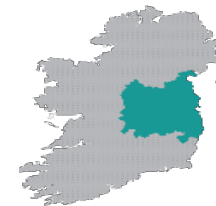


Quantitative Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Impact Assessment Method for Spatial Planning Policy (QGasSP)

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Tionól Reigiúnach Oirthir agus Lár-Tíre
Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly

Contents

- Spatial Planning and Climate Action in Ireland
- Measuring GHG emissions
- Why QGasSP?
- Using the Tool as a lever for change

Eastern Midland Regional Assembly (EMRA)



Planning & Economic Development

- **Strategic policy** –Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES)
- **Provide oversight** –local authority development plans

EU Affairs

- **Manage funds**– Regional Operational Programmes and Monitoring Committees
- **Provide supports** – Committee of the Regions and IREO

Effective Local Government

- **Promote co-ordination**–EU/ National/ Regional/ Local
- Develop knowledge** – Research and evidence based monitoring

What we do: Enabling Strategic Planning & Economic Development in Irish Regions

Global to Local : Climate & Planning Policy



Source: Eastern and Midlands CARO www.caro.ie

National commitment to reduce emissions by 40% to 2030 and 'net zero' by 2050

Local plans required to address carbon reduction



RPO 3.6: City and county development plans shall undergo assessment of their impact on carbon reduction targets and shall include measures to monitor and review progress towards carbon reduction targets.

