



EVENT DESCRIPTION

Project Partner: Carlow Kilkenny Energy Agency

Title of the event: Kilkenny Municipal District EPC Project

Date & location: 2nd July 2015, Kilkenny – Various meetings

Organiser(s): Carlow Kilkenny Energy Agency

Number of Participants: 5

Summary

CKEA has worked with Kilkenny Borough Council on large energy efficiency projects over the past 3 years. In 2013 a Better Energy Community programme was carried out with the emphasis on building fabric upgrades. A continuation of this project was carried out in 2014 with the retrofit of lighting in the city to LED.

Objectives & main programme points

In March 2015 Kilkenny Municipal District and CKEA applied to SEAI for grant funding to retrofit lighting in the city to LED. A decision was made by SEAI not to fund lighting projects nationally in 2015. Due to this decision the matching funding was not available to fund the lighting retrofit projects. This was seen as a significant barrier across the public sector in Ireland in implementing lighting retrofit projects in 2015. A number of meetings were facilitated by CKEA with Kilkenny Municipal District to discuss alternative options. The main concern was surrounding funding and the specific heritage requirements of the city.

Conclusions & lessons learnt (based on stakeholder input)

Kilkenny Municipal District has a proven track record in implementing energy efficiency projects both on public sector buildings and public lighting. Without grant aid available they are keen to progress an EPC type contract in order to implement a retrofit programme for the city. With this in mind and the additional cost required to purchase heritage type LED lighting it was decided to include a contingency sum of money with the contract to cover the increased cost. Therefore an ESCO contractor would not be liable for increased cost of installing heritage type lighting.

In order to facilitate the ESCO/EPC project a local energy design consultant attended the meeting. Noel Lawlor & Associates has designed a number of lighting projects for Kilkenny Municipal District in recent years. The energy calculations are currently being carried out with a view to calculating the financial aspects of the project based on the new designs. CKEA has tailored an EPC guidance document for the city to follow. The successful implementation of this project would be the first of its kind in Ireland.

