
MINUTES OF CLIMATE ACTION, ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 29th SEPTEMBER 2021

1. Minute of the meeting held on 26th May 2021

Order: Agreed

2. Matters Arising

None.

3. Correspondence

Order: Noted

4. Chairpersons Business

None.

5. Re-Municipalisation of Waste Collection Service Subcommittee update – Councillor Daithí Doolan

Councillor Daithí Doolan & Liam Bergin updated Members on the work of the Subcommittee to include

- The Subcommittee is a cross political party group including representatives of the Trade Unions (FORSA / SIPTU) **(D.D)**
- The committee has met intermittently since August / September 2019 **(D.D)**
- He welcomed the assistance of the Environment and Transportation Department (Liam Bergin / Ciarán McGoldrick) **(D.D)**
- It has been agreed by the Subcommittee that a research report be procured on the Re-Municipalisation of Waste Collection Service. **(D.D)**
- Liam Bergin advised the Subcommittee about engaging the services of the IPA to carry out the research work. **(D.D)**
- The IPA will present to the Subcommittee in the near future (subject to the agreement of the SPC)**(D.D)**
- Thanked Councillor Pidgeon for his support **D.D)**
- I am seeking the support of the SPC to engage with the IPA **D.D)**
- The ask of the Subcommittee is that the Subcommittee can engage with the IPA without further reference to the SPC **(L.B.)**

Members raised the following questions

- What is the likely timeframe for the research and associated report / recommendations to be completed **(J.C)**
- Wishes to commend all in involved, in particular Councillor Doolan and Liam Bergin for the efforts put in to follow through on the motion on this matter that was passed by the Council **(J.L)**

Liam Bergin responded

- The research proposal will be considered at the next meeting of the subcommittee
- If the IPA proposal is accepted by the Subcommittee the IPA will carry out a desktop study on the proposal initially
- The subcommittee should have a detailed outline on the proposal in December 2021.
- There are many variables affecting the timescale but it is likely to be towards the summer 2022 before the final document / report is complete

Order Noted. It was agreed that the Subcommittee can engage with the IPA without further reference to the SPC. The final report to be submitted to the SPC for consideration.

6. Minutes of the Climate Action Subcommittee held on 15th October 2020

Order: Noted

7. Minutes Air Quality Subcommittee held on 14th July 2021

Order: Noted.

8. Minutes of the Re- Municipalisation of Waste Collection Service Subcommittee held on 17th June.

Order: Noted

9. Air Quality Plan for the Dublin Metropolitan Region – Public Consultation (Martin Fitzpatrick / Owen McManus)

Martin Fitzpatrick spoke to the report that issued to include.

- The Plan is being prepared in conjunction with the other Dublin Local Authorities as a consequence of the exceedance in 2019
- Generally Air Quality is good in Dublin.
- The Plan must be prepared and submitted to the European Commission by end of 2021.
- It is intended to go to public consultation in mid-October 2021.
- The Air pollution challenge is particularly related to traffic.
- The evolution of vehicles, will in time reduce NO2
- The plan is looking at issues that can be addressed by Local Authorities
- We hope that members will input and support the plan.

Members thanked Martin for the report that issued and raised the following questions / observations

- Development in the City is adding to the Air Pollution problem **(M.F.)**
- The toxins from the Waste to Energy facility cannot be helpful **(M.F.)**
- The pollution from motor cars must be addressed **(M.F.)**
- The timeframe is quite tight, is this because a large number of submissions are not expected **(NO'M)**
- In relation to Clean Air / Zero Emission Zone, this is in operation in Central London, how is this achieved and could it be replicated in Dublin (J.C.)

Martin Fitzpatrick responded

- The plan is specifically targeting vehicular traffic.
- Air Quality in Dublin is generally good
- The Local Air Quality Monitoring Network is and will continue to be expanded.
- We expect that there will be a big interest in the public consultation
- The UK approach is largely based on congestion charging
- We hope that the National Clean Air Strategy will devolve certain powers from National Government to Local Authorities

Order: Report Noted, it was agreed the Plan should go out to public consultation

10. Electric Vehicle Charging Point Strategy update. Liam Bergin, Executive Manger

Liam updated Members in relation to the report that issued as set out below.

- The 4 Dublin LA's are collaborating on the EV strategy to ensure there is adequate charging infrastructure in the capital
- From 2030 all new passenger vehicles will be electric.
- There is a large range of stakeholders
- Fingal County Council is the Chair for this strategy and is managing the consultation phase.
- The plan will go out to stakeholder consultation in October for 8 weeks
- It is likely to be the new year before the stakeholder engagement details have been collated

Member raised the following questions / observations

- Concerns that the wider public is not included in the public consultation **(C.S.)**
- How will the charging strategy be rolled out **(M.F.)**
- Will charging points for electric bikes / scooters be considered. **(M.F)**
- The plan is promoting charging hubs, what will be done to address the demand for on street charging facilities **(M.P)**
- Aarhus have 2 way charging where excess power in a vehicle can be sold back to the grid, will this be considered **(S.S)**

- People will only transition to EV's if there is certainly around the availability of charging points nationally **(J.C)**
- How long will it be before the strategy will be in place **(C.B)**
- There must be a shift from the ideology that EV charging should be available outside your house **(C.B.)**

Liam Bergin responded

- All options will be explored
- DCC is not set up to manage a public consultation of this magnitude currently... Best practice is to manage expectations is by talking to providers initially
- When we know what is achievable we can consult with the wider public
- It is not practically possible to install charging infrastructure outside very house
- By 2030 70% of electricity will be from renewables.
- Range for EVs is constantly evolving and should no longer be a problem
- The strategy will have public engagement built in to it for the lifetime of the strategy.

