



**Breviate of the Environment Strategic Policy Committee Meeting
held 28th November 2018**

1. Minutes of the meeting held 26th September 2018

Order: Agreed

2. Matters arising:

- Cllr Claire Byrne asked for an update on source separation in public bins.

Order: Noted. Simon Brock, Administrative Officer to issue a report to a future meeting of the Environment SPC.

Outstanding Reports – Dublin Waste to Energy

1. Waste Categorisation Report – not available
2. Performance Demonstration Test Data Cell Definitions – Report in pack under item 8: Dublin Waste to Energy update report – James Nolan
3. Report on not using emergency services for June incident - Report in pack under item 8: Dublin Waste to Energy update report – James Nolan

Order: Noted

3. Correspondence – Robert Moss , PPN Linkage Group (Appendix 1)

Order: Noted. Councillor Claire Byrne supported the Motion laid out in the correspondence.

4. Chairperson's Business

Order: None.

5. Meeting Dates 2019

Order: Noted

6. Dublin Bay Bathing Water Quality

- (i) Environment Protection Agency Presentation – Andy Fanning, Anthony Mannix

Order: Presentation Noted

- (ii) Irish Water Presentation – Michael Goss, Sean Laffey, Eamon Gallen

Order: Presentation Noted

- (iii) An Taisce Presentation – Michael John O'Mahony, Sinead McCoy, Ian Diamond

Order: Presentation Noted

- (iv) Dublin City Council Parks Services – Les Moore , City Parks Superintendent gave verbal update.

Order: Noted

- (v) Dublin City Council Presentation (Water Framework Directive) – Gerard O'Connell, Senior Engineer

Order: Presentation Noted.

Order: Agreed to hold a workshop in early 2019 to discuss further.

7. Climate Change Action Plan Report – Céline Reilly, Executive Manager

- (i) Draft Climate Change Action Plan

Order: Recommend to City Council that Draft Climate Action Plan goes out to public consultation.

8. Dublin Waste to Energy – James Nolan, Senior Executive Officer

- (i) Incidents and Non Compliances

Order: Noted.

- (ii) Performance Demonstration Test Data Cell Definitions

Order: Noted

- (iii) Q3 Environmental Report 2018

Order: Noted

- (iv) Response from Covanta to query on June incident

Order: Noted

Order: The Chair to write to Covanta regarding Reports issued.

9. Dublin City Council Waste (Separation, Storage and Presentation of Household and Commercial Waste) Bye Laws 2018 Report – Simon Brock, Administrative Officer

- (i) Public Consultation Submissions

- (ii) Bye Laws

Order: Recommend to City Council that Bye-Laws are adopted.

10. Motion 1 in the name of Councillor Claire Byrne:

'That this Strategic Policy Committee calls on Dublin City Council to introduce a ban on single use plastics for the following:

- *Cafes / tea rooms within DCC parks*
- *Market Traders that DCC licence*
- *All public events within the City*

The ban should include non- recyclable, biodegradable or compostable cutlery, kitchenware, coffee cups and plastic bottles.'

Order: Motion agreed.

11. Motion 2 in the name of Councillor Claire:

'That this Strategic Policy Committee calls on Dublin City Council to carry out a traffic assessment of large vehicles travelling to the Poolbeg Waste to Energy facility along the following streets - Bath Avenue, Londonbridge Road, Irishtown Road and the Sean Moore Road. The assessment should include vehicle size, weight, and permit to access the facility'

The Assistant Chief Executive advised that a survey will be carried out.

Order: Motion agreed.

12. AOB

Rolling Agenda items requested for Progress Report update:

- Reusable coffee cups (Cllr Claire Byrne)
- Ban on single use plastics (Cllr. Claire Byrne)
- Report on Noise Pollution and Enforcement by DCC (Cllr Mannix Flynn)

Order: Noted

Naoise O'Muirí

Chairperson

28th November 2018

In attendance

Members:

Councillor Claire Byrne
Councillor Ciarán Cuffe
Councillor Mannix Flynn
Joe McCarthy, An Taisce
Councillor Edel Moran
Robert Moss, PPN
Councillor Michael O'Brien
Councillor Ciaran O'Moore
Councillor Naoise Ó'Muirí

Apologies:

Councillor Tina MacVeigh

Absent:

Councillor Declan Flanagan
Councillor Michael Mullooly
William Brennan, PPN
Robert Colleran, PPN

Officials:

Dick Brady, Assistant Chief Executive
Céline Reilly, Executive Manager
Les Moore, Parks and Landscape Division Superintendent
Gerard O'Connell, Senior Engineer
James Nolan, Senior Executive Officer
Simon Brock, Administrative Officer
Ronan O'Rourke, A/Executive Manager (Engineering)
Elaine O'Kelly, Staff Officer
Sinead Mooney, Assistant Staff Officer
Ian Boggans, Assistant Staff Officer

Outside Bodies:

Andy Fanning, EPA
Anthony Mannix, EPA
Sean Laffey, Irish Water
Michael Goss, Irish Water
Dara White, Irish Water
Michael John O'Mahony, An Taisce
Sinead McCoy, An Taisce
Ian Diamond, An Taisce

Appendix 1

PPN Linkage Group Correspondence for the Environment SPC Meeting scheduled for 28th of November 2018.

