



KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES & WATER STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE 9TH DECEMBER 2020
@ 2:30PM BY MS TEAMS**

PRESENT:

Councillors: Suzanne Doyle (Chair), Ide Cussen, Brian Dooley, Anne Breen, Vanessa Liston, Brendan Wyse

Sectoral Interests: Evan Arkwright, Business/Commercial
Padraic O'Luanaigh, PPN - Community/Voluntary
Emer Conway, PPN - Environmental/ Conservation

Officials: Joe Boland, Director of Services
Ken Kavanagh, Senior Executive Officer
Brian O'Gorman, Administrative Officer, Environment
Dara Wyer, Environment Awareness Officer
Niamh Bennett, Procurement Officer
Ultan Downes, Senior Scientist, Kerdiffstown Project
James Mulligan, Senior Engineer, Kerdiffstown Project
Colm Flynn, Senior Executive Engineer, Environment
Geraldine Morris, Clerical Officer, Environment

Absent: Stephen Deegan, Climate Action Officer

Cllr Suzanne Doyle, Chair, welcomed all members of the SPC and introductions took place.

1. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER SERVICES STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 7TH OCTOBER 2020

One correction to be noted – Anne Breen was not on Litter Management Plan subcommittee – Anne's name duly removed

Minutes were approved – proposed by Anne Breen and seconded by Vanessa Liston

2. TO CONSIDER ANY MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising.

3. TO CONSIDER LITTER MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW

As agreed, the sub-committee attended a meeting with both the Roads and Environment sections. This proved to be constructive with a very useful airing of all views and perspectives. On the face of it, there were some apparent inconsistencies regarding the distribution of street sweeping resources among the MDs. However, this was not without its complexities as there were historical, resource and logistical constraints to be considered. While it was accepted

that there were extensive efforts made in reducing the volume of litter and fly-tipping, problems persisted, and this continued to be both a significant local and national issue.

Arising from this meeting it was agreed that the following additional objectives would be incorporated into the draft Litter Management Plan:

1. Council to carry out a general review of street sweeping arrangements and litter bin emptying countywide, bearing in mind in particular that the services straddle 2 depts and 5 MDs
2. as part of above, review where warranted the distribution of costs among the 5 MDs to ensure a more equitable distribution of service having regard to, inter alia, size; extent and scale of urban conurbations, demographics etc
3. develop a matrix of data sets that will better monitor activities to inform strategy and policies with a view to reducing waste, improving services and ensuring a more sustainable environment.
4. audit all existing bins with a recommendation for a new system/ regime for allocating [and deallocating] bins across the county, again, having regard to issues of efficiency and sustainability

Regarding the matrix at 3 above, a suggested draft was presented to the meeting by Cllrs Cussen and Liston.

Issues arising:

POL thanked for the inclusion of his submission in review and confirmed he now has a clearer understanding.

A suggestion was made to create a vision e.g. 'aiming to be the cleanest county in Ireland' and that this could be considered in due course as improvements were effected.

A note of thanks was extended to Cllrs Liston and Cussen for their work on the matrix.

Subject to the above amendments, it was agreed that the SPC would support the draft litter management plan.

Action: Draft Litter Management Plan to be amended accordingly.

4. TO CONSIDER A CASE STUDY ON GREEN PROCUREMENT – PRESENTATION TO BE GIVEN BY KERDIFFSTOWN LANDFILL REMEDIATION TEAM.

Ultan Downes, Senior Executive Scientist and James Mulligan, Senior Engineer gave the presentation which encompassed the following:

What is green procurement? – a process whereby public and semi-public authorities meet their needs for goods, services, works and utilities by choosing a solution that reduces impact on the environment throughout its lifecycle. It is about leveraging the spending of public monies to encourage suppliers and providers to implement more green solutions. In this context, it is important to consider full life cycle costs of what we buy, i.e., true value for money environmentally. In addition, other social aspects need to be taken into account eg disability, sustainability, access, social enterprises and training for young/disadvantaged people.

