
MINUTES OF CLIMATE ACTION, ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 13th APRIL 2022.

1. Minute of the meeting held on 26th January 2022

Order: Agreed

2. Matters Arising

None.

3. Correspondence – CNFE

Order: Noted

4. Chairpersons Business

The Chair advised the group that the Air View Project will be an additional item to the Agenda and will be taken first

Order: Noted

5. Air View Project – Martin Fitzpatrick, Principal Environmental Health Officer

Members thanked Martin for the presentation and raised the following issue / questions

- We have been lead to believe that the additional stationary air quality monitoring stations will be provided **(M.F.)**
- Who owns the data collected? **(M.F.)**
- Would prefer to see additional stationary monitoring stations being installed **(M.F.)**
- It is a positive that DCC is engaging with this project **(M.P.)**
- The project will complement the monitoring already being undertaken by DCC **(M.P.)**
- Who owns the data collected? **(NOM)**
- Can we have sight of the agreement between Google and DCC? **(M.F.)**

Martin Fitzpatrick responded

- The stationary air quality monitoring network has and will continue to be expanded

- The work with Google will indeed complement the Air Quality Monitoring Network data
- The data is being gathered and owned by Google however, the data will be publicly available when validated

Order: Presentation Noted

6. Posters Protocol – Richard Whelan, Administrative Officer

Richard Whelan advised the Committee that legal advice was sought in relation to using Corporate contact details on the posters instead of individuals contact details

The legal advice is that Corporate Entities can be used, rather than individual/personal names or contact details.

Members made the following observations in relation to the revised protocol

- 200 posters seems excessive, can this be reduce **(J.C.)**
- A maximum of 200 posters seems reasonable **(J.L.)**
- The Anti-BID campaign found it difficult to get clarity on the posters protocol **(M.F.)**
- Reducing the number of posters below 200 would not be helpful for city wide campaigns **(C.S.)**

Order: Recommend to City Council that the Protocol for the Erection of Temporary Posters / Notices on Dublin City Council Property to Advertise Public Meetings / Events is adopted.

7. Bathing Water Quality Report – Emma Finlay, Senior Executive Engineer

Members thanked Emma for her presentation and raised the following questions

- Can I have an example of what urban waste water overflow is? **(D.H.)**
- The human faeces detected – where did this arise? **(D.H.)**
- Where do we go to next to reduce pollution? **(NOM)**
- I noticed a lot of plastic and oil slicks in the Liffey when on a tour of the port today – the Liffey needs to be monitored **(J.C)**
- How can incidents of water pollution be reported? **(R.M)**
- It is much better to give relevant information on pollution, as opposed to quoting “According to and Act it is an offence to...” etc. **(M.P.)**

Emma Finlay responded

- Urban Waste Water overflows come from the combined sewers and it is where the human faeces detected originated.
- We definitely need a behavioural change with some dog owners
- Suggestions on how promote awareness etc. is most welcome
- The water quality in the Liffey is monitored regularly

- Incident of water pollution can be report to waterpollution@dublincity.ie and all reports are investigated.
- The Tennis Court Graphic will be use in future awareness campaigns.

Order: Presentation Noted

8. Climate Actions Update – James Nolan, Senior Executive Officer.

James referred to Robert Moss' query in relation to rain water harvesting on DCC social housing complexes and will arrange for City Architects to present at a future meeting of the Committee

Members raised the following questions in relation to the report that was circulated

- Local areas should develop a plan in relation to sustainability **(JC)**
- Is there early work that can be done (in advance of legislation) to identify proposed decarbonised zones? **(NOM)**

James Nolan responded

- The area office will roll out the community engagement
- We are currently examining how we will to the data capture for the decarbonised zones.

Order: Report Noted

9. Litter Management Plan 2018 – 2022 update – Richard Whelan, Administrative Officer

Members thanked Richard for his presentation and raised the following points / questions

- The N32 (R132) is a disgrace it is permanently covered in litter. It is vital the we get to the root of this littering **(T.B.)**
- Similar issues apply to Donaghmede Road, Clare Hall Avenue, Grange Road
- A high level of enforcement is required **(T.B.)**
- The public for some strange reason have little regard for the condition of the city streets **(T.B.)**
- Waste Management staff do an exemplary job in difficult conditions **(M.F.)**
- Household waste is being deposited in litter bins **(M.F.)**
- The Litter Wardens' roles should be expanded **(M.F.)**
- Is there a date for Team Dublin Clean Up **(NOM)**
- Is there anything Waste Management Services can do to encourage responsible dog ownership on Dollymount Strand **(NOM)**
- Halloween was a success this year **(J.C.)**
- Littering is careless whereas illegal dumping is deliberate **(J.C.)**
- The coffee cup litter is really bad **(J.C.)**
- Illegal door to door waste collection contributes to illegal dumping **(D.H.)**
- What happens to the compost that is generated? **(RM)**

Richard Whelan responded

- There is a bigger issue in relation to the N32 and I will revert to Cllr. Brabazon
- The Litter Warden Service is currently undergoing a restructuring
- Team Dublin Clean Up is scheduled for 30th April
- Welcome Cllr. Flynn's comments
- We take IBAL surveys seriously
- Halloween was a success, but it is not without challenges and risks
- Hopefully the coffee cup levy will reduce the coffee cup litter
- Waste enforcement investigate illegal waste collectors
- Compost is a resource, we have access to the compost and we try to distribute it to community groups at our bring centres.

