



24th November, 2020

To each Member of the Environment, Recreation & Amenity SPC

RE: Climate Action Monitoring Group / 2021 Implementation Plan

Item no. 3 on Agenda of SPC Meeting on the 1st December, 2020

1. Meeting of Climate Action Monitoring Group – 18th November 2020

The third meeting of the Climate Action Monitoring Group took place on Wednesday 18th November 2020.

Present: Cllr. M. O'Connor, Cllr T. O'Flaherty, Cllr. D. McDonnell, Cllr N. Murphy, Cllr C. Connolly, Cllr. O. Hanley, Ms. E. Hough, Ms. C. Stanley, Mr. Dermot Mahon DoS, Ms. C. Kilcoyne, Senior Engineer, Mr. D Reddington SEE, Mr. P Batty, EE, Ms K. Moloney Asst. Planner, Dr. D. Ceburnis.

Apologies: Cllr. J Connolly, Mr C. Ryan.

Three presentations were received;-

- "Update on Implementation of Climate Adaptation Strategy 2019-2024"
- "Air Quality and Climate Adaptation Strategy 2019-2024 & Air Quality Monitoring in Galway City" were given by Mr. Paul Batty.
- "Galway Air Quality: Evidence Based Solutions" from Dr. Darius Ceburnis, School of Physics, Ryan Institute Centre for Climate & Air Pollution Studies, NUI Galway.

Update on Implementation of Climate Adaptation Strategy 2019-2024

An update was given on the adaptation actions completed to date and that the Climate Adaptation Implementation Group to agree the Implementation Action Plans for the delivery of the adaptation actions to September 2021. The adaptation actions to be delivered by each department for the next 3 months was presented.

Air Quality and Climate Adaptation Strategy 2019-2024 & Air Quality Monitoring in Galway City

Climate Change Mitigation and Air Quality are linked and an overview was given on impacts of air quality on health, the adaptation actions in the Adaptation Strategy regarding air quality, air quality monitoring in Galway City and future plans for further air monitoring stations as part of the national air monitoring programme.

Galway Air Quality: Evidence Based Solutions

Burning of Solid Fuels (Peat, Wood and Coal) for Home Heating is having disproportionate impact on air quality. Eliminating solid fuel combustion will solve air quality issues, take away a large fraction of CO₂ emissions eliminated if “green” electricity is used in homes with improvements in house insulation, and improve people’s health not only generally, but particularly those who have fireplaces.

The group member’s thanked Dr. Darius Cerbunis and Mr. Batty for their presentations and both responded comprehensively to Members’ queries as part of a discussion after the presentations.

2. Implementation Plan September 2020 to September 2021

The Climate Adaptation Implementation Plan September 2020 to September 2021 has been agreed by the Climate Adaptation Implementation Group comprising of department heads. The plan presents 30 nr Individual Action Plans and sets out 89 separate tasks to be delivered during the period of Sept 2020 to Sept 2021, with 32 tasks to be delivered by the end of Q1 2021. To date 9 of these task have been completed.

3. Climate Action - Energy Saving Projects

Energy Efficiency Improvements to Council Buildings

A framework for the upgrade of lighting in Galway City Council’s public buildings has been advertised with an initial contract to upgrade lighting in City Hall. In advance of the appointment of a contract of a framework, 50 lights were upgraded to LED lights in City Hall in November 2020 with projected savings of 5,276kWh per year.

The request for tenders for the design, installation and maintenance of pool covers for Leisureland has been published with a closing date of December 2020.