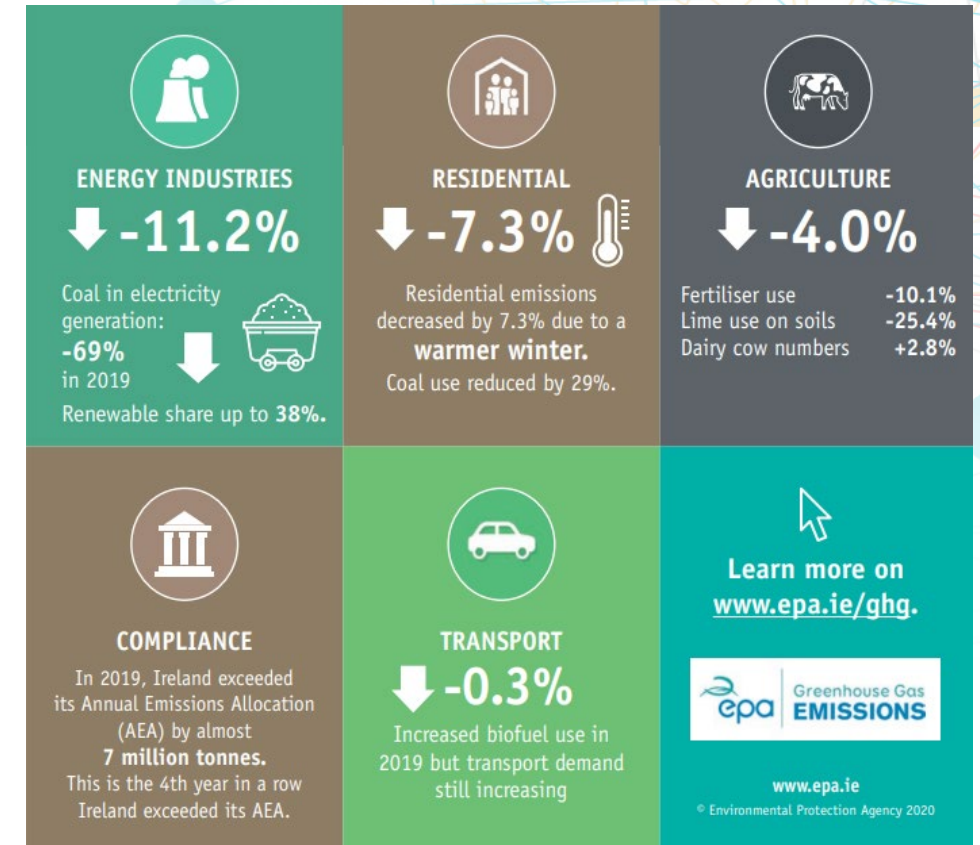
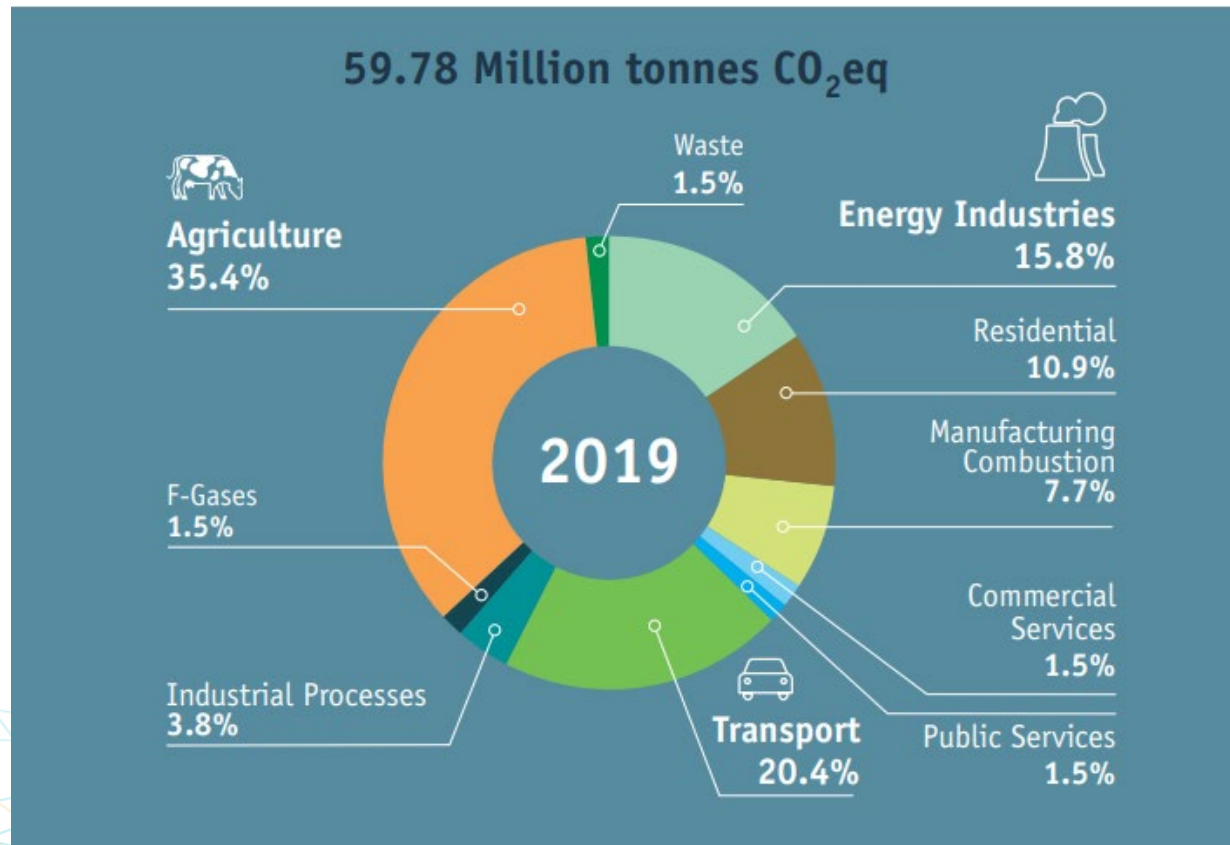
Planning and Development Act, 2000 as amended

*A development plan shall include measures to **reduce anthropic greenhouse gas** emissions and adapt to climate change*



