

**Minutes of Meeting of Environment, Climate Action and Agriculture Strategic Policy
Committee held in Via Teams on Wednesday, 27 April 2022.**

In Attendance: Cllr Justin Warnock (Chairperson)
Cllr Sean McGowan
Eddie Mitchell (IFA)
Vincent Dwyer, Director of Services
Francis Gaffney, A/Senior Engineer
Marie Mulligan, Senior Executive Engineer
Kevin Swift, Regional Waste Coordinator, Connaught-Ulster Waste
Management Office
Martina Casey, Administrative Officer
Christina Bohan, Asst. Staff Officer

Apologies Councillor Caillian Ellis
James Madden, Veterinary Officer

A meeting of the Environment, Climate Action and Agriculture Strategic Policy Committee was held on the 27th April, 2022 and the following items of business were discussed.

3. Update on preparation of the National Waste Management Plan
4. Annual Review of Litter Management Plan
5. Update on Civic Amenity Sites
6. Update on Irish Water
7. Update on Leitrim Sustainable Agricultural Group
8. Update on Climate Action

Councillor Justin Warnock opened the meeting which was held via Microsoft Teams.

There was no quorum present but on request from Mr. Vincent Dwyer, Head of Finance, Water, Environment, Climate Action and Emergency Services, the Chairperson agreed to proceed with the Presentations.

3 Update on preparation of the National Waste Management Plan

Mr Kevin Swift Regional Waste Coordinator, Connaught-Ulster Waste Management Office gave a presentation on the **National Waste Management Plan**. Discussions

followed regarding various aspects of the Plan and queries raised were addressed by Mr. Swift.

4 Annual Review of Litter Management Plan

Mr. Vincent Dwyer, Head of Finance, Water, Environment, Climate Action Emergency Services gave an update on the review of the Litter Management Plan follows:-

- The Anti Littering Infrastructure Capital Support grant provided by the Department of Environment, Climate and Communication to Leitrim County Council in 2021 enabled Leitrim to purchase litter infrastructure, compacting bins were also purchased with this fund as well as financial support to the litter service in the County.
- Leitrim County Council will commence a social media campaign over the summer months in the area of litter management and education.

A **report on the review of the Litter Management Plan** had been circulated to the SPC members and to members for the May Council Meeting.

5 Update on Civic Amenity Sites

Mr Kevin Swift Regional Waste Coordinator, Connaught-Ulster Waste Management Office gave a presentation on the **National Review of Civic Amenity Sites**. Mr. Swift stated that a national review was prepared for 30 No. sites regarding their role and financing and recommendations were made on the way forward.

There are currently 2 **Civic Amenity Sites (CAS)** in Leitrim, one in Manorhamilton and one in Mohill, a recent audit was carried out and identified that these Civic Amenity Sites are operating at a loss. A brief discussion took place on the possibility of a CAS in Carrick on Shannon, Leitrim's County Town.

6 Update on Irish Water

Mr. Francis Gaffney, A/Senior Engineer gave an update to the Members on Irish Water

Mr. Gaffney stated that the current position with the Water Transformation (transition to Irish Water). is ongoing and due to be finalised/completed by 2026. Mr. Gaffney further added that there has been no issues with the performance of our plants and that a number of waste water treatment plants are being upgraded. There are no boil notices in operation at present and no significant outages but any breakdowns that do occur are attended to as quickly as possible.

7 Update on Leitrim Sustainable Agricultural Group

Mr James Madden was unable to attend the meeting but had prepared an update on **Leitrim Sustainable Agricultural Group (LSAG)**. This update advised the following:

Meetings

The next LSAG Group meeting will be held online on MS Teams on 3rd May. Speakers: John O'Connell, Ballinamore & James Gilmartin, Manor.

Applications.

Applications in respect of training, video, farm walks, water sampling and a biodiversity study area were submitted to LAWPRO and NPWS in March. We expect to hear from both bodies in late April/ early May.

LEADER

Terms of Reference for a training programme are currently being finalised for submission to LEADER. The training will be open to members of the community as well as LSAG members and will be held in Summer/Autumn 2022.

Leitrim Dev Company leading on this project.

ICBAN

The Irish Central Border Area Network is exploring the possibility of a regional cross-border application to PeacePlus for a water quality or biodiversity project. They are interested in the LSAG model in Leitrim and the possibility of extending to other LA areas. J Madden will give a presentation to ICBAN members on 5th May.

8 Update on Climate Action

Mr. Vincent Dwyer, Head of Finance, Water, Environment, Climate Action and Emergency Services gave an update on Climate Action and stated that Francis Gaffney, A/Senior Engineer is currently involved in an energy project on buildings in conjunction with Cavan and Monaghan County Councils. Mr. Dwyer stated the need to have a dedicated staff working in this important area. Discussions followed regarding Climate Action and any queries raised were addressed by Mr. Dwyer.

AOB

Councillor McGowan requested if future meetings of the Environment, Climate Action and Agriculture SPC could be held earlier in the day to facilitate attendance of members at the meeting. 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: 31st August, 2022