

## **Minutes of Meeting through teams of Climate Change and Biodiversity**

### **Strategic Policy Committee held on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2022**

#### **I Láthair:**

**Baill:** Cllr. Alastair Mc Kinstry, Cathaoirleach  
Cllr. Evelyn Francis Parsons  
Cllr. Joe Sheridan  
Cllr. Noel Thomas  
Cllr. Martina Kinane  
Cllr. Gabriel Cronnelly  
Mr. Henry Walsh  
Mr. Peter Butler

**Oifigigh:** Ms. Maria Finn, Administrative Officer  
Ms. Christina Ryan, Climate Change Co-Ordinator  
Mr. Mark Molloy, Assistant Environmental Awareness Officer  
Mr. Aidan Cunningham, Staff Officer

**Guests:** Letizia Gorini Coady, Sauti Youth  
Chris Nolan, Sauti Youth  
Michelle Chiperi Aivazova, Sauti Youth  
Cora Regan, Sauti Youth,  
Rory Monaghan, NUI Galway  
John O'Sullivan, SSE Renewables

**Apologies:** Ms. Eileen Ruane, Director of Services  
Ms. Margaret Sheehan  
Mr. John Hynes

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#### **1. Confirmation of the Minutes of Climate Change & Biodiversity SPC meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

The minutes from 17/8/2022 were proposed by Cllr. Kinane and seconded by Cllr. Parsons.

#### **2. Presentation by SAUTI Youth Group**

Michelle Chiperi Aivazova, one of the youth focal points with Sauti Group gave an overview of the work of Sauti Youth. Sauti Youth is about sustainable accountability uniting Tanzanian and Irish Youth. She explained 'Sauti' was a Swazhilian word meaning 'voice'. The key goals of the project are to empower the youth to be involved in climate change

monitoring, contribute towards positive climate action and engage with local government on same. She said that they apply the CVA model (Citizen Voice and Action) which is a world vision for local advocacy methodology and improving relationships between citizens and their governments. This is being applied in both Galway City and County through youth leaders training youth groups. This training in the CVA methodology is being done in Ballinasloe, Loughrea and Tuam which is empowering the Youth Groups to be able to communicate with their local governments. The youth groups learn about the policies and standards in their local areas on climate change to help them monitor local implementation and meet directly with local authorities and their representatives.

The monitoring standards is the first thing looked at - policies that already exist within their local areas, and they monitor whether these policies are being implemented. This means that they can hold the government to account on policies that they have promised to implement.

After monitoring standards, they have score cards produced by the youth groups to get their opinions on the performance of their local government on climate action policies. They will look at policies that are to be implemented and voice their opinion if the policy is being implemented. This information is then fed on to a score card on this and reported back to their local government. After the scorecards there is then an interface meeting which provides a platform for young people and local authority officials/ elected members to come together to dialogue on how to make climate action a reality in the County.

Ms Chiperi Aivazova stated there is a seat on the SPC In Wicklow County Council provided by Comhairle na nOg which is a strong voice for the youth members in the County and that a motion had recently been passed in Kildare to have youth member on an SPC in the Council.

Ms Letizia Gorini Coady gave an overview of topics that the Youth Group have chosen to work on such as Litter and Sustainable Transport with specific interest in Greenways. She added that while Tuam was not on chosen route, the youth group feel that a greenway would really help their town. The youth group had recently travelled to Athlone to see the Greenway there and to talk with a representative of Westmeath County Council.

The youth group also created a survey on litter in the Tuam community and looked for feedback from the local community.

Cllr McKinstry thanked Sauti Youth for their presentation and noted that they were a very active group and was glad to have them present today. He asked how the Climate Change SPC may be able to work closely with the group.

Ms Letizia Gorini Coady stated that they had contacted local councillors in Tuam and Ballinasloe areas regarding their work, but they believed that further work was needed in building relationships between young people and their local authorities. She added that their project runs to December 2023 and is EU funded.

Chiperi Aivazova added that a lot of good work is being done in school regarding Climate Action, but some schools were more active than others. It is not a priority for every school.

Ms. Letizia Gorini Coady stated the need for lobbying to be done at national level for funding and that we could not expect young people to be involved just by asking them. We needed to examine new ways of engaging them and creating interest. She said there was a need for the council to create a methodology that will attract interest from young people.

