

**LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL****Minutes of Meeting of the Environment and Sustainability Committee held in the Council Chamber, Island Civic Centre, on Wednesday 6 November 2024 at 6.00 pm****PRESENT IN CHAMBER:**

Councillor P Catney (Chairperson)

Councillor G Hynds (Vice-Chairperson)

Aldermen J Baird, O Gawith, A McIntyre and J Tinsley

Councillors S Burns, C McCready, M McKeever, R McLernon and N Parker

**PRESENT IN REMOTE LOCATION:**

Alderman S Skillen

Councillor G McCleave

**OTHER MEMBERS IN REMOTE LOCATION:**

Alderman M Gregg

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Acting Director of Environmental Services (RH)  
 Head of Service (Building Control & Sustainability) (CD)  
 Head of Service (Waste Management & Operational Services) (WM)  
 Acting Head of Service (Environmental Health, Risk & Emergency Planning) (SC)  
 Member Services Officers (CH, CA)

**Commencement of the Meeting**

The Chairperson, Councillor P Catney, welcomed those present to the meeting and advised that it would be audio recorded unless the item on the agenda was to be considered under confidential business. The Chair stated that unauthorised recording was not permitted, as per the Council's Standing Orders. The Chair asked that mobile phones be put on silent or switched off for the duration of the meeting. In accordance with the Protocol for Remote Meetings, the Chairperson asked that those attending via zoom to ensure that the meeting could not be seen or heard by any other person at their remote location when confidential business was being considered.

The Chairperson proceeded to outline the evacuation procedures in the case of an emergency.

1. Apologies

It was agreed to accept apologies for non-attendance at the meeting on behalf of The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor K Dickson and Councillors A Gowan and P Kennedy.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

3. Report by Head of Service (Building Control and Sustainability)

3.1 Consultation – Department for the Economy (DfE) Consultation on the Design plans for roll-out of smart electricity meters.

Alderman A McIntyre entered the meeting (6.05 pm).

The Committee considered a report which provided information in connection with a consultation on the design plan for roll-out of smart electricity meters, which had been issued by Department for the Economy (DfE) on 3 October 2024.

The Committee were provided with a link to access the full consultation document for their consideration. It was reported that a response for Elected Members to review and endorse at the December Environment & Sustainability Committee was currently being drafted. The Head of Service requested that Members forward any comments to him for inclusion in the draft response.

Members noted that as the consultation closing date was 12 December 2024, there would not be time for any agreed response to be ratified at Full Council on 17 December 2024.

It was proposed by Alderman J Baird, seconded by Vice-Chairperson, Councillor G Hynds, and agreed to recommend that delegated authority be approved for the December 2024 Environment and Sustainability Committee to agree and submit the response for submission to the Department of the Economy, prior to the closing date of 12 December 2024.

4. Report by Head of Service (Waste Management and Operational Services)

4.1 Consultation on Proposed new Code of Practice on Sampling and Reporting at Materials Facilities

The Committee considered a report which provided information in connection with a consultation on a Proposed new Code of Practice on Sampling and Reporting at Materials Facilities, which had been issued by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) on 16 September 2024.

A copy of the proposed Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council draft response for was circulated to Members for consideration.

4.1 Consultation on Proposed new Code of Practice on Sampling and Reporting at Materials Facilities (Cont'd)

The Committee noted that the November 2024 Environment and Sustainability Committee had been granted delegated authority to approve the draft response for submission by the consultation closing date of 12 November 2024.

It was proposed by Vice-Chairperson, Councillor G Hynds, seconded by Alderman J Baird, and agreed that the draft response to the 'Consultation on Proposed new Code of Practice on Sampling and Reporting at Materials Facilities' be approved.

The Chair, Councillor P Catney, advised that Any Other Business would be considered at this point in the meeting.

5. Any Other Business  
(Agenda Item 6.0 refers)

5.1 Safeguarding Procedures Review 2024  
Councillor M McKeever

Thanking Councillor M McKeever for his comments in relation to the 2024 Safeguarding Procedures, the Acting Director of Environmental services advised that an Officer would be in contact to discuss the points raised by Councillor McKeever in further detail.

5.2 Eat Well Spend Less  
Councillor C McCready

Councillor C McCready wished the team every success for the upcoming 'Eat Well Spend Less' event and reiterated his appreciation to Officers for their pro-active approach on the initiative.

