Minutes of Meeting of Environment, Climate Action and Agriculture Strategic Policy Committee held in Council Chamber on Wednesday, 14th June 2023.

Members Present:

Councillor Caillian Ellis (Chairperson)
Councillor Paddy Farrell
Councillor Sean McGowan
Councillor Finola Armstrong
John Brennan, Agriculture/Farming (Organic Interest Sector)

Officials Present:

Vincent Dwyer, Head of Finance, Water, Environment, Climate Action and Emergency Services
Kevin Swift, Mayo Co. Co.
Marie Mulligan, Senior Executive Engineer
Martina Casey, Administrative Officer
Patricia Holahan, Staff Officer
Christina Bohan, Assistant Staff Officer

Apologies:

Councillor Justin Warnock
Eddie Mitchell, Agriculture/Farming (IFA)
Jan Melia, PPN, Environmental Pillar

1 Adoption of Minutes of Meeting of Environment, Climate Action & Agriculture SPC held on 28th March, 2023

Councillor Caillian Ellis opened the meeting.

The Minutes of Meeting of Environment, Climate Action and Agriculture Strategic Policy Committee held on 28th March, 2023 were approved on the proposal of Councillor Paddy Farrell and seconded by Councillor Sean McGowan.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

3 Presentation on Draft National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy

Councillor Caillian Ellis, Chairperson welcomed Mr. Kevin Swift to the meeting.

Mr. Swift proceeded to outline the contents of the Draft National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy – Irelands National Waste Plan 2020 – 2025. The Plan is currently at public consultation stage and approximately 300 submissions have been submitted to date. Mr. Swift addressed all related topics raised by members.

The Members thanked Mr. Swift for the very informative presentation.

4 Presentation on Climate Action Plan

The Members received a presentation from Ms. Marie Mulligan, Senior Executive Engineer on the Leitrim Climate Action Plan 2024. The Climate Action and Low Carbon Amendment Act 2021 requires each local authority to prepare a Local Authority Climate Action Plan to be completed by February 2024. Ms. Mulligan stated that the Plan is currently being prepared. The Members were informed that Carrick on Shannon has been identified as a Decarbonisation Zone. Observations and recommendations from the public will be considered in the preparation of the draft Climate Action Plan. Submissions will be received until July 2023 and thereafter a report will be prepared with the Draft Climate Action Plan prepared by Autumn 2023. The Plan will be presented to the Elected Members for adoption and published in early 2024.

Mr. Vincent Dwyer thanked Ms. Mulligan for her input of work since last November in conjunction with Cavan and Monaghan County Councils. The Members thanked Ms. Mulligan for the presentation. The Members stressed the importance of ongoing awareness and consultation with the public.

5 AOB

Councillor Sean McGowan asked if there was an update on the progress of the Hartley Group Sewerage Scheme. Ms. Marie Mulligan, Senior Executive Engineer stated, there is ongoing engagement with the residents' representatives. The representatives had discussions with Minister of State for Local Government Mr Kieran O'Donnell. The Minister has requested an up-to-date costing for the project to be submitted.

6 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled to be held in October 2023 with date to be confirmed.

This concluded the business of the meeting at 12.10 p.m.

Water,
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DATE: Wednesday, 15 November

2023