Cllr McKinstry said that a place to be allocated to Youth on the SPC could be raised at Plenary level of the Council. Ms Gorini Coady stated she would welcome the addition of a youth representative on the SPC.

Ms. Ryan thanked Sauti Youth for their presentation and that Galway was lucky to have Sauti Youth active in the County and was very keen to involve them as one of the main stakeholders in developing the Climate Action Plan.

Cllr Sheridan thanked Sauti Youth for their input at the meeting and issued an invitation to attend the Tuam Municipal meeting. He acknowledged the work of youth groups and the need for new ideas to be able put policies in action. He stated the importance of youth engagement. He referred to COP 27 coming up at the weekend and asked Ms Chiperi Aivazova what her expectations were for the event.

Ms Chiperi Aivazova in response stated that realistically even beginning the conversation around Climate Action and looking at the policies and thinking how we can change them within the next year would be a good step forward. She added the need for systematic change in government to act on and that progress had been slow to date.

Cllr Parsons said it was great to listen to the presentation today and that she had first met with the group in Ballinasloe where she was given an overview of litter issues in Ballinasloe which she found very helpful. She stated that the youth were leading on promoting Climate Change issues and it would be very positive to have a representative on the SPC.

Cllr McKinstry added that Ms. Ryan must engage with the group regarding the Climate Action Plan.

Ms. Finn stated that the Environment Section is working on the review of the Litter Management Plan for 2023 and would like to engage with Sauti Youth and get their input into it. She added she would like to see the work done on the litter survey and would communicate separately with the group on this. She also resolved to follow up on the allocation of a seat on the SPC for the group.

Cllr Kinane thanked Sauti Youth for the presentation and stated that it would be a very positive move to have youth on SPC.

Ms. Letizia Gorini Coady stated she like to create a communication channel with GCC so young people are aware what is happening.

Cllr McKinstry asked how the Youth Group choose the towns it had been active in and whether it was on size?

Ms. Letizia Gorini Coady stated that she said she was trying to progress the work of the group in Connemara and asked for assistance on this. Cllr McKinstry stated that there were two Councillors from the Connemara MD on the SPC and that he and Cllr Thomas would follow up on this with them in progressing this. She is also opened to making connection with Youth Clubs and replicating their work with schools.

## **Presentation by Mark Molloy, Assistant Environmental Awareness Officer**

Mr. Molloy thanked the committee for the opportunity to give this presentation.

He outlined to the SPC that The Environment Section ran a program during 2021 and 2022 to part fund water fountains in secondary schools. He hoped that it would also continue into 2023. He informed that funding had been received from the LAPN for this project. He explained that the LAPN is the Local Authority Prevention Network and is a joint programme between the EPA, National Waste Prevention Programme and Local Authorities in Ireland. Galway County Council had been involved since 2007 and gave an overview of some of the projects that have been developed over the years which have been proactive and especially waste prevention.

He stated the importance of waste prevention – Reduce, reuse, recycle – and a simple example of waste prevention is to encourage the use of reusable water bottles. Quite simply by using reusable water bottles, you are reducing the number of single use bottles that are created and consumed. 2.5 million plastic bottles were disposed of every day in Ireland pre Covid and that this has now increased as during Covid as we went back to single use plastics as a part of the management of the pandemic.

Mr. Molloy stated that the program was to encourage the elimination of single use plastic items and that schools must have a good quality supply of water available to encourage it. He said that there is no limit to the amount of single use bottles which can be prevented from being used and was also an opportunity for the whole school to get involved.

€10,000 was secured in funding for the project with €1,000 given to 10 secondary schools, in the County. 15 schools applied for the funding and the local authority committed to supporting the other 5 schools through other funding sources and supplied the signage in relation to it. The Council liaised and supported the schools and produced bilingual versions of the information. Data was collated from the water fountains and was returned to the EPA as required.

Mr. Molloy added that one of the conditions of the funding was that the Council give a presentation in relation to this programme to management groups within our local authority and he had already given this presentation to the Environment SPC and now to Climate Action SPC. A final report on the project has been submitted to the EPA.

The commitment from the schools was as follows; the school had to source, install, and maintain the water fountain including payment of any water costs now and into the future. The water fountains also had to have counters to measure usage and details of that usage must be available to Galway County Council. Grants were paid when receipts were submitted to Galway County Council so full payment was made by the school before they got payment of the grant.

