Trinity College Dublin
Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath
The University of Dublin

TRINITY SUSTAINABILITY
ANNUAL REPORT 2025

www.tcd.ie/sustainability/

Vision

We will be a university, a place, and a community where climate change and biodiversity loss are addressed in a holistic, integrated and health-focused way to protect and restore our planetary home for future generations.

Mission

To tackle climate and biodiversity challenges for a healthy planet and healthy people through our educational programmes, our research and innovation, and our day-to-day operations, both within Trinity and in partnership with external collaborators and communities.

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Word from the Vice President for Biodiversity and Climate Action

Figure 1:
Prof. Jane Stout, Vice President for Biodiversity & Climate Action

In the two years since Trinity's first Sustainability Strategy was launched, so much has been achieved by our community, from across all areas of the university.

The new Trinity Strategy 'Thrive', launched in October, recognises that climate and biodiversity are foundational, and reemphasises our vision to be a university, a place, and a community where climate change and biodiversity loss are addressed in a holistic, integrated and health-focused way to protect and restore our planetary home for future generations.

The progress captured in this report reflects the collective efforts of students and colleagues across the breadth of the college to realise this vision. From finance teams embedding sustainability into procurement and investment decisions, to library staff championing resource efficiency and sustainable collections; from buildings and maintenance teams driving energy performance and infrastructure upgrades, to researchers and academics across every discipline integrating sustainability into education and discovery; from professional services staff to our engaged and committed students - this is a shared endeavour. Sustainability action lives in our laboratories, lecture theatres, offices, green spaces, and governance structures because our community has committed to it.

2025 represented a step change in our capacity to deliver. Trinity has invested meaningfully in our Sustainability Team, which now has a full complement of 10 dedicated staff. This strengthened capacity has enabled us to accelerate implementation of our Sustainability Action Plan, with the majority of actions now either underway or completed.

Trinity's efforts have been recognised externally. This year we have achieved strong performance in the QS Global Sustainability Rankings, secured Responsible Futures accreditation, and earned the Gold Smarter Travel Mark.

These recognitions are welcome affirmations of progress. However, they are not our motivation. We are driven by a far more urgent reality: the continued deterioration of the natural world and the escalating risks that accompany it. Seven of the nine planetary boundaries are now breached. Climate instability, biodiversity loss, and pollution are not distant environmental concerns; they are material economic risks and growing threats to public health, food systems, and global security. As a university, an institution dedicated to knowledge, evidence, and the public good, we have a responsibility to respond with genuine commitment and resolve.

In 2025, we have started to strengthen how we communicate and enable action. Our sustainability website continues to be upgraded as a central hub for transparency and engagement. Our greenhouse gas emissions reports are published within our Climate Action Roadmap. Dedicated guidance and training for Green Labs, and our recently launched Biodiversity and Campus Travel Plans, are freely available. We have expanded our programme of events and created more visible pathways for staff and students to get involved. We have delivered a wide range of sustainability training opportunities and established a new staff sustainability network to connect colleagues across departments.

These forums are helping to catalyse bottom-up initiatives – locally led projects that reflect the creativity and expertise of our community.

Looking ahead, work will begin at the end of 2026 on a new action plan to guide us toward our 2030 targets. The scale of the challenge before us is immense, but so too is the capability, ingenuity, and commitment of our community. Together, we will continue to turn ambition into action and I am very proud of the collective progress we have made so far.

Climate instability, biodiversity loss, and pollution are not distant environmental concerns; they are material economic risks and growing threats to public health, food systems, and global security.

Key Milestones 2025

Our Team

Trinity Sustainability is responsible for coordinating the delivery of Trinity's Sustainability Strategy, which has ambitious targets relating to climate, biodiversity and health. The team expanded in 2025, with additional roles including Sustainable Travel Officer, Biodiversity Officer, Healthy Campus Officer and Sustainability Assistant. In addition, the team within the Centre for Academic Practice, Trinity Teaching & Learning expanded with two new part time Education for Sustainable Development Fellows.


Jane Stout
VP Biodiversity & Climate Action


Jane Hackett
Sustainability Manager


Martina Mullin
Healty Campus Manager


Dumitru Anton
Green Labs Officer


Katie Byrne
Communications Officer

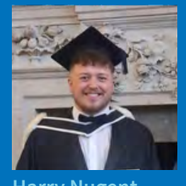

Claire Byrne
Sustainable |Travel Officer


Collie Ennis
Biodiversity Officer


Sophie Matabaro
Healthy Campus Administrator


Laetitia Deering
Office Admin Lead (& Provost Office)


Sarah Murphy
Sustainability Assistant


Harry Nugent
GIS Intern


Cuisle Forde
Assoc Prof, Physiotherapy


Jonathan Hodgers
Teaching Fellow, Creative Arts

Figure 2: Trinity Sustainability Staff Members

Climate & Biodiversity Research

In November 2025 Trinity launched the Climate Gateway, which was a brainchild of Prof. Karen Wiltshire. The mission of the Gateway is to build a dynamic, resilience-focused climate science and education network that:

- Champions bold policies
- Sparks innovative solutions
- Fosters shared accountability

The Climate Gateway aims to connect Ireland with national and global networks, to empower ourselves to confront climate change head-on and build a thriving, resilient future.

Responsible Futures Accreditation

In 2025 Trinity was the first university in the Republic of Ireland to receive the Responsible Futures accreditation following a student-led audit to measure Trinity's progress in embedding sustainability in the curriculum, in our governance and in our operations. This was a result of Trinity's participation in an international pilot in 2023/2024 alongside 17 other international institutions.

Responsible Futures
accredited institution

Smarter Travel Mark

Trinity was awarded the Gold level Smarter Travel Mark in September 2025 from the National Transport Authority (NTA) for efforts to support active and sustainable travel to and from our campuses. Trinity is now one of only three universities in Ireland to achieve the gold-level award.

Figure 3: The Provost, Linda Doyle, receiving the Smarter Travel Mark Gold Level Award

Transport Study

Trinity was awarded funding from the National Transport Authority to undertake a comprehensive transport study which included eight priorities ranging from undertaking a microsimulation model of Lincoln Place to the development of a comprehensive Campus Travel Plan 2025-2030.

Campus Biodiversity Plan

Trinity developed its first Biodiversity Plan in 2025 in collaboration with key stakeholders. The plan has three objectives with 27 actions supporting them. The plan will be implemented by the Biodiversity Officer in collaboration with the Grounds & Gardens Expert Group and the team in Estates and Facilities.

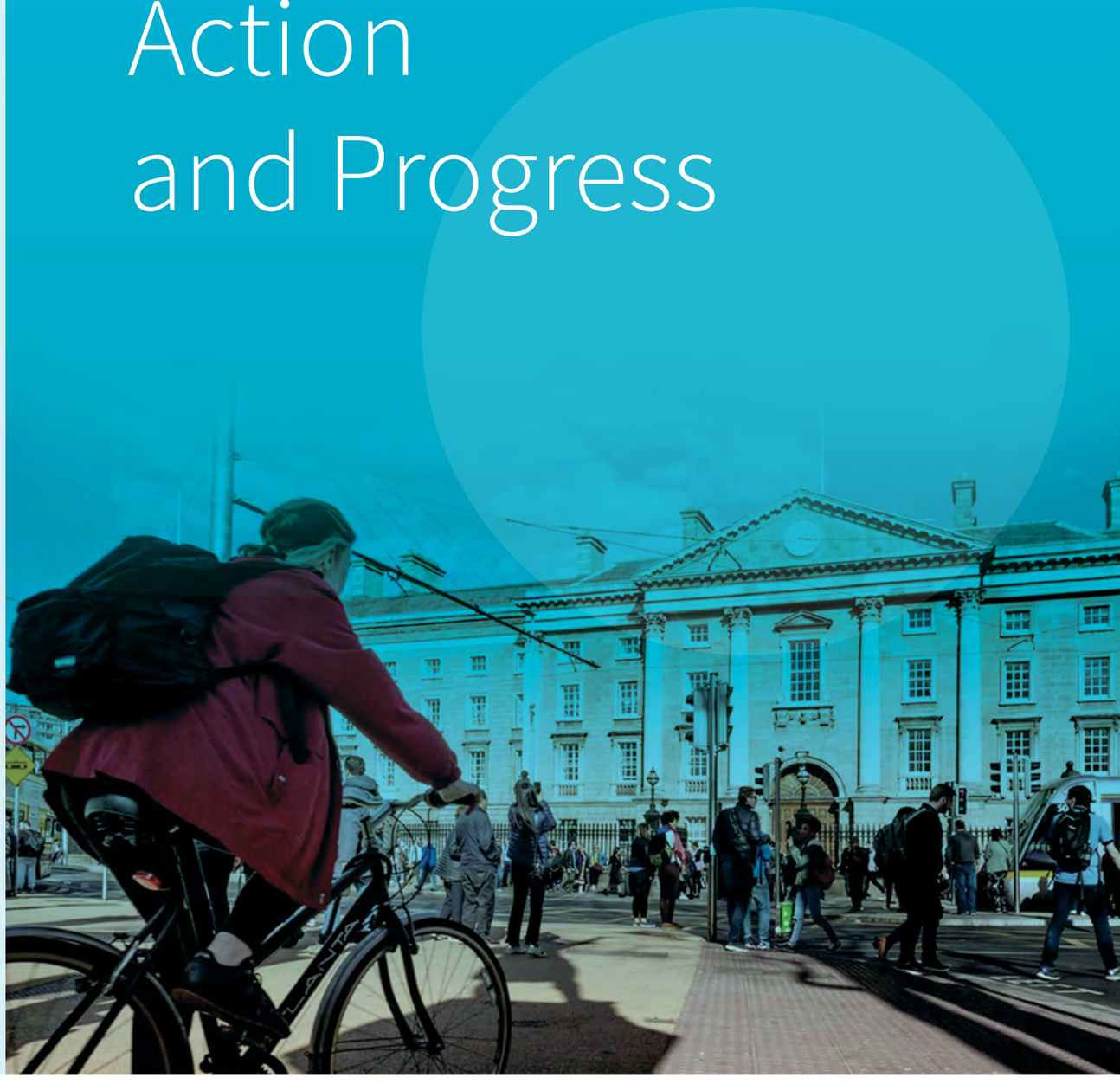
Campus Travel Plan

Trinity obtained funding from the National Transport Authority to develop its first Campus Travel Plan in collaboration with key stakeholders. The travel plan was developed over a twelve-month period with two extensive consultations for students and staff. The plan has five key themes: walking & wheeling, cycling, public transport, vehicle access and visitors & tourists. The plan is supported by 63 actions which will be implemented by the Sustainable Travel Officer in collaboration with Estates & Facilities and the Smarter Travel Committee.

QS Sustainability Rankings 2025

Trinity was ranked 29th in the world in the 2026 QS Sustainability Ranking , recognising sustainability as a central priority across the university. It also placed first in Ireland and 16th in Europe for sustainability. This recognition follows the establishment of a Vice-President for Biodiversity and Climate Action, an important senior role aimed at embedding sustainability across education, research, operations and community.

Action and Progress



1. Education

Strategic Objective:

All Trinity students and teaching staff will be empowered to develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to act as agents of change, individually and collectively, in working for sustainable development within planetary boundaries.

