How could working from home contribute to Ireland's 2030 climate target?

Passenger transport is responsible for 10% of GHG emissions emitted by Ireland. Travelling for work is the main contributor to passenger transport demand (30%) - what GHG reductions could working from home deliver?

Key Messages

- Significant and immediate GHG emissions reductions from all sectors are required to meet Ireland's 51% emissions reductions target by 2030, i.e. from 63 million tonnes (2018) to 31 million tonnes (2030)
- Widespread working from home could reduce passenger transport emissions by between 0.4 million tonnes (2 days per week) and 1 million tonnes (5 days per week) in 2030.
- Additional measures such as increased walking and cycling (including e-bikes), increased public transport, the electrification of public transport and cars, and increased biofuel mixing are all also needed to further reduce passenger transport emissions.
- The rebound effects of working from home and travel for other purposes are important but are not considered in the analysis. Increased flexibility with travel times could allow for modal flexibility, including the use of zero-carbon walking and cycling as modes of travel or flexibility around public transport schedules.



Working from home could reduce passenger transport GHG by 7–15% but there is still a gap to target (51% reduction needed)

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