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

1. Minutes of the meeting held on 30th November 2022

Order: Agreed

2. Matters Arising
3. Correspondence – CNFE

Order: Noted

4. Chairpersons Business

- (i) Cllr Carl Stanley has been co-opted to replace Cllr. Catherine Stocker (Maternity Leave)
- (ii) Cllr Michael Pidgeon has stepped down from this SPC
- (iii) Cllr Carolyn Moore will replace Cllr Pidgeon on this SPC, the Dog Fouling Working Group, Air Quality Subcommittee and The Re-Municipalisation of Waste Collection Services Sub-Committee

Order: Noted

5. Noise Action Plans – Martin Fitzpatrick, Principal Environmental Health Officer

Members thanked Martin for his presentation and wished him well in his retirement. Members raised the following questions / issues

- How does the public consultation work in practical terms, what contribution can the public make given that the Directive is already in place (CO’C)
- What is the legal status of the plan, what sanctions are there, what does it mean practically (CO’C)
- Do we have an analysis on the success of previous Noise Action Plans (JC)
- Bus Connects will have concentrated noise levels on Non- Arterial Routes, what consultation has taken place with the NTA (JC)
- In the absence of EU sanctions is it possible for the Oireachtas a more stringent regulatory framework (JC)
- Post consultation, how long will we have to implement the plan (NOM)
- Is there just one round of public consultation (CB)
- Do the maps take into consideration micro level disturbance, e.g. restaurant fans (CB)

Martin Fitzpatrick responded

- The noise maps will be published soon
- The Draft Noise Plan goes out for public consultation
- The EU directive covers the designation of quiet areas, so far, 8 areas in the City have this designation.
- During the Luas X City construction , owing to the quiet designation we could influence the design
- Most European Cities do not meet the noise level targets
- There are no legal sanctions for breaches of noise levels
- It is important that traffic is not led into areas previously quiet, the noise maps will show this.
- We also have an ambient noise network
- Noise guidance form part of planning consent
- The implementation of the plan(s) is ongoing, it does not stop as each plan is developed.
- There is one round of public consultation
- Introducing micro level disturbances into the overall mapping would not influence the modelling

Order: Report Noted

6. Re-Municipalisation of Waste Collection Services – Cllr Daithi Doolan

Members thanked Cllr. Daithi for the work of the subcommittee and the report that was circulated, Members raised the following questions

- Is Ireland the only country in Europe where the waste collection market is fully privatised (RM)
- What are the benefits to public ownership (RM)
- Illegal dumping occurred before waste collection was privatised (MF)
- Strong legislation is required in terms of enforcement (MF)
- The report is excellent (MF)
- Local Authority control of waste is essential (JC)
- There should be increased regulation on enforcement (JC)
- Is it possible for DCC to re-enter the waste collection business (JC)
- If a tendering process was to take place for the waste would it mean that only 1 company can collect waste. (KS)
- The media speculated today (Irish times) if DCC entered the market it would be viewed as anti-competitive (TC)
- The idea that DCC should re-enter the market is not realistic (NOM)
- Only tendering for the market would work which requires primary legislation (NOM)
- How much was spent on the report (NOM)

Councillor Doolan responded

- In some countries waste collection is under the control of the Local Authority, in others the service is provided by a contractor under the control of Local Authority
- Illegal dumping is not an issue where the service is in public ownership
- The current system needs to change
- If the Local Authority tendered for the service the LA will dictate how many operators collect waste.
- The Irish times commentary was a shallow view of the report
- I would hope that re-municipalisation would happen within 18 months, but government approval and assistance will be required
- There are 11 companies operating in the Council's administrative area.
- 14% of household do not have waste collection arrangements in place.

Order: Report Noted. Councillor Doolan to speak to this item at the City Council Meeting

7. Motion in the name of Councillor Sophie Nicoulaud
 "That this committee acknowledge and notes the latest ESRI and the EPA study on Carbon emission here attached. The working paper No. 740 *The Global Emissions Impact of Irish Consumption* was published in November 2022. This motion asks also for this motion along with the ESRI/EPA working paper be sent to all area committees for them to not it and be sent to all staff at management level and above in DCC. That this motion if passed be circulated to all councils in the country.

What comes out of their study is that carbon emissions attribution to Ireland is greater than what is attributed now. It shows that Irish emissions in 2019 were 74% higher when calculated using this 'consumption-based' approach than with the conventional approach. Countries like Ireland had effectively 'out-sourced' a big chunk of our greenhouse gas emissions. The values given for countries' greenhouse gas emissions are almost always defined as weight of relevant gases produced within that country – they are the values used in all the climate negotiations, but a truer picture of the emissions due to a country would consider the emissions, wherever in the world they happen, due to consumption within a country. Because we import so many products from poorer countries, many of the greenhouse gases due to the goods and services that we in the rich countries consume are actually produced elsewhere on the planet."

Order: Agreed

In attendance

Members

Councillor Claire Byrne
 Councillor Claire O'Connor
 Trevor Clowry, Public Participation Network
 Councillor Joe Costello
 Councillor Mannix Flynn
 Sally Starbuck, Royal Institute of Architects of Ireland
 Bernie Guinan, Association of Consulting Engineers of Ireland
 Councillor John Lyons

Councillor Carolyn Moore
Robert Moss, Public Participation Network
Councillor Naoise Ó'Muirí
Councillor Karl Stanley
Councillor Michael Watters

Absent

Councillor Janice Boylan
Paul Boylan, Dublin Chamber of Commerce

Also in attendance
Councillor Daithí Doolan
Councillor Michael Pidgeon
Councillor Sophie Niccoulaud

Officials

John Flanagan, Assistant Chief Executive & City Engineer
Anthony Flynn, Executive Manager
Liam Bergin, Executive Manager
Martin Fitzpatrick, Principal Environmental Health Officer
Sabrina Dekker, Climate Action Co-Ordinator
Richard Whelan, Administrative Officer
Chris Carroll, Administrative Officer
Ciarán McGoldrick, Senior Staff Officer
Bernie Lillis, Litter Prevention Officer

Cllr Claire Byrne
Chair, Climate Action
Environment and Energy
Strategic Policy Committee
23rd February 2022