

## **Minutes from Meeting of Climate Action Plan - Joint SPC:**

**Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> June 2023, 4:00pm – Held in Council Chamber.**

**Present:** Chairperson Cllr. Philip Brady, Cllr. TP O'Reilly, Cllr. Sarah O'Reilly, Cllr. Winston Bennett, Cllr. Peter McVitty, Cllr. Paddy McDonald, Cllr. Trevor Smith, Cllr. Patricia Walshe, Cllr. Val Fitzpatrick, Fintan McCabe, Environment/Conservation, Paddy Connaughton, DOS, Susan Doherty, Adm. Officer, Allison Treanor, A/Sen. Exec., Sean Guider, A/SEWEO,, Bróna Keating, Climate Action Coordinator, Tara Smith, Sen. Staff Officer, Bernie Mulligan, Clerical Officer, Cormac Fitzpatrick, Staff Officer, John McKernan, Sen. Engineer, Bridie McBrearty, Sen. Exec. Officer, Eamon Mulcahy, Roads SPC, and Pdraig Young, Roads SPC.

Cllr. Philip Brady opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

### **1. Apologies:**

Cllr. Philip Brady acknowledges apologies from Joe Brady, Agriculture & Farming, Colm O'Callaghan, A/Sen. Engineer, Helen Smith, A/Sen. Exec. Tech., Declan King, Env. Tech.

### **2. Minutes:**

Minutes of previous SPC Meeting were proposed by Cllr. Peter McVitty and seconded by Cllr. Brendan Fay.

### **3. Matters Arising:**

No matters from the previous meeting were discussed.

Cllr. Philip Brady introduced the Climate Action Plan Plan Team with Bróna Keating and Tara Smith giving presentations.

### **4. Questions & Answers:**

**Cllr. Philip Brady** thanked Bróna & Tara for presentation and asked the following questions: What is achievable in plan? What do we want to put into the plan?

**Bróna Keating:** We don't want to put anything into the plan that is not achievable. It must be in line with the national context. It is a 5 year plan. It is a cumulative plan and will affect local and national. We hope to achieve 50% by 2030.

**Fintan McCabe:** Is the Action Plan focussing on industry, agriculture etc., what are the CO2 emissions presently, how do we know how to improve?

**Bróna Keating:** We do know Co2 emissions are highest in the commercial and industrial sector. We can circulate the Co2 results. It is broken down into 5 sectoral areas. Figures compiled from these five areas; we are going to measure from these.

**Fintan McCabe:** How does it fit in with CDP?

**Bróna Keating:** It will work alongside existing plans. CDP, LECP, it doesn't contradict what we put in our plan.

**Fintan McCabe:** wishes us well, is there external help, is there a steering group? Decarbonisation zones is very ambitious. Generating our own energy, where will it come from?

**Bróna Keating:** All sectors working on this. It is criteria for each sector to meet with emissions. It will be hard to meet. We will have to approach society and help them mee with change as it is going to happen.

**Cllr. TP O'Reilly:** This is very ambitious. How are we going to convince the Community and businesses to buy into this? What can we do to enforce it?

**Bróna Keating:** Cavan County Council are required to meet with targets. We will have to assist communities and businesses to meet their targets. Tips can be given, and knowledge shared.

**Cllr. TP O'Reilly:** What say has Cavan County Council to enforce this?

**Bróna Keating:** It is not in our remit to enforce this. We will go out to the community and educate; advice is not to enforce. Larger businesses already in EPA where there are enforcements and targets to meet.

**Paddy Connaughton:** Thanked Bróna Keating & Tara Smith for their presentation. He explained this is coming from the National Plan and 2018 was the base year.

**Cllr. Sarah O'Reilly:** Agriculture one of the biggest challenges. She hopes the council would assist agriculture and work towards an anaerobic digester.

**Bróna Keating:** We have various projects and measures to assist communities. There will be a platform for individuals to mee their targets. Anaerobic digester might be looked at and the best suitable area if it is considered.

**Cllr. Paddy McDonald:** Are you looking at solid fuels, heat pump systems, oil etc. Would there be something out there to encourage them?

**Bróna Keating:** We are going to try and encourage homes to input new heating systems. It will be on a national level. Government funds will be available but need to be increased. There is enhancement of programmes from SEAI etc.

**Cllr. Philip Brady:** I want to thank Bróna and Tara for their presentation. I also want to thank everyone for coming. We need to put the best plan in place. Please advise your communities that change is needed.

**AOB:**

No other business arose, and the meeting concluded.

**Date of Next Meeting:**

The date of the next SPC Meeting will be circulated to all Members at a later date.