



## *Miontuairisci / Meeting Minutes*

### ***Environment and Emergency Services SPC***

***15<sup>th</sup> December, 2017 , Buvinda House, Navan***

**Attendees - Councillors:** Cllr. Tommy Reilly (Chair), Cllr Michael Gallagher, Cllr Wayne Harding, Cllr Claire O'Driscoll, Cllr. Sharon Tolan,

**Apologies:** Cllr. Joe Bonner, Cllr. Eimear Ferguson, Cllr Wayne Forde

**Attendees - Sectoral Representatives:** Mr. Seamus McGee, Ms. Karen Mahon, Mr. Bill Sweeney

**Officials:** Mr. Larry Whelan, Senior Executive Officer, Jarlath Flanagan, Administrative Officer, Ms Caroline Corrigan, Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. David Keyes, Senior Executive Engineer, Ms Bernadine Carry, Environmental Education Officer, MS Sheila Broderick , Chief Fire Officer.

Item	Discussion / Action
1.	<b><u>Minutes of Previous Meeting</u></b>  The minutes of the previous meeting held on 27 <sup>th</sup> September, 2017 were approved. Proposed by Cllr Wayne Harding seconded by Cllr Sharon Tolan
2.	<b><u>Matters Arising</u></b>  No matters arising.
3.	<b><u>To receive a copy of the Chief Executives Report as it relates to Environment and Emergency Services</u></b>  The members noted the contents of the Chief Executives report which was presented to the December full Council meeting and that items arising formed part of the Agenda thereafter.
4.	<b><u>To receive an update on Fire Services (Capital Projects 2018).</u></b>  The Members welcomed Sheila Broderick who was recently appointed as the Councils Chief Fire Officer to her first SPC Meeting. Sheila in response thanked the Members and outlined



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	<p>the main provisions of the Fire Services report which had been circulated.</p>
5.	<p><b><u>To consider Environments response to the Red C Waste Survey prepared on behalf of the Meath PPN secretariat.</u></b></p> <p>Larry Whelan made a presentation setting out the Councils response to the findings of this survey which he noted was designed to gain an insight into the prevalence of Illegal Waste Deposition in Meath and to obtain the opinions of key community stakeholders.</p> <p>A lengthy discussion took place and discussing in particular the various actions which are both ongoing by the Council and required to address such activities. Points in particular raised included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The use of CCTV in tackling illegal waste deposition and its admissibility in Court.</li><li>• Difficulties in getting the Waste providers to provide the same Color Coded Bins.</li><li>• The degree of responsibility of the landowner where waste is illegally deposited on his land.</li><li>• The Councils policy on the safe disposal of Tarmac/Stones arising from Roads jobs etc.</li><li>• The operation of the WEEE producer responsibility scheme and if same can be extended to other waste streams</li><li>• The difficulties for members of the public in disposing of issue of bulky waste.</li></ul> <p>Questions raised in respect of the above were answered by the Officials.</p>
6.	<p><b><u>Recycling List Ireland – Update on Campaign and Recycling Ambassadors Programme.</u></b></p> <p>Bernadine Carry made a presentation in respect of the launch of this Campaign and the Ambassadors Programme funded by the Dept and REPAK and designed to Increase recycling from 45% to 60% (initially) and to decrease contamination from 30% to as little as possible. She outlined details of the parties involved in the campaign and programme and the recyclability or otherwise of various goods.</p> <p>The Members welcomed the presentation and points raised included :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How Meath compares % wise in terms of recovery /recycling rates</li><li>• The need to promote proper disposal of Food Waste and its acceptance at the recycling centres.</li></ul>
7.	<p><b><u>National Waste Enforcement Priorities for 2018 &amp; RMCEI Planning.</u></b></p>