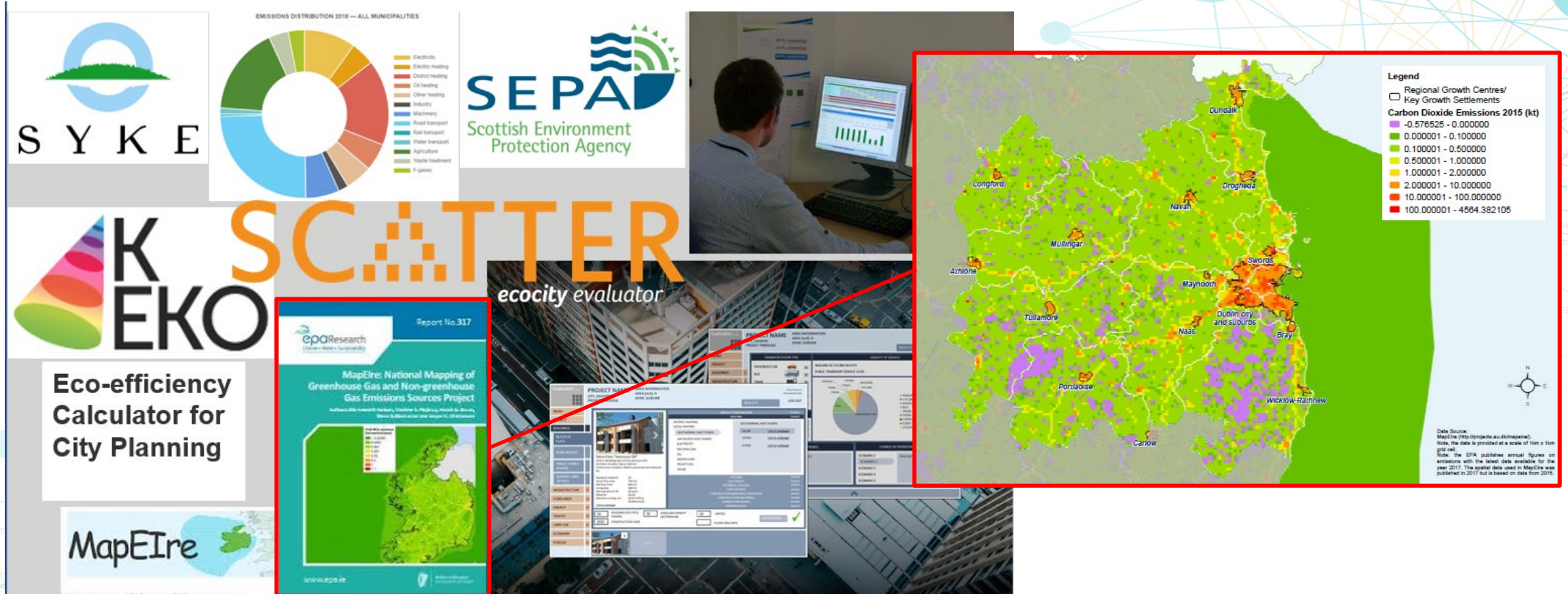
Climate action is integrated into all regional and local land use planning policies

Current state: Ireland's (sectoral) emissions



Despite decreases, Ireland is still not on the pathway require to meet future targets

Models for measuring (spatial) emissions



No universally agreed method for measuring the impact of spatial planning policies