He added that very importantly, an awareness campaign was rolled out in the schools for students and teachers and any publicity had to acknowledge the input of Galway County Council and the LAPN. Samples were given in the presentation of awareness campaigns within the programme and the positive results because of the initiative.

To date, 15 secondary schools were grant aided with 14 installed, 1 in the process of being installed and 1 school withdrew. The withdrawal was due to the fact the school had

put recently had an extension on to the school and the builder installed a water font unit, so they didn't need a second one.

Water fonts are now available to nearly 7,000 pupils and staff and this will rise further. So far there has been more than 103,000 fills recorded at the water fonts since they were installed over a year ago which highlights the importance of the counters and shows how it is making a difference.

Since September two more schools have got involved in the programme and working with

Cllr Parsons thanked Mr. Molloy for the presentation and thought it was a fantastic campaign in tackling plastic waste/plastic bottles. She asked where the 15 schools were in the County and with regards to rolling it out to the other schools and into public spaces as well as sports clubs/GAA etc. She also asked was it purchased water that they supply or could the school use the mains.

Mr. Molloy in response stated that it was a programme where the schools were invited to register their interest in relation to get part funding for a water font in their school to encourage the use of reusable bottles and reduce the number of single use bottles. Realistically it was driven by the school and the local authority involvement was to part fund the project. He added that these units are connected to direct water supply, potable water.

Mr Molloy stated that the funding for the provision of water fonts was circulated to the 36 secondary schools in the county and needed to get positive involvement and commitment from the school. He got feedback from 15 out of 36 secondary schools. And 2 more have since come on stream. Prior to the scheme the Council had supported 3 schools and that some of the reasons that the schools may not be involved is that they may already have these units installed already especially the newer schools.

He added that the program could be expanded if funding became available. There is a programme coming up in 2023 called GAA Green Clubs which would match with this idea.

Regarding public spaces, he said he has talked to colleagues around the country and there are not many installed around the country and there would need to be a commitment from the local authority to maintain and service the unit.

Cllr McKinstry and Parsons thank Mark for the presentation.

Cllr Kinane stated it was good news story and asked how the SPC can support this initiative. She enquired about involving Galway Sports Partnership to roll it out further.

Mr Molloy said he would talk to the GSP and Healthy Ireland regarding this initiative.

Mr. Butler asked whether the council members would consider seeking/proposing a motion that the Government would consider that any new public buildings will have such water filtered systems available.

Cllr McKinstry stated that he would liaise re the wording of the motion.

### **Galway Hydrogen Hub.**

Cllr McKinstry welcomed Rory Monaghan and John O' Sullivan to speak on the Galway Hydrogen Hub.

Mr O'Sullivan thanked the SPC for inviting them to discuss the Galway Hydrogen Hub. which was a body of work that has been ongoing for the last year and a half.

He stated that the group had a keen interest in addressing climate change particularly in the transportation area and addressing challenges where batteries or conventional electric vehicle solutions will not work. The realisation was that we need to work together, that is the academia, the supply chain for hydrogen and the demand in terms of vehicles and vessels to set up the programme and synchronise their activities.

### **Overview of Governance and Structure**

He explained that they have a core group consisting of a consortium that meets every week. They meet as a working group with the Department of Transport, the Regulator and the NTA every six weeks to make sure they are in alignment with the Government. Brendan McGrath, CEO Galway City Council is a member of the consortium.

Mr O'Sullivan stated that safety was the number one priority of the entire consortium, and they meet with the regulator and the fire department on a regular basis. Meetings are also held with the HSA to ensure they are applying best practice, not just now as the project is being designed but also going forward as the project goes into operation.

### **Project**

The project itself is basically taking renewable energy and bringing that power to Galway City. An electrolyser will be on site at Galway Harbour which essentially takes electricity and splits water into hydrogen and oxygen. The hydrogen is then stored in large tanks and the hydrogen is then dispensed through a hydrogen refuelling station to trucks, buses etc.

### **Scope**

A 10-megawatt electrolyser is proposed for the port which will grid the hydrogen which will be in permanent storage.

Galway Hydrogen Hub will supply several off takers, some of which they have been working with very closely such as CIE for both their urban and long-distance vehicles, and Callinan coaches, the private operator that operate the City Link services to Dublin and Colas. The site itself is relatively small, about 2 hectares or so,

Mr O'Sullivan referred to Aberdeen as an example. The city has been an oil and gas hub for 40-50 years and they came to the realisation that that fossil fuels will be a thing of the past. Due to the oil and gas company presence, Aberdeen local authorities had the funding that afforded them the opportunity to look at hydrogen and to develop a supply chain there. He added that a delegation went from Galway City Council with them to Aberdeen to look at what they have done.