5.3 Waste Reduction Support Initiative  
Councillor N Parker

In response to queries raised by Councillor N Parker in relation to the promotion of the 'nappy trial' and the 'compost for community groups', the Head of Service for Waste Management and Operational Services confirmed that both schemes were advertised on the Council website and that leaflet drops had been made to community groups in relation to the compost scheme. The Head of Service agreed to consider Councillor N Parkers suggestion of a promotional leaflet in respect of the nappy trial scheme, which could be provided to new parents when they register births at Lagan Valley Island.

5.4 Refuse Vehicles Access  
Vice-Chairperson, Councillor G Hynds

Responding to a query raised by Councillor G Hynds in relation to refuse vehicles unable to access areas due to inconsiderate car parking, the Head of Service for Waste Management and Operational Services confirmed that the Councils first collection percentage rate was 99.97%.

#### 5.4 Refuse Vehicles Access (Cont'd)

The Head of Service advised the Committee that if access issues arose, a leaflet would be circulated to residents in the area asking for co-operation and considerate parking to allow vehicle access.

#### 5.5 Household Recycling Centre, The Cutts Vice-Chairperson, Councillor G Hynds

The Head of Service responded to a query raised by Councillor G Hynds in relation to non-residents accessing the Cutts Recycling Centre, confirming that an update on the matter would be provided at an upcoming meeting of the Environment and Sustainability Committee, once legal advice had been considered.

#### 5.6 Change of commencement of Environment & Sustainability Committee – Wednesday 4 December 2024, Chairman, Councillor P Catney

It was proposed by Vice-Chairperson, Councillor G Hynds, seconded by Alderman J Tinsley and agreed to recommend that the 4 December 2024 Environment and Sustainability Committee be approved to commence at 5pm, to facilitate Members attendance at the various Christmas tree Lighting events.

The Vice-Chairperson, Councillor G Hynds agreed to Chair the December meeting of the Environment and Sustainability Committee in the absence of the Chairperson, Councillor P Catney.

#### 6. Confidential Report by the Acting Director of Environmental Services (Agenda Item 5.0 refers)

The Chairperson, Councillor P Catney, advised that the confidential report items would be dealt with "In Committee" due to containing information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information).

#### "In Committee"

It was proposed by Councillor C McCready, seconded by Councillor M McKeever and agreed that the following matters be considered "in Committee", in the absence of members of the press and public being present.

The member of the press and public seated in the public gallery left the Council Chamber (6.26 pm).

#### 6.1 Environmental and Sustainability Charges Scheme – 2025/2026 (Report will be made available following completion of estimates process, Appendix 1 will never be available)

It was proposed by Alderman J Baird, seconded by Councillor R McLernon, and agreed to recommend that the Environmental Services Directorate charges for 2025/26 financial year, as detailed in the report be approved.

### 6.2 Out of Hours Dog Control Service

(Redacted report and redacted appendices will be made available following Council ratification)

Presented by the Acting Head of Service for Environmental Health, Risk and Emergency Planning.

It was proposed by Vice-Chairperson, Councillor G Hynds, seconded by Councillor M McKeever and agreed to recommend that option 3, as detailed in the report be approved until August 2025, when a full year of data would be available to assess the demand on the service and agree a permanent solution.

### 6.3 Home Safety - Service Level Agreement and Council Contribution

(Redacted report and redacted appendices will be made following Council ratification)

Presented by the Acting Head of Service for Environmental Health, Risk and Emergency Planning.

It was proposed by Councillor C McCready, seconded by Alderman S Skillen and agreed to recommend that:

- the increase in the contribution by the Council for the provision of the Home Safety Service for 2024/2025, as detailed in the report be approved; and
- the signing of the Home Safety Service Level Agreement be approved.

### 6.4 Residual Waste Disposal Update

(Report will never be made available)

Presented by the Head of Service for Waste Management and Operational Services.

It was proposed by Alderman J Baird, seconded by Councillor C McCready and agreed to recommend that delegated authority be approved for the December 2024 Environment and Sustainability Committee to award the residual waste treatment contract being tendered through arc21.

### Resumption of Normal Business

It was proposed by Councillor C McCready, seconded by Alderman J Baird and agreed to come out of Committee and normal business was resumed.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 6.42 pm.

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Chairperson