



An Roinn Fiontar,
Trádála agus Fostaíochta
Department of Enterprise,
Trade and Employment

Energy and Sustainability Government Schemes and Resources *Applicable for retailers* **UPDATED 2 November 2022**

Financial Supports

- *Budget 2023* – Revenue Commissioners - **NEW** The *Temporary Business Energy Support Scheme* (TBESS) will provide qualifying businesses with up to 40% of the increase in electricity or gas bills up to €10,000 per month and will be administered by the Revenue Commissioners. Further information about the scheme can be found on [Temporary Business Energy Support Scheme \(TBESS\) \(revenue.ie\)](https://www.revenue.ie/en/energy-support-scheme/tbess/)
- *Budget 2023* – Local Enterprise Offices (LEO) – **NEW** The *Small Firms Investment in Energy Efficiency Scheme* will provide a grant through the Local Enterprise Office (LEO) network to companies to encourage investment in energy efficiency technologies or processes that reduce carbon emissions and overall energy costs. The scheme will follow on from the LEO Green for Micro Scheme which currently provides advice and technical support to firms on energy efficiency and reducing their carbon footprint. (Opening 2023)
- *Budget 2023* – Strategic Banking Corporation of Ireland (SBCI) - **NEW** The State-backed *Ukraine Credit Guarantee Scheme* will provide low-cost working capital or medium-term investment, especially in energy saving measures to SMEs, primary producers and small mid-caps (businesses with fewer than 500 employees). Loans of up to 6 years will be available, from €10,000 to €1 million, with no collateral required for loans up to €250,000. Loans will be provided by finance providers from the private sector including banks, non-banks and credit unions.
- *Budget 2023* - Strategic Banking Corporation of Ireland (SBCI) **NEW** *The Growth and Sustainability Loan Scheme (GSLs)* will make up to €500 million in low-cost investment loans of up to 10 years available to SMEs, including farmers and fishers and small mid-caps, with no collateral required for loans up to €500,000. A minimum of 30% of the lending volume will be targeted towards environmental sustainability. 70% of lending will be for strategic investments with a view to increasing productivity and competitiveness and thus underpinning future business sustainability and growth. The scheme will be operated by the SBCI and participating finance providers. (It is anticipated that it will be launched in the market in the first half of 2023).
- *Budget 2023* - Temporary Extensions
 - a. Excise rate reductions in the order of 5, 16 and 21 cents per litre VAT inclusive currently apply to MGO, diesel and petrol respectively. These rate reductions were due to expire on 12 October 2022 but have been extended 28 February 2023.

- b. The 9% VAT rate was previously introduced for gas and electricity on 1 May 2022 and is due to expire on 31 October 2022. This rate has now been extended to 28 February 2023 which will provide for a lower VAT rate from November to February.
- LEO: The *Green for Micro* programme helps prepare small businesses for the low carbon, more resource efficient economy of the future. This is a FREE programme, available to companies with up to ten employees. [Green for Micro - Local Enterprise Office](#)
 - SEAI: Capital Grants of up to €5 million are available from SEAI for energy efficiency and renewable energy – Key existing grants available to retailers are *Community Energy Grants* ([Grants For Sustainable Community Projects | SEAI](#)), the *Support Scheme for Renewable Heat* ([Support Scheme for Renewable Heat | Business Grants | SEAI](#)), and the *EXEED Grant Scheme* ([EXEED Grant Scheme | Business Grants | SEAI](#))
 - SEAI: **NEW** The [Non-Domestic Microgen Scheme - SEAI](#) provides up to €2,400 towards the installation of solar PV. Grants are available for systems up to 6kWp (approx. 16 Panels or 25m²) with a potential of savings between €2,000 - €3000 annual electrical costs (depending on installation size and current utility rates).
 - SEAI: The *Accelerated Capital Allowance* is a tax incentive ran by Revenue which encourages investment in energy saving technology. Companies that pay corporation tax in Ireland can deduct the full cost of the qualifying energy efficiency equipment from their profits in the year of purchase [Accelerated Capital Allowance | Business Grants | SEAI](#)
 - SEAI: Eligible companies under the *SEAI SME Energy audit* receive a €2,000 voucher towards the cost of a professional energy audit [Energy Audits for SMEs | Business | SEAI](#)
 - SEAI: The [Energy Contracting Support Scheme | Business Grants and Supports | SEAI](#) provides financial assistance to implement energy efficiency and decarbonisation projects. The Scheme aims to support the direct external consultancy and/or specialist advisory costs related to project appraisal and procurement of pay-for-performance energy contracts. Find out more about [Energy Contracting](#).