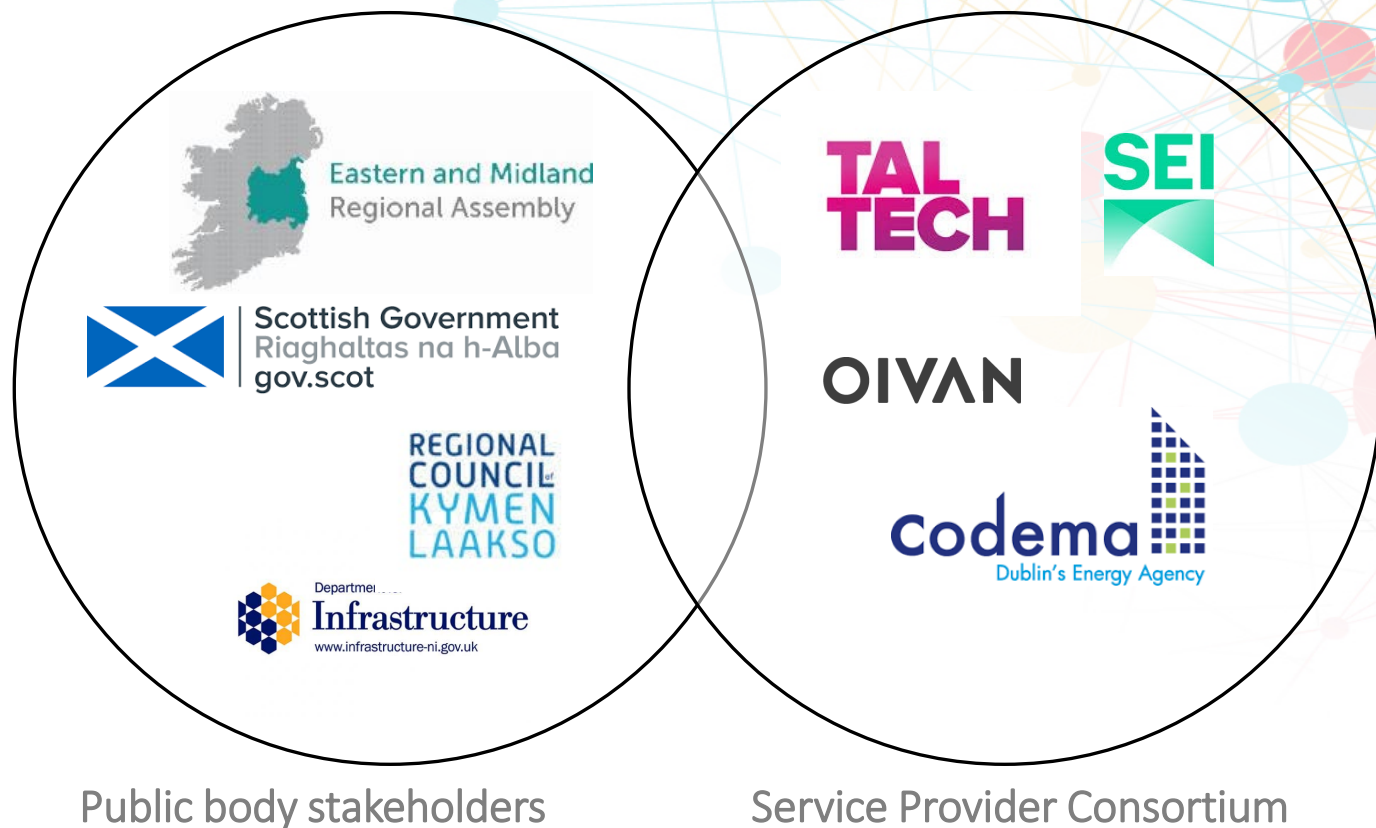
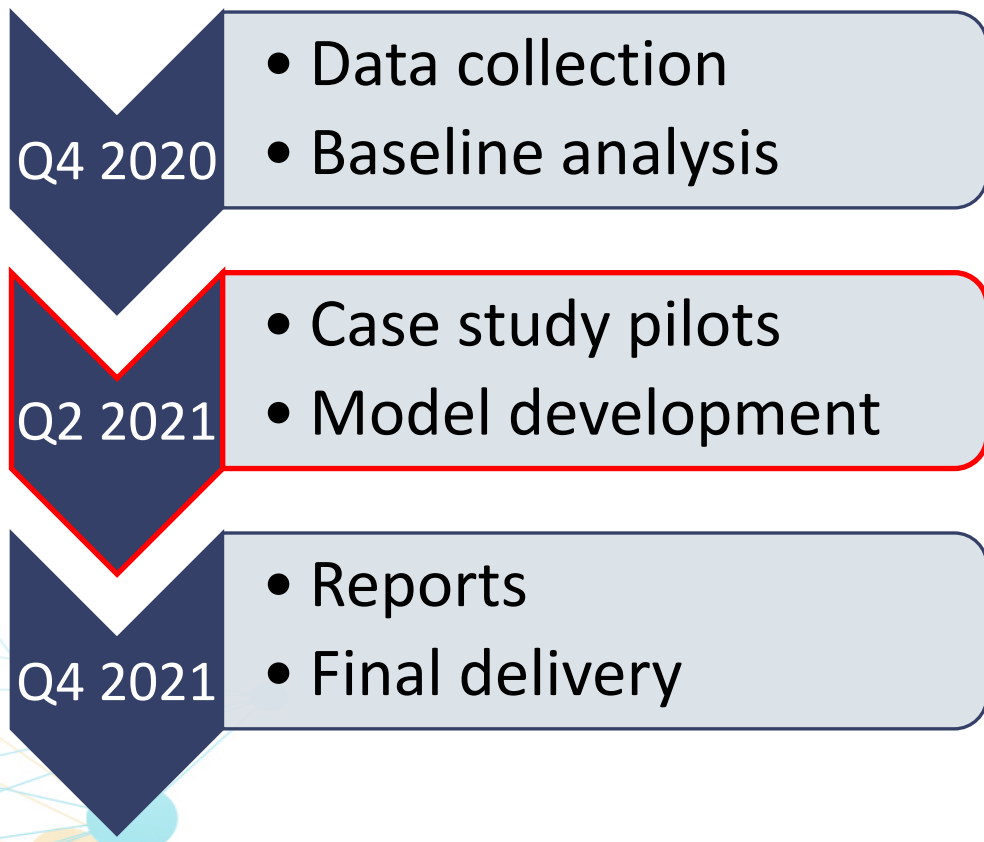
QGasSP : Quantitative Greenhouse Gas impact assessment for Spatial Plans

