

# Teacher Sheet - Chapter 4 Starter Worksheet

## Quick TRUE/FALSE Warm-Up

- Government policy is always legally binding → **False**
- Business owners can join together in an interest group to influence government decisions → **True**
- The Irish government offer incentives to get people to buy EVs over alternative cars → **True** (e.g. grants, VRT relief, BIK relief for businesses, charging supports)

### Key Teaching Point:

It is a **policy**, not a law → it sets **targets and strategies** (e.g. 945,000 EVs by 2030).

Policy becomes effective through **supporting legislation, grants, and incentives**.

LO 4.2 is about the difference between policy and legislation so a good way to show students a policy to refer to later.

**Video (Dept. of Climate, Energy & the Environment about a taxi man from Galway changing to an EV and the benefits they got from doing it.**

*What benefits are there for businesses or consumers of choosing an EV?*

Lower running costs, lower emissions, company tax incentives, reputational benefits for businesses.

*What evidence is there of government support?*

SEAI purchase grants, home charger installation grants, reduced VRT (vehicle registration tax), BIK (Benefit-In-Kind) relief on EVs for businesses, investment in charging infrastructure.

## SIMI (Interest Group) Section

### Key Teaching Point:

SIMI = **interest group** → influences government via lobbying, reports, media campaigns.

Example: SIMI lobbying to **maintain and extend EV incentives** in the Budget.

### Discussion Prompt:

Why would SIMI want the government to extend EV incentives?

To keep EV sales growing, support dealers/distributors, protect industry profits.

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### Nifti Business 2025 Article Section

#### Questions & Sample Points:

1. *What challenges are there for consumers deciding on buying an EV in Ireland?*

High purchase cost, concerns about charging infrastructure, limited model availability, uncertainty about resale value.

2. *How have policy changes (such as grant reductions or BIK changes) influenced EV demand?*

Reduced grants make EVs less affordable; changes in BIK can affect company car choices (BIK is being phased out currently so less incentive for a business to choose one for employees); creates uncertainty for buyers.

3. *Regional differences – rural vs cities?*

Rural consumers face fewer public chargers, longer driving distances, and more reliance on home charging.

4. *If you were the government, what one policy change would you make?*

Possible answers: reinstate higher grants, expand rural charging network, guarantee long-term tax incentives, support second-hand EV market e.g. offer subsidies to consumers who buy second hand EVs.