

# Positive Energy Champions Briefing Document

**DEADLINE: Monday 29th of March at 5.00pm**

## **Help realise Limerick's positive energy potential!**

Join a team of Limerick Positive Energy Champions by incorporating Positive Energy Actions into your daily routine for twenty weeks. A small change can have a big impact on your energy consumption, on your carbon footprint and can help create a pathway to Limerick becoming a Positive Energy City by 2050.

It can be frustrating and confusing to know what meaningful actions individuals, businesses and communities can take to combat climate change. For this reason, Limerick City and County Council and the [+CityxChange](#) team are exploring the development of a structured approach to enable Limerick become a Positive Energy City by 2050, where individual actions can have local and cumulative impact and contribute to measurable change.

## **Join Limerick's Team of Positive Energy Champions for Twenty Weeks**

### **Who?**

We would like to hear from people from all walks of life who are active in local community and business networks and are happy to share their experiences over 20 weeks of change.

You may already be making changes to consume less energy, or are interested in how to get started in taking Positive Energy Action, for example by examining your transport decisions, retrofitting your home or business premises or installing a renewable energy system. You might just want more people in Limerick to be empowered to act to combat climate change.

### **What?**

Positive Energy Champions will be asked to implement an individual step-by step plan of Positive Energy Actions over 20 weeks between April and September 2021. The plan will be tailored by the +CityxChange team to suit each Positive Energy Champion's capacity for change.

Positive Energy Actions can include:

- Reducing energy consumption by adapting energy behaviour



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement No. 824260.

- Planning the most effective building energy retrofit and learning about new investment models to help pay for it
- Exploring the change to low-carbon transport
- Learning about new tools and processes to help make the clean energy transition in Limerick a change which can benefit all.

## How?

Positive Energy Champions will:

- Learn about what a Positive Energy Limerick might look like and about the +CityxChange approach
- Obtain Positive Energy Advice on the local potential of plans to decarbonise Ireland's energy market and one of the following themes:
  - Understanding Energy Use, Retrofit and Invest
  - Exploring Low-Carbon Transport
  - Empowering People to Shape Limerick's Clean Energy Future
- Develop an individual step-by-step plan addressing their chosen theme with +CityxChange solution providers and including a commitment, goal setting and timeline for change.
- Have access to mentoring and advice over the 20 weeks of change as they implement their step-by-step plan.

In return, Positive Energy Champions will be asked to:

- Keep a diary describing their Positive Energy Actions and to note any obstacles and opportunities encountered.
- Monitor the impact of the changes they make with support from the +CityxChange Team.
- Share their experiences with other Positive Energy Champions and with their community or business networks.

Learning from the Positive Energy Champion Campaign will contribute to a Clean Energy Plan for Limerick being developed as part of +CityxChange. To recognise this important contribution to Limerick's clean energy future a Celebrate the Champions event is planned to take place in September 2021 (subject to Covid public health guidance).

## Why Now?

Ireland's climate is changing and we are being asked to act now to ensure a climate-resilient society and economy in the future. The next decade requires an accelerated response, with new ways of doing things and of organising aspects of our lives which we



may not think much about at present. Starting this process of change in 2021 increases the likelihood of delivering on Ireland's commitment to be carbon-neutral by 2050.

We are now seeking 24 Positive Energy Champions to take Positive Energy Actions over 20 weeks between April and September 2021, to champion Limerick as a future Positive Energy City and to be the change within their communities and business networks.

## Background

Limerick is one of two EU 'lighthouse' cities selected for a pilot climate-change programme leading Europe in exploring a structured approach to dramatically reduce the carbon footprint of urban areas. The EU [+CityxChange](#) (Positive City Exchange) project sees Limerick, along with Trondheim in Norway, trial an approach that has the potential to revolutionise how we produce and use energy in European cities and towns. For more information: <https://www.limerick.ie/cityxchange/about>

The Positive Energy Champion Campaign is part of +CityxChange project implementation in Limerick and the campaign will run from April to September 2021. See the timeline below for more details.

