

Mr Daniel McCrossan MLA
Chair, Public Accounts Committee
Northern Ireland Assembly
Parliament Buildings
Stormont
BELFAST
BT4 3XX

28 May 2026

Dear Mr McCrossan,

Energy Strategy Targets Update

This letter outlines the current position for each of the Energy Strategy targets included in the Energy Strategy for Northern Ireland. The three targets and the current position, as at May 2026, are detailed below:

1. Energy Savings: Deliver energy savings of 25% from buildings and industry by 2030.

Based on the available data as of May 2026, the estimated total energy saved since the introduction of the energy strategy was **1,067 GWh; 15.4% of the target**. The data indicates low progress against the target. However, data availability is limited, as data are either not published or disaggregated by region.

However, it is important to note that the current figure, as at May 2026, of energy saved 1,067 GWh or 15.4% of the target, is the minimum value, given that other interventions which have been active in 2024 and 2025 are yet to publish their outcomes of energy saved.

For intervention activity in 2024, there are two additional interventions, NI Sustainable Energy Programme [expected July 2026] and Energy Savings Opportunity Scheme [expected June 2028] yet to report. Figures for 2024 includes eight of the ten interventions active within NI.

For the 2025 intervention activity, only two of the ten interventions [Energy Resource and Efficiency Programme (EREP) and Streamlined Energy Carbon Reporting (SECR)] have reported activity within 2025. Therefore, figures for 2025 include only two of the ten interventions active within NI. However, it is assumed the interventions introduced in previous years are still delivering energy savings and contributes to the 2025 annual figure.

2. Renewables: Meet at least 80%¹ of electricity consumption from a diverse mix of renewable sources by 2030.

The volume of renewable electricity generated (4,073 GWh) was equivalent to **47%** of Gross Final Electricity Consumption (8,755 GWh) for the 12-month period January 2025 to December 2025.

Following data development and improvement work, the measurement and reporting of Electricity Consumption and Renewable Generation (ECRG) moved in March 2026 to a Gross Final Electricity Consumption approach.

The Energy Strategy, committed to a review of the calculation methodology for the ECRG measure and the Department published the Electricity Consumption and Renewable Generation Statistics, Data and Measurement Development: [User Engagement Report](#) on 8th January 2026 in which it confirmed that reporting of ECRG would move to a revised calculation methodology for the first time on 5th March 2026.

For comparative purposes, the volume of renewable electricity generated (3,941 GWh) was equivalent to 45% of Gross Final Electricity Consumption (8,747 GWh) for the 12-month period October 2024 to September 2025.

3. Green Economy: Double the size of our low carbon and renewable energy economy to a turnover of more than £2 billion by 2030.

NI low carbon and renewable energy economy (LCREE) turnover (in current prices) was estimated to be **£1.51 billion in 2024**, which was an increase of 24%² on the previous year. NI LCREE turnover in 2024 was estimated to be 63% higher than the estimate in 2015.

Data is continuously collated from producers into a single coherent source, an interactive dashboard, which is updated when additional data associated with the targets and metrics becomes available at: [Energy Strategy Dashboard](#)

I am copying this letter to the Chair of the Committee for the Economy.

Yours sincerely,

IAN SNOWDEN
Permanent Secretary

¹ The 2021 Energy Strategy target of 70% has been superseded by the *Climate Change Act (Northern Ireland) 2022* which set a target of at least 80% of electricity consumption from renewable sources by 2030.

² LCREE data are subject to revision. The 2023 LCREE turnover figure was revised to £1.22bn from the previously published figure of £1.41bn.

cc. Mr Phillip Brett, MLA, Chair, Committee for the Economy