Mr O'Sullivan stated that he had working with Mr. Monaghan and the consortium to apply for European funding using the project name Shamrock. Shamrock grant funding would be in the order of €8 million to support this Galway initiative. The project has been presented on several occasions to the EU. The project was announced by Taoiseach Michael Martin in April 2022. He advised that there is a vacuum of regulation/policy which they hope will be addressed by the hydrogen strategy which The Department are currently collating. It is hoped to publish a strategy next year.

The Shamrock project will enable the Galway Hydrogen hub and this hub will then enable the building of a hydrogen refuelling station network across Ireland. The Department of Transport are currently doing a feasibility study to identify the optimal locations for these, and the intent is to link the north and the republic with a hydrogen refuelling station corridor on the West and East Coast.

He outlined the Project timelines with intention to apply for planning permission to Galway City Council in February 2023. The EIA and Planning Application are very well advanced. They hoped to start construction in Q3 of 2024. The electrolyser is hoped to be on site in Q2 2025 and with commercial operation scheduled in January of 2026.

Mr. Monaghan informed the group that even before Russian invasion of Ukraine, the European Union had been very concerned about its energy security coupled with decarbonisation targets. Hydrogen is viewed as having a role in this overall decarbonisation strategy.

He said that several steps were needed to promote energy security

Step 1 – Try and change people’s behaviours –encourage people out of private cars and into public transport, walking and biking etc,

Step 2 – Energy efficiency – Ask people to insulate their homes, use reusable cups, buy electric vehicles etc.

That will secure us a large portion of the way toward this energy security, low carbon future.

He added to be completely zero carbon, there was a need to look at the sectors such as heavy trucks, ships, planes, trains which are vehicles that electricity will really struggle to decarbonise.

He said that that what they were proposing here is the use of electricity indirectly to decarbonise, using local Irish electricity to make hydrogen to run these processes. Hydrogen has additional range that electricity does not have.

Cllr Sheridan thanked the group for their presentation and stated it was great to see the progression of the facility. He asked about the capacity of the containers and the proximity to CIE’s Ceannt station and whether negotiations had been held with CIE.

In response Mr. Monaghan stated that 2.5 megawatts are the size for a container with a Maximum size of 5 megawatt per container. They haven’t decided what the configuration will be and will depend on what technology is available and based on the demand profile.

Mr. O’Sullivan added that CIE was part of the consortium and their CEO is on the executive steering group

Cllr Sheridan further asked if the group would foresee deployment of these modular units in other locations on a smaller scale.

In response, Mr O’Sullivan said that consideration of the demand level was paramount as capital expenditure was very high. The Galway development alone would cost in the order of €35/40 million, so it depends on return investment. He believed that these sites are located near the demand centres such that hydrogen does not have to be transported around the country.

Cllr Thomas stated that he was very much in favour of hydrogen production but raised concerns as to whether hydrogen could be produced cost effectively at present due to current high costs of electricity. He added that with potential shortages in electricity supply would we be able to have a continuous supply of hydrogen especially regarding fuelling of industrial vehicles for transport.

In response Mr O’Sullivan stated that as we get further penetration of renewables on to our grid, that will drive down our reliance on gas and in turn will hedge our future prices of

electricity. He stated that wind and solar is a resource that is free and that once you have major capex investments and you have your resource there is no fuel costs. That will in turn drive down electricity costs and control it in future. He also added that hydrogen helps the intermittency of renewables.

He added that the Galway project is a pathfinder project and relatively small scale but was a huge opportunity for the country and drives the government to develop policy, regulations, support mechanisms

Mr. Butler commented that it was a great idea and the right location and asked whether they envisage using solar and the wind turbines on site or close to on site or is the reliance on what is coming in from Connemara for the electrical source.

In response Mr. O'Sullivan stated that in this instance they would be reliant on what renewables are put on to the grid to power the electrolyser. In the future a co-location may be appropriate in an area such as the midlands where you could have a vast area where a windfarm could be utilised.

Mr. Butler added that Bord na Mona are investigating the feasibility of producing hydrogen from wind and solar on their estate in the midlands. He said that combining wind and solar gives you a more balanced electricity production and reduces need for storage. However, to produce enough solar to make enough impact for the project they need a large land bank and don't have that available.

