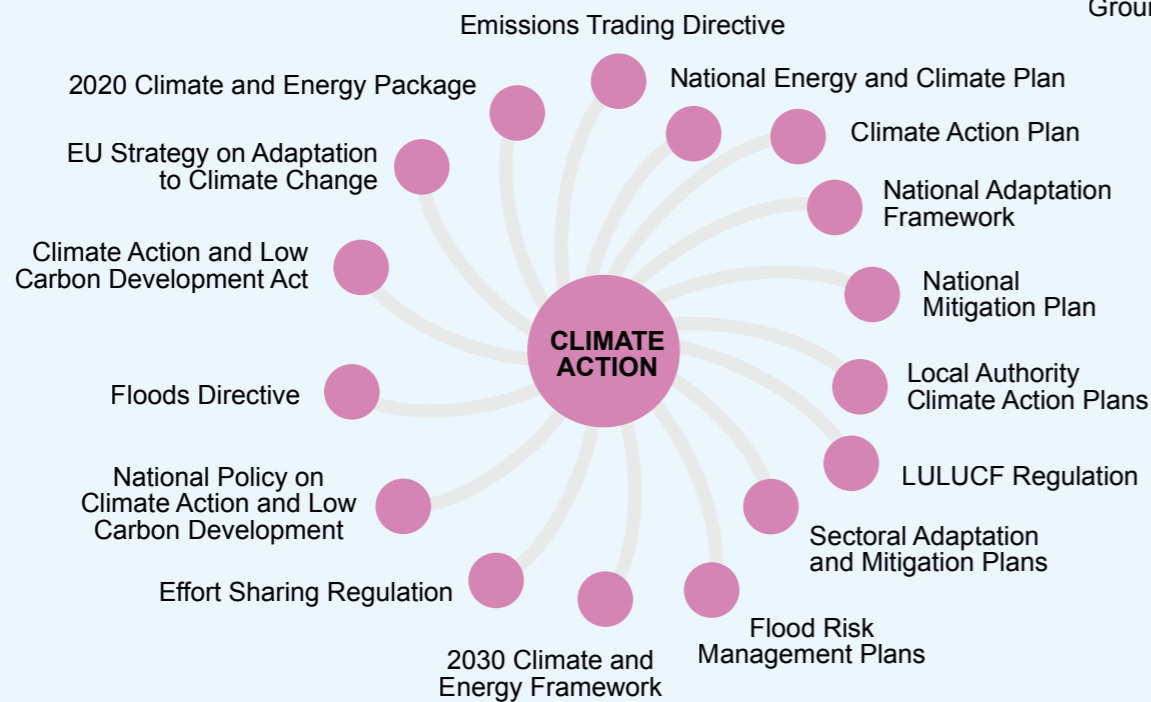
There are many interlinkages and dependencies between environmental policies and legislation. These links could be better connected and reinforced through an integrated national policy position on protecting Ireland's environment.



Ireland needs a national policy position for the environment

Nationally we tend to examine separately how different parts of the environment function and how we address challenges such as climate, nature, water, air and waste.

Environmental challenges are addressed by different pieces of national legislation, policies, plans and programmes. There isn't one overall national policy position for Ireland's environment that joins up all these areas.



Integrating our policy

Modern environmental problems are complex and cross-cutting. They need to be tackled in an integrated way. Currently, there is no overall national policy position for Ireland's environment that joins up all these areas.

We should look at a whole of system approach to environmental protection. We need to think more about how environmental systems fit together and interact. We need to have policies that work together under one umbrella to integrate all these functionalities.

A national policy position that covers all environmental issues would help us to make our policies work together. This image shows the opportunities to join up and integrate different policies and plans to develop a national policy position for Ireland.



Source Ireland's Environment: An Assessment 2020.