Education for Sustainable Development

In 2024, Trinity strengthened its commitment to Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) by establishing a cross-functional, interdisciplinary team within the Centre for Academic Practice – including four ESD Fellows and two Academic Developers, who work in collaboration with Trinity Sustainability. With a comprehensive work programme aligned to Trinity's Sustainability Strategy 2023-2030 and Trinity's Performance Agreement with the HEA 2023-2028, achievements for 2025 included:

ESD Curriculum Design Framework

Trinity's ESD Curriculum Design Framework was developed to support the (re)design of modules and programmes to embed ESD. Adopting a constructive alignment approach, there are 4 tenets to this framework:

- **ESD themes** - content relating to achieving sustainability in the context of the Biosphere, Society, and the Economy.
- **ESD competencies** - skills, values, and attitudes that students require to help achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- **Pedagogical approaches** that support and motivate students to develop the ESD competencies.
- **Teaching, learning, and assessment strategies** that can be used to enact the pedagogical approaches.

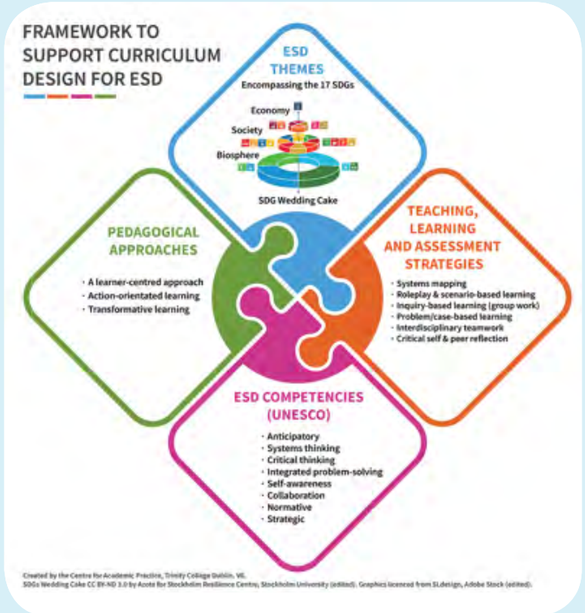


Figure 4: Framework to Support Curriculum Design for ESD

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Development and Launch of an ESD Hub

This hub comprises a wealth of resources to support staff as they embed ESD, including toolkits, Quick Start Guides and a curated **ESD Open Educational Resources (OER) Library** enabling educators to access, share and adapt teaching materials.

Professional Development for ESD

Over 140 staff participated in professional development for ESD, including 50+ staff who were awarded a Certificate of Completion for a 'Next Steps for Enacting ESD' staff module.

Figure 5: Awarding of Certificates to Participants on 'Next Steps for Enacting ESD' staff module (March 2025)

Teaching & Learning Symposium

The Centre for Academic Practice also hosted a College-wide Teaching and Learning Symposium, themed "SustAIning Educational Innovation" which showcased ESD through a dedicated curriculum design workshop facilitated with expert colleagues from Queen's University Belfast and Ulster University.

Figure 6: Centre for Academic Practice, Trinity Teaching & Learning, Teaching & Learning Symposium (May 2025)

National ESD Spotlight Series

The team contributed to sectoral knowledge exchange through presentations as part of the National ESD Spotlight Series. Sector-wide engagement was further extended through presentations on ESD curriculum frameworks and capacity building at the HEA Teaching and Learning Conference (December 2025). The team has contributed to the HEA National Forum's ESD and Academic Quality workshop in UCD on 12th May 2025, and the ESD Spotlight Celebration at the Royal Irish Academy on 21st November 2025.

Figure 7: December 2025: HEA Teaching and Learning Symposium (Dec.2025)

An **ESD Community of Practice** was established to support cross-disciplinary collaboration and sustain momentum in embedding sustainability across curricula.

Mapping of ESD themes, competencies and pedagogical approaches in the curricula

Extensive research was undertaken to map ESD across UG and PG curricula. This included:

- Development of a mapping methodology to ensure consistency and reliability across mapping processes;
- Mapping **24** postgraduate programmes with the aim of establishing a baseline of practice in 2026;
- Mapping **46** undergraduate electives with the aim of getting an insight into how and where ESD was already embedded within undergraduate curricula;
- Establishing a research partnership with **4** undergraduate student interns to analyse, co-create and implement evaluation frameworks which assess the effectiveness and impact of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) approaches across the curriculum.

Healthy Trinity Online Tool (HTOT)

Student Counselling created new modules for HTOT that are available to all undergraduate and postgraduate students through Blackboard entitled "Bias, Consent and Porn", and "Gender Identity". These modules add to Healthy Trinity Online Tool modules on academic life, financial matters, healthy eating, mood, physical activity, relaxation, sleep and sensory health, sexual consent and substance use. Students using HTOT are directed to Trinity and national supports.

Healthy Trinity in the Curriculum

Healthy Trinity aims to embed Heath in the curriculum and did so during 2025 in the following modules through a series of workshops:

Course or Module	Workshop	No. of Students
Compulsory ESD module	Anxiety & Action	530
Psychology of the Climate Crisis	Anxiety & Action	70
Global Health Students	Commercial Determinants of Health	80
Postgraduate Certificate in Workplace Wellbeing	Workplace wellbeing	100
CHARM EU Masters	Sustainable and Healthy Food Plan	60
MSc Social Marketing	Campaigns on e-cigarettes	100
Introduction to Social Policy Concepts	Commercial Determinants of Health	171
Donut Trinity students	Projects for a Healthy Trinity	65
		1,176

2. Research

Spotlight on
Trinity Sustainability's ESD inthe Medical Curriculum

Trinity Sustainability's ESD curriculum was incorporated into a bold, new medical curriculum launched in the School of Medicine in September, thanks to Elaine Burke who won FHS Dean's Award for Innovation in Teaching for "Sustainability and Planetary Health: A Student-Selected Option for 1st Year Medical Students". The new medical curriculum incorporates new elements that reflect the world graduates are stepping into. For the first time, students can choose from topics like planetary health, digital health, disability and more. September was the first phase of curriculum development and the ESD curriculum is being trialled amongst first year medical students as a learning opportunity to inform further development of the medical curriculum.

Figure 8: Trinity Sustainability's ESD curriculum being taught in the School of Medicine's new undergraduate curriculum

Strategic Objective:

To enable and support research of the quality, diversity, depth and novelty necessary to generate new understanding, insight and approaches for transformational change at local, national and global level to address historical, current and future biodiversity, climate and health challenges.

Climate Gateway

Trinity's Climate Gateway was launched in November 2025. It will be a comprehensive portal that brings together research, resources, and community aimed at reducing emissions, improving resilience, and guiding policy. The Gateway was launched by the Chair of Climate Science, Prof Karen Wiltshire and Vice President for Biodiversity & Climate Action, Prof Jane Stout. The launch included three panel discussions on Energy & Climate; Climate, Biodiversity & Business; and Health & Climate; as well as a showcase on Education in the new E3 Learning Foundry, with a range of art installations focusing on climate.

Figure 9: ProfJane Stout and Prof Karen Wiltshire hosting the launch of the Climate Gateway

AIB Trinity Climate Hub

The Hub's mission is to strengthen and expand Trinity's climate and nature research and education, through supporting interdisciplinary collaboration, engagement and leadership development. The Hub is managed by Amanda Mathieson, who joined the team in August 2025, and is advised by a committee ccomprising a diverse group of Trinity staff and students. The Hub's Strategy is currently being developed, including an exciting Education and Public Engagement plan. In 2025, the Hub, along with the Climate+ Co-Centre, supported a public lecture from Honorary Trinity Fellow, Prof Ed Hawkins, as well as a climate themed "escape room" during Science Week. The Hub looks forward to supporting new researchers at the academic, postdoctoral and PhD level, as well as capacity building for climate and nature research, across Trinity from 2026 onwards.

Figure10: Honorary Trinity Fellow, Prof Ed Hawkins

Figure 11: Climate Escape Room

Trinity Water Centre

A hub dedicated to advancing research, innovation, and education in water—which will primarily address global water challenges, inform resource management, and deliver technological advancements – was launched in March 2025. The Centre, led by Dr Muhammad Ali from Trinity's School of Engineering, brings together multidisciplinary expertise from across Trinity, from engineering, environmental science, policy, the blue humanities and industry, to develop solutions that address water security, quality and resilience in a world increasingly impacted by global climate change. The Trinity Water Centre is driven by a clear mission: to undertake transdisciplinary research that delivers innovative solutions to address current and future global and climate water challenges, enhancing water security, sustainability, and societal well-being. Aligned with this, the Centre's vision is to be a global thought and knowledge leader in pioneering water solutions, ensuring a future where water security, quality, and accessibility are guaranteed for all through innovative research, education, and transformative partnerships.

Examples of New Research Projects funded during 2025

Regenerative Aquaculture Research

Trinity researchers led by Professor Nessa O'Connor in the School of Natural Sciences are leading work on environmental and biodiversity impact assessment associated with more productive and environmentally responsible seaweed cultivation as part of the EU-funded SEAGROW project.

Brain Health Research

The Global Brain Health Institute at Trinity is leading a project called CliCBrain, supported by the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions programme, which addresses the impact of climate and environmental exposures on brain health. This project will create an exposome framework and develop strategies to protect brain health at the individual and community levels, as well as make recommendations for community, service and policy changes.

EV Battery Research

Trinity's Dr Séamus O'Shaughnessy and Dr Daniel Trimble in the School of Engineering have won funding from the National Challenge Fund competition to improve thermal management of electric vehicle (EV) batteries. Funding will allow the team to further develop and industrialise our novel lithium-ion battery thermal management solution to meet the needs of current and next generation battery applications, in particular EVs.

EPA Funded Research

Funding was awarded for three projects led by Trinity researchers under the EPA's scheme to develop innovative solutions to support Ireland's response to environmental challenges. These projects include:

- Predict and assess the future noise environment in Ireland (Dr Kennedy, School of Engineering),
- Transform bio-waste into graphene materials that capture carbon (Prof. Schmitt, School of Chemistry and AMBER Research Ireland Centre),
- Develop long-term systems for monitoring the impacts of climate change on health in Ireland (Mr Chersich, School of Medicine, working on a Children's Health Ireland study).

In addition, seven researchers from Engineering, Natural Sciences and Chemistry in Trinity have secured funding to pursue research projects with a focus in climate change, environmental and human health, and more sustainable living. These projects include:

- Fen conservation and restoration
- (Prof Gill);
- Climate change adaptation toolkit for local authorities (Dr Clarke);
- Circular economy with industry involvement (Dr Ghaani);
- Enhancing the resilience of the Irish power grid reliant on renewable energy (Dr Zhao)
- Energy efficient "sludge" for wastewater treatment (Dr Ali);
- Forecast the ecological resistance of trees to pathogens (Dr Caldararu);
- New solvents for green nanomaterials (Dr Dunne).

