



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Climate Action, Environment and Emergency Services SPC 7th October 2022, Hybrid Meeting, 2.30pm

Attendees - Cllr Eugene Cassidy (Chairperson) , Cllr Joe Bonner , Cllr Tom Behan , Cllr
Councillors: Geraldine Keogan , Cllr Ronan Moore, Cllr Gillian Toole ,

Apologies:

Cllr Mike Bray

Attendees -
Sectoral John Curran , Noel Maguire
Representatives:

Officials: Dara McGowan, Larry Whelan, Jarlath Flanagan , Bernadine Carry , Declan Grimes ,

Item	Discussion / Action
1.	<p>Confirmation of Minutes of the Climate Action, Environment and Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee meeting held on the 13th May 2022</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting were adopted on the proposal of Cllr Tom Behan and seconded by Cllr Ronan Moore.</p>
2.	<p>To receive a presentation from College Proteins on Anaerobic Digesters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This item was deferred to a future meeting.
3.	<p>To receive a presentation in relation to the Draft Litter Management Plan 2022 – 2024.</p> <p>Bernadine Carry provided a comprehensive presentation noting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan presented to the Full Council in June 2022 Public Display for 6 weeks. Advertisement inviting Submissions from members of public, Public Participation Network (PPN), all groups and individuals on database for Green KM and other anti-litter initiatives 4 Submission received and issues raised included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The need for Increased Enforcement 2. High levels of Burden of Proof required in Litter and Waste Cases

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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Increased use of CCTV, Surveillance Tech 4. Measurable Goals/KPIs 5. Data in relation to costs, fines, prosecutions 6. Reduction in fees at Recycling Centres 7. Additional Bins 8. Enforcement of Business Responsibilities <p>Questions raised by the members were answered by Officials and the Members recommended that the plan be submitted to the Full Council for adoption.</p> <p>Next Steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following the recommendation of the SPC the draft plan will be put before the full Council for adoption at the November Council meeting • Following adoption an annual review to be undertaken and results published in respect of Objectives – Targets – Outcomes
4.	<p>To receive an update on Air Pollution</p> <p>Larry Whelan delivered a presentation on the new Air Pollution Act 1987 (Solid Fuels) Regulations 2022 which are to come into effect on the 31st Oct 2022 and designed to improve Air Quality and improving people's health chances and outcomes by restricting the retail, online and commercial sale of Smokey fuels including Smokey coal, turf and wet wood. In the presentation he outlined:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Local Authorities role in enforcement of the Regulations • The EPA role as the competent authority for monitoring ambient air quality in Ireland • The extensive public consultation process in respect of the introduction of the Regulations at National and Local level • That while the Regulations do not make any changes relating to turf cutting rights, they do include prohibitions on the sale of turf via the intranet or other media or from premises selling food, fuel or other goods. • The location of the current Air Quality monitoring stations at National and Local level the readings from which are available to view on the EPA web-site • The Regulations covering the existing Low Smoke Zones previously known as smoky coal ban areas • The proposed National Clean Air Strategy which will tie in with recent Climate Action legislative provisions. <p>The members noted the contents of the presentation and questions raised were answered by officials</p>

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5.	<p>To receive an update on Climate Change & Energy Initiatives</p> <p>LW provided an update to the members on the various climate action and energy saving initiatives that the Council are currently involved in including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meath County Council Climate Action Plan preparation• Display Energy Certificates (DECs)• Energy Audits• Water Re-fill Stations• EV Charge Points• Solar Feasibility• Trim Air Quality Project• School SDG engagement workshop:• SDG Children's Art Competition:• Swift Boxes:• Meath.ie - Council Webpage <p>The climate change webpage has been updated and can be viewed here https://www.meath.ie/council/council-services/environment/climate-action</p> <p>The Members acknowledged the work being undertaken in this area.</p>
6.	<p>AOB</p> <p>Cllr Toole enquired if there was any update on a planning application for a Civic Amenity Site in the Ratoath / Ashbourne Area- Officials committed to getting the up to date status on this application.</p>

Recommendation to the Corporate Policy Group (CPG)

Following the public display period and submissions received , the Members recommended that the Draft Litter Management Plan be submitted to the Full Council for adoption.