

SEAI Support Scheme for Energy Audits (SSEA)

Presentation to Energy Saving Trust

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Agenda

1. Introduction



2. Why an SME Audit Support?



3. SSEA Overview



4. SSEA Data



5. Next Steps



Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland

- National authority, fully funded by government of Ireland
- Our mission is to be at the heart of delivering Ireland's energy revolution. We drive the reduction and replacement of fossil fuel usage
- Support homeowners, businesses, communities, policy makers
- Education/training, grant funding, research, data & insights
- €50M funding to over 2500 businesses in 2022



Why an SME audit support scheme?



SME Challenges



Finance

SMEs have difficulty accessing capital and understanding how to fund energy investments. As energy bills increase, less funds available for investment



Time

In general SMEs don't have the time to spend upskilling, researching technologies, and are difficult to engage in this topic



Resources

SMEs tend not to have the necessary technical expertise or information required to support decision making related to energy investments



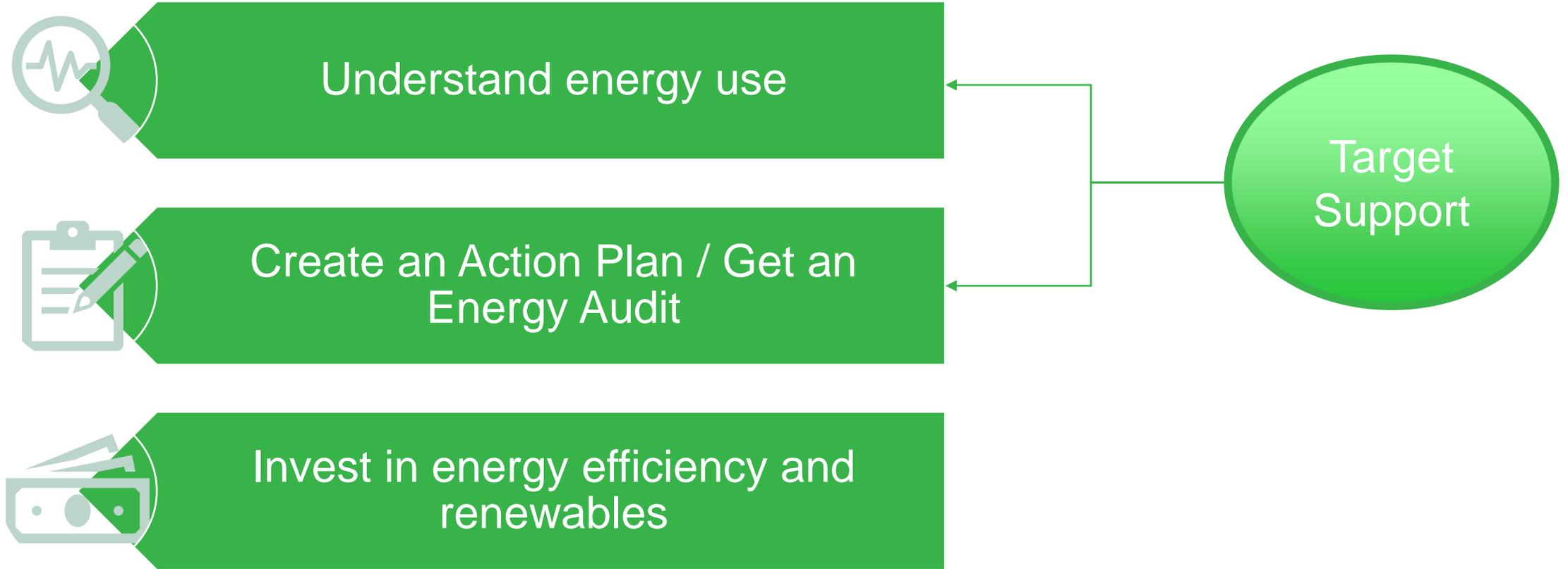
Where to start?