## Timeline

Application live on Mypoint	Friday 12 March 2021
Deadline for submissions	Monday 29 March, 2021 at 17.00
Successful Positive Energy Champions informed	Thursday 1 April, 2021
Positive Energy Champion Meet-up and training	Tuesday 13 April, 2021
Positive Energy Advice & Step by Step Plans for each Champion.	Week beginning 19 April, 2021
Launch the Campaign - City Engage Week	Week Beginning 26 April 2021
20 Weeks of Change - Start Week 1	3 May 2021
Celebrate the Champions - City Engage Week Event	17 September

## Who can apply and selection criteria

Applications are open to everyone – individuals and representatives of community groups, NGOs, businesses, and institutions. The +CityxChange project focuses on the Georgian Neighbourhood so applications from people who live, work, or own a building in the Georgian Neighbourhood are particularly welcomed.

Positive Energy Champions will be selected based on the following criteria.



Criteria	Weighting
Statement of Interest: Why I want to be a Positive Energy Champion	30%
Target Participants: Connection to the Georgian Neighbourhood Applicant category (Building Owners, Occupiers, Institution or Other)	40%
Network: Strength of the applicants network demonstrated through involvement in local community or business groups. A social media profile is desirable but not essential.	30%

Applications will be assessed by a panel of four comprising members of the +CityxChange Team and Limerick City and County Council.

## How to make an application

Applications must be made on Limerick City and County Council's public consultation and collaboration platform [Mypoint](#).

The deadline for applications is Monday 29 March 2021 at 5 00pm.

If you have any queries re the application process, please email [cityxchange@limerick.ie](mailto:cityxchange@limerick.ie)



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## MyPoint Application Form Questions

### Section 1: Applicant Details

QUESTION	
1a. Full Name	
1b. Company / Organisation Name (if relevant)	
1c. E-mail address	
1d. Contact Number	
1e. Address	

### Section 2: Statement of Interest

QUESTION	
2a. I want to be a Positive Energy Champion because... (max 40 words)	

### Section 3: Target Participants



Map showing extent of the Georgian Neighbourhood – the focus of +CityxChange project implementation.



QUESTION	
<p>3a. Describe your relationship to the Georgian Neighbourhood (tick all that apply):</p> <p><b>OWNER:</b> Building owner (a house, office or space owner) within Limerick's Georgian Neighbourhood or their representative e.g. a facilities manager.</p> <p><b>OCCUPIER:</b> Person working, living or using space in Limerick's Georgian Neighbourhood.</p> <p><b>INSTITUTIONS:</b> Representatives of small and big businesses (offices, restaurants, health clinics etc.), education (university, schools etc.), arts and cultural institutions (museums etc.), administration (government offices etc.) within Limerick's Georgian Neighbourhood.</p> <p><b>OTHERS:</b> People living and working outside Limerick's Georgian Neighbourhood but interested in taking part in +CityxChange and the clean energy transition of Limerick.</p>	

## Section 4: Network

QUESTION	
4a. List any Limerick community groups you are active in.	
4b. List any Limerick business networks you are active in	
<p>4c. List communication and social media* platforms you plan to use to share your experiences as a Positive Energy Champion</p> <p>* Use of social media is desirable but not essential.</p>	



## Section 5: Areas of Interest

### QUESTION

5a. Indicate which Positive Energy Action themes interest you (tick all that apply):

- **Prosumer Potential:** Learning about Ireland's plans to decarbonise the energy market and the potential to change from being a passive energy consumer to an active prosumer trading in a local energy market.
- **Understanding Energy Use:** Learning how to reduce energy consumption by adapting your energy behaviour.
- **Retrofit and Invest:** Planning an effective building energy retrofit (at different levels of disruption and cost) and learning about new investment models to help pay for it.
- **Low-carbon Transport:** Exploring the change to low-carbon transport including e-mobility and car-sharing, and trying out a new +CityxChange e-mobility app for Limerick.
- **Empowering Communities:** Learning about new tools and processes to help make the clean energy transition in Limerick a change which can benefit all and providing your insights into the development of a new City Engage Portal for Limerick.

