

**Minutes of Meeting of Environment, Climate Action and Agriculture Strategic Policy  
Committee held in via Microsoft Teams on Wednesday, 22 September 2021.**

**Members Present:**

Councillor Justin Warnock (Chairperson)  
Councillor Gerry Dolan  
Councillor Paddy Farrell  
Councillor Sean McGowan  
John Brennan (Organic Agri)  
Eddie Mitchell (IFA)

**Officials Present:**

Vincent Dwyer, Head of Finance, Water, Environment, Climate Action and Emergency Services  
Marie Mulligan, Senior Executive Engineer  
James Madden, Veterinary Officer  
Sheila Guckian, A/Staff Officer  
Christina Bohan, Asst. Staff Officer  
Lola Gonzalez Farrell, Intern

**Apologies:**

**1 Minutes of Environment, Climate Action and Agriculture SPC held on 27th April, 2021**

*Minutes of Environment, Climate Action and Agriculture SPC held on  
27th April, 2021*

<b>In Attendance:</b> Cllr Justin Warnock (Chairperson)	Vincent Dwyer
Cllr Paddy Farrell	Francis Gaffney
Cllr Sean McGowan	Marie Mulligan
Eddie Mitchell (IFA)	Laura McEnroe
John Brennan (Organic Agri)	Sinead Ní Thiarnáin
Jan Melia PPN (Environmental Pillar)	Christina Bohan

A meeting of the Environment, Climate Action and Agriculture Strategic Policy Committee was held on the 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2021 and the following items of business were discussed.

**1. Adoption of Minutes of Meeting of Environment, Climate Action & Agriculture Strategic Policy Committee held on 30<sup>th</sup> March, 2021.**

- 2. Matters arising from the Minutes.**
  - 3. Review of Byelaws to prevent the creation of and control litter within County Leitrim.**
  - 4. Update on 2021 Anti-Dumping Initiative (ADI)**
  - 5. Overview of Leitrim County Council Household Waste Byelaws 2013**
  - 6. Overview and update on Action 165 of The All of Government Climate Action Plan, 2019 – identification and development of a Decarbonising Zone.**
  - 7. AOB**
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Councillor Justin Warnock opened the meeting which was held via Zoom.

- 1. Minutes**

The Minutes of Meeting of Environment, Climate Action and Agriculture Strategic Policy Committee held on 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2021 were approved on the proposal of Councillor Paddy Farrell and seconded by Councillor Sean McGowan.

- 2. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

Councillor Justin Warnock clarified that ok to work with other providers with regard to forestry planting in County Leitrim

- 3. Review of Byelaws to prevent the creation of and control litter within County Leitrim.**

The Members received an overview with proposed amendments from Ms. Sinead NíThiarnáin, SO/Environmental Awareness Officer on the Review of Byelaws to prevent the creation of and control litter within County Leitrim. In general, the amendments to the existing byelaws consisted of the inclusion of additional measures for:

1. Control of litter around outdoor/on-street dining
2. Control of litter around the operation of mobile outlets

Following discussion, the SPC unanimously agreed to recommend that the byelaws should proceed to public consultation stage.

- 4. Update on 2021 Anti-Dumping Initiative (ADI)**

The Members received an overview on 2021 Anti-Dumping Initiative (ADI) from Ms. Marie Mulligan, Senior Executive Engineer. The Members engaged in a discussion regarding the various initiatives. Mr. Eddie Mitchell commented on the cost of marketing and suggested that skips could be purchased instead of the money spent on a marketing initiative. Mr. Vincent Dwyer, Head of Finance, Environment that the money will be used to target the message to try and influence public behaviour as this appears to be the way forward to educate on litter control. It is envisaged that a PR company would be taken on board for this initiative and would engage with the Members for their input into the matter.

#### **5. Overview of Leitrim County Council Household Waste Byelaws 2013**

The Members received an overview on Leitrim County Council Household Waste Byelaws 2013 from Ms. Laura McEnroe, Waste Enforcement Officer.

