
MINUTES OF CLIMATE ACTION, ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 27th January 2021

1. Minutes of the meeting held on 25th November 2020

Order: Agreed

2. Matters Arising

Robert Moss raised a query regarding publication of webcast of previous meeting to Dublin City Council website (RM)

Ciaran McGoldrick advised that a possible solution to an issue with the recording had been identified.

Order: Noted.

3. Correspondence

Order: Noted.

4. Chairpersons Business

- I. Report on Election Posters will be available for the next meeting of the Committee (31st March, 2021)
- II. Incorrect information in the public domain related to fold up bin/box and efforts to clarify misunderstanding noted. Level of public interest noted by Cllr. Flynn.
- III. Cllr. Lyons sought further information on the proposal. Chair to discuss possibility of further update with Simon Brock.

Order: Noted

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

Order: Noted

6. Minutes of the Dog Shelter Tender Subcommittee held on the 6th November 2020

Order: Noted

7. Dog shelter Tender Specification Subcommittee Terms of Reference

Councillor Deirdre Heney provided an update on work to date on the Dog Shelter Specification. Tender specification almost complete and intention is to tender early next month. Intention of South Dublin County Council(SDCC) to extend existing contract was noted.

Members commended the work of the committee and had the following questions/observations

- Can a letter issue to SDCC from the Committee addressing their intention to extend the existing contract (MF)
- Question posed on the composition of the committee in relation to the tender specification (JC)

Councillor Heney responded

- The committee has functioned very well
- Chief Executive has been requested to contact SDCC regarding the contract extension

Order: Noted. Terms of Reference Agreed. Agreed that additional letter issue from the Committee to SDCC.

8. Codema – Brian Connolly & John O'Shea

- I. Dublin City Council's Energy Review 2019 Report
- II. Dublin City Council's Energy Review 2019 Presentation
- III. Energy masterplan for the 4 Dublin Local Authorities & Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy

Members thanked Brian and John for their presentations and had the following questions and observations

- Why DFB is lagging behind DCC generally (NOM)
- What is the remit of CODEMA in relation to other bodies they are engaging with (NOM)
- Query regarding incorporation of Dublin Regional Energy Masterplan into the Development Plan (JC)
- Where funding is to be obtained for project costs of €19.5m (JC)
- Clarification of availability, accessibility and expertise available for One Stop Shops (JC)
- If there has been any survey of building roof space availability in Dublin for Green energy/Solar Panels (JC)
- Public lighting replacement - What are sources of funding and any financial barriers (MP)

- Are there any similar size international comparators (JL)
- What impediments there are to more ambitious target for public lighting lamp replacement (JL)
- When is the plan to be published and publicly available (MG)
- What if any European City comparisons (JB)
- Questioned the sources of funding and costs of the project overall (JB)

Brian Connolly and John O'Shea responded

- Main element for DFB was bulk fuel use associated with increased callouts. CODEMA working with DFB to identify appropriate performance indicators
- CODEMA liaising with other bodies
- Masterplan is feeding into and informing the Corporate Development Plans.
- Public Lighting funded from DCC Capital budget.
- Funding sought by bundling of projects on the escrow market. Funding recoupment is via savings over the lifetime of the projects.
- One Stop Shop query to be redirected to Joe Hayden for response.
- Confirmed that roof areas have been examined.
- No knowledge of comparators. Observed that Dublin is leading with regard to Public Sector Energy Tracking.
- Energy Masterplan expected to be collated, analysed and published by October
- Funding split of 20% project owner, 30% grant and 50% private funding via ESCROW market

Celine Reilly provided further clarification

- Public Lighting is financed through DCC capital budget. Update to be sought from Martin Maycock
- European direct comparison is difficult due to the different range of services provided by different cities across Europe
- CODEMA is consulting with other public bodies rather than expanding their remit

Order: Noted

9. Social Housing Retrofitting – Shane Hackshaw, Senior Executive Engineer & Ali Grehan, City Architect

Members thanked Shane, Ali and Matt for their presentations and had the following questions and observations