Trinity researchers come together in a range of research groupings to address sustainability issues. During 2025, several significant initiatives were launched, to bring together researchers, and to connect researchers with external stakeholders, including the Trinity Climate Gateway, the Trinity AIB Climate Hub, the Trinity Water Centre, and the Irish Seaweed Association:

Irish Seaweed Association

Hosted by the Centre for Social Innovation at Trinity Business School and the School of Natural Sciences, the Irish Seaweed Association is a spin out from the C-FAARER research project and was launched in February 2025. The Irish Seaweed Association aims to unite industry stakeholders, policymakers, and researchers to unlock the potential of seaweed farming as a nature-positive, economically viable, and community-driven sector.

Figure 12: Irish Seaweed Association Launch - Prof Nessa O'Connor, Dr Dharm Kapletia and Gareth Murphy

Examples of Community Engagement in 2025

Testing the Waters – Climate Co Centre

Testing the Waters was a community-led art and science initiative based in the town of Westport. The project was co-created by an artist, scientists, and residents in response to the community's request for cross-disciplinary insight into how best to manage the river as it flows through the town. As part of the initiative, five unique temporary sculptures were installed in the river, accompanied by a public talks programme and a citizen science workshop focused on river quality. Following the project, the community went on to commission further research exploring the feasibility of implementing nature-based solutions within the river system.

Figure 13: Testing the Waters Citizen Science Workshop

Figure 14: Testing the Waters Art Flotilla

Biodiversity in Our Backyard – Climate + Co. Centre

Climate+ Co.Centre collaborated with artist Lindsay Deely and the Baboró International Arts Festival for Children to launch *Biodiversity in our Backyard*, a fun, creative way for children to explore the natural world. The project was offered to school communities (aged 8-12) across Galway and Belfast to introduce biodiversity and explore local green spaces through physical activity, scientific methods and art.

Un-Natural Frequency - Climate + Co. Centre

Un-Natural Frequency was a distinctive musical performance staged in the breathtaking Aillwee Cave in The Burren, County Clare. The programme featured three original compositions inspired by the region's unique geography and biodiversity. The performance was followed by a panel discussion exploring how music and science can be meaningfully combined. Together, the event offered an immersive and emotionally resonant response to scientific research.

Figure 15: Musical Performance in the Aillwee Caves

Sustainability Research – Examples of Outputs During 2025:

Trinity's research continues to address a wide range of sustainability issues, as evidenced by the number of outputs addressing the whole breadth of SDGs (Figure 16).

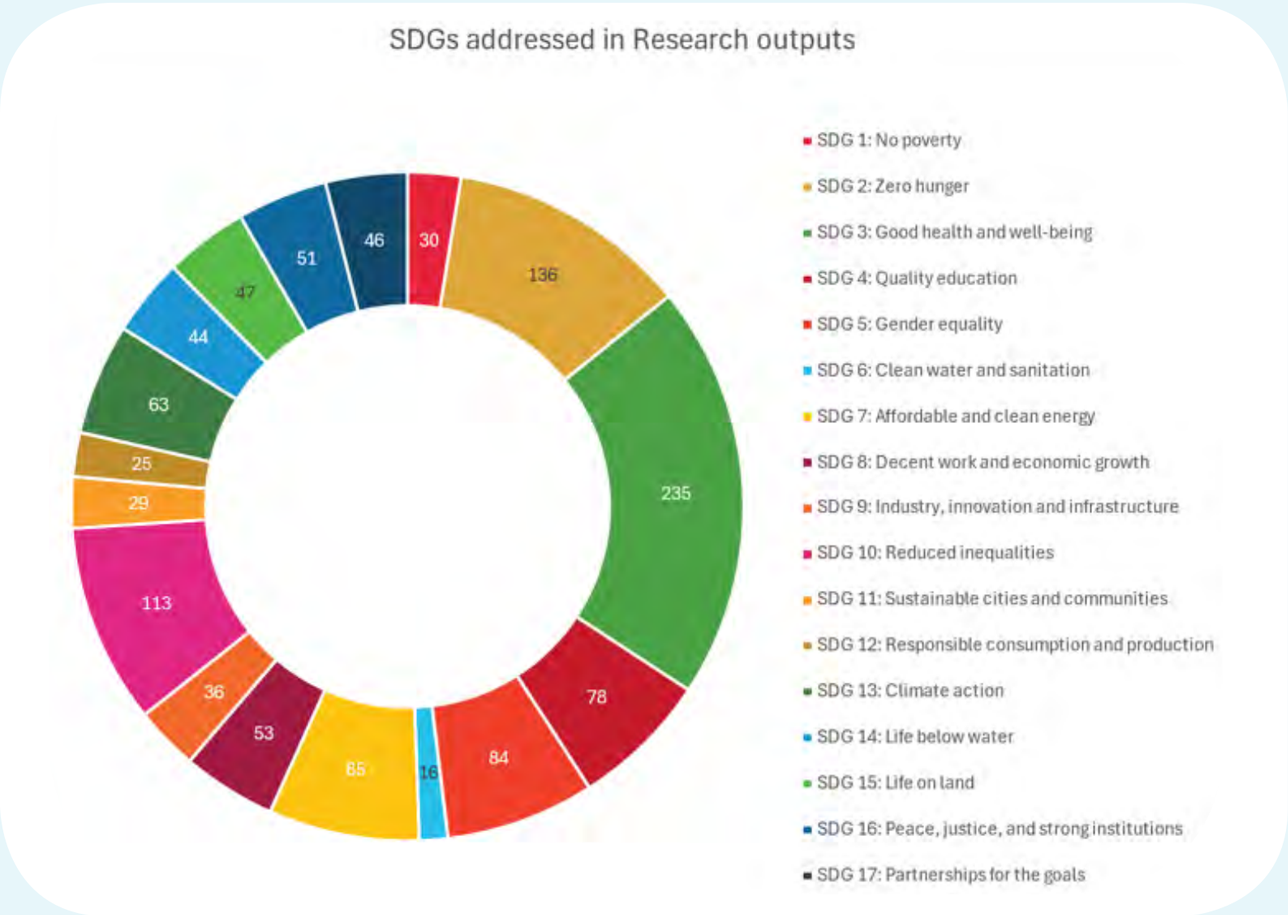


Figure 16: Research conducted across all three Faculties in Trinity has produced academic outputs that address the wide range of SDGs, with the biggest proportion of outputs addressing health and wellbeing (SDG3).

Some examples of those research outcomes include:

River Barriers for Nature and Energy

To address the ecological impacts of river barriers, which fragment habitats and disrupt natural water flows, and address the social and economic costs associated with their removal, Trinity Engineers, Profs Aonghus McNabola and Patrick Morrissey have developed a win-win solution. With Research Ireland funding, they developed a prototype barrier modification system that enables fish to travel up and downstream while simultaneously generating green energy for local consumption.

Multispecies Swards

Growing several species of grass and herbaceous plants in pastures, rather than a single species of grass, can have multiple benefits for both farmers and nature. Prof Caroline Brophy, from the School of Computer Science and Statistics, led a global study demonstrating that planting mixtures of different species can improve grassland yields compared to conventional practices, and crucially do so while using substantially less chemical nitrogen fertiliser. This can lower farmers' operational costs, and also benefit the environment.

Irish Biodiversity Research

Sarah Larragy, research fellow in Botany in the School of Natural Sciences, led genomic research that demonstrated that populations of the Irish large earth bumblebees (Bombus terrestris) are genetically distinct from their British counterparts. This work has implications for conservation practices and may also inform the way imported commercial populations are managed.

Nanoplastics Research

Research led by Dr Gavin Davey from Trinity's School of Biochemistry and Immunology, with Devin Seward, undergraduate Laidlaw Scholar, working in the Trinity Biomedical Sciences Institute (TBSI), has shown how polystyrene nanoplastics – even smaller than microplastics – disrupt energy metabolism in brain cells. Their findings may have implications for better understanding of neurodegenerative diseases characterised by declining neurological or brain function, and even shed new light on issues with learning and memory.

Spotlight on Carbon Capture Research

The first industrial-scale field test of carbon capture technology, developed by Prof. Wolfgang Schmitt and Dr Sebastien Vaesen from Trinity's School of Chemistry and AMBER, was deployed at Dublin Airport. More than 10 years of research and innovation means that this technology is now ready for piloting, and DAA are exploring carbon capture as a potential means of decarbonising their operations and industry.

Figure 17: Carbon Capture Research Project at Dublin Airport

Nature Finance

Collaborative work between Trinity Business School and School of Natural Sciences, led by Researcher Orlaith Delargy, explored the voluntary nature market (similar to a voluntary carbon marked), and found that it has the potential to unlock private finance for Irish ecosystem restoration. Private finance doesn't replace the need for strong regulation and increased public funding for nature – but it could be part of the toolbox for scaling up nature restoration.

Water Efficiency

Installation of efficient water-saving technologies (taps, showers, toilets) in new build homes in Ireland could cut around €9.7 million in state costs for water and wastewater services, according to an An Fóram Uisce / The Water Forum Report compiled by Profs John Gallagher and Laurence Gill from Trinity's School of Engineering.

Green Lab Updates

Trinity is continuing to promote sustainable lab practices across approximately 500 labs through the My Green Lab programme and related initiatives. Since 2023, 63 labs have achieved certification and a further 44 are in progress, representing 412 staff members across the university. Trinity labs also took part in Research Ireland's Sustainable Laboratory Certification Pilot Programme which was delivered in partnership with My Green Lab. The pilot programme funded 100 labs nationwide led by RI Principal Investigators (PIs) and their research groups. Trinity had 25 labs participate in the pilot programme which represented 402 researchers, teaching staff and students.

No. of Labs Participating in My Green Lab

	2023	2024	2025
Participating	18	82	107

Labs Certified in My Green Lab 2025: 18

Figure 18: Trinity Centre For Biomedical Engineering who achieved Green Lab Certification in 2025

Green Lab Training

Staff members were offered the opportunity to undertake the My Green Lab Accredited Professional Course during 2025 and 35 staff completed the course. Certificates were awarded to staff at an event officiated by the Dean of Research and VP for Biodiversity & Climate Action.

Figure 19: Staff members who completed the Green Lab Accredited Professional Course

Green Lab Module

Trinity developed a 30-minute online module which focused on Green Lab practices. The topics included energy, waste, water, green chemistry, procurement and digital sustainability as well as providing actionable tips for sustainable lab practices. The course is available to all staff and students through Blackboard.

‘Shut the Sash’ Behaviour Change Initiative

Trinity Biomedical Science Institute started a new initiative focusing on raising awareness of and taking action on energy use. The initiative focused on fume hoods and the Green Labs Officer supported the team by installing ‘shut the sash’ stickers on fume hoods in all labs. The initiative resulted in a 3% reduction in energy consumption for the units showing that small behavioural nudges can support behaviour change.

Figure 20:
Shut the Sash Stickers

Waste Reduction Initiative

Labs generate a significant amount of Styrofoam waste from the transport of materials requiring cold storage. Styrofoam was identified as a material that could be diverted from the general waste stream, leading the Green Labs Officer and Environmental Services Manager to establish a new waste diversion initiative. This simple yet effective change introduced three dedicated Styrofoam collection points. Previously sent for incineration, the Styrofoam is now collected and recycled into new products.

