

Meeting Notes From Climate Action Linkage Group 29th Sept 20:00

Attachments:

1. Presentation from new Climate Action Officer Stephen Deegan
2. Presentation from PPN rep Ali Sheridan on proposed SPC workplan/linkage group subgroup formation
3. Proposal from Gerry Dornan to KCC on the implementation of Bike Account
4. Policy Making in KCC presentation from Jennifer

Attendees:

Evonne Boland

Cliona Kelleher

Deirdre Lane

Fionnuala Corcoran

Mary Jennings

Ali Sheridan

Gerry Dornan

Jude Brown

Emer Conway

Niamh Young

Shane o Brien

Jennifer Whitty

Stephen Deegan

Apologies: Stephanie Jones, Ann Behan, Liz Cullen, Ronan o Reilly

Agenda Item1: Agenda Review

Jennifer did a quick agenda review, expected meeting outcomes/new members intro and noted there were no new members today.

Ali brought it to the group's attention that Cllr. Peter Hamilton has been appointed as the new chair of the Climate Action SPC and their next meeting is on 7th October. We extend our warm congratulations to Peter and look forward to working closely with the SPC.

Agenda item 2: Presentation from newly appointed climate action officer for KCC - Stephen Deegen.

Stephen has worked in Kildare County Council Environment Section before moving, in 2006, to South Dublin County Council where he worked in Water Services, Economic Development and Local Government Reform mainly. More recently Stephen worked for a Government of Botswana parastatal on setting up and developing special economic zones.

Stephen talked to us about his role and his vision for Kildare to become a leader in both the region and the country in the area of climate action. He will lead the mainstreaming of climate action into all Kildare County council activities and collaborate closely with all stakeholders to deliver new initiatives and to develop community level climate action.

Stephen is currently working on compiling a report on the status of the implementation of KCCs Climate Change Adaptation strategy (CCAS) as the 1st annual report is due now. KCCs climate action team is meeting this week to discuss progress and details of the reporting progress will be presented to the climate action SPC on 7th October.

Stephen updated that a new Energy Officer for KCC is currently being recruited.

Stephen mentioned that he would like to establish a climate action network or list.

You can view his full presentation in the attached email.

The linkage group is delighted that the role of climate action officer has been filled and extends a warm welcome to Stephen. We are very much looking forward to working closely with you in the coming weeks/months/years.

Agenda item 3 - Review Policy Making in KCC document

Jennifer suggested in the interests of time that we move on to agenda item 4 to allow sufficient time to discuss the proposal to setup sub groups. Jennifer has emailed the document to the group for their reading and reference and if anyone has any feedback or questions to let her know.

Agenda item 4 - Proposal to setup subgroups.

Ali presented her document on the proposal for the SPC workplan and that the linkage group could then divide into subgroups to focus on a particular area of climate action.

She proposed 7 Key Focus areas and that for each key focus area, we should monitor, lead and support KCC to drive climate action in the county.

The 7 Focus areas proposed are:

sustainable energy

biodiversity

just transition

sustainable transport

green economy

circular economy

community activation and wellbeing

The presentation was widely welcomed by the linkage group members and it was agreed that Ali and Jude will bring this to the next SPC meeting on 7th October. We will discuss the linkage group's next steps once we have received the feedback from the SPC meeting.

Ali's presentation is attached to the email for your reference.

Agenda item 5) - AOB

Gerry Dornan spoke about his proposal for KCC to start a Bike Account for Kildare county. A bike account is a census of cycling in a particular locality. It is a snapshot of the level of cycling and cycling infrastructure and it is proposed that KCC undertakes this annually and would issue an annual report. Gerry will bring this to KCC through the Transport SPC and also through the climate action linkage group.