Mr. McKinstry asked what the grid scale storage of hydrogen was for supplementing low wind environments and did they think there would be a significant shift on industry across Europe and globally towards hydrogen sources. He also asked about the upcoming hydrogen policy and what the important points are to be looked at in its formulation.

Mr. Monaghan stated in response that they were was a study underway funded by SEAI called HYSS (Hydrogen Salt Storage). This project out of Larne in Northern Ireland will locate and assess the extent of geological salt formations offshore Ireland using existing oil and gas datasets and evaluate the potential for man-made salt caverns for hydrogen storage, in collaboration with Offshore Renewable Energy companies.

He added that Ireland could be a beneficiary if we can demonstrate to European industry that we have got zero carbon electricity and hydrogen and secure supply.

Regarding the hydrogen strategy, Mr. O'Sullivan stated that the strategy will be pivotal in determining whether the industry was going to be successful or not. He referred to the previous failure of the offshore wind strategy and policy from the Dept. In this instance it had become clear that there is a cost to adapt this new technology and we need to support those that must purchase vehicles and until vehicle costs converge with the price of fossil fuel vehicles. He also stated the need to subsidise the fuel in the short-term with a mechanism like that of the REFIT scheme and to place targets on hydrogen fuelling stations and electrolysers in place which does not exist at present.

Mr. Monaghan added that the European Commission had recently approved the Alternative Fuels Infrastructure requirement. This essentially will be a requirement from the EU that sets out how many electric vehicle charging stations and how many hydrogen filling stations are going to be needed on the major road networks for the entire European Union. He added that the requirement is that there needs to be hydrogen filling stations every 100km on our national roads and on motorway network.

Mr O'Sullivan stated that they have set up a Hydrogen Supply Chain in Dublin on the 21<sup>st</sup> November with some of the main stakeholders present and said that if there was someone



in Galway County Council who was responsible for their fleet, that wished to attend they could do so.

Ms. Ryan asked Mr O’Sullivan to send on the details of same and she would arrange for a Council official to attend.

### **Biodiversity Update:**

Ms Finn stated there was no update on same as Ms Mannion was unable to attend. The update would be provided at the next meeting.

### **Climate Action Update**

Ms Ryan updated the group on several items:

#### **Preparation of the Climate Action Plan**

She stated that one of the key areas in Phase 1 of the development of the Action Plan is to work on the establishment of a governance structure.

- A new energy Bureau Officer Jordan Cooney has been appointed. He will be based jointly in the Environment Section and with the Buildings Management Team in Corporate Services. He is supported by Michael O’Brien who is the Energy Bureau Manager based in Sligo. He has started to collate information with a view to potentially identifying potential projects for Pathfinder funding.
- David O’Loughlin will be moving into a new energy role within Galway County Council to assist in the implementation of those projects.
- The Energy Team has met on a number of occasions, and they have started to roll out the National ‘Reduce Your Use’ Campaign which will run from September to March to encourage staff to promote energy efficiency behaviour at work and at home.
- The first meeting of the Climate Action Steering Group was held in mid-September and the first meeting of the Climate Action team will be organised for later this month. Ms. Ryan stated the Department had confirmed that a Community Climate Action Officer will be funded to administer the Climate Action Fund. This will involve work with the communities. The Department had also confirmed that a Climate Action Officer would be funded to assist with the preparation and implementation of the Climate Action Plan.

#### **Climate Action Plan**

- Ministerial direction is now expected by March 2023 to initiate the Climate Action Plan. Ms. Ryan stated the Climate Action Team have already started the background work. In early September the Department announced that 3.5 million would be made available for Phase 1 deliverables for the Climate Action Plan. These monies need to be spent by the end of November. With the assistance of the Local Authorities in the region, CARO has run tenders and awarded contracts to carry out some baseline work, which includes the baseline risk assessment. KPMG have been awarded that contract The Greenhouse Emissions assessment has been awarded to a German Company. Ms Ryan stated that they have started to work with them getting some of the background information needed and will be having a number of workshops this month.
- Stakeholder mapping and establishment of networks – Ms. Ryan stated that she had done up a tender scoping document for a communication strategy that she is hoping will be progressed on a regional basis by CARO.

