

**Minute of Strategic Policy Committee 5  
Environmental Protection, Water Services & Energy  
held on Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> September, 2016 at 3pm in Meeting Room 2**

**In the Chair:** Cllr. Maurice Shortall

**In Attendance:** Cllr. John Brennan, Cllr Breda Gardner, Cllr. Pat Dunphy, Cllr. Joe Malone, Mr. James Murphy, Ms. Sadhbh O'Neill

**Also Present:** Ms. Mary Mulholland, Director of Service  
Mr. Carol McCarthy, A/Senior Engineer  
Ms. Emir Slattery, A/Senior Executive Engineer  
Mr. Declan Keogh, Energy Officer  
Ms. Joan McLoughlin, Assistant Staff Officer

**Apologies:** Mr. Owen Sweeney and Cllr. Ger Frisby

---

**Item 1 Minute of SPC5 Meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> April, 2016**

Proposed by Cllr. Dunphy, seconded by James Murphy and agreed:- "that the minute of SPC5 held on the 14<sup>th</sup> April, 2016, a copy of which was circulated to each member with the agenda, is hereby adopted".

**Item 2 SEAP Progress Report by Declan Keogh (Carlow Kilkenny Energy Agency)**

D. Keogh delivered a powerpoint presentation on the Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy.

Key Points

- Kilkenny County Council signed up to the Covenant of Mayors in April, 2015, 6911 signatories across Europe.
- 12 months from date of signing to submit the action plan
- Extension granted to KCC, new reporting deadline of 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2017.
  - Stage 1 Baseline Emission Inventory (BSI) – Completed
  - Stage 2 Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP)
- The aim of the COM is to put a Sustainable Energy Action Plan in place to reduce carbon emissions by 20% by 2020.

It was agreed to forward an update to Elected Members on progress to date and measures in place between now and 20<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

It was also agreed that a further presentation be made at next SPC 5 Meeting.

Contributions: Cllrs. Shortall, Gardner, Dunphy. Brennan, Malone.

**Item 3 Water Services Update (Capital Projects)**

Emir Slattery outlined details of minor and major Capital Programmes currently in progress.

Following a brief discussion, it was agreed that a full list and progress on schemes to date, would be circulated to the Members of SPC 5, in particular, Piltown, Castlecomer, Graiguenamanagh and Paulstown.

Contributions: Cllrs Shortall, Gardner, Brennan, Dunphy, Malone

**Item 4 Waste Management Update**

M. Mulholland stated that changes to national legislation made last July means that waste collection providers can no longer collect domestic & recycling waste in plastic bags from householders in certain areas around Kilkenny City and County. Kilkenny County Council received permission to have a 6 month transition period to enable households to use their existing stock of pre-paid waste and recycling bags and to make arrangements to register with a waste collector for a bin service.

After the 6 month transition period ending December 31<sup>st</sup> 2016, waste contractors will only be able to collect pre paid refuse and recycling bags from householders in limited circumstances to registered households proven to be exempted from requirements under the following criteria:-

- *Houses with no space within the boundary of the property front rear or side to store bins.*
- *Houses in areas with streets too narrow for a refuse collection lorry to access the property.*
- *Households that can demonstrate a lack of availability of a suitable bin collection service.*

Households can apply to Kilkenny County Council for exemption from the requirements, which will allow the continued use of pre paid refuse and recycling bags in some circumstances.

The Brown Bin for food waste needs to be rolled out to householders by the waste collectors operating in Kilkenny.

KCC advertised this information on local radio and newspapers

Following a lengthy discussion, Cllr. Shortall thanked M. Mulholland, C. McCarthy and M. Nugent for the extensive work carried out to date.

Cllr. Dunphy suggested that we write to the Minister for Communications, Denis Naughton informing him of local issues and difficulties for members of public on ban on bags, in particular the elderly or those living in duplex accommodation and have we a role in enforcing the Collectors to introduce a brown bin.

It was agreed to circulate a copy of the Exemption Form to all members of SPC.

**The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Thursday 10 November, 2016 at 3:00pm.**