

Terms of Reference

Terms of Reference for Cavan Energy Audit

The proposed Cavan Energy Audit will look at developing renewable energy sources in Cavan based on its natural resources, agriculture and economic base.

Current and potential business opportunities

1. The Audit will look at the current development of alternative energy initiatives in the county, the current businesses established, and the opportunities for new and existing complementary businesses or for interaction with the businesses.

Resources available

2. The Audit will identify the distribution of renewable energy resources throughout the county (biomass, solar, hydro, wind power, and sustainable waste management); quantify the total size of each resource; and evaluate the exploitable resource based on environmental, market, and planning considerations, available technologies, and accessibility to the electricity grid as appropriate.

Markets

3. The Audit will identify and categorise the consumer markets for alternative energies in the County, and outline how alternative energy suppliers can meet the requirements of energy consumers.

Barriers to development

4. The Audit will highlight issues which may be holding back development and make suggestions as to what actions need to be taken (locally and nationally) to facilitate development.

Funding opportunities

5. The Audit will assess what funding opportunities (national, EU, and international) are available to support the development of local alternative energy initiatives in terms of grant assistance and financial markets.

Policy guidelines

6. The Audit will identify how the development of local alternative energy initiatives can help to meet Government and EU policy guidelines.

Action plan

7. The Audit will propose short, medium and long term recommendations based on the above and develop an action plan for the Cavan Energy Team and Cavan County Council as to how these organisations can facilitate the development of renewable energy sources in the County.