Order: Presentation Noted

10. Circular Economy Presentation – Joanne Rourke, Administrative Officer

Order: Presentation Noted

11. On Line Street Cleaning Schedule – Shay Brady, Waste Management Services Co-ordinator

Members thanked Shay for his presentation and raised the following questions

- Are the waste management email accounts (depots) in use? **(NOM)**
- There is an issue with cleaning the cycleway on Griffith Avenue
- Could the street cleaning software show when an area was last cleaned **(TC)**

Shay Brady responded

- The protective cycle lanes are too narrow for the machinery generally used
- New machines (narrower) have been procured which are in operation at the moment. One of the machines is temporarily out of service awaiting a part
- We were focussing on telling customers when an area will next be cleaned and will examine making previous cleaning dates available

Order: Presentation Noted

12. Motions referred from the Special Council meeting regarding the Draft Development Plan

Motion 1: **Submitted By Councillor(s): Cllr Joe Costello**

Co-sponsors: Cllr Dermot Lacey, Cllr Declan Meenagh

Refers to: Chapter 3 - Climate Action

Motion 29

New Objective CA 20 (P.70) It is an objective of Dublin City Council that the area between the Canals be designated an Ultra-Low Emissions Zone (ULEZ) and that appropriate steps be taken to achieve and maintain that status.

Planning Reason: London City Centre has been so designated. Dublin City Council should develop similar strategies to reduce carbon emissions in the City Centre.

Chief Executive's Response:

The London Ultra Low Emissions Zone (ULEZ) is an area of London where the most polluting vehicles must pay a levy in order to use the roads. The ULEZ charge system operates in conjunction with the city's overall congestion charging scheme which is enforced by a network of cameras situated at entry and exit points to the charging zone and at key locations within the zone itself.

Given the technical, operational, financial and legal issues associated with establishing such a charging system, it is not considered appropriate to address the development of such a system in the Draft Plan. However, it should be noted that Objective SMTO28 'Environmental and Road Safety Impacts of Traffic in the City' in Chapter 8 on page 226 commits to the monitoring and assessment of traffic related air quality in the city.

The issue of air quality is also specifically addressed in Section 9.5.7 'Air Quality' of Chapter 9 (on p.249) which describes how Dublin has signed up to the UN/WHO commitments on air quality, and finally, the issue of air pollution and schools is addressed by Objective QHSN14 on page 135.

It is considered that there is merit in the Climate Action, Environment and Energy SPC and the Traffic and Transportation SPC researching this issue to examine the concept for Dublin and possible future options.

Chief Executive Recommendation:

It is the recommendation of the CE that the motion is not agreed.

The designation of ULEZ must be addressed through legislative change and at regional transport policy level.

Council Meeting Decision:

The motion was WITHDRAWN. To be referred to Climate Action, Environment & Energy SPC and the Traffic & Transport SPC.

SPC Order: Noted, Chair & Councillor Costello to write to the Minister

Motion 2: Submitted By Councillor(s): Green Party Comhaontas Glas

Refers to: Chapter 9 - Sustainable Environmental Infrastructure and Flood Risk

Motion 178

Chapter:9, Section:SIO19, Page:254 change from "To consider the feasibility" to: To investigate and pilot the use of community food waste composters.

Planning Reason:

We need to actively start trialling these.

Chief Executive's Response:

The sentiment is noted to support new sustainable proposals for waste management. However the Development Plan is a policy document, and it not the appropriate location to specify particular waste management actions. It is considered that the motion would be more appropriate if amended to refer to "promoting" community waste composters and the delivery of such as referred to the Climate Action, Environment and Energy SPC.

Chief Executive Recommendation:

It is the recommendation of the CE to agree this motion with an amendment, amending Objective SIO19, section 9.5.5, page 248

From:

SIO19 Community Food Waste Composting

"To consider the feasibility of using community food waste composters as a tool for more sustainable and localised community approach to waste recovery and recycling."

To:

SIO19 Community Food Waste Composting

"To promote the piloting of community food waste composters as a tool for more sustainable and localised community approach to waste recovery and recycling."

Council Meeting Decision:

The motion was AGREED as AMENDED. To be referred to the Climate Action, Environment and Energy SPC.

SPC Order: Noted, no further action required

Motion 3: Submitted By Councillor(s): Cllr Cieran Perry

Refers to: Chapter 9 - Sustainable Environmental Infrastructure and Flood Risk

Motion 185:

That the Development Plan commits to trial a public underground domestic waste storage system in a suitable location in the city.

Planning Reason:

To provide a communal alternative to private waste collection and help tackle the environmentally damaging process of multiple waste collectors servicing the same areas.