EMRA launched QGASP to learn from latest research in GHG modelling:

- To develop a **robust and consistent method** for planning authorities to assess and forecast the impact of spatial planning policies
- To measure and **compare emissions at different spatial scales** - national, regional and local levels
- To enhance **Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)** allowing for consideration of strategic alternatives in the plan making process
- To map alternative **pathways to Climate Neutrality**

Expected output is a web application and modelling tool for the (non expert) user

QGasSP: Stakeholders and research experts



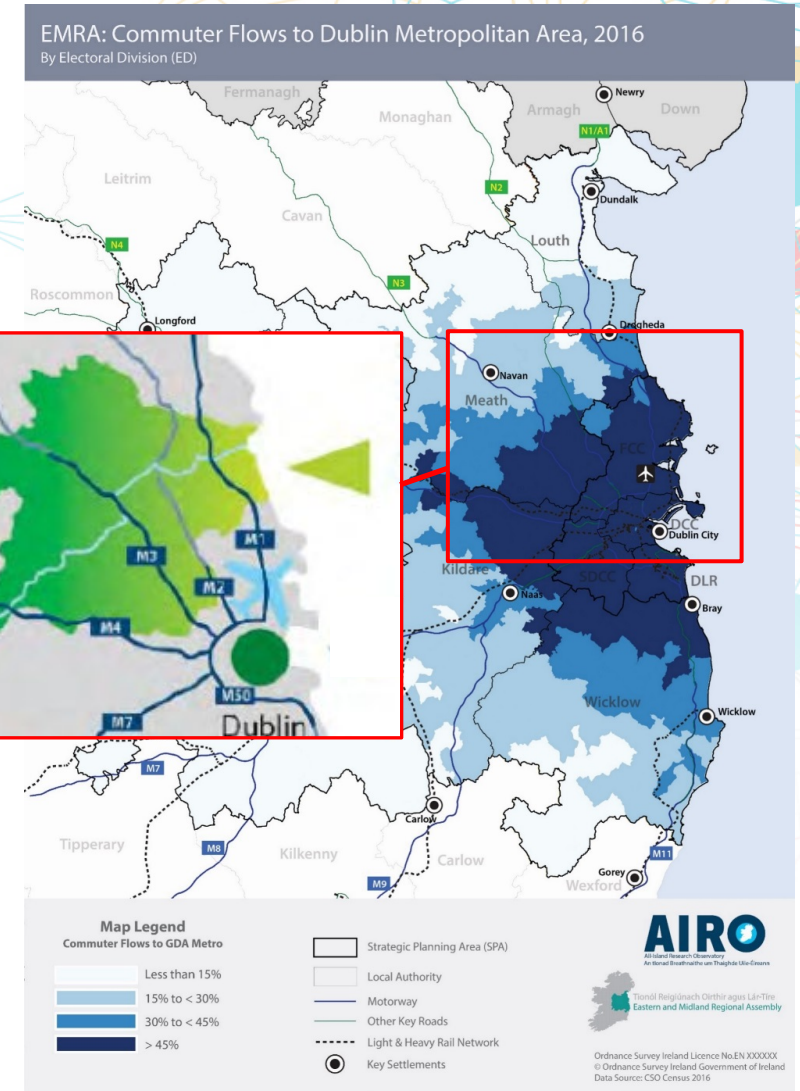
Service providers working to develop and test the model with case study pilots

