

**Planning & Environment SPC**  
**1<sup>st</sup> March 2017**  
**Cooley Room, County Hall**

**Attendance**

Cllr Richie Culhane	Louth County Council
Cllr Jennifer Cassidy Green	Louth County Council
Cllr Tom Cunningham	Louth County Council
Cllr Peter Savage	Louth County Council
Cllr Maria Doyle	Louth County Council
Cllr Antóin Watters	Louth County Council
Michael Smyth	Agriculture/Farming Rep
Richard Barry	Community & Voluntary Rep
Eddie Phelan	Business/Commercial Rep
Brefni Martin	Environmental Rep
Anthony Abbot King	Senior Planner
Pat Finn	Senior Engineer
Frank Pentony	Director of Service
Sinead McVerry	Senior Staff Officer

**Apologies**

Richard Barry	Community/Voluntary Rep
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**Minutes**

The minutes of the previous meeting which took place on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2016 were proposed by Cllr Tom Cunningham and seconded by Cllr Peter Savage.

**Introduction and presentation by Gretta McCarron Community Water Officer pertaining to the Local Authority Waters & Communities Office.**

Ms. McCarron informed the meeting the above office has been set up to raise public awareness and encourage local communities, public bodies and all stakeholders to work together in the management of our natural waters. She advised the meeting the water Framework Directive was introduced by the European Union to protect and improve water quality in rivers, lakes and estuaries, coastal waters and ground water. She explained to the committee members that under this directive a River Basin Management Plan and Programme of measures is drawn up every six years and sets out how public bodies, stakeholders and local communities can work together to protect and improve the water environment. A number of new River Basin Management Plans are currently being prepared, and draft versions will be made available shortly for public comment. She also informed the meeting the draft River Basin Management Plans will be made available in March 2017 for public viewing and submissions/observations are welcome. In addition a number of public

consultations will be organised locally to address any issues /concerns the public may have in relation to draft River Basin Management Plans.

The committee was also informed all information on water quality in Rivers across the County and Country can be found on the website [www.catchments.ie](http://www.catchments.ie)

It was agreed a copy of Ms McCarron's presentation would be circulated to all committee members by meetings administrator including information on dates for public consultations.

### **Update on Draft Dunleer Local Area Plan 2017-2023**

Update by Senior Executive Planner, Marguerite Quinn on the draft Dunleer Local Area Plan 2017-2023. She advised the committee the review process had commenced in 2016 and a pre-draft issues paper was on public display from 5<sup>th</sup> October 2016 to 26<sup>th</sup> October 2016. A total of 153 submissions were received during this time. A briefing session was arranged for all elected members on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2017 to discuss the draft Dunleer Local Area Plan 2017-2023.

It is anticipated the draft Dunleer Local Area Plan 2017-2023 will be presented at the March council meeting for consideration. It is further anticipated the Draft Dunleer Local Area Plan 2017-2023 will then go on public display for a period of not less than 6 weeks. All submissions/observations received during this time will be considered.

### **National Planning Framework 2040**

Anthony Abbot King, Senior Planner informed the committee the National Planning Framework 2040 would be replacing the National Spatial Strategy 2002 (NSS). He advised this is a high level strategic document which will set the tone direction and vision for Louth going forward. He advised the committee that the Chief Executive wanted to make a submission on behalf of Louth County Council and as a result a workshop for all elected members and SPC members would be arranged for 8<sup>th</sup> March 2017 to allow the members to contribute their observations to the overall Louth County Council submission to the National Planning Framework 2040. All elected members and strategic policy committee members were encouraged to attend and participate in the workshop.

The meeting concluded at 4.50pm and the next meeting is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2017 at 3.30pm in the Cooley Room, County Hall.

**Signed** \_\_\_\_\_

**Chairperson**

**Signed** \_\_\_\_\_

**Meetings Administrator**

**Signed** \_\_\_\_\_

**Senior Executive Officer**