Figure 21:
New Styrofoam Collection Bins

Spotlight on
Green Labs Energy Game

Trinity Sustainability commissioned Bold Donut to develop a Green Labs Energy Game to increase the understanding and adoption of energy saving behaviours in wet labs. The game was built in consultation with the Green Lab Committee and is a fun intervention to tackle high priority behaviours such as lab users forgetting to close fume hood sashes and ultra-low temperature freezer doors. The campaign ran for 5 weeks with 650 players playing on average 12mins.

Figure 22: Green Lab Online Game

KEY RESULTS

International Health Promoting Campuses (IHPC) Conference

Trinity contributed extensively to the IHPC Conference in June 2025 in University of Limerick (UL) through workshops, plenaries, flash talks, and charter activities. Highlights included driving change on the Commercial Determinants of Health via the Okanagan Charter with a focus on tobacco and ultra-processed foods; developing a self-evaluation tool for Health Promoting Campuses; and engaging student and leader voices in global discussions. Contributions also featured a living lab approach to e-cigarettes, integrating Healthy Campus and Sustainability at a whole-university level, and promoting inclusive physical activity systems. Trinity played a key role in shaping the Limerick Framework for Action: Advancing Global Health Promoting Campus Agenda through co-writing, wording submissions, writing sessions. As a result of the conference, the Limerick Framework for Action was published in December with Prof Catherine Darker as contributing author from Trinity. Four-hundred international delegates, staff and students attended the 10th International Health Promoting Campuses (IHPC) Conference.

Figure 23:
Trinity attendees at the Limerick Conference (left) and at the launch of the Limerick Framework (right)

Research Appointments

New researchers have been appointed across college to focus on various areas of sustainability.

Figure 24:
Dr Thomas Connor

Figure 25:
Dr Aimee Byrne

For example, Dr Thomas Connor joined the School of Natural Sciences as Assistant Professor in wildlife ecology – he works on novel methods to understand processes behind biodiversity patterns and inform conservation action. In the School of Engineering, Dr Aimee Byrne was appointed as the E3 Assistant Professor in Climate Adaptation. Aimee specialises on circular and bioeconomy, particularly in terms of sustainable buildings, from retrofit to new material development, building energy performance to circular construction detailing and practices.

Trinity appointed several new researchers to focus on specific health areas spanning a wide range of disciplines. The Commercial Determinants of Health Lab was boosted with two adjunct professors. The School of Medicine appointed Professor Anna Gilmore, the co-director of the centre for 21st Century Public Health at the University of Bath.
The School of Business appointed Monika Kosinska the World Health Organization's Global Lead on Health, Equity and & Social Determinants of Health. The School of Medicine appointed Research Fellow Dr Rupa Marya to develop the concept of Land Food and Medicine.

Figure 26: (LtoR) Prof Anna Gilmore, Dr Monika Kosinska and Dr Rupa Marya

Spotlight on
European Researchers Night

European Researcher's Night included twelve research demonstrations with five research posters from Healthy Trinity in collaboration with the Schools of Natural Science and Medicine, and representing Profs Jane Stout, Cuisle Forde, Anna Davies, Trevor Hodkinson and Marcus Collier. The event attracted over 3,500 attendees, including members of the public, staff, and students. Healthy Trinity exhibitions were led by five PhD students and two Postdoctoral students who designed interactive demonstrations and poster presentations in collaboration with Healthy Trinity. Research topics included *"The Health Impact of How We Move: How Transport Choices Shape Our Physical Activity"* (Sanela Begic), *"Fun with Fungi: Exploring the Hidden Kingdom Beneath Our Feet"* (Diego Bianchi and Luke Quill), *'Mapping Urban Food'* with the CULTIVATE project (Hyunji Cho), and *"Reclaiming the value of food"*, BIOBIC project (Winnie Yegon).

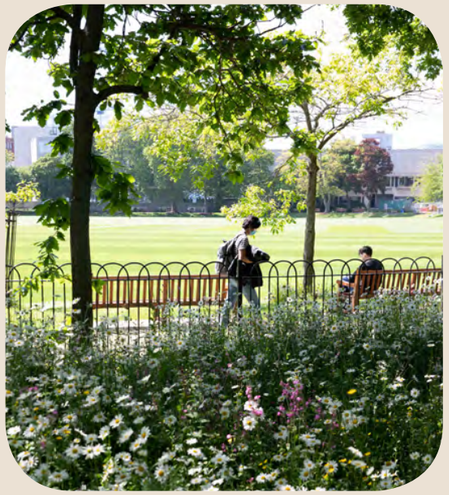
Figure 27: Healthy Trinity stands at European Researchers Night

Living Lab

Trinity is the first university globally to implement a campus-wide Living Lab and using Living Lab data has enabled Trinity to contribute to civic discourse, civic partnerships and action on Health. For example, through Living Lab, Trinity as an institution has responded to public consultations on tobacco, e-cigarettes and smarter travel, has featured in national newspapers on tobacco and travel and partners with organisation like ASH Ireland, Irish Heart Foundation, National Transport Authority, Dublin City Council, Dublin Cycling Campaign, Irish Cyclist, Irish Doctors for the Environment, Commuter Coalition, Climate and Health Alliance, La Leche League, Talamh Beo, the Feeding Ourselves Network and more.

Spotlight on
Living Lab: Tobacco Free Trinity

Observed vaping in Trinity in 2025 has doubled since 2022 and Trinity has three times the national vaping prevalence. In 2025, these Tobacco Living Lab data incorporated 322 observational checks on campus recording 2021 observed nicotine users with 44% using vapes. Of those vaping, 79% (n=883) used disposable vapes. In 2025, these data informed the Healthy Trinity Tobacco group's submissions to government's Tobacco Free Ireland review calling for stronger legislation on tobacco and e-cigarettes and were presented at the Global Conference on Tobacco Control.



Trinity tobacco free

Spotlight on
Living Lab: Mind Body Boost PhD

Mind, Body, Boost (MBB) was originally an Erasmus+ funded programme developed by Sport and Counselling, alongside seven European partners. The Erasmus+ project ran from 2021 and 2023 and engaged 379 participants: including 94 participants from Trinity.

Since September 2024, Daniel Twomey - PhD candidate, School of Education - has been measuring the impact of MBB on student participant mental health, as well as evaluating the implementation of a nudge strategy for enhancing participant retention. Daniel's PhD research involved a further 90 participants, and his deadline for thesis submission is March 2026. MBB, which has incorporated Trinity's place and people to achieve Trinity's research purpose, is a great example under Trinity's new Thrive strategy of a living lab PhD.

Figure 28: Participants in the Mind, Body, Boost Programme

Sustainability in Numbers

Education

Education in Numbers

1200+
undergraduates completed ESD Module since 2024

140
staff completed professional development in ESD

1,176
students learnt about health in non-health curricula

4
Education for Sustainability Fellows (ESD) Fellows

1
ESD hub launched

Research

Research

1,171
research outputs addressing the SDGs

1
New Climate Gateway Network

659
Lab Energy Game Players

90
Mind Body Boost Participants

107
labs taking part in My Green Lab

Nature Positive Campus

Operations

Nature Positive Campus

1
new Biodiversity Action Plan published

572
plant, animal, and fungal species recorded across all campus locations

4.2
hectares left unmown in May

200+
trees planted

40
public events with 10,000 + attendees in total.

13 biodiversity campus tours for schools, staff, community groups, and national visitors.

7
lectures and expert talks, including for Trinity Climate & Biodiversity Action Week.

Climate Smart Campus

Climate Smart Campus:

4%
electricity saved

7.2%
heat energy saved

2
in person delegates to COP30

5
climate white papers produced

693
tonnes of CO2 saved

10
virtual delegates to COP30

Active Campus

Active Campus:

1
new Campus Travel Plan published

700
staff and students' submissions on travel and transport

1
Smarter Travel Gold Level Mark awarded

2
campus bike maintenance clinics delivered

2
new secure bike parking units installed

2000
bike lights distributed

800
participants in Walkober & Marchaton

Circular Campus

Circular Campus:

1
Trash to Treasure event

1
Bedding resale event

9,700kg
CO2 saved from Trash to Treasure event

2
New Re-turn Bins at the Pav

Responsible Campus

Responsible Campus:

1
HEA Strategy for Staff & Student Wellbeing

1
ESG Reporting framework

Community & Engagement

Community & Engagement

105
sustainability themed events

1,000+
attendees for Green Week & Climate and Biodiversity Week events.

200
staff trained in climate leadership

20+
community engagement events involving Unit 18, local schools, visiting students, networks and public groups

42
registrations for stop smoking/vaping courses

30
students attended Cookery 101 in Trinity Hall

188
took part in Trinity on the Move

600
subscribers to our Sustainability Newsletter

1,117
attendees for Health and Sports Week

3. Operations

Strategic Objective:

To collaborate in multi-, inter- and trans-disciplinary teams to enable our campus and day-to-day operations to be environmentally sustainable, with reduced carbon emissions from our infrastructure and activities, increased space for nature on site, reduced impact on nature off site, and long term operational plans for a healthier, more resilient future.

Nature Positive Campus

2025 marked a year of meaningful progress for biodiversity across Trinity's campuses. Alongside the appointment of a Biodiversity Officer, Collie Ennis, the university also developed Trinity's first Biodiversity Plan (2025–2030) which has a focus on strengthening existing habitats, improving ecological function, and ensuring that biodiversity is visible and valued by the students, staff, visitors, and communities who share these spaces.

Habitat Mapping

Trinity recruited a graduate geography student, Harry Nugent, to develop a range of GIS maps to map activities across the college with respect to sustainability.
This included a habitat map of all sites across Trinity's 47-acre estate. The habitat map can be used to quantify the distribution of natural and man-made habitats to enable us to monitor changes, identify areas for more biodiversity-friendly management, and map the benefits we derive from nature. In addition, adding species data to these maps will help us in understanding the spatial relationships between species and their habitats. These maps will also be used as a way to monitor our progress towards our biodiversity target of 30% of land managed for nature by 2030.

Currently, approximately 60% of Trinity's area is not built or paved surfaces, but if we remove the sports pitches and grass areas that are regularly mown, this figure comes down to 27%. Reduced mowing initiatives (see right) will increase that area managed for nature.

Species recorded across all campus locations include:
79 birds
4 mammals
2 amphibian
122 invertebrates
352 plants
13 fungi

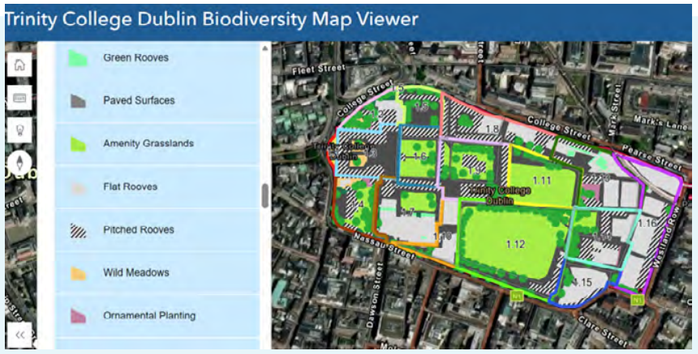


Figure 29: Example of GIS Map used to identify habitat on the College Green campus

Figure 30: Examples of invertebrate life under a log

Biodiversity Repository

Trinity's Biodiversity Officer continued to collate records to monitor and document species biodiversity across the campus, building a central repository of biodiversity data. Verified records from iNaturalist were incorporated, supporting the accuracy of the developing database. To date, the database includes over 572 plant, animal, and fungal species across all campus locations, from the Santry Sports Grounds to Island bridge and the College Green Campus. This repository will continue to expand in the coming years, providing an increasingly comprehensive picture of the species present across Trinity's campus and support monitoring, evaluation and protection.