A discussion followed regarding enforcement process on the issue of waste in the County. Mr. Vincent Dwyer stated that plans to carry out door to door inspections in North Leitrim have not gone ahead due to Covid Restrictions but will take place when restrictions are lifted.

Councillor Justin Warnock enquired if waste charges could be incorporated into rent charges for local authority housing tenants as waste hoarding can sometimes be a problem. Mr. Dwyer stated that he will check with the Housing Section if this can be arranged.

#### **6. Overview and update on Action 165 of The All of Government Climate Action Plan, 2019 – identification and development of a Decarbonising Zone**

Mr. Vincent Dwyer, Head of Finance, Finance, Water, Environment, Climate Action and Emergency Services outlined to the Members an overview and update on the requirements on the Council under Action 165 of The All of Government Climate Action Plan, 2019 to identify and develop a decarbonising zone

It was agreed that Carrick on Shannon, which represented the closest fit for the criteria would be nominated as a potential Decarbonizing Zone to the Department.

A public consultation process will take place and funding will be made available

#### **7. AOB**

- Councillor Justin Warnock enquired regarding details relating to the cost of the proposed Dog Fouling DNA Testing initiative and had an issue with no details having been made available to the Members to deal with the media coverage. Mr. Dwyer stated that he will request details of the Dog Fouling DNA Testing initiative be circulated to the Members by the Veterinary Officer, Mr. James Madden.

- Mr. Eddie Mitchell enquired if it would be possible to write to the Government re global ban on fracking but Mr. Dwyer informed him that a Resolution by the Elected Members of the Council would be required in that case.
- Mr. Francis Gaffney, A Senior Engineer informed the Members that a meeting on Shass Landslide is taking place next week and funding will be sought to complete remediation works.
- Councillor Justin Warnock enquired regarding the Moderate water quality status of Lough Allen and the effects if any, due to tree felling activity in the area. Mr. Gaffney, stated that long trending sampling data is required to reflect on the status but he will check it out.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

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**Cllr Justin Warnock**  
**Chairperson**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Vincent Dwyer**  
**Head of Finance**  
**Director of Water, Environment,**  
**Climate Action and Emergency Services.**

Date:

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## **2 Adoption of Minutes**

The Minutes of Meeting of Environment, Climate Action and Agriculture Strategic Policy Committee held on 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2021 were approved on the proposal of Councillor Sean McGowan and seconded by Councillor Paddy Farrell.

## **3 Matters arising from the Minutes**

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

## **4 Overview of the RMCEI Process**

Ms. Marie Mulligan, Senior Executive Engineer gave an overview on the RMCEI Process which outlined and detailed the work carried out by the Environment Team which is rated by the EPA each year.

The Members acknowledged that a large volume of work is carried out by the Environment Department each year to a high standard.

## **5 Overview and update on Climate Action and recent Legislation**

Mr. Vincent Dwyer, Head of Finance, Finance, Water, Environment, Climate Action

and Emergency Services gave an overview on the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Bill 2020.

He stated that preparation of the Climate Action Plan will commence in early 2022. The Members engaged in a discussion regarding various initiatives on climate action.

**6 Update on the activities of the Leitrim Sustainable Agriculture Group**

Mr. James Madden, Veterinary Officer gave an overview on the activities of the Leitrim Sustainable Agriculture Group where discussions are held on sustainable farming methods and the future of farming in Leitrim.

The members acknowledged the work that has been undertaken on this great initiative.

**7 AOB**

The next Environment, Climate Action and Agriculture SPC Meeting will take place before the end of the year, date to be confirmed.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**SIGNED:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Councillor Justin Warnock**  
**Chairperson**

**SIGNED:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Vincent Dwyer**  
**Head of Finance**  
**Director of Water,**  
**Environment, Climate Action**  
**and Emergency Services**

**DATE: Thursday, 16 December 2021**