SMEs want to reduce energy or switch to renewables but don't know where to start

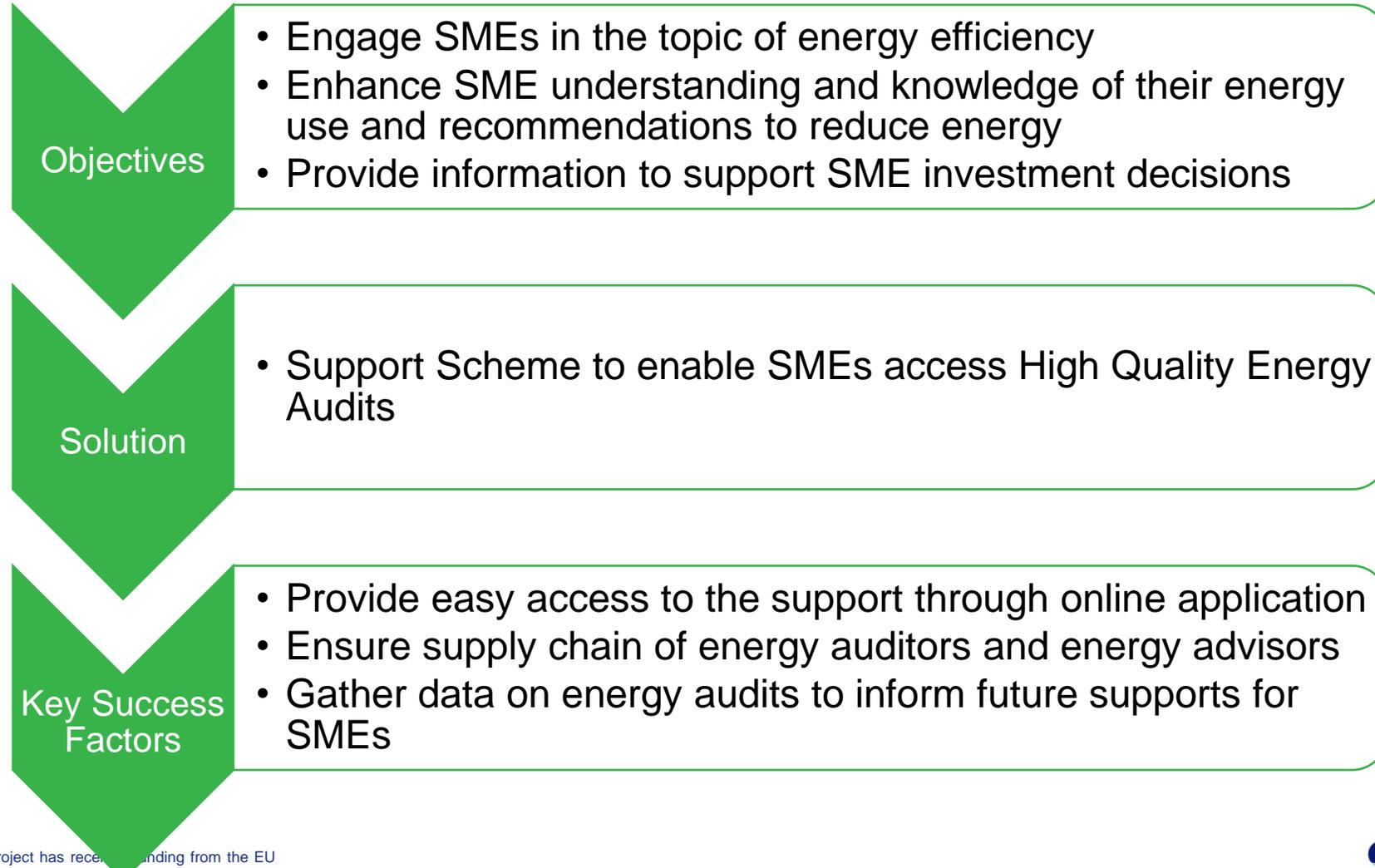
Irish Policy Context

- Energy Efficiency Directive (S.I. 426):
 - “....Member States should develop programmes to encourage SMEs to undergo energy audits.”
- Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Bill 2021:
 - 51% overall emissions reduction by 2030
 - Net Zero by 2050
- Climate Action Plan 2023 – targets to 2030:
 - 35% reduction in direct industry emissions
 - 1/3 of existing commercial premises to be upgraded to BER B
 - Retrofit 50,000 commercial premises with heat pumps

The SME Energy Journey



Reaching the Solution



SSEA Scheme Overview



Support Scheme for Energy Audits

- Offers SMEs a voucher of €2,000 to get an energy audit with an SEAI Registered Energy Auditor
- Open year round for applications
- Eligibility:
 - Small or Medium Enterprise only (Obligated entities not eligible)
