

**Minutes of Meeting of Environment, Climate Action and Agriculture Strategic Policy
Committee held in Council Chamber, Aras an Chontae, Carrick on Shannon on Thursday, 15
December 2022.**

Members Present:

Councillor Caillian Ellis (Chairperson)
Councillor Paddy Farrell
Councillor Justin Warnock
Councillor Paddy Farrell
Councillor Sean McGowan
Eddie Mitchell, Agriculture/Farming (IFA)
John Brennan, Agriculture/Farming (Organic Interest Sector)

Officials Present:

Marie Mulligan, Senior Executive Engineer
Martina Casey, Administrative Officer
Patricia Holahan, Staff Officer
Christina Bohan, Asst. Staff Officer

Apologies:

Councillor Felim Gurn
Councillor Gerry Dolan
Vincent Dwyer, Director of Services
James Madden, Veterinary Officer

Councillor Paddy Farrell opened the meeting in the absence of the Chairperson, Councillor Caillian Ellis.

**1 Adoption of Minutes of Meeting of Environment, Climate Action & Agriculture
SPC held on 9th November, 2022**

The Minutes of Meeting of Environment, Climate Action and Agriculture Strategic Policy Committee held on 9th November, 2022 were approved on the proposal of Councillor Justin Warnock and seconded by Councillor Sean McGowan.

2. Matters arising from the Minutes

Councillor Sean McGowan enquired if there was any update on the issue of percolation areas which was discussed at the previous SPC Meeting. Ms. Marie Mulligan stated that there was no update to hand but explained that any issues with percolation areas need to be addressed in conjunction with the workings of the septic tank in the interests of good water quality and public health.

3 To consider Draft Climate Change Risk Assessment

The Members received a presentation from Ms. Marie Mulligan, Senior Executive Engineer on the Draft Climate Change Risk Assessment. The Members raised queries on some aspects of the Draft Report. Mr. Eddie Mitchell raised the query re the accuracy of land use

figure stated in the report for County Leitrim. Ms. Mulligan stated that work is ongoing on seeking clarification on the figures and also on how the evidence reflected is presented and what adaptations can be made to the contents of the Draft Report. Any queries raised by the Members were addressed by Ms. Mulligan.

Councillor Caillian Ellis joined the meeting and apologised for his late arrival.

4 Climate Change Baseline Emissions Inventory Report

The Members received an update on the Climate Change Baseline Emissions Inventory Report from Ms. Marie Mulligan, Senior Executive Engineer.. The Members discussed the content of the Report and any queries raised were addressed by Ms. Mulligan. Mr. Eddie Mitchell stated that it is vital to involve and work with the local communities and focus on the community to address and achieve the targets. Councillor Justin Warnock stated that the Leitrim Sustainable Agriculture Group is aiding and promoting sustainable farming in County Leitrim and that a plan will be soon be developed to achieve this aim.

5 Update on Irish Water

Ms. Martina Casey, Administrative Officer, gave an update on Irish Water and stated that the Master Agreement which includes issues regarding unfinished estates and staff transfers has concluded and it is planned that water services in County Leitrim will have transitioned to Irish Water by the end of Quarter 1, 2023.

6 AOB

Mr. Eddie Mitchell raised the issue of communication with landowners regarding the new SLNCR Greenway Project and stated that farmers should have access to a liaison person to deal with their concerns regarding land being acquired for the Greenway.

Ms. Mulligan stated that she will request clarification on the matter from Mr. Shay O'Connor, Senior Engineer.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

SIGNED: _____
Councillor Caillian Ellis
Chairperson

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

DATE: Tuesday, 28 March 2023