Logs for Life

The 'Logs for Life' initiative was expanded in 2025 by repurposing wind fallen or removed campus timber into structured habitat piles that now support beetles, fungi, solitary bees, amphibians, and small mammals, while also serving as visible demonstration features during biodiversity tours.

No Mow May

No Mow May continued in 2025 with areas left unmown for the month of May and some areas were left unmown until at least October. In addition, 25,535sq.m. of Santry Sports Grounds and Iveagh Grounds were also left unmown during the month of May to support local biodiversity. This represents 4.2 hectares (9.5%) of the total hectares (47) of the university. No Mow May will continue in 2026, and more data will be available to determine the impact of the initiative on local plant and insect life.

Tree Planting

As part of Climate & Biodiversity Action Week students and staff members planted almost 200 trees in Santry Sports Grounds with the support of the Estates & Facilities team. Tree planting has happened annually since 2022 and almost 800+ trees have been planted during this time. The trees chosen were a mix of native and non-native species and the chosen varieties of trees will extend the existing woodland which is under a Tree Preservation Order by Fingal County Council.

Figure 31:
Tree Planting October 2025

Spotlight on
Rewilding the University Campus:

Rewilding the University Campus: Public Attitudes and Prospects for Planning

A postgraduate student, Pauline Marsilla, undertook a master's thesis investigating public attitudes toward wild spaces, using the College Green campus as the study site. The research assessed perceptions among a broad cross-section of stakeholders—including students, alumni, staff, tourists, and local residents—through in-person, online, and QR-code surveys.

The findings indicate a predominantly positive to very positive response to the campus wild spaces, with 79% of respondents (n = 633) expressing favourable attitudes. Although some participants reported negative or mixed views—often associated with concerns about campus image or misunderstandings regarding the ecological benefits of wild vegetation—81% of respondents (n = 649) stated that they would like to see similar wild spaces introduced in their own communities. These results highlight a strong public desire for the expansion of spaces managed for wildlife, both on campus and beyond.

Figure 32:
QR code at College Green to collect responses

Spotlight on
BioHaven – mental health through nature

Inspired by a vision of reclaiming concrete spaces and transforming them into vibrant, living ecosystems, one of the student counselling team initiated the BioHaven project. This transformed space in the parking lot behind 7-9 South Leinster St. into a shared area for staff and students to relax and enjoy a deeper connection to nature in an urban space. The Biohaven was made possible through partnership with Student Counselling/Student Learning Development/ Student to Student mentoring, The School of Natural Sciences, Trinity Global, The Trinity Botanic Garden Team, Estates & Facilities, Trinity Sustainability, and the School of Computer Science & Statistics. Funding was generously provided through the Director of Student Services.

The Healthy Trinity Mental Health group and Estates and Facilities installed Trinity BioHaven during Green Week behind the Boland library as a mental health space to foster mindfulness, reflection, and well-being through connection to nature. Lavender, rosemary, ornamental grasses, and textured foliage were selected for their smell, touch and look to encourage people in the Biohaven to connect to their senses. Trinity Biohaven offers a calming environment that engages the senses. The planting is maintained with oversight from Estates and Facilities by PhD Botany students and Healthy Trinity Ambassadors.

Figure 33 & 34: Launch of the Biohavens for mental health behind Boland Library (left) and in the Student Counselling Service (right)

Climate Smart Campus

Energy and GHG Emissions

Trinity reports its GHG emissions via SEAI's Monitoring and Reporting Tool (M&R), with reports produced annually each April for the preceding year. Initial data for 2025 indicates that there has been a 4% reduction in electricity use and a 7% reduction in energy used for heating over the 12-month period with significant financial and CO2 emissions savings.

These savings have been made in four of the largest energy users which are the College Green Campus (residential and office spaces) Trinity Biomedical Sciences Institute (TBSI), St James campus and student accommodation at Trinity Halls, Dartry.

Energy Source	kWh Saved	% Change between 2024 & 2025	Saving as a % of TCD's overall consumption of this utility	Tonnes Carbon Saved	Euro Saved
Electricity	1 million kWh	4% reduction	3.2%	250 tonnes	€220k saved
Gas	2.17 million kWh	7.2% reduction	4.5%	443 tonnes	€113k saved

Table 1: Initial estimates show reductions in kWh, CO2 and cost for 2025

Total CO2 Emissions 2024 baseline	Combined Emissions Savings in 2025	% Reduction in 2025
18,048	693 tonnes	3.8%

Table 2: Combined Emissions Savings for 2025

The combined emissions savings of 693 tonnes of carbon, when compared to the total CO_2 emissions of 18,048 tonnes in 2024, equate to an overall reduction of 3.8%. This outcome was achieved through the introduction of a Heating System Operation Plan (HSOP) as well as investment in the Building Energy System (BMS) with funding allocated for sensor and control strategy repairs.

The Heating System Operation Plan (HSOP) involves a more responsive approach to heating during the cold season. The HSOP relates to the College Green Campus, St James's Campus and Trinity Halls at Dartry, which together equate to about 53% of Trinity's total GHG emissions. The HSOP requires the Estates and Facilities, Tech Services, Energy and Helpdesk teams to meet three times a week to triage heating-related work requests, assess the weather forecast and review room bookings. The team then plan how to operate the heating systems for the upcoming week in an adaptive way based on the prevailing weather and in response to logged work requests. The success of this plan is as a result of strong top management commitment and effective collaboration between the HSOP team multiple stakeholders across the college.

The HSOP showed some immediate heat savings in October 2025 with savings of 638,000 kWh of natural gas, 130 tonnes of carbon, or 29% reduction compared to October 2024.

Energy Policy

Trinity developed a new Energy Policy in 2025 to fulfil Climate Action Mandate obligations as well as to work towards ISO 50001 certification (the international standard for energy management systems). The Policy was developed by Estates and Facilities and was approved by the Board in November 2025. Estates and Facilities are the functional leads of energy management however, the policy applies across procurement, capital projects, operations, academic and research functions.

Climate Action Roadmap

Trinity continues to comply with the Governments Climate Action Plan and completed a Climate Action Roadmap in 2025. The roadmap is available on the Trinity Sustainability website (see Climate Action Roadmap 2025).

Energy Reduction Campaign

The Emissions Reduction Campaign entitled 'Our 51% Challenge' was rolled out in December 2024 with the aim of reducing energy use across the university through our electricity and heating. The campaign was delivered over 12 months to provide information about energy use, promote behaviour change and identify projects for prioritisation. The campaign has delivered the following:

- Publication of energy-related emissions for 27 areas around campus.
- Four 'Energy Roadshows' were delivered to key staff members in buildings identified as high energy users.
- All of college webinar to share information relating to targets, energy use and potential technical and behavioural solutions.
- Earth Day event run by students which focused on targets, current emissions and potential solutions.

Figure 35: Library Energy Roadshow

The Sustainability Intern and Green Campus members also distributed magnets to all residential blocks in December 2025 to raise awareness of energy saving behaviour in student accommodation and shared spaces.

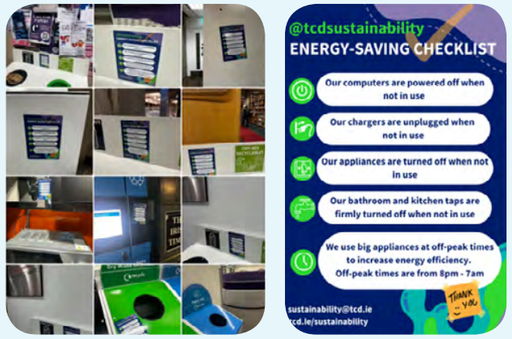


Figure 36: Energy Saving Checklist Magnets

COP30 Working Group

Sustainability Manager Jane Hackett developed a UNFCCC COP30 Working Group, which was co-led by Prof Karen Wiltshire. The working group produced five white papers on Climate under the following themes: Education; Health; Human Rights; Small Island Nations and Nature and Biodiversity. Students in the COP working group got the chance to hear from former leader of the Green Party Eamon Ryan, who attended one of the working group's meetings to discuss his work as EU negotiator as well as presenting their white papers to the Provost, Dr Linda Doyle.

Figure 37: COP30 working Group meeting the Provost

COP30 Delegation to Belem

The 30th Conference of Parties of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change took place in Belem, Brazil in November 2025, 10 years after the historic Paris Agreement was signed. Two postgrad students, Lukian Pudliak and Isabella Barra Fulton represented Trinity at the conference and met with delegates from the Irish delegation as well as from NGO's, indigenous groups and other academic institutions. In addition, 10 members of the COP30 working group received virtual tickets. Trinity will continue to engage with the UNFCCC COP process as it is an opportunity to share what we are doing in Trinity, learn from others and build collaboration and partnership between universities to demonstrate leadership and focus attention on meaningful climate action.

Figure 38: Lukian Pudliak, PhD Law student and Isabella Barra Fulton, MA Law student.

Spotlight on
Energy Efficiency & Restoration Project - House 14

The Estates & Facilities team delivered an energy efficiency and restoration project in House 14 which focused on reducing heat loss and upgrading student accommodation. The project consisted of the following:

- Thermal imaging assessment of cold air infiltration associated with poorly performing window seals. This led to the windows being repaired, upgraded, draft proofed and repainted. The works were informed by the guidelines listed in “Windows, A Guide to the Repair of Historic Windows” issued by the Dept. of Environment
- The second element of the project consisted of upgrading bathrooms, student accommodation and common rooms to reduce water loss, improve energy efficiency, improve comfort and upgrade existing furniture for reuse. The project included
- Standard Bathroom taps replaced with
- push button operation to conserve water
- Shower heads replaced to conserve water
- Thermostatic Radiator Valves replaced throughout
- New LED lighting throughout.
- Bedroom’s Remote light switches all replaced with
- friction activation – no batteries required.
- Re-use of existing white goods, ovens & hobs. Replaced only where not working or damaged beyond repair
- Re-used and re-upholstered existing furniture. Replaced only where damaged beyond repair
- Eco-Cordiale Carpet - blend of recycled, regenerated and virgin fibres and a recycled backing
- Eco-cordiale® is carbon neutral & can be recycled at end of life
- Forbo – Eternal floor covering product Contains a minimum of 71% of recycled production waste. Installation waste can be recycled at manufacturers plant, back into other Forbo products with their ‘Back to the Floor’ scheme