 - Spend at least €10,000 on energy per year (exc transport energy)
 - Be tax compliant and registered in Ireland
- Dedicated website and online application portal
- Automatic offer by email once eligibility confirmed
- Launched July 2021

Application Portal

- New portal for easy online application
 - Easy for businesses to access and apply
 - Smooth customer journey
 - Administration is straightforward



 | [Sign in](#)

SEAI Application Portal

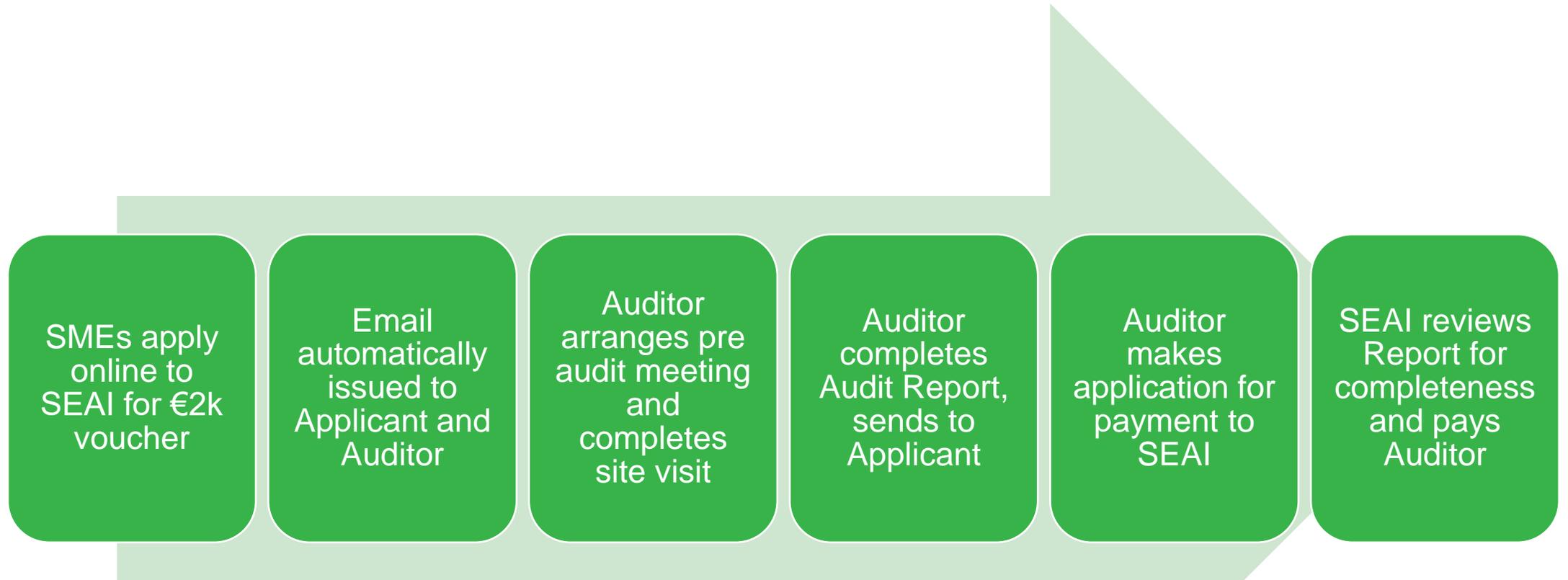
Now, more than ever, it is imperative that we use less energy, move away from fossil fuels and take advantage of innovative energy solutions to address climate change. Changing how we use energy will go a long way to reducing our collective impact on the climate. SEAI is here to support you and get you to a place where you will experience the benefits of using less energy and using clean energy.