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	<p>Larry Whelan advised the members that the following areas have been agreed Nationally as being the priority areas for enforcement in 2018.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Illegal Dumping including Construction and Demolition Waste</li><li>• Household and Commercial Waste Management Compliance</li><li>• Waste Tyres</li><li>• Unauthorised Sites of Concern which require a Multi Agency Response.</li></ul> <p>He explained that such areas will form an integral part of the Councils work programme and to be included in the 2018 RMCEI reports which is to be submitted to the EPA early in the new year.</p>
8.	<p><b><u>Briefing on the new Waste Management Tyre Regulations 2017.</u></b></p> <p>Larry Whelan briefed the Members on the main provisions of the new Regulations which were signed into law in 2017 and providing for all tyre producer and retailers being members of REPAK an approved body for Tyres and for all producers to register with Producer Register Limited (PRL) an approved Registration body.</p> <p>The Members noted the situation and points raised included</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The additional costs of tyres as a result of the new Regulations -it was pointed out that the new Regulations are designed to address a situation where up to 50% of tyres coming on to the market under the old system are unaccounted for.</li><li>• The difficulties in enforcing the new Regulations if similar provisions are not in place across the Border in Northern Ireland</li></ul>
9	<p><b><u>To receive an update on the Household Waste Collection Charging Arrangements introduced in June 2017.</u></b></p> <p>Caroline Corrigan provided a comprehensive report in respect of the new arrangements which were introduced by the Government in June 2017 and providing for all flat rate fees for residual kerbside household waste collection being phased out over the period Autumn 2017 –Autumn 2018</p> <p>She advised that this environmental measure seeks to ensure pricing structures incentivise householders to reduce residual waste (black bin) and the segregation and recycling of waste and part of an overall strategy to reduce over reliance on landfill.</p> <p>The Members noted the report.</p>



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10.	<p><b><u>To receive a report on current difficulties associated with soil and stone material arising from construction activities.</u></b></p> <p>Caroline Corrigan made a presentation in respect of this matter and highlighted the increasing difficulties arising from improved economic climate and increased construction activities in Dublin where huge volumes of C&amp;D waste, including soil and stone are leaving the city and inevitably being deposited in Meath &amp; Kildare particularly.</p> <p>Caroline advised of current capacity issues for such material and where permit holders are hoarding for their own projects.</p> <p>She outlined difficulties in the application of the Article 27 process where contractors/hauliers etc make declarations to the EPA that such material does not constitute a waste and proceed to move the material to sites before the Agency make a determination on the deceleration. The difficulties in particular arise for the Local Authorities where the Agency reject the declaration and deem the material a waste and actions may have to be taken to have same removed to an authorised site.</p> <p>The Members noted the situation and points raised included :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Issues faced by the farming sector in facilitating the acceptance or otherwise of soil and stone material.</li><li>• The volume of materials being delivered to Tara Mines by large trucks and damage being caused to the local road network</li></ul>
	<p><b><u>To receive an update on the preparation of the Climate Change Action Plan.</u></b></p> <p>Caroline Corrigan updated the Members on the current situation with regard to the preparation of the Climate Change Action Plan and including its relationships to the draft County Development Plan which is to be published in the Spring of 2018.</p> <p>In response to queries raised she confirmed that the draft action plan will be subject to extensive public consultation.</p>
	<p><b><u>To receive an update on the Timoole Remediation Project.</u></b></p> <p>Caroline Corrigan provided a very comprehensive presentation on the remediation project.</p> <p>The members acknowledged the work done by staff in relation to the Timoole Remediation Project and particularly the extent of local public consultation as well as the weekly updates on progress on the project</p>



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	<p><b><u>To receive a report on the recently published EPA National Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Programme 2017 -2022.</u></b></p> <p>Larry Whelan outlined details of the National Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Programme 2017 – 2022 which was published by the EPA in November 2017 and the increased role to be played by Local Authorities in respect of a greatly expanded national monitoring network providing enhanced real time information on air quality to the public.</p> <p>The Members noted the situation.</p>
	<p><b><u>To consider the EPA report on the 2016 Domestic Waste Water Treatment (DWWT) Inspections Programme.</u></b></p> <p>David Keyes provided a very comprehensive report on the findings of the EPA report on the 2016 inspection programme and highlighted in particular the findings as they relate to Meath inspections.</p> <p>The Members noted the report and in response to questions raised confirmed that due to poor ground /soil conditions in parts of the County and particularly the south east there are difficulties at times for planning applicants in getting planning permission for Domestic Waste Water Treatment systems to service one off rural houses.</p>

### **Recommendations to the Corporate Policy Group (CPG)**

**No recommendations arising.**