
MINUTES OF THE CLIMATE ACTION, ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 22nd JULY 2022.

1. Minutes of the meeting held on 25th May 2022.

Order: Agreed

2. Matters Arising

- What is the position in relation to the delegation going to Seoul (JC)
- Who made the decision in relation to the make-up of the delegation
- We (this Committee) have had no consultation on the delegation, this Committee deserves to know what is going on.

James Nolan responded

- A delegation is due to go to Seoul in August which will comprise City Council Executives
- There will be a subsequent return delegation

Order: Noted, report to issue to the Committee in relation to the delegation to / from Seoul

3. Chairperson's Business

The Chair advised that owing to competing commitments, Item 5, Waste to Energy and Community Gain will be taken first

4. Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy – Cormac Healy / Liam Bergin

Members thanks Liam and Cormac for the report / presentation and raised the following questions

- Is it correct that that the model for EV charging hubs will be something similar to a small petrol station, i.e. there won't be a charging point on every street corner **(MP)**
- What is the criteria for selecting rapid charging hub locations **(JL)**
- How does the City Council's role as facilitator of the infrastructure work **(JL)**
- What is the argument for the City Council or another public entity to not provide the electricity **(JL)**
- Who will get the franchise to provide, roll out and maintain the EV charging network **(MF)**

- The Plan should be noted and referred to the City Council for consideration **(MF)**
- How will the EV charging be rolled out to social housing flat complexes **(MF)**
- What is the position with the public consultation **(JH)**
- How long does a fast charge take. **(JH)**
- How are the Council's EV fleet charged **(JH)**
- Has the Council's Housing Department responded to the Social Housing EV charging needs **(MP)**
- Where do we find the land for charging hubs in the inner city **(MP)**
- How many charging points will be available in the charging hubs **(MP)**
- Has a survey of current EV users been undertaken **(RM)**
- Should EV charging provision be part of the planning permission for apartment complexes **(RM)**
- Can the EV charging strategy be incorporated into the City Development plan **(JL)**
- Is there capacity in the system to cater for electric bikes / scooters **(MF)**

Liam Bergin responded

- Older electric vehicles do not have rapid charging capacity whereas newer models have rapid / fast charging capability
- The hub location criteria is based on the London model, the technical document will be forwarded to Councillor Lyons
- There is a high degree of regulation to supply electricity, the cost of setting up a utility would be far beyond the capability of a Local Authority.
- There is an obvious business case for the private sector to set up charging hubs
- There will be a significant amount of complex procurement around the implementation of the EV strategy – Civils / Maintenance / Provision
- We will examine various models of EV charging
- There will be a variety of partners involved in the EV strategy roll out
- We are not overly prescriptive on where the EV hubs will be located.
- Schools, Church grounds, Car Parks will be considered for Hub locations
- It would take 20 – 30 minutes to obtain optimum charging levels
- The City Council has 45 electric vehicles, as the charging capacity and range increases we will add to the fleet.
- We don't want to replace every petrol / diesel vehicle with an electric vehicle. We want to reduce the number of cars and to encourage a switch to more sustainable forms of transport
- We had a stakeholder engagement survey
- Regulations allow us to put EV charging as a condition for planning permission
- The Draft City Development Plan will reference the EV strategy
- All other public bodies will be asked to transition to electric vehicles
- My expectation is for a bike cage situation for charging electric bike / scooters in social housing complexes.

Order: Noted refer report to full Council for discussion and approval

5. Waste to Energy and Community Gain report – James Nolan

Members thanked James for the report that was circulated and raised the following question / issues

- Can we have an idea of how many objections were received in relation to the DWtE plant capacity expansion **(MF)**
- It is my understanding that the Company (Covanta) is about to apply for a licence to import waste **(MF)**
- Can we get the data on the tonnages being treated by the facility Local Authority Area **(RM)**
- How much greenhouse / carbon emissions are generated by the facility **(RM)**
- What is the geographical area for the Community Gain Fund **(JC)**
- Are the carbon emissions attributed to the City Council inventory **(RM)**
- Will the increase in capacity have a pro-rata increase in the community gain fund **(JC)**
- Can the area that benefits from the Community Gain Fund be extended to other areas. **(JC)**
- Is it correct that 350,000 tonnes of waste are exported annually **(DH)**
- Where is the waste being exported to **(DH)**