- Started to review the National Climate Action Plan 2021 and the sectoral plans to understand how they will interplay with our own climate action plan
- Sustainable Communities Update – Three of the Energy Master Plans for the Communities have been finalised – Dunmore, Milltown and Headford. It has been agreed to provide funding for three further communities -Galway County PPN, Kinvara and Clifden Glen. Another project which has recently been given funding which will be of huge benefit to the decarbonisation zone is the Local Energy Agencies in Peripheral Regions, a LIFE project. A local energy agency will be set up in Galway and will be managed by the Aran islands energy co-op.
- Electric Vehicles – Caro have prepared the terms of reference for a working group to develop a tender for the EV Strategy. GCC will be the lead authority. There has been some discussion over 90% funding for this and whether it will be granted by the Department. GCC are looking to progress the Air -Easy Go Project – installation of electric chargers at a few public locations throughout the county. GCC applied for EV car for the use of the local authority which has been granted and will be coming on site very soon.

Cllr Kinane thanks Ms. Ryan for the update. She expressed her disappointment that there was no mention of Coastal Erosion in the update. During her time on the SPC, she said that she had met with the OPW and with Ministers and felt it was a huge issue for the county and asked for the next SPC that there be a status update on projects in particular Renville Point, Tawin island and Cave in Clarinbridge. She stated that the feedback from her meetings is that OPW want to work with GCC to deal with these issues. She asked that this item be prioritised and be put on the agenda and that the member of staff dealing with this matter meet with the SPC.

Ms Ryan agreed that coastal erosion is a really important issue but believed that this resource had not yet been put in place by Galway County Council and would speak with the DOS regarding this matter further.

Cllr Sheridan thanked Ms. Ryan for the update. He referred to Derrybrien Windfarm and asked that this SPC would approach the Department with an update on the following:

- 1.The biodiversity state of the site,
2. An Asset report,
3. Actions for the first 6 months of 2023,
4. EIS report from the Department,
5. A maintenance report on the 70 Turbines.

He felt it was important that we send a message that Galway County Council and this SPC is proactive in furthering a solution for this site.

Cllr McKinstry stated that this information should be requested from the Department. He added that in terms of the future of the site he has been told that we had no role in same.

Cllr Parsons referred to the Ballinasloe Landfill remediation and for plans for it to be returned to the Community and asked what role the SPC has regarding this matter. She also mentioned the €8 million OPW flood relief scheme in the Ballinasloe area and again asked what input the SPC would have in the development of the scheme. She also

referred to other projects ongoing in the area and the need for the local authority to align with various groups involved with such initiatives.

In response Ms Ryan stated that on the Ballinasloe Landfill Remediation she would follow up with the SEE with responsibility for this area and come back with an update for the next meeting. In regard to the flood relief scheme, she said she would follow up the roads section and added that when they are looking at the actions for the climate action plan they will look to ensure that there is interactions between various groups involved

Cllr McKinstry asked about the EV strategy – he referred to discussions with Easy Go on the procurement mechanism and asked could any details be forwarded on the status of same.

In response Ms. Ryan stated that a working group had been set up to develop a tender document for a consultant to develop a strategy for the whole region. They had been informed that the Department would fund 90% of this work but it is possible that this may funding may not be granted.

Cllr McKinstry asked that for the next SPC meeting that there be an update on the strategy and pointed out that as a policy committee the group should be developing a policy as opposed to an external consultant developing it.

In response Ms. Ryan stated the consultant was brought on board to develop a strategy but the local authority and local representative would feed into the strategy.

### **Active Travel**

Paula Higgins was away so there is no update on this matter. Members of the SPC can email Paula directly.

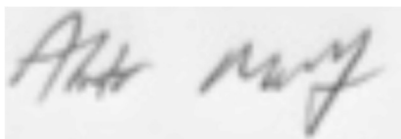
### **Pesticide Strategy**

Ms Finn read out an update on the Pesticide Plan from Rachel Lowe, Senior Engineer, and added that this information will be shared with members of the committee following the meeting. Mr. McKinstry asked that the SPC see an initial draft of the Plan before the next meeting and have scope to comment on same. Ms Finn stated that she would pass his comments to Ms Lowe, and it would be included on the next Agenda.

The next meeting of the SPC will be held on the 18<sup>th</sup> of January 2023. It will be a hybrid meeting subject to chamber availability.

The meeting concluded.

## **CHRIOGHNAIGH AN CHRUINNIU ANSIN**



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**CATHAOIRLEACH ALASTAIR MC KINSTRY**