QGasSP Model development

Selection of case studies of different urban types and spatial scales:

- **County Meath (Ireland)**, 195,000 pop
- Rathlin Island (Northern Ireland) 160 pop
- Kymenlaakso Region (Finland) 174,000 pop
- City of Edinburgh (Scotland) 901,000 pop

Meath, in the capital city of Dublin's commuter belt has experienced **rapid growth**, **land use change**, and **traffic congestion**



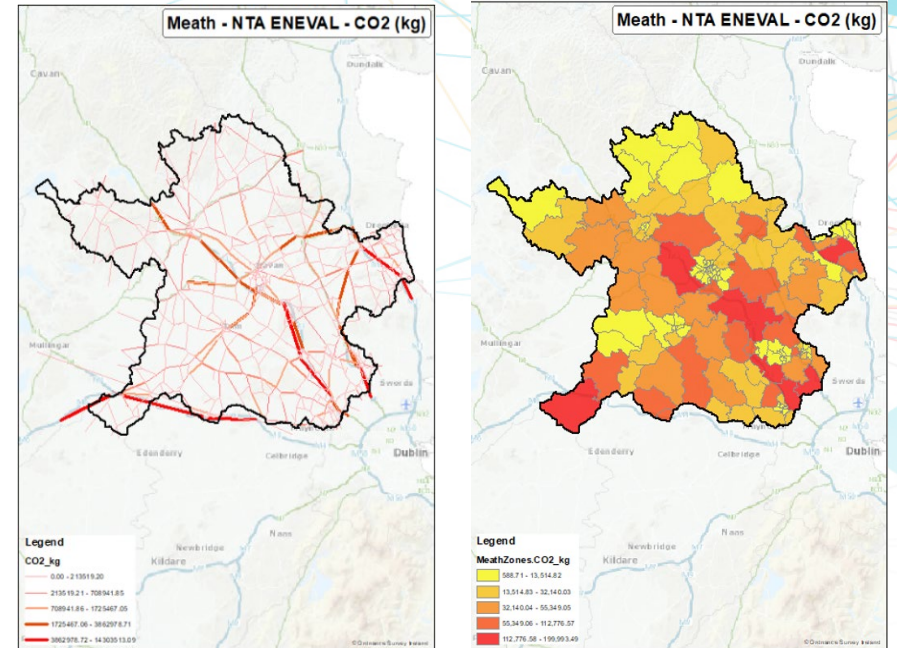
Need to decouple future development and economic growth from emissions

Case Study pilot – County Meath, Ireland

Working with public stakeholders, the National Transport Authority and Codema to complete **local data baseline collection**

QGasSP will be used by planners to:

- Test **climate mitigation strategies**
- Identify and monitor new ‘**decarbonsiation zones**’
- Avoid ‘locking in’ unsustainable **land use and transport patterns** in spatial plans



Local data on transport emissions in Meath, Ireland

Source: NTA Modelling & Planning Section

www.nationaltransport.ie/planning-and-investment

Quantification of emissions with focus on transport, buildings and land use change

Spatial planning as lever for change



2021 Climate (Amendment) Bill **more ambitious roadmap** of 7% emission reductions per annum **up to 51% by 2030**, towards net zero by 2050

Significant Challenge and Transformative Change needed to deliver Climate Neutrality Objective

By planning properly, we can promote **efficient use of land**, sustainable **transport**, build **sustainable communities**, and a **green economy**.

Integrating climate action into spatial plans at all levels to leverage **European Green Deal** and position climate as a **driver for growth**

QGasSP will be used map pathways to net zero and build political will for change

Thank you

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www.emra.ie



This presentation will be made available at: www.espon.eu