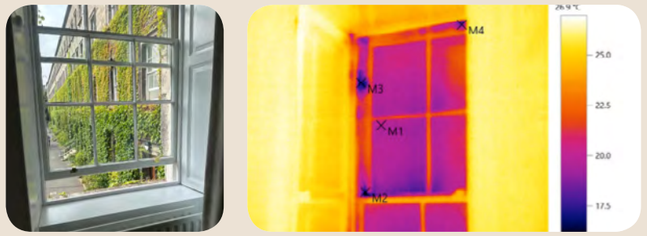


Figure 39: Therman imaging assessment and restored window

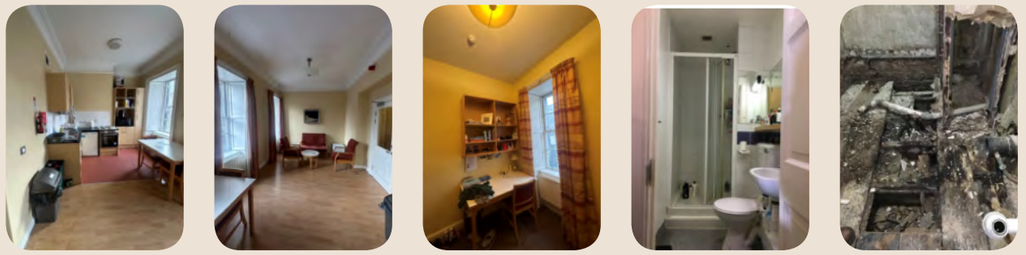


Figure 40: Interior of House 14 before works commenced

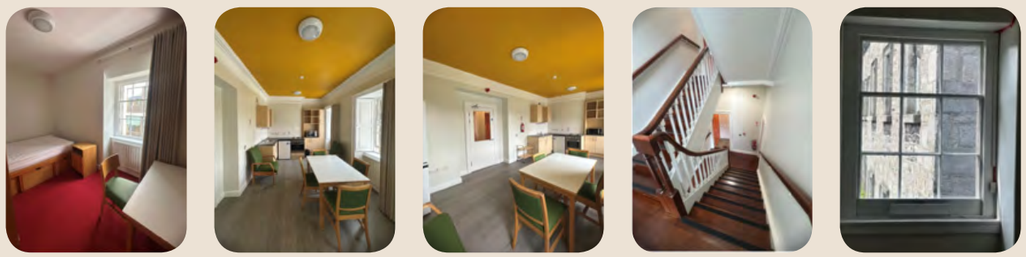


Figure 41: Interior of House 14 after works were completed

693 tonnes of energy emissions saved in **2025**

Spotlight on
SNIAM Institute – Energy Upgrades

Built in 2001 and occupied by the School of Physics since 2005, the five-storey institute saw significant investment in 2025 to upgrade its mechanical & electrical plant that had reached its end of life after more than 24 years. While the initial brief focused on repairing the roof, the project expanded to include a full upgrade of the mechanical and electrical infrastructure, requiring the removal of all existing roof plant and the redesign, tendering, and installation of new systems across the roof, boiler house, and throughout the building, including ten new air handling units (two per floor). The works incorporate significant energy efficiency measures such as improved fume cupboard ventilation to reduce heat loss, heat-recovery air handling units, additional roof insulation, and more efficient plant with reduced operating hours. In addition, 70–80% of the remaining heat demand is electrified using an air source heat pump, resulting in a projected reduction in CO_2 emissions of 221 tonnes from 486 to 265 tonnes.

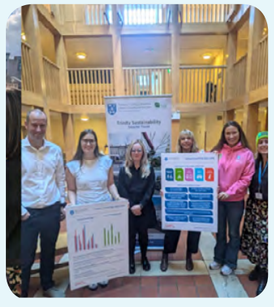
Figure 42: Aerial Photo before decommissioning

Figure 43: New Air Handling Units after Retrofit

Active Campus

New Campus Travel Plan

A new Campus Travel Plan 2025-2030 was developed and launched in 2025 which sets out to encourage sustainable travel to and between all campus locations by students, staff and visitors while also reducing the number of vehicles entering the College Green Campus and promoting physical and mental wellbeing through active commuting. While 97% of our students and staff travel by sustainable modes of transport, there has been a 13% drop in walking and cycling rates since 2018. The Campus Travel Plan sets out 63 actions and interventions to help take a sustainability-first approach in our travel choices and to assist Trinity in reducing transport emissions associated with our operations.



Figures 44 & 45: Consultation and Launch of the Campus Travel Plan

Figure 46: Gold Level Smarter Travel Mark Award Celebration

Gold level Smarter Travel Mark Award

Trinity was awarded a gold-level Smarter Travel Mark from the National Transport Authority (NTA) for efforts to support active and sustainable travel to and from its campuses. Trinity is now one of three universities in Ireland to achieve the gold-level award. The award is a real testament to the collective efforts of our staff and students who choose more sustainable ways of commuting every day and it reflects the hard work and dedication of our Healthy Trinity and Sustainability Teams, our Estates and Facilities staff, and our Smarter Travel Committee and our students. Through investment in campus infrastructure, promoting behaviour change initiatives and advocating for better walking, cycling and public transport provision, Trinity is proud to be recognised as a leader in smart, sustainable travel.

New Secure Bike Parking at St. James

Two new bike parking units were installed in the Trinity Centre for Health Sciences at St James Hospital. The new 'Bike Hangar' has been a great success and is being used daily by staff, while a larger secure bike parking unit was recently installed. This unit holds 32 bikes with automated access, CCTV and lighting to keep our staff and students' bikes safe. We plan to install more secure parking units across our campuses in 2026.

Figure 47: Bike Bunker St. James

Figure 48: Fully secured and weatherproof bike shed, St. James

Cycle Training

The cycle training session took place during Climate and Biodiversity Action Week. Participants were taken through a presentation on safety, preparation, and route planning, followed by an on-road cycle from College Green to Trinity Halls and back again with experienced, Cycle Right-accredited trainers.

Bike Maintenance Clinics

We welcomed Arup and The Cycle Clinic back to campus twice this year. The team was kept really busy all day fixing staff and students' bikes, proving once again the demand for such a service on campus.

Light up your Bike:

In November we participated in the National Transport Authority's 'Light up you Bike' campaign, giving out free bike lights to help keep cyclists and pedestrians seen and safe during the dark winter months.

700

staff and students' submissions on travel and transport

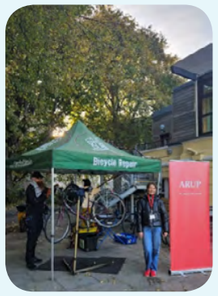


Figure 49: Cycle Clinic sponsored by ARUP

Figure 50: Distributing free bike lights

Marchathon and Walktober:

This year, we had almost 800 staff and students take part in both Marchathon and Walktober, two great step challenges run by the NTA that aim to help people get more physically active & support active travel. Trinity also received the TFI Smarter Travel Best Campus Award for Marchathon 2025.

Workplace Travel Pilot:

Trinity staff participated in a new Workplace Travel Pilot. The aim is to support staff in choosing public transport over their private car for their commute to work. Participants were given a preloaded €100 Leap Card to encourage 'trip swaps' over a month while logging their journeys and their experiences.

Spotlight on Cycle Audits

Trinity has identified strategic cycling routes which connect campus locations across the city. As part of the NTA funded Transport Study cycle audits of these routes were undertaken to assess the safety and attractiveness of these routes for novice and experienced cyclists. The audits were undertaken using the CycleRAP assessment consisting of two types of analysis for each of these routes including the safety of the physical cycling infrastructure, and the subjective (social) safety for vulnerable users. In this way two of the most important determinants of both safety and the attractiveness of cycling routes are considered. The findings of the CycleRAP assessment informed the development of the Campus Travel Plan and were shared with Dublin City Council.

Figure 51: Cycle Audit Route Map

Spotlight on Air Quality Living Lab

Trinity Sustainability in collaboration with An Taisce's Globe project and the School of Engineering launched an air quality living lab project during Clean Air Week 2025. The aim of the project is to monitor air quality at 22 key locations within the College Green Campus using Nitrogen Dioxide (NO_2) diffusion tubes which passively assess the amount of NO_2 in the air. Prof John Gallagher's students installed the tubes and will report back the findings to the Sustainable Travel Officer to inform the implementation of the Campus Travel Plan, which aims to improve air quality by reducing car & van journeys through the college. The project is also collaborating with neighbouring schools that are taking part in An Taisce's Globe project, where schools also collect air quality information using NO_2 diffusion tubes. As part of the project, postgraduate students visited St. Enda's NS, Dublin 8 to share information and learn about the air quality project taking place in each location. The school will be invited into Trinity during 2026 to exchange information and share knowledge.

Figure 52: Launch of the Air Quality Living Lab with Prof John Gallagher and students.

Figures 53: Clean Air Week workshop in St. Enda's NS, Whitefriar Street, Dublin 8

Circular Campus

Trash to Treasure

This year's Trash to Treasure event was held over two days on September 17th and 18th and saw great collaboration from Trinity Sustainability, TCDSU/AMLCT and the Green Campus Committee. Originally started by the Green Campus Committee in 2019, this annual student-led initiative sells incoming students pre-loved items such as homeware, kitchenware, clothes and books. Its main goal is to promote a circular-economy mindset amongst students - by buying second-hand, they save on both money and CO_2 emissions. Clean and useful items were donated in May of this year and were resold at a low cost the following academic year. The money raised goes back to funding the initiative for the next year.

Figure 54: Trash to Treasure Initiative, led by Amelia Flanagan, SU Environmental Rep

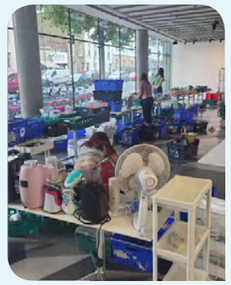


Figure 55: Items for sale at the Trash to Treasure event

Bedding Sale

Trinity's first ever bedding sale was held the week before the main event. Donated duvets, pillows, sheets and covers were laundered and sold in bundles for 10 euro each. It proved a massive success amongst students and all the bundles were gone within a few hours.

Figure 56: Bedding for Sale to new students

In Numbers:

Emissions savings (CO_2 equivalent) from this year's Trash to Treasure event:

- Bedding: Over **6,000kg**
- Kitchenware: **2,500kg**
- Hats, scarves, jumpers: **1,200kg**

Student Hardship Fund - Re-Turn scheme at the Pavillion Bar

The team in the Pavillion Bar supported by the Environmental Services Manager from Estates & Facilities rolled out the Re-turn scheme to their customers at the end of 2025. The team were keen to manage & properly segregate aluminium cans and plastic bottles that were being used during busy periods and as a result two 180ltr Re-turn bins were provided to the team. The team then liaised with the national Re-turn Scheme to ensure that the deposits generated by the cans and bottles would go back to the Student Hardship Fund and this scheme is now in place and ready for a busy spring/summer period.

Responsible Campus

Trinity Sustainability in College Health

In 2025, College Health established a Trinity Sustainability Office to enable dual action on the concurrent biodiversity, climate and health crises between College Health and the Provost's Office. Believed to be the first primary care centre in Ireland with a designated sustainability office, 2.6 roles are in place working towards Healthy Trinity 2030.

HEA Strategy for Staff and Student Health and Wellbeing

Healthy Trinity and Trinity Disability were co-authors on the new strategy published in June 2025. The strategy is intended to guide the development and implementation of HEA policy in the area of health and wellbeing, to promote a higher education system where every student and staff member can be healthy, supported, and thrive.

