

COMHAIRLE CONTAE ÁTHA CLIATH THEAS
SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL



Minutes of Environment Public Realm & Climate Change SPC Meeting held on 5th September 2023

Venue: SDCC Council Chamber and MS Teams

In attendance:

Elected Members

Councillor David McManus (Chair)
Councillor Alan Edge
Councillor Madeleine Johansson
Councillor Emma Murphy (Teams)

Sectoral Members

Ms. Deirdre Mooney (Teams)

Officials

Teresa Walsh, Director of Services
Sharon Conroy, Senior Executive Officer
Leo Magee, SE EWCC
Juliene Helbert, SE EWCC
Richard Fitzpatrick, EESO EWCC (Teams)
Ian Jackson T/LGG EWCC (Teams)
Michael Heffernan, SEE EWCC
Maria Nugent, A/AO HSCD

Apologies

Mr. Donie Anderson
Mr. John Kiberd
Councillor Francis Timmons
Councillor Liam Sinclair
Councillor Dermot Richardson

Councillor McManus (Chair) welcomed those in attendance in the Council Chamber and on Microsoft Teams. Cllr. McManus paid tribute and thanked previous SPC member Councillor Guss O'Connell and welcomed new SPC member Councillor Alan Edge.

Item 1: Minutes of Environment SPC meeting held on 2nd May 2023

The [minutes](#) of the Environment SPC meeting, held on 2nd May 2023 were proposed by the Chair, Councillor McManus, seconded by Councillor Murphy and agreed.

Item 2: Local, Economic and Community Plan Update

Maria Nugent, Acting Administrative Officer, presented an [update](#) on the 2023-2028 LECP.

Councillor Edge raised questions in relation to the health and safety aspects of the plan and whether it was focused purely on public safety.

The manager responded to all of the queries.

The Report was **NOTED**.

Item 3: Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 Update

Juliene Helbert, Senior Engineer, presented an [update](#) on the 2023 actions to date. Ms Helbert then outlined the work programme for 2024 to 2029 and indicated that the draft 2024-2029 plan is in its final stages, with public consultation to be completed by 31st October 2023. The final plan would be sought to be adopted by February 2024.

Councillor Johansson raised queries in relation to ongoing funding for energy retrofits for council houses as well as anti-litter campaigns for schools.

Councillor Edge raised the issue of public transport in rural areas.

Councillor McManus queried if the issues surrounding public lighting and the ESB had been resolved.

The manager responded to all of the queries.

The Report was **NOTED**

Item 4: Dublin Urban Rivers LIFE Project

Richard Fitzpatrick, Executive Environmental Scientific Officer presented an [update](#) on the DURL Project.

Councillor Edge noted the photographs within the presentation gave him a much clearer understanding of misconnections.

Councillor Johansson acknowledged the improvement to Griffeen Valley park since the introduction of the wetland and urged those in attendance to visit it themselves.

The Report was **NOTED**

Item 5: River Basin Management Plan 2022 – 2027 Implementation

Richard Fitzpatrick, Executive Environmental Scientific Officer presented an [update](#) on the implementation of the 2022 – 2027 River Basin Management Plan.

The Report was **NOTED**.

Item 6: Waste Enforcement Update

Michael Heffernan, Senior Executive Engineer presented a [report](#) on the works currently being carried out by the Waste Enforcement Section.

Councillor Edge acknowledged works being carried out and noted the works with PURE for special mention. Queries were raised in relation to the LGMA's code of practices for use of CCTV and drones for enforcement purposes.

The manager answered all questions/queries.

The Report was **NOTED**.

Item 7: A.O.B.

Sharon Conroy, Senior Executive Officer, informed those in attendance that a meeting would be arranged with the members who had indicated they wished to be part of a subgroup to look at the Circular Economy. Now that members have changed again, she asked for another member to volunteer to attend along with Councillors Johansson and Timmons. This group would meet in advance of the November SPC. A decision will be made thereafter should there be a requirement for a subgroup or not.

Teresa Walsh, Director of Services, informed those in attendance as a matter of information, that as and from tomorrow, 6th September 2023 that effective control of water services in South Dublin County will be transferred to Uisce Éireann.

The Chair, Cllr McManus concluded the meeting at 6:46pm.