Order: Report Noted

11. Climate Actions Update – Sabrina Dekker, Climate Change Coordinator.

Members made the following observation

- Having attended a couple of events associated with Climate Week it has become clear that great awareness is being built **(NO'M)**

Order: Presentation Noted

12. Flood Resilience Climate Actions – Gerry O'Connell, Senior Engineer

Members thanked Gerry for his presentation and raised the following questions

- Is there anything in the Climate Change Action Plan in relation to rainwater harvesting **(RM)**
- Rainwater harvesting can be beneficial for storm water overflows **(RM)**
- I recall the works associated with the swales on Dingle Road which turned out to be a huge success **(J.C)**
- Will swales be used to prevent future floods **(J.C)**
- Are the measures funded from DCC resources? **(M.P)**

Gerry O'Connell responded

- There is a difficulty of what to do with harvested rainwater as it is untreated
- We are considering using rainwater harvesting to supply allotments along the Finglas Luas line
- We are identifying areas at risk of flooding to see if the installation of swales could be the solution

- Measures are funded from development levies.

Order: Presentation Noted

13. Motion in the name of Councillor Claire Byrne

“That this Strategic Policy Committee calls on Dublin City Council to remain a signatory of the Covenant of Mayors and to sign up to the new commitments that have been set out by the CoM in line with Green New Deal ambitions to ensure that Dublin City to remains a leader in its efforts to make Dublin a climate resilient City.”

Order: Noted, Cllr Byrne was no longer at the meeting but she advised the Chair that this matter is largely in hand

14. Motions referred from Special Council Meeting - 22-24 June 2021 re Pre-draft Dublin City Development Plan

Motion 218 Cllr Sophie Nicoullaud`

Following up on the city shared domestic waste bins located on the public street trial scheme by DCC that this Development Plan agrees to expend this scheme and to invest the possibility to make it a permanent waste infrastructure in DCC.

Planning Reason

To tackle city challenge on dumping and waste. For all the reasons listed on the Dublin Beta website including: A cleaner visual environment, freeing up pavement. It is necessity to create the 15 minutes city. Land needs to be designated in advance and therefore needs to be added to this plan.

Chief Executive’s Response

Manage the storage and presentation of domestic waste are supported by specific ‘Management of Domestic and Commercial Waste’ Objectives under the newly adopted 2020-2022 DCC Litter Management Plan. A specific Objective will be included in the Draft Plan to support the implementation of this Litter Management Plan.

Chief Executive’s Recommendation

To include a policy to support the implement the Dublin City Council Litter Management Plan 2020-2022.

Council Meeting Decision

The report and recommendation of the Chief Executive was AGREED and MOTION to be referred to the Climate Action, Environment & Energy SPC.

Motion 1001 Cllr Cieran Perry

That the Development Plan acknowledges the motion passed at the Dublin City Council July 2019 meeting committing the city council to taking the domestic waste collection service back in to council ownership.

Planning Reason

To assist in the formulation of waste management policy.

Co-sponsors Cllr Nial Ring, Cllr Damian O’Farrell, Cllr Christy Burke, Cllr Anthony Flynn, Cllr Pat Dunne

Chief Executive’s Response

The regulation and enforcement of waste collections are the responsibility of the relevant local authority under section 33, 34 and 35 of the Waste Management Act 1996 (as

amended). In 2011, the Waste Management (Amendment) Act 2011, provided a legal mechanism by which the first Regional Waste Management Plans could be made. The Eastern Midlands Regional Waste Management Plan 2021 will build on the integrated approach to waste management established in the previous plans. Priority will be assigned in accordance with the waste management hierarchy with a strong emphasis on waste prevention, reuse and recycling. The future regional policy in the plans will take cognisance of all relevant and pending regulations, provide a framework for the management of priority waste streams and promote sustainable waste practices at local, business and industrial level.

This is not a matter for the Development Plan.

Chief Executive's Recommendation

Not agreed. Outside scope of the Development Plan.

Council Meeting Decision

The report and recommendation of the Chief Executive was AGREED and that the Motion be referred to the Climate Action, Environment & Energy SPC.

Order: Refer to the Re-municipalisation of Waste Collection Service Subcommittee for consideration, Cllr Ó'Muirí expressed opposition to motion no 1001 which he will not be supporting

15. A.O.B.

None

In attendance

Members

Councillor Claire Byrne
Trevor Clowry PPN
Paul Boylan, Vivid Edge
Councillor Joe Costello
Councillor Tom Brabazon
Councillor Mannix Flynn
Sally Starbuck, R.I.A.I
Bernie Guinan, A.C.E.I
Councillor John Lyons
Robert Moss, PPN
Councillor Naoise Ó'Muirí
Councillor Michael Pidgeon (Chair)
Councillor Catherine Stocker

Apologies

Councillor Janice Boylan

Absent

Councillor Tom Brabazon

Also in attendance

Councillor Daithí Doolan

Officials

John Flanagan, Assistant Chief Executive & City Engineer

Liam Bergin, Executive Manager

James Nolan, Senior Executive Officer

Martin Fitzpatrick, Principal Environmental Health Officer

Gerry O'Connell, Senior Engineer

Sabrina Dekker, Climate Change Coordinator

Owen McManus Senior Engineer

Catherine Dolman, Senior Staff Officer

Chris Carroll, Administrative Officer

Ciarán McGoldrick, Senior Staff Officer

Michael Pidgeon, Chairperson

30th September 2021.