Case study for Kerdiffstown - 30ha of Kerdiffstown park ex landfill. 3.1m ton of waste which is double the amount of domestic waste produced in a single year nationally; infamous for the fire that occurred in January 2011. The remediation proposed involves the installation of a cap/liner, reshaping the waste, improvements to landfill gas, leachate and surface water management. When complete it will have 2 full size GAA pitches, three five-a-side pitches as well as a walking path and a park. In 2019 KCC obtained an Industrial Emissions Licence from the EPA to enable the work. Planning permission was obtained from An Bord Pleanála. It was considered an environmental imperative that there would be limited impact on the local environment. A sustainability register was also compiled.

Green procurement requires that what the supplier specifies is green and sustainable. It is important to set this out in the scope when procuring the designer/consultant. The main elements of the tender criteria for contractors were as follows:

- Contractors were prequalified before invited to tender
- Tender Score was 60% price, 30% Quality and 10% Green
- 4 criteria set out for tenders for the 10%
- Bidders were asked to consider the carbon footprint in terms of methodology
- Method for calculating - 22% reduction in carbon footprint to be secured as part of proposed mitigations

Lessons learned

- Council could look at allocating more than the 10% marks for green procurement in the future.
- There are a number of methods for calculating the CO2 footprint of a project. It would be useful if one method was agreed for all projects for consistent comparison.
- It would also be useful if there were ratings on equipment for the entire lifecycle similar to current energy ratings.

It is suggested that contractors have accepted and now understand the green issues selection criteria

Some further thoughts:

John Elkington is considered to be an expert in sustainability. He contended that for project to be considered sustainable, that it should cover the 3 Ps- People, Planet and Profit. The 3 Ps were a means for describing that a project must be good for the community, good for the environment and represent good value. It is considered that this project meets these criteria.

QUESTIONS/ISSUES ARISING:

The team were commended in seeing a negative turned into a positive.

Some further detail was provided in relation to the sustainability register.

There will be 15 EV charging points on site as well as a cycle path to coincide with the L2005 road to allow cycling from Naas and Johnston

There are limitations on the number and type of trees that can be planted in a landfill area, due to 500ml of soil and liners.

Tender price came at 19.7m (ex vat)

Concerns mentioned re impact on Morrell River though meeting was assured that issues are well in hand.

The presentation was warmly welcomed by Evan Arkwright of the Business pillar, who urged the use of local suppliers as far as possible. He requested that the presentation would also be made to Kildare Chamber.

In response to a further query, the meeting was advised that the current level of gas generated wasn't viable in terms of electricity generation.

The contract for the provision of the park is for 4.5 years, but KCC are working with the contractor to deliver it sooner, if feasible.

The Chair congratulated the Team on the work so far.

Action:

It was agreed that this represented a model of good practice and efforts should be made for its replication throughout the organisation.

3. TO NOTE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING – WEDNESDAY 10TH FEBRUARY 2021 AT 2.30PM – COUNCIL CHAMBER/MS TEAMS – DEPENDENT ON COVID RESTRICTIONS

Agreed to schedule of meetings for 2021

Agenda for next meeting:

1. **Policies around how run markets around the county** – both public realm and management (bye-laws) aspects.
2. Concern that a motion to SPC from July meeting of Celbridge/Leixlip MD had never come to this meeting (Notice of Motion: CL23/0720: *Provision of green waste composting area along the Silleachain Lane: The motion that the council provide green waste composting areas in Celbridge and Leixlip, including mobile facilities to be considered, be referred to the Environmental Services and Water Strategic Policy Committee (SPC).* **Action: KK to follow up with Corporate Services**
3. Request that Public Realm and Planning Section link with all SPCs. Perhaps this request could be channeled through the CPG?
4. All SPCs should have Climate Action as part of their remit – not just left to the Climate Action SPC – to also be followed up at CPG.

The Chair thanked all for input and the meeting then concluded. All were wished a Happy Christmas and wonderful celebration of New Year.