ESG Reporting

The Financial Services Division, in conjunction with the Trinity Sustainability and the Data Analytics and Strategic Initiatives unit, is developing the University's first ESG report, using EAUC's Sustainability Leadership Scorecard (SLS) framework led by the recently appointed ESG Measurement and Reporting Manager.

The SLS framework supports comprehensive assessment and ongoing tracking of sustainability performance across environment, social, governance, and teaching, learning and research dimensions.

4. Community

Community and Engagement

Green Week

Green Week 2025 took place from March 10th to 14th under the theme *'Healthy Planet, Healthy People',* with the aim of raising awareness of and encouraging action for sustainability. This marked the college's 23rd annual Green Week, led by Trinity Sustainability with the support of the Green Campus Committee, alongside numerous students and staff from across the college. A wide range of events were organised and delivered to over 1,000 students and staff members across the week.

Figure 57: Q&A Event with former President Mary Robinson

- **Q&A with Mary Robinson** – students from the Green-Campus, Green Labs, SU and COP delegates were invited to a Q&A with former President Mary Robinson.
- **Green-Campus Knowledge Exchange:** Green-Schools from across Dublin were invited to attend a knowledge exchange where students from primary, secondary and from Trinity exchanged information about the initiatives and actions they are undertaking in their school & university. It was a great opportunity for inter-generational learning and many new ideas were shared.
- **Tree Giveaway** – saplings from Trinity's estate were shared with primary schools who took part in the knowledge exchange for planting in their school grounds.

Figure 58: Green-Schools & Green Campus Knowledge Exchange

Figure 59: Primary school students taking part in the Green Campus Tree Giveaway

Figure 62: Members of the Green Campus Committee meeting Mary Robinson

Green Week 2025

- **Clothes Pop-Up** – clothes swop for unwanted items – bring an item, take an item.
- **Mending Workshop** – a training workshop for students on how to use a sewing machine & create a scrunchie.
- **Photo Competition** – a photo competition was run for students and staff members focusing on climate, nature and health as key themes. Winners were displayed on digital display boards across college and won three refurbished macbooks.

Figure 60: Sustainability Leadership Awardees 2025

Figure 61: Floating Wind Team with the Provost

- **Participants:** 1,000+ staff and students engaged over the 5 days (including community outreach from local green schools)
- **Social media reach:** 7,200+ engagements across social media platforms (Trinity Green Campus / TCD Instagram and TCD LinkedIn).

Figure 64: Dominican College, D9 visiting the Provost Garden

Figure 63: Students from the Dominican College, D9 presenting their sustainability work.

Figure 65: Sewing Skills Workshop

Sustainability Leadership Awards

The third Sustainability Leadership Awards took place during Green Week with over 100 nominations from students and staff members. The awards recognised leadership in education, research, operations and engagement and the Provost awarded 20 awards to 28 students and staff members. The winners were:

Green Labs
Adriele Prina Mello - Assistant Professor
Simon Carroll- Chief Technical Officer
Cillian Gately - Research Assistant

Operations
Keith Alden - Research Operations Manager
Dymphna Kenny - Project Manager, Trinity Development & Alumni
Christina Lysaght - Executive Officer, Trinity Research in Social Sciences
Rike Held - Event Support Officer, Trinity Long Room Hub
James McLoughlin - Chief Technical Officer, Physics
Em Kelleher, Alis Flattery, Jen Kelly, David Farrelly, Amelia Hauer - Undergrad Students, Lir Theatre.

Circular Economy
*Jess Leonard - Scien*ce Librarian
Amulya Ganti Sanagavaram - Undergrad student – Economics, Social Studies & Business

Education
Tom Hegarty, William Reynolds - Alumni
Freddie Fallon, Orla Fitzgerald -Undergrad student
Maryam Yabo – Postgrad student
David Horan - Assistant Professor, TBS
Catherine Farrell - Senior Research Fellow, TBS
Jonathan Hodgers - Teaching Fellow, Music
Inmaculada Arnedillo-Sánchez - Associate Professor, School of Computer Science & Statistics
Dr. Maria Gallo & Dr. Conor Dowling - Nature Based Solutions EduWORLD Project Team
Micheal Lynham - E3 Marketing Manager

Healthy Campus
Cuisle Forde - Assistant Professor, School of Medicine
Catherine Darker - Professor in Health Services
Lena Doherty - Faculty Administrator, Fac.of Health Sciences

Research
David Igoe, Dave McAuley, Rui Teixeira –, staff members, Floating Wind Team
Sean O'Connor, Jeremy Browne – Undergrad students, Floating Wind Team
Siobhán McQuaid - Associate Director, Centre for Social Innovation

Public/Student Engagement
Lauren Jones Brennan - Final Year Law Student
Luzimar Da Conceicao Pereira - Executive Officer, Trinity Global

Climate and Biodiversity Action Week

This year's Climate and Biodiversity Action Week was held from October 13th to 17th. The week combines the annual climate action week with the student led biodiversity week, to introduce new students to sustainability on campus every October. Key events included:

- **Sustainable Career's Panel** with Arup allowed students to learn about sustainable careers from ecology to engineering and climate adaptation. The event was attended by over 80 students.
- **Climate Leadership Lunch + Learn** included sustainability initiatives started by staff members who had previously completed An Taisce's Climate Leadership training.
- **Bike Clinic** held on campus by the CycleClinic (28 full services completed as well as 8 advisory services)
- **Dublin Waste to Energy Visit** – proved very popular, split into two visits with approx. 40 attendees both staff and students. Visited also by a group of 15 students in December from the MSc in Energy Science.
- **Biodiversity Tours** – two tours took place on campus to showcase the range of plants & animals we share our College Green Campus with. The tours were led by our new Biodiversity Officer, Collie Ennis.
- **Fast Fashion workshop** – a staff member, Emma Griffin and postgrad student, Maryam Yabo delivered a fast fashion workshop to discuss the issue of waste in the fashion industry.
- **CleanCoast visit** – An Taisce's CleanCoast team visited the College Green campus to share information about water quality and how to get involved.

Figure 66: Sustainable Career Panel Discussion

Figure 67: Dublin Waste to Energy tour

Figure 68:
Climate Leadership Lunch + Learn

Earth Day

Tuesday 22nd April 2025 marked the 55th anniversary of the global initiative Earth Day with the theme 'Our Power, Our Planet!'. Trinity marked the day with an Earth Day Action Forum to discuss Our 51% Challenge, the reduction in energy-related emissions we must meet by 2030. Participants discussed which challenges and solutions were most significant to lowering carbon emissions. They emphasised that the crucial part will be to provide funding for new energy technologies, and to consider the relationship between possible donors and their environmental impact.

Freshers Week

Freshers' Week took place from September 15th to 19th 2025. It included the Fresher's Fair in Front Square for clubs and societies and included orientation events for new students. Some of the team from Trinity Sustainability went out to meet the many students to spread the sustainability message far and wide.

Figure 69:
EnviroSoc Stall during freshers week

Figure 70: Prof Jane Stout, VP Biodiversity & Climate Action meeting students during Freshers Week

Spotlight on Health and Sport Week

Trinity celebrated Health and Sport Week 2025 continuing theGreenWeek theme of 'Healthy Planet, Healthy People' hosting 18 activities and events with over 1,000 attendees.

Our eclectic programme covered topics like Ozempic, Innovation for Degrowth, a PrEP clinic launch, free exercise classes, healthy lunches, a TCDSU sports day, a staff peak performance lecture, a student led movie launch of College Health's new PrEP clinic, a social Trinity on the Move event with Irish and more.

A walking debate on "Ozempic - wonder drug or call to climate action?" A keynote public lecture with Professor Mario Pansera on "Prosperity without Growth" and more. The line up included morning mindfulness, a healthy lunch with tcdglobal , a sports day with TCDSU AMLCT, launching of Ireland's first on campus PEP clinic and free fitness classes!

Figure 71: (left) Prof Jane Stout opened the debate. Assoc Prof Norah Campbell (right) making her case.

Figure 72: Climate Leadership training delivered to staff by An Taisce

Climate Leadership Staff Training

Under the Government's Climate Action Mandate, Trinity is required to deliver annual Climate Leadership training to all staff. Since 2023, more than 610 staff members have completed this training. Delivery has largely been supported by external providers, however, the School of Natural Sciences has developed a new Climate Leadership Development micro-credential with sponsorship provided to 38 staff members to undertake the programme. In addition, staff and students were offered the opportunity to obtain a Certificate of Participation through Trinity's Climate Leadership Development course, with almost 40 participants taking part during the 2024-2025 academic year. Staff that undertook the Certificate of Participation obtained their certificate at an event with the Vice President for Biodiversity and Climate Action.

Figure 73: Climate Leadership Development Micro-Cred – Cert of Participation Awards

Trinity Beo – Growing Food on Campus

Green spaces for growing food on campus were planted during 2025 with the launch of Trinity Beo in April 2025. A kitchen garden, called Trinity Beo was installed, on the roof of Trinity Business School. The garden has hardier plants like rosemary, thyme, mint and nasturtium, along with fruits like strawberries, apples and pears. The kitchen garden is part of Trinity Sustainability's work on developing a sustainable and healthy food plan for campus. Botany PhD students that took part in the planting and are maintaining the planting supported by Healthy Trinity Ambassadors. The Trinity Beo initiative is funded by Trinity Business School and Catering.

To find out more read full story here: Trinity chefs go hyperlocal, serving herbs grown on campus

Figure 74 & 75: Students and staff planting Trinity Beo, the produce from which was included in Catering menus in autumn/winter 2025

Health Supports on Campus

Free period products available at six locations on campus in partnership with Estates and CSD as part of Sexual Health group's work which also includes condoms, contraception, menopause.

30,325 condoms distributed on campus by Healthy Trinity as well as 35,000 by TCDSU, thus total 65,325 condoms distributed.

In 2024-2025:

- Student Counselling delivered 12,603 one to one appointments
- Student-2-Student mentoring was delivered to 3,676 first year and visiting students
- Student Learning Development recorded 5,467 attendances

Figure 76: Students protesting for free contraception

Spotlight on Menopause

Dr Katie O'Connor and Fiona Browne have been leading Trinity's menopause work since 2022 as part of the Healthy Trinity Sexual Health group. In 2025, they were awarded Best Menopause Support in Education and Academia at the competitive Menopause Workplace Excellence Awards pictured and their work was showcased at a collaborative HEA Healthy Campus network meeting in April.

Figure 77: Katie O'Connor (STEM) centre and Fiona Browne (right)

Spotlight on Feeding Ourselves: Local Food Symposium

Feeding Ourselves: Local Food Symposium was hosted by Healthy Trinity in collaboration with Talamh Beo. The event took place in Regent House and was attended by 100+ farmers, local food producers, students, staff and members of the public as part of the development of a new Sustainable and Healthy Food Plan under Trinity Sustainability Strategy. The event brought together diverse sectors to nurture collaboration, highlight the vital connections between agriculture, nutrition, and public health, and explore the potential of public procurement and community wealth building principles as powerful levers to support local producers and enhance community wellbeing. An Irish Times article about the event is here.

