
MINUTES OF CLIMATE ACTION, ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 30th SEPTEMBER 2020

1. Minutes of the meeting held on 1st July 2020

- Councillor Michael Watters was not recorded as being in attendance.
- CCMA recommended and approved Climate training to be added to minutes

Order: Agreed with amendments

2. Matters

None

3. Correspondence

Noted

4. Chairpersons Business

The Chair advised the Committee that he will be taking the Climate Action presentations in the following order: (1) Resource Management (2) Nature Based Solutions (3) Eastern & Midland Waste Office

Order: Noted

5. Minutes of the Air Quality Subcommittee Meeting held on 17th July 2020

Order: Noted

6. Minutes of the Climate Action Subcommittee held on 13th July 2020

Order: Noted

7. Climate Action Subcommittee Submission on Legislation

Order: Submission Noted

8. Climate Actions Update Report – Céline Reilly / Sabrina Dekker

Order: Update Noted

9. Climate Action Funding Presentation and funding sources – Céline Reilly / Sabrina Dekker

Councillor Costello queried why the majority of the funding is derived from the Horizon Fund and not the ERDF. Céline Reilly explained the allocation from the ERDF (or its newest iteration) from Central Government has not yet been determined

Order: Noted

10. Climate Action Presentation

(1) Resource Management – Simon Brock, Administrative Officer, Waste Management Services

Members thanked Simon for his presentation and raised the following question / issues

- Is leaf composting in operation or can it be implemented in the Griffith Avenue area (NOM)
- Is it possible to examine community composting as many residents do not have brown bins (RM)
- Leaves tend to block drains / shores along the North Circular Road, can something be done to combat this (JB)
- There has been an increase in illegal dumping in the Central Area (JB)
- Can QR codes be added to dog fouling bins (TC)
- Only a handful of fines issued for dog fouling during the campaign, are additional enforcement measures planned (TC)
- Is the Community Action Environment Fund separate from normal Council resources (CP)
- Dog fouling requires increased enforcement, advisory signs are not adequate (CP)
- What is the situation in relation to Green Procurement, is there a booklet available, if so can it be forwarded to the Committee (JL)
- The Dog Fouling campaign in D.8. (South Central Area) has been somewhat successful as there is a noticeable increase in compliance however more bins are required (MG)
- Is there any progress on the Deposit refund scheme (MP)
- Wheeled bins being left on street cause significant disruption to vulnerable pedestrians (wheelchair users, pedestrians with buggies, elderly) (MF)
- Construction Sites are littering the streets with debris, dust and dirt (MF)
- When will the roll out of the on street waste segregation bins commence (CB)
- Can an update on the progress of community bins be provided (CB)
- What are the barriers to improving the Dog Fouling problem and how can Members be of assistance (CB)

Simon Brock responded

- We are happy to work with groups in relation to leaf composting and welcome suggestions on how we can assist
- Leaf Collection is by Council staff and the leaves are brought to a composting facility
- Community composting must be managed in a manner to ensure good quality compost is produced
- Waste Management works with the Drainage Division to ensure drains / shores are cleared
- Waste Management will work with Community Groups (supply equipment, arrange collection) in relation to leaves
- Figures in relation to illegal dumping are city wide. We found that there was an increase during the initial lockdown followed by a fall off. It is now on a par with 2019 figures.
- Will follow up on QR codes for dog fouling bins
- Dog fouling enforcement is extremely difficult, it is resource intensive, can require the assistance on An Garda Síochána and is costly.
- The Community Environment Fund is separate to Council resources. DCC matches the funding allocated from Central Government.
- We are in the process of developing a Green Procurement Advisory document which will be forwarded to the Committee
- A tender for the supply of public litter bins has been completed
- An analysis will be done to identify areas of undersupply of bins
- Litter Generators (bus stops, high footfall etc.) where identified requiring a bin will have one installed
- We are aware of Wheeled Bins being left on pavements which is being followed up by Litter Wardens and enforcement measures implemented where necessary
- Construction Sites are obliged to have measures such as wheel washes in place and ensure debris is not discarded in the public domain. Enforcement measures are initialled where necessary.

