

ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE ACTION STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

MEETING HELD REMOTELY ON THURSDAY 17th JUNE 2021

Cllr. Barry Saul, presided. In attendance were: Cllr. Michael Clark, Cllr. Mary Fayne, Cllr. Kate Feeney, Cllr. Hugh Lewis, Cllr. Lettie McCarthy, Cllr. Séafra Ó Faoláin, Cllr. Una Power, Cllr. Carrie Smyth, Cllr. Patricia Kinsella, Cllr. Jim O'Leary,

Sectoral Representative Present: Diarmuid McAree, Elizabeth Clooney. Reji Chako Jacob

Officials in attendance were: Robert Burns, Director of Services, Infrastructure & Climate Action Dept., Austin Baines, (Senior Executive Officer I.C.C.); Anne Murray, Biodiversity Officer, Anthony McNamara, Climate Action Officer, Joan Deering, Clerical Officer,

- The Minutes of the Environment and Climate Action SPC held on Thursday 17th June 2021 were approved and adopted.

- **Question from Cllr. M. Clarke**

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That this committee explores new actions and projects that this Council can undertake and support in promoting pollination across this County, in-particular in public parks, public open spaces, allotments, in the public realm and community spaces, while also promoting pollination in private gardens and pollinator-friendly projects

The reply was Noted.

- **Question from Cllr. M. Clarke**

That this Committee invites REPAK to the next meeting of this Strategic Policy Committee to discuss their plans for the three years and to debate the merits of a Deposit Refund Scheme.

Reply

REPAK have been contacted and they have confirmed they can attend the next SPC meeting in September 2021

- **Question from Elizabeth Clooney**

Kilternan and Glenamuck Residents' Association would like to know the nature and scope of the enquiries, (screenings) which have given rise to the conclusion that no further environmental assessment is warranted regarding the proposed Park and Recreational facility at Glenamuck Road.

The reply was Noted

➤ Grainne Duffy introduced EriGrid's Shaping our Electricity Future presentation. DLR's submission to EriGrid has been noted. Michael Mahon from EirGrid informed members that it is a state-owned company and takes power from where it is generated to where it is needed. The National aim is for 70% of renewable electricity by 2030. Wind and Solar power will play an important part delivering this in the future.

Following from committee members the presentation was Noted.

Cllr. Saul asked if EriGrid could give information to DLR on any future projects that would impact the county in the future.

➤ **Site visit to Jamestown Park**

The Chair Cllr. Saul indicated that he would like a site visit to Jamestown Park organised for the SPC, if public health guidelines allow, later in the year.

➤ **Biodiversity Plan - Ann Murray**

Ann Murray, Biodiversity Officer, gave a presentation on DLR Biodiversity Action Plan 2021 – 2025. At least 20% of our natural habitat has been lost to development in the last ten years. Anne spoke about expanding our protected areas and the benefits of biodiversity and the impact Climate Change has on biodiversity. The DLR Biodiversity Action Plan will be going on public consultation in the coming weeks.

Following questions from committee members the presentation was Noted.

➤ **Anthony McNamara, Climate Officer, Climate Action Week 13th – 19th September 2021**

Anthony gave a presentation on upcoming Climate Action Week 13th – 19th September 2021 and informed the members that it is part of the Climate Action Plan effort to increase awareness of Climate Action and to showcase the Dublin Local Authorities response to climate action. There will be a wide range of online events and outdoor events. The four Dublin Local Authorities are delivering the week long events in partnership with the CARO office and Codema Dublin's Energy agency.

Following questions from committee members the presentation was Noted.

➤ **Site Visit to Cherrywood**

The chair Cllr. Saul indicated he would like a site visit to Cherrywood , facilitated by the Cherrywood Team, to be organised for the SPC this year if public health guidelines allow.

The meeting concluded at 7 p.m.