
MINUTES OF THE CLIMATE ACTION, ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 10th JANUARY 2024

1. Dublin City Council Climate Action Plan 2024 - 2029

Members raised the following questions and comments in relation to the CE report and submissions that were circulated

- Commended the presentation as it is very comprehensive **(DB)**
- How does the hierarchy of the development plan work, how the many plans and actions relate to one another? **(SS)**
- The level of engagement was disappointing given the level of promotion of the plan. The quality and detail of the submissions was very high, comprehensive and repetitive. **(CB)**
- Requested clarity around the interdependence and links between all the relevant plans. Lots of climate projects peppered within the City development plan that align with this plan, make people aware of this as much as possible. **(CB)**
- More specific targets (eg. Social housing retrofits to reach targets & what are biodiversity targets). Acknowledging data issues around this and requested clarity.
- Specific projects to be mentioned in the plan. **(CB)**
- Net zero cities noted as very important to reach targets, highlighting we are behind. **(CB)**
- If amendments need to be approved by this committee and what are the next steps before this goes to full council? **(CB)**
- What the plan is for the Net Zero Cities Steering Group and if it will have a role/function for the DCC CAP? **(CB)**
- We have the climate project referenced in the capital budget and it would be good to have that reflected somewhere in the plan as well. **(CB)**
- Chapter 3 of the development plan was reviewed by this SPC last year. Notes it is very useful and informative, not just aspirational as it maps actions very clearly. Should this chapter be included in the Climate Action Plan as an appendix to facilitate better understanding of how the plans link to each other? **(RM)**
- Who are we ahead of? **(DB)**
- Regarding the lack of engagement around the public consultation, lots of very positive feedback was given in email and online. Rather than a lack of interest, it could be interpreted as such a strong document that we didn't get lots of constructive criticism. Having confidence to provide feedback on a document like this can be intimidating **(DB)**
- On-going work towards climate literacy on a national level noted **(CB)**

- LECP - When presenting high level goals to department heads in DCC, one of the comments was that a lot of objectives are mirroring what is set out to achieve via other statutory plans. How much should we be trying to call out specific actions with regard to climate action and emissions reductions within the LECP? **(CM)**
- Online knowledge hub to develop and implement the LECP – is this available to DCC as a whole? **(CM)**

Derek Kelly & Sabrina Dekker responded

- It is a statutory plan. Both the Development Plan and the Climate Action Plan must align with each other.
- Indicators and time-frames are attached. Will be included as an additional table with the gantt chart and the times. If a project is happening between 2024 - 2029 it will go into the plan. If it's outside of 2029 it won't go into the plan.
- We don't have good data sets and are communicating internally on collating those data sets. Working on how we take those data sets for Net Zero Cites and linking them.
- We are aiming to get the Net Zero Cites submission in for March. We are working on the baseline which is the key piece due back in February. It will be a living document and will be updated it as more data comes. We are a lot further ahead than everyone else (other councils and other cities on a European level) and there is still a lot to do to reach the aspirational target.
- The steering group has been established and it is an iterative process.
- Net Zero Cities Steering Group are CAP are intertwined but have separate reporting structures.
- Notes there is a data unit now in Corporate Service.
- Grammar check of the plan and submission to full council for the 12th.
- The specific projects will be checked with each department to see if they wish to add to their parts.
- We have the appendix that lists the policy as EU, National and Local level in the plan. Adding the full Chapter 3 would make the plan too lengthy.
- We can align with our colleagues that deal with LECP to see if the online portal is of use and if so, avail of it.
- Confirmed that baselines for Net Zero will be updated as better data comes along.
- Commended the Climate Team and Sabrina for their work on the plan.

Order: Recommend to City Council that the Plan and Chief Executives report are noted.

In attendance

Members

Councillor Claire Byrne

Councillor Janice Boylan

Councillor Michael Watters

Sally Starbuck, Royal Institute of Architects of Ireland

Robert Moss, Public Participation Network

Bernie Guinan, Association of Consulting Engineers of Ireland (ACEI)

Absent

Councillor Naoise Ó Muirí

Councillor Tom Brabazon

Councillor John Lyons

Deputy Lord Mayor Joe Costello

Councillor Karl Stanley

Councillor Mannix Flynn

Trevor Clowry, Crumlin Community Clean-Up – Public Participation Network

Paul Boylan, Vivid Edge – Dublin Chamber of Commerce

Also in attendance

Councillor Carolyn Moore

Councillor Deborah Byrne

Officials

John Flanagan, Assistant Chief Executive & City Engineer

Derek Kelly, Executive Manager

Sabrina Dekker, Climate Action Co-Ordinator

Chris Carroll, Administrative Officer

Niamh, Sloyan, Staff Officer

Cllr Claire Byrne

Chair, Climate Action,

Environment and Energy

Strategic Policy Committee

10th January 2024