



**Breviate of The Environment Strategic Policy Committee Meeting Held 27th
February 2019**

1. Minutes of the meeting held 28th November 2018

Order: Agreed

2. Matters arising

- (i) Waste Categorisation report – EPA

Order: Noted. Mr McCarthy to present on this matter at the next meeting of the SPC.

- (ii) Software queries – DWtE

- (iii) Emergency Service – June 2017 incident at the DWtE facility

- (iv) Queries on AWN reports to the EPA.

Order: The Chair wrote to Covanta in relation to items (ii) – (iii) and a response is yet to be received.

3. Correspondence:

- (i) EPA response to invitation

- (ii) Correspondence from Joe McCarthy

Order: Correspondence Noted

4. Chairperson's Business

The Chair requested that the Emergency Motion in the name of Councillor Mannix Flynn below is taken under Chairperson's business.

“This meeting of Dublin city council environment strategic policy committee call on Irish water to address the ongoing issues to public health and safety as a result of the recent spillage of sewage at the waste water treatment plant at Ringsend. Further that Irish water attend this committee and give account of their operations Failures at their waste water Treatment plant at Ringsend.”

Order: Motion Agreed. Refer to the Chief Executive's Department for inclusion on the March Council Agenda.

5. Air Quality

- (i) Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment
Presentation – Paul McDonald, Principal Officer

Order: Mr. McDonald unable to attend owing to competing work commitments

- (ii) National Transportation Authority - Ann Graham, Chief Executive

Order: Presentation Noted

- (iii) Dublin Port Company – Laura Kearns, EHS Manager

Order: Presentation Noted

- (iv) Dublin City Council – Martin Fitzpatrick, Principal Environmental Health Officer

Order: Presentation Noted. Air Quality Monitoring data for the City to be placed on the City Council Website.

6. Single Use Plastics and Cups – Fionnghuala Ryan, Executive Scientific Officer

Order: Report Noted

7. Dublin Waste to Energy Update report – James Nolan, Senior Executive Officer

Order: Report Noted. Traffic Survey on Refuse Collection Vehicles to be advanced.

8. Motion in the name of Councillor Mary Freehill

We call on the Manager to urgently recruit staff teams to clean our streets and roads. Furthermore, apart from the normal work crews, we propose that the Council needs a Direct Labour emergency multi-tasking well trained rapid deployment crews to deal with seasonal emergencies i.e. leaf collection, snow etc. We know that these demands for services come every year and we should be prepared for them

We have continuously pointed out that the seriously diminished level of staffing in the cleansing, road maintenance and traffic divisions is having a deleterious impact on the safety of our citizens and delivery of services in the city.

As a City Council we have a responsibility to keep the city safe from flooding which means making sure that gullies are not clogged up with leaves. Failure of the City Council to deliver these services amounts to a breakdown in services which makes life very difficult and dangerous for its citizens and especially for those who can no longer get flood insurance

These work teams can be organised on the basis of 'Multi-tasking' based on an analysis of the most commonly occurring emergency breakdowns with the teams undertaking multi-skilled training to carry out all these tasks within targeted completion times. The idea is that when dealing with emergencies they can always be planned for in advance of the breakdown with rapid work team deployment in a well-rehearsed response, executed in the most efficient effective and economic way. An agreed premium was agreed for all multi-tasking workers under local union agreements. House voids and re-let repairs

can be handled in the same way. Gas and Electric work can be carried out from a panel of previously appointed contractors fully integrated with the Multi-Tasking teams and supervised by the local team Clerks of Works. This is needed because of the registered Certification required with Gas and Electrical work. These teams work well in other Local Authorities”.

Order: Agreed, comprehensive report to issue on issues raised in the Motion

9. Motion in the name of Councillor Patrick Costello an Councillor Claire Byrne

That this SPC agrees to take serious action in relation to dog fouling, and agrees to undertake the following measures

- to amend the bye laws to make it an offense to be in control of a dog without having the means to deal with dog waste while in a public park*
- to write to the minister for the environment requesting a significant increase in the fines related to dog fouling*
- to introduce a pilot scheme of DNA testing dog fouling, as has been successfully done in other countries, to overcome challenges in finding the owners responsible for not picking up waste.*
- to provide free dog waste bags available to collect through local parks and waste depots, as well as through the local area offices as at present*
- to provide increased numbers of dog waste only bins in problems areas.*
- to agree to spend the complete allocation under the anti-litter grant scheme on dog fouling for one year.*
- free dog waste bags when you renew your dog license*

Order: Agreed, comprehensive report to issue on issues raised in the Motion

10. A.O.B.

None.

**Naoise Ó'Muirí
Chairperson,
28th February 2019**

In attendance

Members

Councillor Claire Byrne
Councillor Ciarán Cuffe
Councillor Mannix Flynn
Noel Harte, Dublin Docklands Business Forum
Richie Keane, PPN
Councillor Edel Moran
Joe McCarthy, An Taisce
Robert Moss, PPN
Councillor Michael Mullooly
Councillor Michael O'Brien
Councillor Ciaran O'Moore
Councillor Naoise Ó'Muirí (Chairperson)

Absent

Councillor Declan Flanagan
Councillor Tina MacVeigh

Also in attendance

Councillor Mary Freehill
Councillor Patrick Costello

Outside Bodies

Anne Graham, National Transport Authority
David King, National Transport Authority
Laura Kearns, Dublin Port Company

Officials

Céline Reilly, Executive Manager
James Nolan, Senior Executive Officer
Martin Fitzpatrick, Principal Environmental Health Officer
Simon Brock, Administrative Officer
Ciaran McGoldrick, Senior Staff Officer
Ian Boggans, Assistant Staff Officer