Figures 78 & 79: Pic (left) Dr Rupa Marya, School of Medicine on a panel of speakers. Prof Colin Doherty (right) gave closing remarks

Dublin Zoo Native Species Festival – Practical Conservation for the Public

Figure 80: Trinity's Biodiversity Officer, Collie Ennis at Dublin Zoo's Native Species Festival

The 2025 Dublin Zoo Native Species Festival welcomed over 10,000 visitors, with Trinity contributing hands-on conservation demonstrations. Trinity's Biodiversity Officer delivered live pond building sessions, explained rewilding techniques, and supported families, teachers, and schools looking to create habitat in their own communities. The event demonstrated strong public interest in practical, actionable steps for supporting nature at home and positioned Trinity as a leader in urban biodiversity engagement.

Community Engagement

Throughout 2025, 14 biodiversity tours were delivered across Trinity's grounds, including dedicated visits for Unit 18 community groups, schools, and international students. Many participants had lived near the university for years but had never previously set foot on campus. The tours helped foster trust and strengthen connections with neighbouring communities, while highlighting the diverse wildlife and habitat features flourishing in the heart of the city. Attendees consistently expressed surprise at the richness of biodiversity on site and enthusiasm for future collaborative activities.

Figure 82: Biodiversity Tour as part of the Campus of the Future project

Figure 83: Residents from Pearse Street being given a Biodiversity Tour by Collie Ennis, Biodiversity Officer

National Climate + Art Collaboration - House on the Beach

Figure 81: Talks on the Tide, Rosslare Beach

House on the Beach set out to create large-scale temporary sculptures of houses on beaches in Antrim and Wexford to provoke reflection on rising sea levels and climate science. The project was a recipient of the Creative Climate Action grant in 2024, an initiative from the Creative Ireland Programme. Mary Colclough, Community Engagement Manager in Trinity was the project lead, working with artist Nina McGowan. Due to challenges with securing planning permissions, the project pivoted to an alternative programme of an art exhibition, creative workshops, and community engagement based in Wexford. This included "Container"- a large sculpture installation for five weeks at Wexford County Hall (Aug-Sept 2025), public "Talks on the Tide" events on beaches, creative workshops, and behavioural change initiatives. Collie Ennis from Trinity's Sustainability team participated in the talk at Kilmore Quay on the topic of water quality.

Through events and workshops, the project directly reached over 1,200 people in the Dublin and Wexford areas, igniting conversations around the key themes of sea level rise, coastal erosion, sustainability and the circular economy. In addition, thousands more engaged via traditional media and online platforms. The experience highlights both the potential and challenges of organising and staging ambitious climate-art collaborations, particularly in relation to securing permissions for public installations.

Figure 84: "Container draws our attention to climate change through ideas around industrial production, excessive materialism and the unseen anxiety that the environmental collapse is causing'. Artist Nina McGowan (August 2025)

Networks and Affiliations

Staff from Trinity Sustainability and Healthy Trinity represent the university on multiple networks including HEA Healthy Campus, ASH Council a council of the Irish Heart Foundation, EU Smoke Free Partnership, Irish Doctors for the Environment, Climate and Health Alliance, Green Campus, SEAI Green Labs network and Green Pearse Street. Healthy Trinity participated in the Docklands Festival as part of Green Pearse Street network.

Figure 85: Green Pearse Street network

Our Blue World Film Screening

Trinity Sustainability hosted the screening of "Our Blue World" which was followed by a panel discussion featuring Mary Robinson, the former President of Ireland and UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. The discussion was moderated by Trinity alumnus Aoife Kelleher and included insights from Prof Nessa O'Connor, a marine ecologist, and Paul O'Callaghan, Executive Producer of the film. The screening was open to students, staff and the general public.

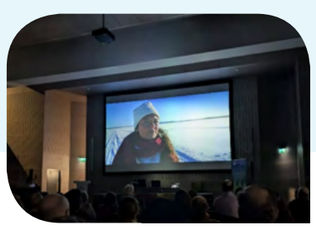


Figure 86: Our Blue World Film Screening

Spotlight on La Leche League Trinity

In 2025, La Leche League Trinity trialled hosting their Trinity Breastfeeding support meetings in Unit 18. La Leche League Trinity has been running as a partnership since 2016 and this new location aims to continue to offer La Leche League breastfeeding support to families from Trinity as well as to the local Pearse Street community. Pictured top left is the new breastfeeding mural the School of Nursing and Midwifery installed this year, centre is the Breastfeeding group led by La Leche League Leader Aislinn and right are the Academic Lead of the Healthy Trinity Breastfeeding Prof. Louise Gallagher and the Professional Lead from La Leche League Aislinn Moore Cunningham. Healthy Trinity is grateful for the incredible support of La Leche League to families.

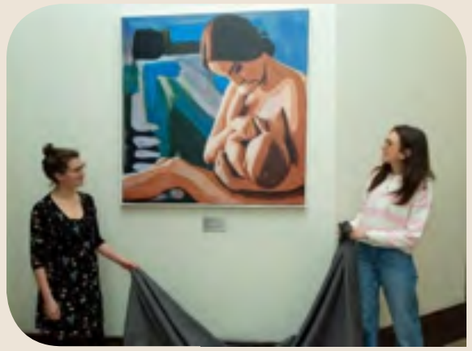


Figure 87: Le Leche League group

5. Sustainability Communication

Social Media

In 2025 we focused on building up new and existing platforms to reach a wider audience, expanding to include a monthly e-zine and Trinity Sustainability LinkedIn. We continued to build our community on Instagram, a key platform for students and young researchers. We had successful campaigns such as the Campus Travel Plan survey, where tools like videos, webinars, social media, email, screens, and in-person events combined to reach a wide group of stakeholders and we were able to reach the desired input to the plan through strategic communication.

We are continuing to build our communities online through social media: our Instagram following has grown by 148% over the period August 2024-December 2025. We also launched our LinkedIn account in October 2025 and reached almost 500 followers in the following two months.

Our most popular post on Instagram was the promotion of Trash to Treasure in September, with over 133,000 views, 700 engagements and a gain of 35 new followers. Other top posts included new leaders in sustainability, QS rankings news and student involvement in COP30, which all received over 100,000 views. Top videos were from Biodiversity Officer Collie Ennis, with his video creating a home for hedgehogs alongside personality James Kavanaugh gaining over 80,000 views.

For those following and engaging with our content on Instagram, the demographic is overwhelmingly in the 18-24 age range (60%), followed by the 25-34 age range (22.4%).

On LinkedIn, we are seeing strong engagement numbers and will continue to grow our community there, which has a large following from the higher education sector at 38% of total followers.

Our most popular posts were the Climate and Biodiversity Week wrap up with a 30% engagement rate and the launch of the Climate Gateway with 20% engagement. The LinkedIn demographic is an important area of growth for 2026, as 32% of users in Ireland are in the 35-54 age bracket.

Figure 88: Campus Travel Plan comms

Internal Communications

We launched a Sustainability Newsletter in March of 2025 and currently have a subscriber base of 600 staff and students. The newsletter has an average read rate of 25%. We continue to feed into the Weekly Wrap Up, the all-staff ezine with an average readership of 550 staff members weekly. Continuing our 51% Challenge campaign, we hosted a webinar in March of 2025 with Carbon Reduction Manager Peter Breen that was open to all staff and students. We continued to raise awareness of Trinity's energy reduction targets, provided resources to reduce energy use, and promoted Estates and Facilities energy efficiency projects. The campaign is promoted with screens around campus, through T-Net, the Weekly Wrap up and Sustainability Newsletters, social media and through all staff and student emails.

Figure 89: Bedding Sale comms

Media

In 2025, Trinity issued 46 media releases with a strong sustainability focus, a 15% increase on 2024. These consisted largely of research developments, funding announcements, partnerships, opinion-editorials and awards. These stories are shared on Trinity's News and Events page, the Sustainability website, social media channels and internal communications channels. They'll often be accompanied by video content, interviews and other content we create to spread awareness and extend the life and reach of such valuable stories.

Top stories included a data-server cooling technology featured in TIME magazine which was developed by Professor Anthony Robinson and colleagues and became the key element on which spinout Nexalus was founded. The technology reuses thermal energy while also increasing efficiency and reducing costs. The E-Mobility Hub launch in Galway also received extensive local and national coverage including a feature by RTE. This project led by Prof Brian Caulfield provides an ESB charge station with one e-cargo bike and four e-bikes, and two shared EVs.

6. Progress in 2025

Events

There were 105 sustainability-themed events over the 2025 calendar year, which is twice as many events as 2024. The events ranged from public lectures to plant swaps to book clubs and gave staff, students and the public opportunities to learn, network and get involved in sustainability initiatives on campus. The events are supported by both internal and external communications to increase participation and awareness.

Biodiversity Communications in Numbers

Broadcast, Podcast & National Media

- 7 national and local radio interviews, including RTÉ Radio 1's Ray D'Arcy Show.
- Featured guest on the Joe.ie Podcast, with the episode reaching over 80,000 viewers.
- Recognised within Irish media as a trusted wildlife commentator, consistently representing Trinity's biodiversity and sustainability work.
- 4 national print/online features across the Irish Times, Irish Independent, and Journal.ie.

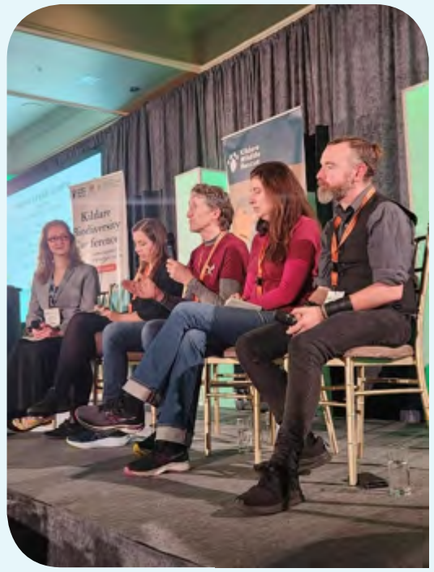


Figure 90: Panel Discussion during Kildare's Biodiversity Week

Social Media & Digital Outreach

- 20,000 combined followers across Instagram and X.
- Estimated 2–3 million impressions across 2025.
- Collaborated closely with Trinity Sustainability on educational reels about the wildflower meadows, Unit 18 community visits, and campus wildlife.
- Produced regular educational wildlife content, with reels commonly exceeding 10,000 views.

Area	Strategic Objective	Number of Actions	Complete	Ongoing	Not yet started/ Under review
Education & research	All Trinity students and teaching staff will be empowered to develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to act as agents of change, individually and collectively, in working for sustainable development within planetary boundaries. To enable and support research of the quality, diversity, depth and novelty necessary to generate new understanding, insight and approaches for transformational change at local, national and global level to address historical, current and future biodiversity, climate and health challenges.	71	27	28	16
Operations	To collaborate in multi-, inter- and trans-disciplinary teams to enable our campus and day-to-day operations to be environmentally sustainable, with reduced carbon emissions from our infrastructure and activities, increased space for nature on site, reduced impact on nature off site, and long-term operational plans for a healthier, more resilient future	111	11	80	20
Community	To collaborate and engage with internal and external stakeholders across a broad range of disciplines and sectors to achieve institutional, local, national and international sustainability goals by 2030 and prepare for a more sustainable and healthy future in the long-term.	82	13	56	13

Trinity College Dublin
Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath
The University of Dublin