Non-Financial Supports

- SEAI: Energy Efficiency Guide for Retailers: This Guide, which is for Irish Retailers, aims to introduce simple and effective energy-related advice to help retailers use and manage energy more efficiently. seai.ie/publications/Energy-Efficiency-Guide.pdf
- DETE/DECC: *Climate Toolkit 4 Business* allows SMEs to input some simple information and to get an estimate of their carbon footprint and a personalised action plan to reduce it. It will use this information to generate a personalised action plan and recommend those supports that are relevant to help each business reduce their carbon footprint and energy costs. [Climate Toolkit 4 Business | Zero Carbon Journey Toolkit for Businesses](#)
- Skillnet Ireland: the *Climate Ready* programme offers leadership and skills support for enterprises who want to develop their operational and strategic sustainability. [Climate Ready: Talent for Ireland's Green Economy \(skillnetireland.ie\)](#)

- Regional Skills: The *DigiEco Programme*, which is 100% Government funded, aims to create a greater awareness of energy and resource efficiencies, improve the digital green skills of employees, increase awareness on environmental practices that can contribute towards a greener workplace and raise awareness of Climate Change. [DigiEco - Digital Skills for a Green Economy - Regional Skills](#)
- SEAI: Introduction to Energy Management: Creating an Energy Action Plan Training: The workshop-based training is hosted by Ireland's leading energy experts and will take you through the six steps to creating an energy action plan which will help you implement energy management practices in your business. [Energy Efficiency Training for SMEs | Business | SEAI](#)
- SEAI: The *Energy Academy* is a free online resource is designed by experts and gives businesses access to high quality energy training. Businesses can learn how to save energy and grow through energy efficiency. [SEAI Energy Academy | SEAI](#)
- SEAI: *Steps to Energy Efficiency* includes 5 steps to begin an energy efficiency journey. [Steps To Energy Efficiency For Your SME | Business | SEAI](#)

Other Supports

- SEAI: *The Energy Efficiency Obligation Scheme*, places obligations on energy suppliers and distributors to deliver energy savings. [Energy Efficiency Obligation Scheme \(EEOS\) | Business Grants | SEAI](#)
- SEAI: *Energy Contracting* is a 'pay for performance' approach to installing and operating energy technologies in your business. The option you choose influences the level of energy and cost savings guaranteed. [Energy Contracting | Business Grants & Supports | SEAI](#)
- SEAI: The level of incentive for *electric vehicles* varies between fully electric vehicles and plug in hybrid electric vehicles. These incentives will reduce as the cost of electric vehicles and internal combustion engine vehicles become equal. [EV Grants & Supports | Electric Vehicles For Business | SEAI](#)
- SEAI: The *Support Scheme for Renewable Heat* is a government funded initiative designed to increase the energy generated from renewable sources in the heat sector. The Scheme aims to bridge the gap between the installation and operating costs of renewable heating systems and the conventional fossil fuel alternatives; and incentivise the development and supply of renewable heat. The grant provides funding of up to 30% of eligible costs. [Support Scheme for Renewable Heat | Business Grants | SEAI](#)

Disclaimer:

This information sheet is intended to give a general guidance to retailers about current Government Schemes and Resources in relation to Energy Costs. Whilst every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information provided, the Department, its servants or agents assume no responsibility for and give no guarantees, undertakings or warranties concerning the accuracy, completeness or up to date nature of the information provided and does not accept any liability whatsoever arising from any errors or omissions. Please check enterprise.gov.ie or Gov.ie or relevant organisation for further updates.