Chief Executive's Response:

This matter is addressed in the Draft Plan. In Chapter 9, objective SIO18 commits to trialling public underground waste storage solutions in line with the review of the Dublin City Council Litter Management Plan in order to determine the feasibility of deploying more innovative communal waste management solutions within the city.

Chief Executive Recommendation:

It is the recommendation of the CE that the motion is not agreed as this matter is already addressed in the Draft Plan, in objective SIO18.

Council Meeting Decision

The motion was WITHDRAWN. To be referred to Climate Action, Environment and Energy SPC.

SPC Order: Refer to Re-Municipalisation of Waste Collection Services Subcommittee

Motion 4: Submitted By Councillor(s): Cllr Nial Ring

Refers to: Chapter 9 - Sustainable Environmental Infrastructure and Flood Risk

Motion 187:

That the Development Plan ensures that all flood protection proposals include, at first instance, communication and consultation with the local community directly affected.

Planning Reason:

To ensure flood protection plans include local consultation.

Chief Executive's Response:

The consultation arrangements around flood protection proposals are outside the scope of the Development Plan and would form part of the statutory process associated with such works. Draft Plan Policy SI19 (page 242) deals with Provision and Upgrading of Flood Alleviation Assets and lists proposed flood protection/ alleviation schemes which are intended to be progressed through the planning consent process during the lifetime of the 2022-2028 Dublin City Development Plan. The planning, design and delivery of these schemes is a matter for the Council's Flood Management Division and all such schemes are subject to formal statutory public consultation as part of the consent process.

Chief Executive Recommendation:

It is the recommendation of the CE that the motion is not agreed. This matter is outside the scope of the Development Plan.

Council Meeting Decision

The motion was WITHDRAWN. To be referred to Climate Action, Environment and Energy SPC.

SPC Order: Refer to Flood Alleviation Unit for direct reply to Councillor Ring

Motion 5: Submitted By Councillor(s): Green Party Comhaontas Glas

Refers to: Chapter 9 - Sustainable Environmental Infrastructure and Flood Risk Motion 192:

Chapter:9, Section:SI4, Page:239 change from "new" to all private development sewers which are intended to connect to the public drainage system to comply with the requirements of the Greater Dublin Regional Code of Practice for Drainage Works and/ or Irish Water foul sewer specification (where applicable).

Planning Reason:

Because if existing private developments want to join the public sewer system they need to follow the same requirements not just new ones.

Chief Executive's Response:

Policy SI 4 refers to the requirement for new private development sewers, which are intended to connect to the public drainage system, to comply with the requirements of the Greater Dublin Regional Code of Practice for Drainage Works and/or Irish Water foul sewer specification (where applicable). The motion was referred to the Drainage Department who have confirmed that virtually all developments connect to the public sewer and those that are taken in charge are public. Those that are not taken in charge, are private but still connect to the public sewer.

The intent of this policy is to ensure that all new developments, are to be constructed in accordance with GDR CoP. This ensures better built quality, less risk of problems downstream in the network and that any private networks that are asked to take in charge in the future will have been built to the appropriate standards.

However, it is not considered appropriate to change the wording to apply to "all developments". It is considered that it would not be reasonable to ask private developments that are already connected to the public sewer system to retrospectively upgrade to be in accordance with the GDR CoP.

It should be noted that where DCC are asked to take in charge a private development, a request can be made for works to be undertaken at that stage if necessary, though this may not be practical if the developer is no longer involved. This is however, an operational matter, outside the scope of the Development Plan.

Chief Executive Recommendation:

It is the recommendation of the CE that the motion is not agreed as it would introduce an element of confusion in the purpose of the motion, as the objective cannot be applied retrospectively.

The motion was WITHDRAWN. To be referred to Climate Action, Environment and Energy SPC.

SPC Order: Noted, No further action required

13. A.O.B.

Next Meeting 25th May 2022

In attendance

Members

Bernie Guinan, I.C.E.I
Councillor Claire Byrne
Councillor Tom Brabazon
Trevor Clowry, P.P.N
Councillor Joe Costello
Councillor Mannix Flynn
Sally Starbuck. R.I.A.I
Robert Moss, P.P.N
Councillor Naoise Ó Muirí
Councillor Michael Pidgeon
Councillor Catherine Stocker

Councillor Michael Watters

Also in attendance

Councillor Deirdre Heney

Apologies

Paul Boylan, Dublin Chamber

Councillor Janice Boylan

Officials

John Flanagan, Assistant Chief Executive & City Engineer

Liam Bergin, Executive Manger

Marina Hennelly, Executive Manager (Engineering)

Martin Fitzpatrick, Principal Environmental Health Officer

James Nolan, Senior Executive Officer

Eithne Gibbons, Senior Executive Officer

Emma Finlay, Senior Executive Engineer

Shay Brady, Waste Management Services Co-ordinator

Richard Whelan, Administrative Officer

Joanne Rourke, Administrative Officer

Michael Pidgeon, Chair

Climate Action

Energy & Environment

Strategic Policy Committee