- Welcome success of Phase 1 and effects on fuel poverty. Concerned at timeframe for the ongoing project and role of Central Government (DD)
- Could the timeframe for Phase 2 be sped up with larger budget and streamlining of the process (DD)
- Is the energy efficiency and retrofitting work part of the overall Better Energy Community Scheme (RM)
- Queried rate of gas boiler replacement with Heat Pumps (RM)

- Is there a likelihood of diminishing returns for Phase 2 (JC)
- What are the plans for flat complexes (JC)
- What are the barriers to the scheme (MP)
- Will Phase 2 prioritise areas with higher fuel poverty (JB)
- Is the installation of Heat Pumps limited by funding (RM)
- What percentage will be installed under Phase 2 (RM)
- Observed that the Departments have significantly increased retrofitting and fuel poverty budgets from previous years (CB)

Shane replied

- Even if additional funding were available there would be a capacity issue
- Of a national retrofitting budget of €65m, €19.5m allocated to the midlands and €5m allocated to Phase 1 commitments. Approx. funding of €40m remaining – estimated €6.8m to DCC
- BEC scheme is a separate program to the retrofitting program
- Heat pumps were not a primary provision at the start of Phase 2. Endeavouring to complete all required measures under Phase 2 but there is a significant cost associated with this
- Diminishing returns not anticipated but heat pumps more expensive than boilers and greater cost associated with external wall insulation when compared with internal walls
- No specific statistics for areas but they are targeted and prioritised as part of the roll out
- No specific percentage but approximately 60 Heat Pumps installed to date

Members had the following questions and observations relating to Flat Complexes Retrofitting

- What is the plan for complexes where there is a lack of space to facilitate refurbishment (JB)
- What is the timeframe for completion of those currently on the list and what needs to progress more quickly (JB)
- Is detenanting complete in advance of projects or carried out on a rolling basis (JC)
- What are the sources of funding and is there any prospect of Climate Action related funding from the EU (JC)
- Is there conflict between classification as a climate emergency issue or housing emergency issue (NOM)
- Is there likely to be a greater yield of units if complexes are demolished and rebuilt and if so should the possibility of additional units take priority (NOM)
- Benefit of rejuvenation committee's highlighted (MF)
- Designated areas with potential for high unit yield should be prioritised (MF)

Ali Grehan responded

- Each project is assessed on a standalone basis with an associated application for capital funding to complete works. Considerations around retrofitting or redevelopment form part of the assessment
- Projects are not assessed as phases due to standalone nature of assessments
- Detenancing is completed in phases and is a large factor in timeframes
- No specific timeframe identified for completion but need to meet 2050 target
- Priority is units, complex and neighbourhood overall to improve living conditions
- Most sustainable approach is to preserve what's already there
- Standard of renovated units is on par with the standard of new units

Order: Noted

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

The Chair thanked Sabrina for her presentation and the Members had the following questions and observations

- What is Google AirView (MP)
- Concerns about water quality and security in Dublin and this should be part of the remit (MF)
- Waste management in flat complexes should be part of Climate Action and be addressed (MF)
- Cllr. Flynn asked that these be included in future presentation.

Sabrina replied

- AirView is air quality measurements carried out by Google Environmental insights Team
- Water issues will be discussed the relevant teams in the context of flood resilience
- Waste management will be addressed

Order: Noted

11. A.O.B

Cllr. Flynn asked that ESBI be impressed upon to begin the process of rolling out EV charging points

Robert Moss sought update on the Glyphosate Motion. Ciaran McGoldrick to update when further information to hand

Change to meeting starting time from that scheduled, confusion around same and cited as reason for missing the start of the meeting and early agenda items noted by Cllr. Cat O'Driscoll. Chair apologised for the change and any confusion caused.

In attendance

Councillor Claire Byrne

Councillor Janice Boylan
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 Michael Watters

Also in Attendance
Councillor Deirdre Heney
Councillor Cat O'Driscoll
Councillor Daithi Doolan

Apologies
Paul Boylan, Dublin Chamber
Councillor Catherine Stocker

Officials
Celine Reilly, Executive Manager
Ali Grehan, City Architect
Matt Carroll, Senior Executive Architect
Shane Hackshaw, Senior Executive Engineer
Sabrina Dekker, Climate Change Coordinator
Ciaran McGoldrick, Senior Staff Officer

Michael Pidgeon, Chairperson

27th January 2021.