Register or sign in below, and kick start your energy saving journey with SEAI.

[SIGN IN](#)

[REGISTER](#)

Application Process



Energy Audit Report

- High Quality report with
 - 1 page dashboard with key findings
 - Standard excel template
 - Standard report template
- Report Sections
 - Site Description
 - Fuel Use
 - Energy Bills Analysis
 - Significant Energy Users
 - Energy Management Assessment Scores
 - Renewable Technology Assessment (heat pumps, Solar PV)
 - Recommended Actions



Medium sized Office Building

ENERGY ACTION PLAN

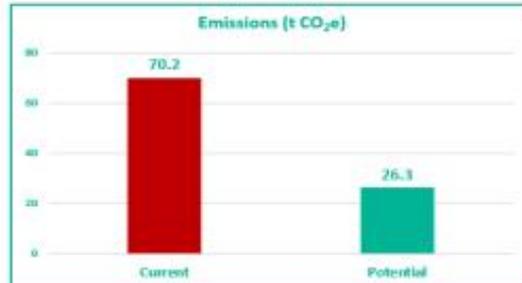
For: Engineers Ireland

Energy performance of your business



	Current	Potential
Energy management	★★	★★★★
Building fabric	★★	★★★
Building services	★★	★★★★
Manufacturing & processing equipment	N/A	N/A
Manufacturing & processing controls	N/A	N/A
Use of renewables	★	★★★★

Compare your organisation's current and potential energy costs, before and after implementing the recommended actions identified below:



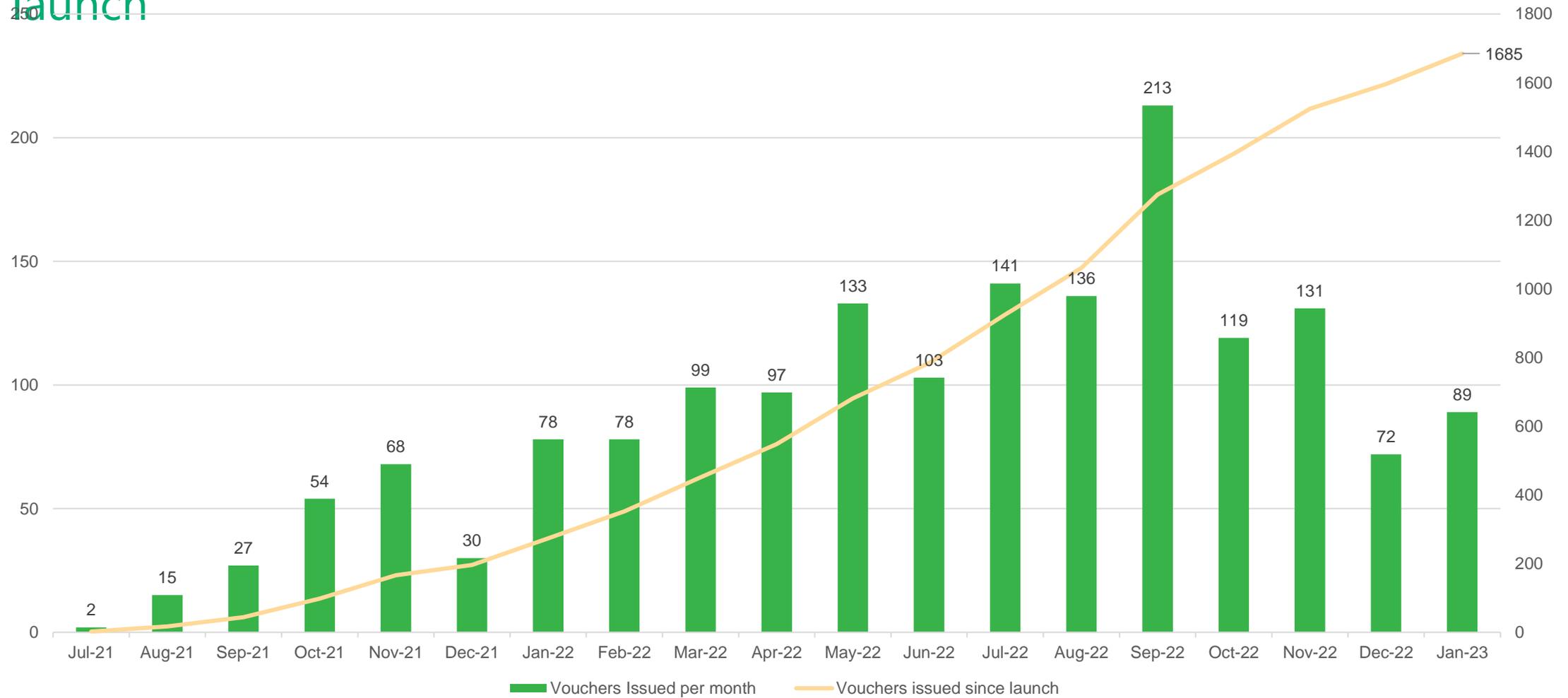
Recommended actions that will help reduce your organisation's emissions by 62% and annual energy spend by €24,922:

Action	Energy saving per yr (€)	Emissions reduction per yr (t CO ₂ e)	Cost of action (€)	Payback period (years)	First step
Upgrade Heating Controls	2190	8.07	6,600	3.0	Carry out a detailed performance survey of the existing system / Consult SEAI grant support
Upgrade Windows	1752	6.46	9,000	5.1	Determine most appropriate upgrade by window(s) type/location
Install Solar PV Panels	8640	19.47	29,750	5.9	Determine the most appropriate system configuration / Consult SEAI grant support
Replace Lights with LED's	3998	5.53	14,000	3.5	Carry out a lighting survey / Consult SEAI grant support
Establish an Energy Management Plan	1371	1.49	1,500	1.1	Nominate internal energy leader and potential training
Upgrade Ventilation	838	0.91	4,000	4.8	HVAC survey
Install an Air Source Heat Pump	6133	1.99	130,000	21.2	Future potential only
Total	€ 24,922	43.93	€ 194,850		