James Nolan and Liam Bergin responded

- There were no submissions from non-statutory in relation to the DWtE facility expansion **(JN)**
- There are no plans to import waste. Currently 750,000 tonnes of waste are being landfilled / exported **(JN)**
- I will compile a report in relation to tonnages and emissions at the facility **(JN)**
- The emissions are attributed to Ireland Inc. as the facility is a generator of electricity on the grid. **(JN)**
- The Community Gain Fund's geographical area is generally Irishtown / Ringsend / Sandymount. The catchment area was determined in a condition of the Planning Permission granted. **(JN)**
- It is not possible to give specific in relation to waste generated per local Authority area **(LB)**
- We would be exporting and landfilling a lot more waste if were not for the DWtE facility. **(LB)**
- The Community Gain Fund will be increased by €90,000.00 annually **(JN)**
- It is not possible to extend the catchment area of the Community Gain Fund **(JN)**
- The Waste is being exported into the European Market. **(JN)**

Order: Report Noted

6. Bulky Household Waste Collection Service – Richard Whelan / Liam Bergin

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

- Take offence to “Dublin City Council is not in favour of the provision of a free service “I am Dublin City Council **(DH)**
- DCC members voted in favour of putting a certain amount of money aside for the reintroduction of the Bulky Household Waste Collection free of charge **(DH)**
- According to Kathy Quinn, Head of Finance, the current on demand service does not wash its face in terms of the cost and would therefore be in breach of the polluter pays principle **(DH)**
- Perhaps the on demand service could be removed if the EU directive is to be adhered to **(DH)**
- There is a huge amount of illegal dumping in the City **(DH)**
- The “Man with the Van” is notorious for collecting bulky household waste and dumping it illegally **(DH)**
- There was a mattress amnesty day in Ballymun **(DH)**
- The reference that CA sites can be used is not of any help to those without Transport **(DH)**
- A Bulky Household Waste Collection Service will reduce illegal dumping. **(DH)**
- A Bulky Household Waste Collection does mitigate against illegal dumping **(MF)**
- Can we have legal opinion on what rules / directives would be broken **(MF)**
- Most of the Bulky Household Waste Collection is recyclable **(MF)**
- Bulky Household Waste Collection Service is operational and not a matter for the SPC **(SS)**
- Disappointed that the report is heavily stacked against the reintroduction of service **(TB)**
- No advantages of the free service offered in the report **(TB)**
- No disadvantages to the current on demand service mentioned **(TB)**
- The alternatives offered are woolly and I don’t believe they will reduce the levels of illegal dumping. **(TB)**
- The negatives of the free service are being overplayed **(TB)**
- Perhaps introducing a charge for the Bulky Household Waste Collection Service could be examined **(TB)**
- There is a massive problem with illegal dumping in the city **(JC)**
- People fall into 3 categories, those who can, can’t and won’t pay **(TC)**
- People who won’t pay may dump illegally, a far more creative approach is needed. How to tackle those who can’t and won’t pay is key **(TC)**
- I was not calling for withdrawal the on demand service **(DH)**
- I was saying that the on demand service would have to be withdrawn if it is in breach of the EU directive because it doesn’t wash its face in terms of cost **(DH)**
- I would like to see a balanced break down on the Pro’s / Cons of the service **(MP)**
- I’m not sure if someone is minded to illegally dump they will wait for a free collection service **(MP)**

Liam Bergin responded

- The report should not have said that DCC is not in favour, it should have been the Executive is not in favour
- When the charges for the current on demand service were being designed it covered the cost. It might now be time to revisit the charging arrangements
- Our regulator is the EPA and I will be in contact with them on foot of this discussion
- In relation to people not having access to transport to use the CA sites services from providers such as GOVans are an option
- There has been an uptick with the on demand service since it went live, i.e. the service can be ordered 24 /7
- We can provide the legal advice to members
- Where we can identify the polluter engaged in illegal dumping we will prosecute
- We cannot put Ireland in breach of EU directives
- The additional 750k is welcomed and we will revisit the issue on how the money can be spent

Order: Noted, Revisit at future meeting of the SPC with a view to finding a solution

In Attendance

Members

Councillor Tom Brabazon
Trevor Clowry, Public Participation Network
Councillor Joe Costello
Councillor Mannix Flynn
Bernie Guinan, Association of Consulting Engineers of Ireland
Councillor John Lyons
Robert Moss, Public Participation Network
Councillor Michael Pidgeon (Chair)
Sally Starbuck, Royal Institute of Architects of Ireland
Councillor Catherine Stocker
Councillor Michael Watters

Also in attendance

Councillor Deirdre Heney
Councillor Janet Horner

Absent

Paul Boylan, Dublin Chamber of Commerce

Apologies

Councillor Claire Byrne
Councillor Janice Boylan

Councillor Naoise Ó Muirí

Officials

John Flanagan, Assistant Chief Executive & City Engineer

Liam Bergin, Executive Manager

James Nolan, Senior Executive Officer

Cormac Healy, Energy Lead, DCC

Richard Whelan, Administrative Officer

Chris Carroll, Administrative Officer

Mary O'Meara, Staff Officer

Councillor Michael Pidgeon

**Chair, Climate Action Environment &
Energy, Strategic Policy Committee**

25th July 2022.