The PPN Environment Linkage Group met on the 30th of October 2018 and reviewed it's SPC Reps report on the 26th of September.

While the PPN Environment Linkage Group approves of the Dublin City Council Herbicide Use Policy (item 8 within Environment SPC 26th of September Agenda) they note that this policy does not contain a specific goal to eliminate herbicide use, much less a date to achieve this.

The PPN Environment Linkage Group proposed the following motion:

That Herbicide use be discontinued by 2020 within all DCC Parks and gardens (with the sole exception of its treatment for invasive species).

This should be seen as a significant step in the city wide ban of herbicide use.

Other countries and cities that have banned the use of Glyphosate Herbicide already include:

- **Belgium:** In 2017, the Flemish government [banned](#) individual use of glyphosate and voted against relicensing glyphosate in the EU. The country was one of six EU member states to sign a letter to the EU Commission calling for "an [exit plan for glyphosate](#)."
- **Bermuda:** The island [outlawed](#) the private and commercial sale of all glyphosate-based herbicides.
- **Colombia:** In 2015, the country [forbid the use of glyphosate](#) to eliminate illegal plantations of coca, often used to make cocaine, due to concern that the herbicide causes cancer. However in 2017, the country reinstated its controversial fumigation program. But instead of using aerial fumigation, glyphosate is now sprayed manually, from the ground.
- **Netherlands:** Dutch officials have banned all non-commercial use of glyphosate.
- **Sri Lanka:** In 2014, Sri Lankan President Mahinda Rajapaksa [mandated](#) an [all-out ban on glyphosate](#), following a [study](#) linking Roundup to Fatal Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD), the second-leading cause of death among males in the country. Sri Lanka was the first country to issue a nationwide ban on glyphosate.
- **El Salvador:** [Passed](#) a law banning glyphosate, citing the same study [linking](#) fatal chronic kidney disease to Roundup.
- **Middle Eastern countries**, including **Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman** and the **United Arab Emirates**, have [stopped](#) glyphosate use.
- **France:** President Emmanuel Macron [announced](#) in November 2017, an outright ban on glyphosate, to take effect "within three years."

(see: <https://www.organicconsumers.org/news/germany-13-other-countries-say-no-glyphosate-what-about-us>)

The PPN also notes that its motion on this matter (included below) was noted within the minutes of the Environment SPC Meeting for the 27th of June (12: A.O.B.) to be discussed at the 26th of September Meeting. This did not happen despite it being circulated as correspondence to members on the 7th of August. It is not included within correspondence (item 3 within the Environment SPC 26th of September Agenda).

The PPN Environment Linkage Group proposed that the following be included along with the above motion under correspondence within the SPC Meeting scheduled for 28th of November 2018:

At the April 25th Environment SPC meeting the correspondence from the last Dublin City PPN Environment Steering Group Meeting (24th of April) was to be presented under AOB. This was not possible due to time constraints.

As agreed please circulate the following items for members to review and discuss under correspondence at the next SPC meeting.

(1) At the 29th of November 2017 Environment SPC Meeting it was agreed by the committee that a motion is to be put forward by the Environment SPC to DCC to strengthen the case for herbicide elimination. This was in response to the Glyphosate Presentation delivered by Leslie Moore, City Parks Superintendent.

The PPN Environmental Linkage Group supports DCC Parks and Landscape Services in eliminating chemical sprays as a pilot in Stoneybatter.

The PPN Environmental Linkage Group puts forward the following motion:

That the elimination of chemical sprays should be rolled out city wide in accordance with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (6,11,12,14 & 15) by 2020.

This is the concluding year of the UN decade of sustainability ... so lets achieve something tangible.

The banning of weedkiller would help to fulfil on the following UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

Goal # 6 - Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all (as it would preclude contamination of water with runoff from weedkiller during rain events)

Goal # 11 - Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Goal # 12 - Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

Goal # 14 - Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seasoned marine resources for sustainable development (again due to eliminating the entry of poisons via rainfall and runoff to bodies of water)

Goal # 15 - Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

Furthermore the banning of weedkiller would also fulfil on the National Biodiversity Plan. Ireland's Vision for Biodiversity is: "That biodiversity and ecosystems in Ireland are conserved and restored, delivering benefits essential for all sectors of society and that Ireland contributes to efforts to halt the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystems in the EU and globally." Weedkiller (herbicide) impacts wild plants and in turn, affects pollinators (including bees) who cannot distinguish between a plant that has been sprayed and a plant which has not, when feeding on the pollen of 'weed' flowers.

(2) The Dublin City Public Participation Network requests in litres, the amount of herbicide used by Dublin City Council and subcontractors contracted by Dublin City Council for the years 2015,2016,2017 and in so far is possible estimated usage for 2018.

Regards
Robert Moss
PPN Environment SPC Rep