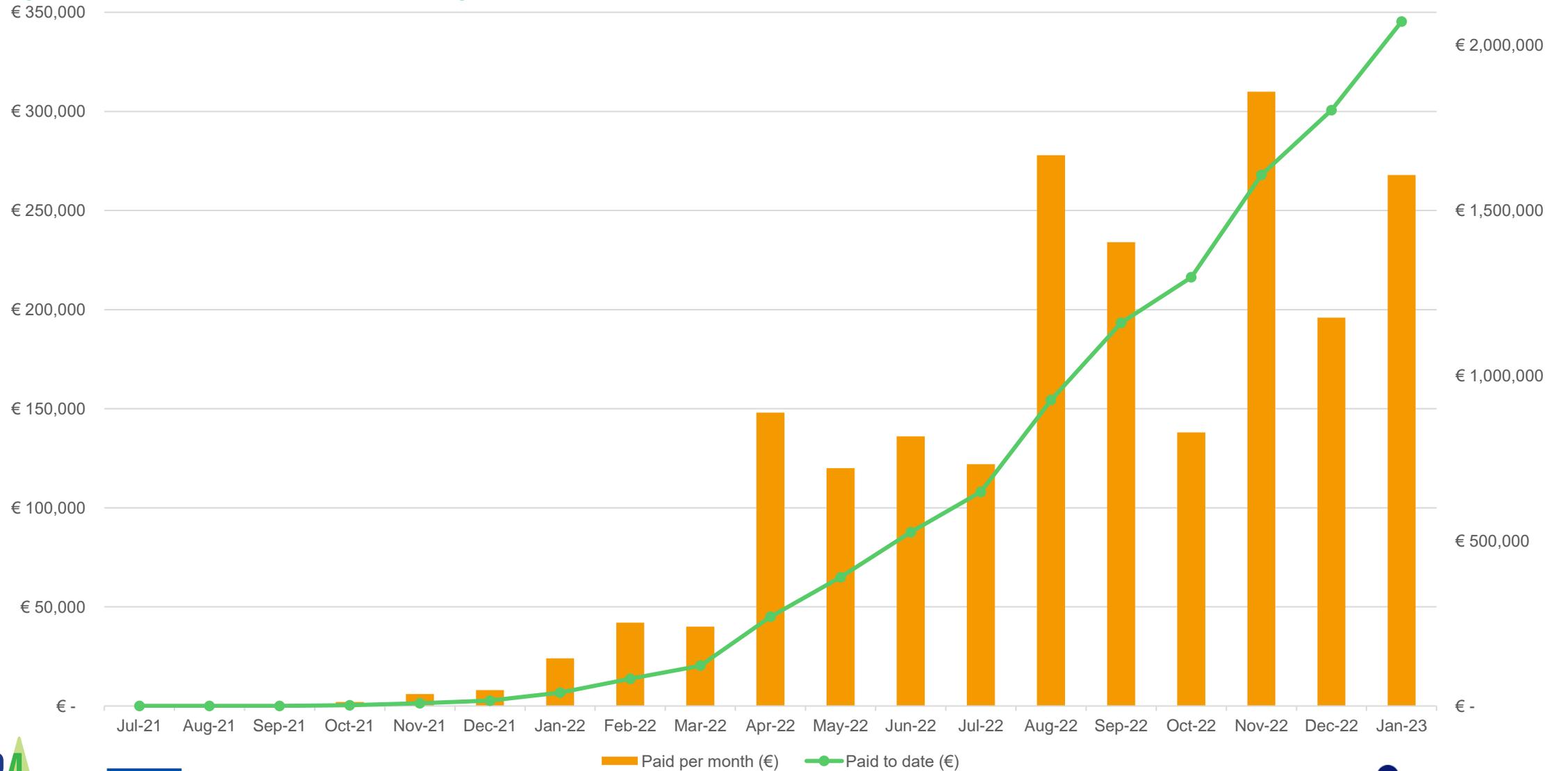
SSEA Data



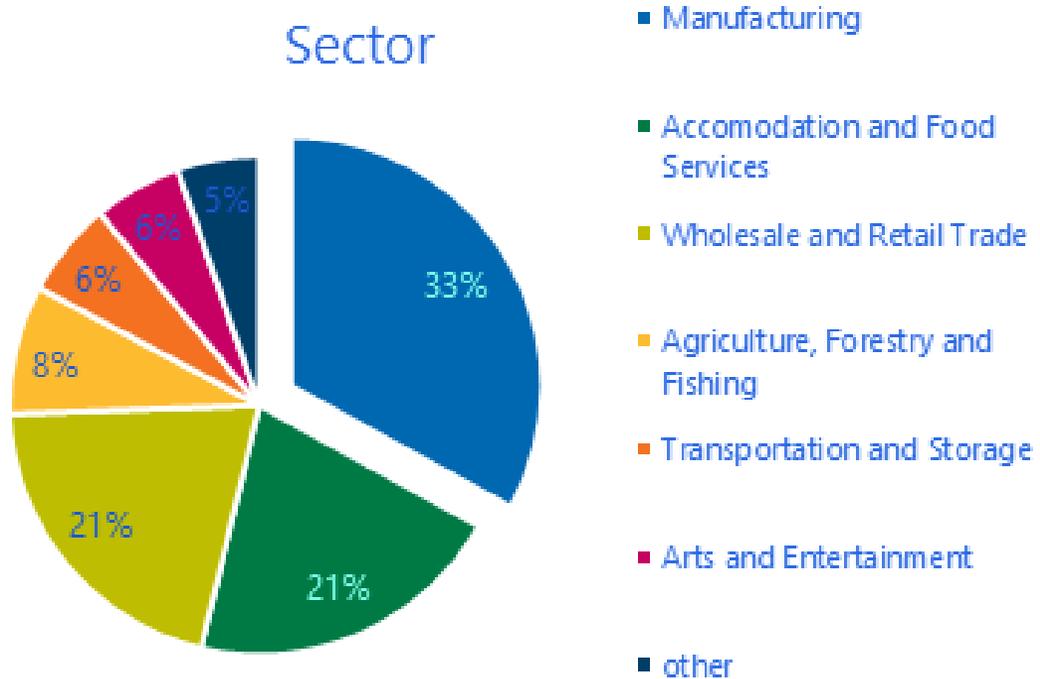
Vouchers issued to date: monthly and cumulative since launch



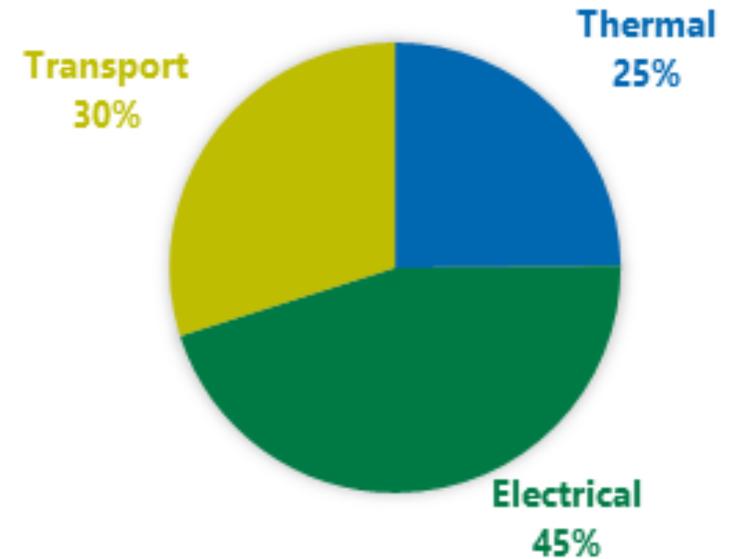
Payments made monthly and cumulative to date



Audit Breakdown



SPLIT OF ENERGY CONSUMPTION



Increase in Auditors on Register from 90 in July 2021 to 140 now

Top Recommendations

Recommendation	% of Audits
Solar PV	48%
Energy Management	14%
LED Lighting	13%
Heat Pumps	5%
Refrigeration Upgrades	4%
Fabric Upgrades	3%
Energy Metering	2%
EVs	2%
Other	11%

Next Steps

- Launched Microgeneration Support Scheme for SMEs in September 2023
- SSEA Scheme Review carried out July 2022 and recommendations made to enhance the scheme, broaden access and improve the tools
- Developing further Commercial Retrofit grants for launch later this year
- Independent QA and data review to be carried out Q1 2023
- More information: <https://www.seai.ie/business-and-public-sector/small-and-medium-business/supports/energy-audits/>