Order: Presentation Noted

(2) Nature Based Solutions – Les Moore, City Parks Superintendent

Members welcomed the presentation and the progress being made by Les and his team. Members raised the following question

- Is funding available for the Stoneybatter project (JC)
- Does the work in the Drumcondra Area require services diversion (CP)
- Will the Wolfe Tone Park Plan provide for the additional seating at the Tram Café (JB)
- Is anything being done to increase trees inside the canals (TC)
- Dublin 8 area has a low green space ratio, can trees or tree whips be donated to Schools, Apartment Complexes and residents groups (RM)
- Could a workshop be arranged in collaboration with An Taisce in tree planting (RM)
- Many of the Council's flat complexes are devoid of green spaces, what can be done to address this (MF)

- Can the “Cabbage Patch Park” gatekeeper be reinstated (MF)

Les Moore responded

- Funding for the Stoneybatter Project is included in our Budget proposals for 2021 which will be brought to the Council for approval later this year.
- Diversion of services depends on where they are located
- The services in some instances are in the middle of the road
- Buildouts can be appropriate where services are under the pavement and / or the pavement is narrow
- TC to revert on areas he has in mind for greening
- The provision of additional seating in Wolfe Tone Park has been a success as much of the anti-social behaviour has been displaced.
- There is flexibility in the plan for Wolfe Tone Park to allow for the additional seating.
- We have to be careful when donating tree whips; they can become large trees very quickly and it is vital that they are planted in an appropriate place
- The issue around the gatekeeper at the cabbage patch park will be examined.

Order: Presentation Noted

- (3) Eastern and Midland Regional Waste Office – Hugh Coughlan, Senior Executive Officer

Members raised the following questions in relation to the presentation

- Does the pilot project take a cross section of GAA clubs, large and small as different clubs would generate different amounts of waste (TB)
- What is being done to encourage Café’s to accept reusable cups (CB)
- Can I have a bit more details on the bin labelling (JB)
- What is driving the National Review of Civic Amenity Sites (NOM)
- Milltown Bring Centre is at capacity and there is a high degree of illegal dumping. (MF)
- We don’t seem to have a recycling policy for Council flat complexes (MF)
- Are tonnage figures available for the waste left being by private waste operators that is subsequently collected by the City Council (MF)

Hugh Coughlan responded

- The GAA sought an expression of interests from clubs to participate in the project.
- 3-4 clubs have been identified in the region with 1 in Dublin
- Satisfied that a good cross section has been achieved
- We are re-engaging with Café’s etc. in relation to accepting reusable cups

- Waste collection routes are being identified, labels and information packs will be provided to the householder, and there will be no cost to the householder.
- There are a large network of CA sites in the state which provide a varying level of service and materials accepted.
- Local Authorities subvent the CA service
- The idea is to gather information on the service provided and analyse the data with a view to providing a consistent and cost effective service
- Textile and glass recycling demand has increased during the Covid period, it is vital to ensure the material is collected as required in order to mitigate against illegal dumping
- A resource has been allocated to roll out recycling services to flat complexes (initially in the South East Area)

Order: Presentation Noted

12. Motion in the name of Councillor Deirdre Heney
"That a sub-committee of this SPC be established for the purpose of ensuring that the specifications to be included in the next tender for a dog pound facility ensure that animal welfare is at the centre of any such tender and any such facility."

Order: Agreed, Chair to seek nominations for the Subcommittee and meeting to be arranged

11. A.O.B.

Councillor Flynn referred to a previous meeting of the SPC where an undertaking was given to replace the plastic segregating cycle lanes etc. with planters of more aesthetically pleasing measures

Robert Moss mentioned up follow queries in relation to Heat Pumps etc. Ciaran McGoldrick to forward when available.

Order Noted

In attendance

Members

Councillor Claire Byrne
 Councillor Janice Boylan
 Paul Boylan, Dublin Chamber
 Councillor Tom Brabazon
 Trevor Clowry PPN
 Councillor Joe Costello
 Councillor Mannix Flynn
 Michael Goan 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
Councillor Michael Watters

Also in Attendance
Councillor Deirdre Heney
Councillor Cieran Perry.

Officials

Céline Reilly, Executive Manager
Les Moore, City Parks Superintendent
James Nolan, Senior Executive Officer
Simon Brock, Administrative Officer
Hugh Coughlan, Coordinator, EMWR
Sabrina Dekker, Climate Action Coordinator
Ciarán McGoldrick, Senior Staff Officer

Michael Pidgeon, Chairperson

1st October 2020